

Grades 1 & 2 - Maria Gibson

Good afternoon Board Members,

Our morning circle is looking at the character trait of resilience, looking at numbers on the number rack by adding one more or subtracting one less and writing sentences with vocabulary words.

The ELA centers are choral reading from the reading A-Z program with Ms. B. Group 3 (Level T) are reading Awesome Ants, Group 2 (Level K) are reading Blackbeard The Pirate and Group 1 (Level D) are reading Because You Recycle.

In the writing center Group 3 and 2 are writing one to two paragraphs of creative writing from a prompt. Group 1 is writing in sight word mini books and sentence frames.

Mrs. Gibson is teaching the vocabulary lessons from Vocabulary A-Z this year related to the book in the choral reading center and this is providing improved reading skills!!

In the Math Bridges Curriculum first grade students are working on Unit1, Module 4, Sessions 1-5.

Looking at numbers on the number rack and then adding one or subtracting one. Second Grade students are working on workplaces from Unit one.

In the Mystery Science curriculum we are looking at the second unit called Plant Traits and Survival. We are observing seedlings, how they grow, trees, how they work and what helps plants grow. We might even go on a little walk to collect leaves and discover more about our local vegetation!!

In Art we are finishing our autumn wreaths and making halloween spiders.

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

Spirit Week captivated the focus of all students. Special thanks to Ms. Adams for setting up the Monday activities, as well as Field Day, acme of the event! Thanks to Mr. Lang and Lena for the Wacky Fashion Show!

This week we will get back on track with regular studies. Prior to Spirit Week, students constructed a focused paragraph about Jacques Cousteau using the TEEEE strategy (Wit and Wisdom). This week we will start an abbreviated essay of 2 paragraphs regarding how and why scientists study the sea.They will then illustrate the essay.

We start our directed painting this week. Honoring our Module on The Sea, we will be painting an underwater scene on canvas. This typically takes about 7 weeks to complete (pre-pandemic).

Students have filled the class rice container a second time. They voted for another pizza party, with dodgeball in the ditch.

In math, grade 3 continues to work at multiplication mastery; 4th grade is working on volume and will now return to fractions.

Grades 5 & 6 -Dani Krebs

Hello everyone!

We had a great week completing Spirit Week activities. The 5th/6th grade classroom's wonder was Chichen Itza and the students had a lot of fun learning about the different aspects of that wonder.

We started playing our QUEST interactive learning game again this year, with the major change that the students were allowed to choose their teammates this time. So far it has been a huge success. Next year season 2 comes out so hopefully I will get to play that with them.

The tables in my room have added greatly to the learning environment, so I am really happy that I chose to get them instead of keeping the desks.

Until next time.

Grades 7 & 8 - Mike Lang

Our class is excited to begin our next unit, Metrology! We will be learning about various measurements, including time, distance, energy, and space.

We are beginning a new novel in Humanities and a new scale unit in Mathematics. Our new novel, *The Time Machine*, gives us an opportunity to view what the future was anticipated to be like a century ago. We're going to practice our reading comprehension and are learning some new, high rigor words in our novel. During mathematics, we're using our Open Up Math Books to learn about scale models and how to measure an accurate scale. We will be utilizing some of our Art time to incorporate this in our artistic skill set.

We're going to shift gears in our other Humanities period and Science this unit. We are going to be learning about the current election cycle for a few weeks, as we approach the 2022 midterm elections, including propositions and candidate statements. Please look for a permission slip for these discussion topics, as some approach sensitive areas of discussion and there will be opt out portions for individual propositions. We will be spending our time in our Dimensions Science Textbooks learning about energy and motion. This will be our first introduction into physics, which will be consistent throughout the year.

Our regular cycles of subjects (Morning Mindfulness/Movement, Life Skills, Astronomy) continue to go well. We've had the opportunity to participate in circles with our new friend Steve, who works for Mendocino County Office of Education and supports restorative and social emotional learning practices. We will begin a Health unit on drugs, alcohol, and tobacco over the course of the next few weeks. This will be a chance for our students to learn about some of the risks associated with these choices. We are also beginning our dancing unit with salsa dancing this week. We're learning some basic steps and will work into partner dancing soon.