**Readers Workshop** – We finished our unit on how to use many tools to solve hard words and read tougher books.  We celebrated all that we have learned during this unit.  We began a new unit all about characters and lessons in books.   We prepared ourselves for reading adventures and learned that it is important to retell the story to retain and understand it better.

**Close Reading** – Last week we read a non-fiction passage called *Earth Rocks* and discovered many vocabulary words that we were unfamiliar with.  We chunked the passage into parts and answered comprehension questions using information from the passage.

This week we read a fiction passage called *Alex’s Discovery*.  We explored a few vocabulary words that we helped us gain a better understanding of the text.  We chunked the passage into parts and answered comprehension questions using text from the passage.

Please remember to add these passages and vocabulary/comprehension pages to the red fluency folders.

**Read Aloud** –Last week we read Ruthie and the Not-So-Teeny-Tiny Lie and Matthew and Tilley.  We discussed the characters, their feelings, and how their feelings changed throughout the stories.

This week we read Iris and Walter and discussed the characters feelings throughout the story.  We wrote about the characters, setting, problem, and solution.

**Grammar** – We learned about adjectives and conjunctions.

**Math:** We completed Topic 10 – using models and strategies to add tens and ones.  We began Topic 11 – using models and strategies to subtract tens.  The homework and practice page will be stapled to every lesson.  I will send the lesson home each day so you can use the homework and practice page to review and reinforce what we are doing in class.

**Writing:** We completed our poetry unit.  Students celebrated the hard work they have done throughout this unit.  We began Unit 4 – Writing realistic fiction books in a series.  Students have been hard at work making a writing plan, creating the characters, thinking about the character’s troubles, writing hard “sparkle” words that will make their writing more interesting, and using a checklist to help them set goals for their writing.

**Science:**  We completed our unit on rocks and minerals.  We began our unit on magnets.

**A few reminders**

\*Thursday folders need to be returned each Friday.

\*Please keep reading daily with your child and recording in the reading log.  Remember, to turn in your reading response homework every Monday. **It is not too late to tally up February minutes for Book-It contest. March is the last month of the reading contest.**

CONGRATUALATIONS TO Zac Ro!!

His Reflection’s entry won first place in state in Photography. His entry will be sent on to National Competition.

I am so proud of him. Remember you can’t win if you don’t try.

**Important Dates:**

**March 14th – Brookdale Weddington Assisted Living – Please join us if you can from 9:45 to 10:45. We will be signing and reading.**

March 20 – Spirit Night 2 Smashburger Stonecrest 4-8pm

March 24 and 25 – **McKee Road presents Seussical 3 pm @ Providence High School – You will not want to miss this. I help Mrs. Tsintos direct this show.**

March 29 – No school – this is no longer a make-up day

March 31 – Last day to order a year book

March 29-April 6 – SPRING BREAK

Thank you for all your kind emails while I was home recovering from a back injury.