

January 29, 2017

Hello Everyone,

The first thing that I want to say is thank you to all my wonderful parents. I don't know what I would do without your help and support. Last week Adam, Gwen, and Laurie all donated to help with the pet expenses. Thank you so much. I am sure Quags enjoyed her crickets more knowing they were from you. Hershey seems to be doing much better after his steroid shot as well and has not had any more seizure episodes. He is getting old, and I want the kids to learn how important it is to care for those who are older whether pets or people.

I also want to thank Gwen for spending so much time getting the library back up to date. The library has been the work of many parents and assistants since I came and it has meant a great deal to me and the students. On the recent testing, Gwen marked the incorrect answers. Now Karine is been working on scoring and tabulating the results of the resent ITBS the students took and that has made me so much more relaxed. It is a huge job and it was weighing very heavily on me. My gratitude is boundless.

The classroom is progressing well and students learned a lot last week. In science, we learned about the skeletal system and the muscular system. I loved how attentive they all were to what we were learning. We also learned about Roman numerals and how to do formal outlines in science which is something that will carry over to their research report. I am starting to receive parts of some rough drafts asking for feedback. It is nice to see these students being so responsible. The first draft is due next month, February 22.

No work folders are going home on Monday, because they didn't all get turned back. P.O.W.s will go out. In math, the younger students are working on factors and will soon move to fractions. The seventh and eighth grade students are working on percent and practical applications of percent.

In social studies, we have studied the first few administrations in our country's history and have moved past Andrew Jackson and will be looking at social movements. After this chapter, we will have caught up chronologically with the Howard Zinn book and we will be going over the next two articles in that.

In English/language arts we have been working on writing sentences and identifying the types and parts of sentences. I am hoping this will help them

understand when I tell them that they have written a sentence fragment or run-on sentence. When I tell them they are missing a subject or verb, they will know right away what I am talking about.

At this point, I also want to thank all our special teachers. Chad will be turning over the reins of P.E. this week. He has been an amazing P.E. teacher. He will go down in the P.E. teacher hall of fame with Laurie and Jon Geiger. Many thanks to those of you who are volunteering to jump in.

Courtney Miller has worked hard on our Spanish program. She has recently had the students working on research and slide shows. This has been a great help for them as they work on their big research projects. Thank you, Courtney.

Laurie Geiger continues to provide fascinating and fun music classes to all ages. All the students in the school look forward to their music class. It is hard to please everyone, but somehow, she does.

Our class art teacher, Karine Gabrini, continues to outdo herself. This past week and come up with an amazing project concerning drawing and how pictures look different when we look at them differently or from a different perspective. I cannot believe all the time and effort these talented parents have devoted to our class and our school. I wish I could have a class with all these talented people.

**Repeated from last week.**

*(We are looking for an ear thermometer for the office to make sure we have accurate temperatures when the kids aren't feeling well.*

*Also, if any of you have locking filing cabinets in good shape you would like to donate to the school, please let me know. Donations of copy paper is always gratefully accepted by the office as well.*

*Thanks to all of you who do so much for our classroom and school.)*

Best wishes,

Carla

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, February 2: 6:00 p.m. School Board meeting

Friday, February 17: Noon Dismissal with Childcare

6:45-8:45 is the Valentines Dance

Monday, February 20: Holiday, No school and no childcare

Friday, February 24: Institute Day, No school and no childcare

**Wish List:**

Ear thermometer for the office

Locking filing cabinet

Gift Cards: Barnes & Noble, Petco, Walmart, and Amazon (*for the pets and library.*)