

Room 208

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NEWSLETTER



News from Room 208 • Week # 13 • www.bobsprinkle.com

GREETINGS! BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE STUDENT BLOG FOR MORE NEWS! YOU CAN EVEN DOWNLOAD A COLOR COPY OF THIS NEWSLETTER THERE!

Greetings!

Here's our past couple of weeks in Review!

Writing

We're happy to report that on Monday (12/5/05) we are getting a new student! The scholars are really excited about this and have spent much of their writing time in *welcoming* the new friend. They've written small "booklets" to introduce themselves and have changed the format for the blog/podcast in order to focus on "welcoming members" to the community (not just the new student, but anyone who would join us). The

students decided what things would be important to share for someone joining Room 208.

Students have also been working on some new Poetry forms: "Creature Alliteration" and the "5 Sense Poem". Look for these on the poetry website.

Skills have included: **Subject Pronouns, Object Pronouns, Commas in a Series, and Singular and Plural Nouns.**

Reading

We all really enjoyed our "Read-In" the day before Thanksgiving. We started reading *Winnie the Pooh*, which the students found out they enjoyed more than they thought they would! Elizabeth brought in a wonderful collection of books by Ursula K. LeGuin, called *Catwings* which we have also been enjoying.

go to our website:
bobsprinkle.com

We've recently read the story, *The Great Kapok Tree* by Lynne Cherry. The students are practicing a "readers' theater" script of the story and a small group of students are in the process of writing Cherry to see if they can perform the script on the Podcast.

Skills included: **Cause & Effect**, **Syllabication**, and **Figurative Language**.

Math

3rd graders are working on **Multiplication & Division**. They learned how to play the excellent game, *Baseball Multiplication*. Ask them to play this with you at home!

4th graders are well into their unit on *Decimals*. They've learned how to work with numbers in the *thousandths* this week. They also practiced *measurement* using the metric system.

Science

Students spent time this week dissecting *Owl Pellets*. They really enjoyed this! They used a chart to identify what animal the owl ate, and even "reassembled" the bones of the animal. Next, students will use the information/observations to further examine the owls' habitat.

Latest Visits/Media/Workshop News

Melanie Chasse from **Apple Education** came to visit on Thursday in order to learn first hand how Room 208 puts together its podcast. The students did a great job of explaining the process.

On Wednesday, I was in Nashua, NH at the **Christa McAuliffe Technology Conference** sharing the work of the scholars. People were



just amazed at the great work the students are doing. People from **Apple** told me they are constantly sharing the students' show during their workshops.

Room 208's Podcast was featured on the

front page of the *Journal Tribune* last Saturday, and also had another TV spot on Channel 6 news on Monday night. Unfortunately, I did not receive notice that this was going to be on until about 15 minutes before the show aired! It has been taped, and I will try to get it on a couple of video tapes that the stu-

dents can sign out and bring home.



Have a Great Weekend!

Bob