

MATH:

-Chapter 6- Fractions & Mixed Numbers

READING:

-Guided Reading Groups

LANGUAGE ARTS:

-Wordly Wise- Lesson 6

-Janus writing project

SOCIAL STUDIES:

-California History



Dec. 31, 2015

Wishing you and your families a very happy & healthy New Year! 😊

PLEASE BE SURE
TO VISIT OUR
CLASS WEBSITE
for current
photos,
important links
and other
important
information:
daftari-
giss.weebly.com

MATH

We began testing students on multiplication facts in class.

We will continue to test them in the coming weeks. When a child has mastered a particular number (3's for example), they will receive a note of congratulations. If perhaps they need more practice, we will send home a note to remind them to continue to practice for mastery. Please continue to remind your child to practice their multiplication facts for a minimum of three minutes per night.

This week we continued working in Chapter 6: *Fractions and Mixed Numbers*. Students are learning how to find the sum and difference of fractions with *like* and *unlike* denominators.

Students were introduced to improper fractions and taught how to rename improper fractions and mixed numbers. They learned that fraction bar means "divided by". We will continue lesson 6.6 *Renaming whole Numbers when Adding and Subtracting Fractions* on Monday.

Students have been enjoying working on their Ipads in class on IXL sections Q, R, and S.

As a reminder, you can download and print **extra practice or reteach pages** for each chapter from our website.



UPCOMING TESTS/IMPORTANT DATES:

-Please see a copy of our January calendar on our website. A hard copy went home in your child's folder today.

- NO school Fri, Jan 1st

-Math quiz part 1, Wed, Jan 6th

-WW test #6, Thur, Jan 7th
- WW test #7, Thur, Jan 21st

-Math quiz part 2 Wed, Jan 20th

READING

This week students started some meaningful writing during reading time. They used the notes they have been taking in their books and reading response journals to help them compose a thoughtful written response to the novels they are enjoying during guided reading groups. They drafted a three paragraph reading response EMAIL! They were so excited to use their Maimonides email accounts and to send their teachers an email. Students are learning the etiquette of email and how it is not a text message- but rather a more formal way of communicating. We were impressed with the deep thinking they are doing about their books and the way they made sure to bring evidence from the text to support their ideas. Some students excitedly received an individualized email reply back and some student emails and teacher responses are in the works! We look forward to sharing their thoughts and work with you by simply being able to copy you on our replies! To keep close tabs on their email communication, we were clear that their Maimonides email account is currently for assignment use only.

Social Studies

We continued our rich discussion about the state of California. We discussed California's location, along with vocabulary terms: **geography, continent, equator, and hemisphere**. Students were able to name states that border California to the east, and north, as well as identify the country that borders California at the south, and the Pacific Ocean to the west. We discussed that geographers describe and analyze places by asking questions such as: Where is it? What is it like there? Why is it there? And how has it changed? Students worked on a blank map of California, learning what ocean borders CA, bordering states, learning the location of the Channel Islands, drawing a compass rose, and learning the **four major regions: mountain, coastal, valleys, and desert**. In the next month or two, students will look forward to creating their own relief map of California.

WRITING

We started a New Year writing piece. In ancient Roman religion and mythology, Janus is the g-d of beginnings and transitions. He is usually a two-faced g-d since he looks to the future and the past. Students made a bullet pointed list of highlights from 2015 and what they are looking forward to in 2016. Once they write their sloppy copies, they will then write a final copy