

### **Maria Gibson- Grades 1&2**

Our morning meetings are discussing citizenship as well as working on our daily practices of place values and vocabulary words. The ELA centers are choral reading with Ms. B reading non-fiction and fiction books including Big Ben and Westminster Palace. Group 3 in the writing center with Ms. Brinks continues our creative writing paragraphs with a topic sentence and 3 detailed sentences. Phonological awareness with me is moving onto initial and final S blends.

In the Wit & Wisdom curriculum we are enjoying A Season of Change Module. We have read *Why Do Trees Change Color?* and *Sky Tree*. These books combine the academic language of science and weather with the story elements.

We are moving through the Bridges math curriculum at a good rate and are now on Unit 5. First Grade students are working on Geometry. 2D and 3D shapes and their attributes which is such a fun subject. Second Grade students are using place value to problem solve.

In social studies we are looking at Social and Emotional Concepts. How doing the right thing affects you and others. In science we are looking at erosion and earth surfaces and where rivers begin and end. Art occurs every Thursday. We have used watercolors, made puppets and this week we are using glitter!! The handwriting workshop is continuing to improve our writing skills and letter formation.

Mrs. Gibson

### **Natalie Shoptaw- Grades 3&4**

Students have worked for months on earning a class party by filling a jar with rice given for exceptional transitions, and outstanding behavior. The party is scheduled for December 17, the day before winter break.

Students are developing essay-writing skills. Our last essay was an opinion essay on their favorite part of the book, Moonshot, and why. We will be writing another essay soon regarding our current book, One Giant Leap, by Robert Burleigh.

We are learning multiple techniques for multiplying large numbers by a single digit, including the standard algorithm. We will soon be addressing multiplying two digit numbers by two digit numbers using the same strategies.

### **Dani Krebs- Grade 5&6**

Hello board. Happy holidays!

This has been a very enjoyable year for us so far. We are learning about Native American tribes from the past and today, and how the students can relate to them. In math the 5th graders are learning about fractions and how to divide and simplify, and the 6th graders are learning about making good deals!

We have been studying a word of the week all year now from REACH, and we have circled back to the beginning. Our word right now is empathy. We are delving further into what empathy means, and

how we can all be empathetic all the time. Empathy is a hard one, because when we are having a hard day it is hard to be empathetic to others. But, I believe that the class is getting there.

The students can win different things at the Osprey Auction, and one of the big ticket items are the movie day passes. The first student chose the original Jumanji movie, and the second student has chosen Spiderman: Into the Spiderverse. The students all love these different options they can win, because they do not always like the items available to them.

I have been thinking of planning a field trip, but I haven't had any nailed down yet. I am hoping to plan one in the next couple of months.

Until next time!

Dani Krebs

### **Mike Lang- Grade 7&8**

Our class has hit the winter season by storm and we are working hard to continue practicing our school REACH goals.

We just helped make 500 greeting cards to donate to the local Lions Club, along with the rest of the school. They will be distributing them during their meal drive, where they deliver or host a holiday meal for Senior Citizens in our community. The cards look great and the school really came together well.

We are just finished the third class novel of our *Seeds of America* trilogy, *Ashes*. We've also been working on our sentence structure and grammar and spending our time learning about various establishments of authority, which we will be tying back into the powers that the Constitution provides.

We're spending this short period between breaks learning about scientific notation in math, which supports our understanding of atoms and molecules in science. We'll continue to work with operations using scientific notation and wrap up our lesson on the elements this coming week.

We have our Mock Trial this week, conducting a hit and run case with students acting as attorneys and witnesses. This has been a great opportunity for students to learn about the criminal justice system, as well as practice their speaking skills. We've also been focusing on building a healthy community and reflecting on our mistakes in our journals. We're learning about "Blue Zones" and what factors contribute to the healthiest communities in the world.

We're looking forward to finishing this semester strong. This class is working diligently to make up for the lost time from the pandemic and couldn't be doing a better job.

Mr. Lang