

November 3, 2016

Hello Everyone,

I hope you all enjoyed Halloween, the Day of the Dead, Sanhaim, All Saints Day, Harvest Festival, or whatever fall holiday you may celebrate. Thanks to everyone who helped with our Oktoberfest and Halloween party.

Our next big event coming up will be the Thanksgiving Feast and I will be asking for your input and the kids on what type of dish our class should prepare for that day.

Another reminder is that our first trimester is drawing to a close and we have begun working on portfolios, goals, and self-assessment. Most students are doing very well, but we do have a few who are not taking their studies and school time as seriously as they should. These students are not performing at a level they should be. I think that the portfolio and review process will help to motivate them.

We have started studying the U.S. Constitution in social studies and are learning about our government by reading and explaining each article. We are still on the legislative branch since we have started portfolios, but we have covered the requirements for both the Senate and the House of Representatives. We will work on the powers of the federal government as soon as we finish our portfolios. The reading, writing, and research homework time is also being used for portfolio work.

Here are the articles the students wrote about their math classes:

[Current math article](#)

Currently in our math class grades 3-4 we start at 8:45. In our books we are mostly working on a mix between basic math facts that are our level, and the different properties such as, commutative property, associative property etc. also, every day we have time tests, usually, we have addition tests on Monday, subtraction on Tuesday, multiplication on Wednesday, division on Thursday, and I'm pretty sure we don't have one on Fridays, but on Fridays it is game day, of course, the games have to do with math, but at the same time they are really fun. One of the things we do on Friday, is mystery grid pictures, they are grids and instructions with a key for your individual pattern colors. That is our current math class update.

By Gavyn and Titi

In Laurie's sixth grade math, we are doing patterns and misleading graphs. Patterns can be used for nature, art, and music. Misleading graphs are very important to know about. A misleading graph is when a company makes a graph that makes it look like they are more profitable or, makes it look like a business deal is better. That is what sixth grade is doing.

In Laurie's fifth grade math we are learning about variables and expressions. Variables are letters in an expression. Expressions are word math problems. The fifth graders are also learning about finding the rule. To find the rule there is a table with a left column and a left column of numbers. So basically you're supposed to find a number that you can multiply by all the numbers in the left column and make them equal the numbers in the right column. It is a pretty important thing to know.

By: Desi, Agent, Kloey, Jack

Gabrielle, Arwen, Katy, Lauren, Halima, and Joseph wrote:

In the last week the second math group has worked on doing coordinate graphing with four planes, graphing linear equations, translations, and equations, tables and graphs.

Today, October 28, we are learning about rotations, and yesterday we did a pretest that focused on dilations, ratios, and converting measurements.

To clarify, a transformation is a change in the position, shape or size of a figure. A translation is a transformation that moves each point of a figure the same distance, and in the same direction.

Students are contributing new words from the books they are reading for the end of November and December vocabulary list, but will continue to use the words and definitions that were sent with last week's newsletter again next week. Tuesday will be a test on words 1-15.

I hope you will all have a great Friday and wonderful weekend.

Best wishes,

Carla