

December 14, 2023

Teacher Updates for the Board

Grades 1-2, Mrs. Gibson

Good afternoon Board Members,

Our morning meetings are looking at the character trait of Empathy as well as working on our daily spelling sight words and word family.

The ELA centers are choral reading from the reading A-Z program with Ms. Skiver: (Level C) I want to be a Cat, The First Strawberry, (Level E) India (Level K).

In the writing center we are working on writing standards 1.1/2.1 Opinion writing.

In the Wit & Wisdom curriculum we are on a Module called Powerful Forces. We are finishing the lessons on 'The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind.' This book teaches new vocabulary, fluency reading and the main topic and key details of the text.

We are on Unit 2 and Unit 3 in the Math Bridges Curriculum . First Grade students are working on using addition and subtraction strategies that involve counting on. Second Grade students are working on place value and addition with double digits and regrouping.

In science we are looking at a unit on Day Patterns. We are using flashlights to look at the big dipper.

P.E. We are learning the game of Four Square.

Art occurs every Thursday. One of our moms, Mrs. Martell, is visiting to teach us how to make star ornaments.

Mrs. Gibson

Grades 3-4, Ms. Natalie

Our field trip to Santa Rosa was a lot of fun. The kids enjoyed the live performance on the big stage at the Luther Burbank Performing Arts Center. We later went to Scandia Family Fun Center, and played in their arcade. It was the first time many of our students had ever seen a big-town arcade, and the look of astonishment on their faces as they walked a few steps into the arcade, and then froze to stare wide-eyed, was priceless!

A huge shout out to all our parent volunteer chaperone-drivers! Also, thank you to Mr. D who subbed for those students unable to attend the field trip.

Grades 5-6, Mrs. Krebs

Hello board members,

Happy holidays!

We are wrapping up several lessons before winter break. For our Talking Trash unit with Sue from the Noyo Center, the students are actively participating in creating a panel that will be at a beach about how plastic affects the ocean and animal life. The class has been making their small panel ideas, with the vision that together we will make one big panel that will be planted somewhere. Sue is coming next Thursday to wrap up our Trash Talk. I am also in the process of starting up another activity that will involve a naturalist to come to my classroom and we will have a couple of science lessons outside. We will also have a field trip later in the year! We are piloting this activity so stay tuned!

In the classroom we are continuing our studies of Cultures in Conflict and how the Nez Perce was affected by western expansion, and in math we are wrapping up our unit on multiplying and dividing fractions and decimals.

Have a great break!

Grades 7-8, Mr. Lang

Our class has been engaged in these three weeks of rigorous learning before we head to Winter Break. We're excited to wrap up the first semester and move on to the second half of the year this week.

We've been digging into our textbooks a little deeper these few weeks. We're studying inventions in our *MyPerspectives* English book and we'll be preparing research for a debate to wrap up the semester in January. We're diving into our *Big Ideas Mathematics* textbooks for some graphing fun this month. Our *Dimensions* Science textbook is taking us into chemical reactions and we have some fun hands-on labs to accompany this unit.

Next, some fresh material for this month. We've been going through a multi-week life skills unit focused on shopping, budgeting, and cooking. We had the opportunity to go to Harvest Market, got a tour from the owners, and got to shop for our cultural dish that we planned and budgeted together. We sent the ingredients home for their favorite dishes that they debuted at our Family Dance and Potluck. For some students that didn't get to join us at the dance, we've been making their creations in class. We had fun last week making Eggnog Ice Cream in a Bag. We've also been learning some fun hand-eye coordination skills in PE, often joining with our Little Buddies in Ms. Natalie's class.

Our extracurriculars continue on strong this month. We have Ms. Gibson's class wrestling on Wednesdays during PE and our older students wrestling as part of our Friday TIDES 2.0 sports. The Junior High class and Student Council were in the lighted truck parade on Saturday, December 2nd, and we decorated the truck during Saturday Academy with myself and Mrs. Adams.

This class has been doing great and I'm excited for our awesome growth.

- Mr. Lang