

301 Bioeducational News

Despite the shortness of the month and vacation week, Lighthouse School continued to pack various lessons and activities into February. There were two sessions of MCAS retesting for Biology early in the month, and a special luncheon for students in each cluster who earned the Academic Honor Roll by earning high academic grades in the second quarter. Our basketball team had practices and games with visiting teams, and some students paid tokens to spectate. In other sporting news, students signed up for a mixed staff and student basketball game in the gym, a bean bag toss tournament between several different teams, and several others were involved in a “Dance Jam” activity. The Beyblade Club continued to meet and Board Game Club started up. There was a cooking activity and some signed up to make Valentine’s Day candies! Some went on a trip to the American Heritage Museum in Stow, Massachusetts. There, they learned about some of America’s greatest conflicts, the impact the Revolutionary War has had on Americans, and how technologies continue to develop, while viewing displays of artifacts and vehicles used in our wars.

301 continues to follow along with J. K. Rowling’s Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone. The homeroom learned some interesting facts about the book’s author and the impact her book series had on its fans, including generating a renewed excitement and interest in reading for young children. While students listened to the book they also had the opportunity to color pictures of the characters or fill out word searches about the story, and discussions were held of what was happening in the book and the character’s actions.

302 Bioeducational News

The month of February was short and sweet, with multiple school cancellations and school vacation. In the Homeroom and on lessons, we focused on the Bioeducational theme of *Social Responsibility*. During Writer’s Workshop, we explored different ways we can be socially responsible. Students researched different charities and wrote about what charity they would choose to donate to if they had an unlimited amount of money, and why they chose that charity.

As a new quarter began, we also welcomed Guided Reading as our homeroom elective. As a class, we are reading *Perks of Being a Wallflower*. This book is about a high school boy navigating the social and emotional challenges of being a teenager. Reading the book has sparked a lot of discussion around our own challenges we’ve faced being in high school. Students have shown respect and maturity through these discussions, while some students have chosen to share their own personal experiences.

As a Homeroom, we enjoyed a family breakfast the day before February break, which also happened to fall on Valentine’s Day. We enjoyed muffins, cinnamon buns, fruit, and juice as a family, while practicing basic table manners and engaging in appropriate conversations. This was such a nice way to celebrate the holiday and connect with each other before having a week off.

303 Bioeducational News

February's theme was *Social Responsibility*. We focused on the principal that we impact others and the world around us. Even though teen-agers can be quite caring, they often focus on themselves and their own needs, and hence, need gentle reminders to think about helping others and giving back to the community. This was discussed with the students during Group Therapy, as well as put into action by helping to keep the school clean (e.g.: cleaning scuff marks off the floors and sanitizing door handles and other surfaces, etc.). Along the same theme, during morning writing, students wrote an essay about situations in which they would stand up for others.

As we commenced the new quarter, we started our new elective, Guided Reading. Given an extensive list of books to choose from, the class voted to read Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl. Even though this book is familiar to some of the students, they seem to be enjoying it, as well as participating in most of the questions and discussions.

304 Bioeducational News

During the month of February, the students did several activities with the theme of *Social Responsibility*. Students practiced the steps of the writing process during Writer's Workshop while writing about a time that they impacted another person's life in a positive way. They had the opportunity throughout the month to sign up for a mixed staff and student basketball game in the gym, as well as a bean bag toss tournament between several different teams. During the Guided Reading elective, we practiced various reading strategies including making predictions, asking questions, characterization, and visualizing. This month, there was also a special luncheon for students who were on the Honor Roll for quarter two.

305 Bioeducational News

Hello from the 305 family! Believe it or not, March is right around the corner. We hope you had a great vacation from school and enjoyed your time off. Our Literature elective is going well so far. We have been reading a collection of poems called The Rose That Grew From Concrete, by Tupac Shakur. This month we worked on participating in group discussions appropriately and respecting the different opinions of our classmates on the readings.

The bioeducational theme for February was *Social Responsibility*. Students worked together to decorate the bulletin board outside of 305 with jokes and cartoons. The 300 cluster had a great opportunity to spend some time outside for our cluster activity thanks to some nice weather, and enjoyed playing kickball together as well as using our brand new playground! Our homeroom is especially motivated to earn more time outside, and have had multiple discussions on how to achieve that goal. Our bioeducational theme for the month of March will be *Identity*. We hope to discuss ideas about our own Self-Identity as well as how our sense of identity can be affected by those around us.

306 Bioeducational News

During the month of February, the students did several activities with the theme of *Social Responsibility*. Students practiced the steps of the writing process during Writer's Workshop while writing about a time that they impacted another person's life in a positive way. They had the opportunity throughout the month to sign up for a mixed staff and student basketball game in the gym, as well as a bean bag toss tournament between several different teams. During the Guided Reading elective, we practiced various reading strategies including making predictions, asking questions, characterization, and visualizing. This month, there was also a special luncheon for students who were on the Academic Honor Roll for quarter two.