

Grades 1 & 2 - Maria Gibson

Good afternoon Board Members,

Our morning meetings are looking at thoughtfulness, behavior expectations and skip counting in 2s and 5s.

The ELA centers are choral reading from the reading A-Z program with Ms. B. Group 3 (Level M) are reading Animal Defenses, Group 2 and Group 1 are reading the Animal Horns. In the writing center with Ms. Brinks, Group 3 and 2 are writing two paragraphs of creative writing from a prompt. Group 1 is writing in sight word mini books and sentence frames. This week how, my, can and me. Mrs. Gibson is teaching the vocabulary lessons from Vocabulary A-Z this year as all students know their phonemic awareness skills.

In the Math Bridges Curriculum first grade students are working on Unit1, Module 1, Sessions 1-5. Skip counting in 2s and 5s and counting from 20 - 40 forwards and backwards on the numberline. Second Grade students are working in a workplace called 'what's the difference!' It is a subtraction challenge game.

In the Mystery Science curriculum we are looking at the first unit called Animal Traits and Survival. The beginning anchor phenomena lesson was about squirrels. We watched squirrel behavior and as a whole group made observations from the videos we watched.

In Art we created our school T-Shirt designs and submitted them. Social Emotional Learning with Ms. Bart. Ms. Bart is teaching breathing exercises to help students cope with anxiety.
Mrs. Gibson

Grades 3 & 4 -Natalie Shoptaw

Grades 3-4 students are finishing the NWEA testing; about 1/2 the class is complete and the others are at varying stages of completion.

4th graders are mentoring 3rd graders in the ways of the classroom, technology access and fluency, and math support.

We've started our Bridges math program, as well as Wit and Wisdom. Our first WW module is The Sea (3rd Grade) and students have already explored poetry, The Sea Wind, and the block print Great Wave by Katsushika Hokusai. Our next read is the children's story, "Amos and Boris."

Ms. Adams is offering a great PE experience for the kiddos which allows me to go into the 5-6 and 7-8 rooms to deliver art instruction once weekly per class.

The students all love the new Typesy program. We've begun our first science lab exploring plant systems.

I've created some "rudiments of music" lessons in slide format. Students give positive feedback on the lessons, and I hope to create a context and provide musical vocabulary to support hands-on lessons using the flutophones, led by Mr. K in the coming weeks. My vision is that students are working on music comprehension while learning fingering of the flutophone. In the 2nd semester, perhaps we will work on piano keyboards.

Grades 5 & 6 -Dani Krebs

Hello everyone,

I am so excited for my class this year! I can tell that they are all really smart and ready to learn. We have started our math, English, science, and vocabulary curriculums last week. NWEA is almost finished so hopefully by the end of this week we can fully embrace what our schedule really looks like.

The 5th/6th grade class has tables instead of desks so the students have more room and it looks really professional. The students love them!

Last week we all put our names on a sea creature and put them in our "ocean" which is on our wall. The idea behind this is no matter how calm or turbulent the waves, we are all together in the ocean. It also adds decor to the room.

I am going to start bringing our class pet, Rio the guinea pig, to class this week. So I am sure that I am going to get a lot of requests for students to hold him. He is really friendly.

Until next time.

Grades 7 & 8 - Mike Lang

I have thoroughly enjoyed the start our class is having this school year. We are working at a positive pace and using our resources well. This next month of learning will build a crucial foundation to the larger projects at the end of this semester and into the spring.

We are off to a great start with our space unit and are learning some amazing facts, integrated with other critical skills. Our Astronomy elective and Dimensions Science textbook continue to align and will take us on a journey to learn about gravity and tides, then into each major component of our solar system and how these systems are created. During this, we are reading out of the Starry Home unit of our MyPerspectives textbooks to enhance our universal learning. This has added a fun element to our adventures in ELA and we are honing our argumentation skills by using this evidence to debate the benefits and burdens of the space program.

We've done some great work in math and many students are taking on the challenge of pushing themselves to the next level, whatever that is for them. We are finishing up our work with the number system and are shifting focus into graphing concepts. We will continue what has been an exhilarating Hockey unit in PE. We are practicing our puck (tennis ball) handling skills and our passing and shooting. We have had some fun games and our students have done well to exhibit safety and Citizenship with each other in a sport that has its occasional bumps.

Our Life Skills continue to go well with a mix of investing, typing, current events, and weekly circles. We're starting each day with a 15 minute movement or mindfulness activity, which has become our pleasant way to get going. We also have begun researching our world cultures in the Discovering Our Past virtual textbooks. We began our year learning about the purpose of studying history and geography and will now work our way through 5,000 years of history spanning this entire globe. Our online curriculum has provided us with many useful resources, such as interactive reviews and additional videos.

We're also very excited for our Friday schoolwide electives and it has been an honor to help rebuild a student council for Three Rivers. I'm so thankful for this community and the opportunity to support the growth of all of our students. Thank you for the ongoing support!