

Teacher Write-Ups  
1/16/18

1-2 Class

Ms. Morgan's Board Write-up

These first two months of the year are filled with science and social projects that tie in language arts, art and literature. My class is learning about the human body which is our theme for the upcoming TRCS Science Fair. Students will make a book diagramming several systems of the body that we are studying. They will also make life size body cutouts and paste on organs to show for the fair. After the human body theme we'll move to learning about marine life with the Noyo Center for Marine Science. The class will also be learning about Chinese culture and history in our area as we lead up to the Children's Chinese New Year Parade in Mendocino Village before February Break. Also coming up is the 100th Day of school will bring in fun math activities based on 100 and also President's Week when we learn about past presidents, American Symbols and the president's role. All these themes include literature that the students read and that is read to them as well as art and math projects. The students are working hard at learning to write paragraphs and continue to free write in the daily journals. The math program is progressing on schedule. This is my fourth year of using "My Math", the common core aligned math curriculum used in 1-4th grade that I have become quite comfortable with. Discussion and exploration will continue in the coming months with the 1-8th teachers to find a singular curriculum that works for all of us. We are also about to dive into agreeing on an ELA curriculum to adopt together.

Please get in touch with any questions and thanks for your hard work.

Kim

3-4 Class

For the Board from the 3/4 class:

Our new novel, Mr. Popper's Penguins, has arrived, and we dove into it yesterday. We will be working on many aspects of reading and ELA using this novel, including reading fluency, comprehension, strategies, and more.

In science we are looking at cell biology basics, with an emphasis on plant cells (so that in the near future we segue into plant anatomy and processes). We have several cool, short videos supplementing direct instruction. I am setting up microscopes for close viewing of plant leaf structures.

We completed NWEA winter testing (with the exception of absent students). Testing is hard on the students, so we are all glad to have this concluded. Next week students will have the task of completing a practice test on the CAASPP website added to their online assignments schedule. Once they complete that task, we will do Interim CAASPP testing.

Students are in different stages of completing or not completing book 1 in the My Math series. I anticipate most of the class to be in to Book 2 by second semester.

Next week we have a field trip to Santa Rosa Junior College and planetarium for a planetarium show. We will stop at the fish hatchery by Lake Sonoma as well.

## 5-6 Class

Hello board members. The holidays are over and your kids are still awesome. Due to health issues in my family, I missed the first five days of the new year, and the class came back to substitutes. I could not be more proud of how the students responded. They handled the shift without complaint, did all of their work, and maintained positive attitudes throughout the changes. Impressive!

This week we are taking the winter NWEA tests and establishing individual and partner Science Fair Project choices. This will be followed by a Noyo Center project for their science fair. We are also finishing studying the American colonies and preparing to move on to the Revolutionary War. In math, both grades are studying Algebraic Expressions this week, and are on target for the end of the first semester.

Thanks for giving me such great kids.

## Jr. High

Ms. Walz's Junior High Class:

Hello Everyone!

I hope you all had a great weekend! Students will be receiving the last progress reports of the first semester this week. Students are encouraged to work on any missing assignments to improve their grades before report cards come out at the end of the semester (January 26th). Students will also be taking the second round of NWEA testing to assess growth in English and Math. In English this week students will read Chapter 2-3 in their first classroom novel *The Island of Dr. Moreau* by H.G. Wells. Students will also continue learning how to diagram sentences in Grammar and finish Lesson 8 in Vocab with a test on Thursday. In Life Science, students will complete Chapter 9 "The History of Life on Earth" with a fun cast and mold fossil lab and test on Thursday. In PE students will begin the new unit on hockey.

### **\*Important Announcements\***

#### **1) T-Shirt/Sweatshirt Orders - Orders have arrived and will be passed out Monday!**

#### **2) Parent & Staff School Planning Workshop - Tues, Jan. 9th @ 6:00 pm in Ms. Tulley's**

This Tuesday we will have a workshop/meeting regarding the way our school will look in the future. Due to the new requirements from our authorizer, FBUSD, we are going to have to make some changes for the 2018 school year. Mr. Coy would like all of you to have an opportunity to provide input for consideration. Next Tuesday Mr. Coy will be presenting a new plan to the TRCS Board. There is a lot of work to do, and not much time, so please plan on attending. Translation services and child care will also be provided.

#### **3) Round Table Pizza Night Fundraiser - Tuesday, January 23rd 5pm-9pm**

TRCS will be hosting a Round Table Pizza Night to help fundraise for the junior high trip to Washington D.C.. Any purchases dine in, pick up, or delivery from 5pm-9pm will help support our school!

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns!

## High School

The students and I in the high school classroom are focusing on finishing up online classes on pace for the end of the semester. About half or more of the class have finished one or more classes early but I do have 4 students I am trying to make sure pass one class that they are currently failing due to bad study habits. I notice this trend for any student who refuses to take notes in class and/or do any outside studying of their course material in order to prepare for exams. Miss Huerta and I are working to fill this gap by giving them as much one-on-one support time as we can every day to try and help them build better habits and pass their class.

We also began NWEA winter testing today in mathematics so that we can track progress and so far, all but 2 students have made growth of 3-9 points over their August testing.

Finally, we are making plans for a career exploration field trip to San Francisco to visit businesses that are in line with some of the career interests of the students. I hope to make this trip in February or March.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Kasperson