



# The Kelley/Marazzi Kronicles

*"Education is the kindling of a flame, not a filling of a vessel." ~Socrates*

## LANGUAGE ARTS

During our wonderful writing periods, the students have begun to brainstorm many ideas of possible writing topics. Each student has created a "Heart Map" of all of the items that they love with all of their heart! The children have also create a "Big Bucket List" page of places they love to visit or would love to visit one day. Students have enjoyed using the computer to name and locate places in the U.S. that are a must for their future terrific trips. Our final creative page focuses on small moments in their life that have grabbed their attention and will forever be remembered as a marvelous memory. In our first writing unit, students will focus on creating a realistic fiction story that focuses on a powerful small moment. I am hoping these first few pages in their Writing Journals will help inspire these writers to write and write and write!

During reading time, the students and I have been reading and discussing the book, *Wonder*. Our focus has been on analyzing the main character, August. As we finish a chapter, we are looking for and jotting down evidence that supports Auggie's internal and external traits. In addition to character traits, the class has also begun listing possible themes in the story. Our themes thus far are hope, determination, courage, bravery, and friendship. Students are also providing evidence to support each theme as each chapter comes to a close.

In addition to our read aloud, the students and I have been setting up our Reader's Journal with helpful guidelines to launch Readers Workshop. We have each selected two Just Right books for in-class reading, began implementing SUPER strategies for independent reading in school and at home, and discussed real reading verse fake reading. Students are well on their way to becoming FABULOUS 4<sup>th</sup> grade readers and analyzers!!!!

## MATH

Math workshop in our classroom is underway, and students are working on differentiated activities at their level, as well as mastering the content by using their math binder resource. Look for math binders to come home next week so you can see first-hand the hard work they are doing every day!

Also, next week students will bring home their math notebook each night to complete their "Math 4 Today" problems. Homework problems will always be review of skills already learned so they continue to "stick" in our brains. Notebooks need to be brought to school daily so we can review the problems completed. A letter will come home Monday with more details...

In class we are working on mastering place value to the millions! We will move on to comparing and ordering large numbers, rounding, and estimating sums!

## Science and Social Studies

We will dive into Properties of Matter next week, and explore various solids, liquids, and gasses, oh my!

In Social Studies, we continue to explore the Northeast Region through the use of Atlases, relevant articles and our Google Chrome books!