5/6 Class

The 5/6 class has been working hard on their novels for NaNoWriMo. We

went to the library with Ms. Walz's class last week and the children's

librarian spoke more about the program and there was a special guest

author who shared her experiences about writing and the student's even

received a copy of her book.

We also have a Lego Robotic's team that was formed at the beginning of

the year and went to competition in Napa on Saturday. The students had

a great time competing with other schools.

We are getting ready for our next book report which is a Newbery Award

winner book that the students need to read, and then pick a scene from

the book and make a diorama. We went to the library again to choose a

Newbery Award book.

Our progress reports went on 11/13 which are grades for the 1st half

of the semester.

High School

In the high school class this month we instituted a new point system to inspire the students to keep up with their course pacing guides and reward the students who are doing a great job in their school work.  That has really changed the dynamics in the class room and seems to have refocused the students to work to earn the various rewards. I have been meeting with parents to create plans for students who have been struggling to keep up with their work and who are in danger of not completing their course work on time.  These plans are helping immensely.  One of the supports we have implemented for students that has been helping is adding regular tutoring sessions after school hours, so I am back to holding a regular homework club.  However, I am trying to make it more successful than last year by restricting the number of students whom I have staying on each day to one or two, and fixing a period of time and specific goals to accomplish.  When these goals are met than the student is released from attending homework club.  One-on-one tutoring continues to play a key part in helping struggling students to succeed with the online classes.

This month we have lost one student but I am hopeful that we may have a new student enrolling soon so we will be able to stay at 22 students. Next week, Mendocino college is beginning Spring course enrollments and I am encouraging juniors and seniors to set up appointments with the guidance counselor in order to enroll in courses that will help them meet their high school graduation requirements in addition to getting them started on their education plans for after high school.  In addition we are in the course of planning a few field trips, one to the Exploratorium in January and a possible Senior Class trip to Disneyland in May or June.

