

## Teacher Write-Ups

### 1-2 Class

Ms. Morgan's Report to the Board:

Semester 2 is off to a good start for Grades 1 & 2. We are on track with pacing in our Math and ELA programs. Report cards went out and several parents signed up to have a Parent Teacher Conference. I gave the NWEA test to second graders this year and am presenting the results at conferences. I have recently received 6 refurbished chromebooks that I plan to have online after the break and will be introducing an online math practice program with the second graders call Redbird.

Our Science Fair theme this year was the Human Body so we just wrapped up learning about various organs and systems that concluded with life sized body diagrams that hung at the Science Fair. The students are always engaged with and love that projects. Since the Jr. High's topic was also the human body we had the older students come practice presenting their projects to my class.

Now we are on to learning about the ocean and are gearing up for the Noyo Center's Marine Science and Art air on March 2 & 3. Educators from the Noyo Center visited 1-8th grade classes the week of 2/12. The classes will all learn about this year's topic of "Marine Ecosystems Shifting in a Changing World" The teachers are working together this year to create one TRCS display for the Marine Science and Art Fair. The work will include large painted canvas panels (painted by the art elective class) depicting a healthy ocean ecosystem and panels depicting the unhealthy scene currently off our coast. The elementary classes will build 3D urchins and seas stars of clay and other materials to accompany the panels. Jr. High students will be researching and writing about how and why our ocean ecosystem has changed.

My class and Ms. Natalie's also participated in the Children's Chinese New Year Parade in Mendocino Village again this year.

### Grades 3/4

Students are working hard on concepts around fractions while simultaneously reviewing hard skills (subtraction w regrouping, long multiplication, long division) and memorizing multiplication facts. We conducted a friendly competition in which 4th grade "coaches" taught multi-digit multiplication by a single multipliers to a third grade "mathlete". We now have several third graders very proficient in multiplying.

Students took the CAASPP practice tests as well as two of the Interim "Block" Assessments. The "blocks" target a specific are of instruction in math or ELA. We did one block of each. Later, we will do another block of each.

We are studying plant systems in science, and sprouting daffodil bulbs to watch the process. Students are measuring growth and drawing changes in the bulbs as the changes occur. After break we will plant them in soil.

Students attended the Chinese New Year Parade in Mendo and the walk-through Kwan Tai Temple. They played at MCC, and then we went book shopping at Gallery Books. I wasn't sure what to expect as an

outcome for the book shopping portion of the field trip. It turned out to be a very amazing experience supported by many parent chaperones; it's definitely worth repeating.

I was extremely pleased with the outcome of the third and fourth grade science displays for our annual Science Fair.

After break, we will kick into high gear on the Noyo Science Center project, of which the three elementary grades are collaborating on a project.

### **Board Write-Up: Ms. Walz Junior High Classroom**

Hello Everyone!

I hope you all had a great weekend! Thank you to all of the families who attended the Science Fair! Students finished presenting their science fair boards on Monday and took a test on the Human Body Systems based on the student presentations. I am three-quarters way through with my parent meetings and look forward to meeting with the remaining families for the second semester parent-student-teacher conference.

In English students have read Chapter 14-15 in their classroom novel, *The Island of Dr. Moreau* by H.G. Wells. Students also continue to learn about direct and indirect objects in Grammar and continue with Lesson 11 in Vocab. Students will continue their Spelling Bee tests with a test on list 4 on Friday in preparation for the big competition on April 27th. Participation is mandatory and students will be graded on the tests leading up to the Bee. Students will be tested on one list each Friday (10-12 words), which will be applied to their English grades. We will have an in class competition and the top 3 spellers will move on to the school-wide competition.

In Science students will start on their projects for the Noyo Center's Marine Science and Art Fair coming up on March 2nd-3rd. Students will work in groups on researching an aspect of theme of marine ecosystems shifting in a changing world. Each project will consist of a research paper, art piece, and display board. Students will be given class time to work and complete their projects during the next two weeks of school. Last week Sue and Sarah from the Noyo Center came on Tuesday to introduce the theme to the class. On Wednesday three local guest speakers came in to talk about how the changing ocean climate is affecting our community on the coast : Jerry Kasiwada from the Department of Fish and Game, Blake Tallman from Sub Surface Progression Dive Shop and John Holcomb, urchin diver for over 30 years.

In PE students have completed an exciting unit of ultimate frisbee in PE and look forward to challenging the high school students to a game! After the break we will start training for the upcoming Physical Fitness Test with weekly sit-ups and push-ups, along with our usual mile run.