

Teacher Write-Ups 5-15-18

1-2 Class

Our caterpillars arrived in the mail this week! First and second graders will be watching the butterfly life-cycle first hand right in the classroom. We are also learning about honey bees and had a guest speaker (a mom) bring in freshly harvest honey comb and teach about bees. The class went to Point Cabrillo this month with an educational focus of "home habitats". Other spring excitement has included working in the garden and harvesting and eating the vegetables we grew. Many of the students participated in the Spelling Bee in April for the first time and it was a great experience. Our regular spelling books are finishing up and my various spelling groups are moving onto review and more advanced books. I am beginning to assess each student's reading level for the final time to see their progress this year. In math we're approaching the end of the curriculum as well with geometry. I am working to get assignments in the grade book and master our new grading system.

3-4 Class

Update on Ms. Natalie's 3-4 Class:

Student performance on formative assessments indicate that skills practice and concept reviews in ELA and Math are highly valuable. We both revisit concepts and re-practice old skills, while juxtaposing new concepts and skills. We are in the middle of a Geometry Unit, and a literature study of "Because of Winn-Dixie." Students seem to be enjoying both, even while reviewing and honing old skills.

Fourth graders are tutoring third graders in long multiplication by a single multiplier. Today we conducted "A Friendly Competition," the results of which are not yet scored. All students participated, and fourth graders were mandated to additionally perform two digit by two digit multiplication facts. Winners of competition earn points. There will be no grade-book scoring of this assessment.

This week we also rehearsed the 4th grade skills of adding fractions with unlike denominators, and reading protractors. Third graders are demanding another "Friendly Competition." This next one they are requesting address addition and subtraction of fractions with unlike denominators. I think the third-graders are reaching a bit, but I will allow the fourth graders to tutor them in this skill for a few days and we will host another "Friendly Competition."

I plan to host an orientation for new families coming in to my classroom in the 18-19 year. Orientation occurs at the end of the month. I created an invitation, and Ms. Morgan sent it out to all of her families of second-graders.

Next week I've organized another field trip. We will play Mini-Golf at the Emerald Dolphin. No drivers needed, and I will be assisted by several other adults. This should be a lot of fun!

I organized two "Literature Teas" this month. At the first one, I prepared and served all the tea while partners read to each other from "Because of Winn-Dixie." In the second, I served tea while trios of students re-read specific, assigned chapters, scouring the text seeking vocabulary words. We then opened up a Grand Discussion to assemble a master list of potential vocabulary words. We did this activity once before with earlier chapter readings, so the students had an easier time of it. From the master list, I will again generate vocabulary activities which the students will complete next week, even while reading forward in the next few chapters.

My students keenly desire to host a tea for Ms. Morgan's room; it is yet to be organized.

I am watching the student grow physically as well as emotionally and academically. But physically speaking, I am shocked at how quickly they are sprouting before my very eyes!!!!

I so appreciate the support brought by Shannon, Mariza, and Eliza! They bring an amazing amount of skills and positive energy to all we do in here!

5-6 Class

Jr High Class

Hello Board Members!

This week my class completed all 5 sections of the state CAASPP testing. Students were very excited to have their own computer mice just in time for the testing, which were purchased using a donation from the local American Legion (thank you to Caristine Larsen and Mr. Coy!) Students also enjoyed the bountiful breakfasts including oatmeal, smoothies, muffins, and yogurt parfaits provided by Parent Teacher Network (thank you to Chelsi McFadden, Jen Daoust, and Ms. Bart). I would also like to thank the following parents who volunteered to bring drinks and healthy snacks for students this week: Hillary Schneider, Ronda Wasco, Angie Pulliam, Katie Rogers, Kathy Westfall and Jennifer Tyler. This year felt like a much more positive state testing experience for our students :)

In English we are back to our normal schedule with literature Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Vocab/Grammar Tuesday and Thursday, so students can expect to have some type of English homework each day. We have started a new class novel, Jack London's *Call of the Wild*. Unlike our previous novel which was read together in class, students will be reading this novel more independently. Students need to read Chapter 4 by Monday. In Vocab students will be finishing Lesson 14 with sentences and a test on Thursday and in Grammar they will continue practicing verb agreement.

In Science students will continue Chapter 17 and learn about marine and freshwater ecosystems. In PE students have completed the state PFT testing (except for those students absent who will make it up) and will begin a unit in hockey.

This Friday the TRCS yearbooks will be ordered and purchased with an expected delivery date of June 10th!

Important Announcements

1) Round Table Pizza Night Fundraiser - Tuesday, May 29th 5pm-9pm

TRCS will be hosting a Round Table Pizza Night to help fundraise for the junior high trip to Scandia and Santa Rosa Junior College. Any purchases dine in, pick up, or delivery from 5pm-9pm will help support our class field trip!

2) Field Trip to Scandia & Santa Rosa Junior College - Thursday, May 31st @ 7:15am

High School Class

This month in the high school classroom, students have been working hard to stay on pace in their online classes and for some students to also focus on finishing credit recovery work they began this year for courses they had failed in the past. We are all working to make their transition into other high school programs as

smooth as possible. We had a great meeting at Fort Bragg High with their guidance counselors, Mark Boele and Tomas Sanchez which definitely helped our students begin plans for this transition.

Students have been studying the Great Depression and then U.S. involvement in WWII in history, while in English they are working on two new novels: *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne and *The Last of the Mohicans* by James Fenimore Cooper. We are almost done with our CAASPP testing including the Science Pilot Test for the seniors. Students had fun making smoothies for the whole class even though only the 11th and 12th graders were testing.

Finally we have enjoyed a new project learning about Autism through the help of a community member, Ian and his social worker, who are coming in to visit and have tea on Wednesdays and teach students about autism. I decided this was such a valuable experience to work with a community member that I have moved our Friday House Meeting time to this activity. Normally on Fridays during House Meeting we work on a mix of Model UN activities and REACH activities using Sanford Harmony.

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