



What have we been up to?

5th grade math: In math class we are working on algebraic concepts and coordinate graphing. Later this month we will begin working on fractions and decimals

6th grade math: In math class we are reviewing simplifying fractions, adding & subtracting fractions and later in the month multiplying and dividing fractions.

Science: In December we finished our first science kit called Diversity of Life where we learned what characteristics make something alive. Later this month we will begin a new science kit called Matter & Energy. This is a new kit in our rotation, so I look forward to beginning this one.

Social Studies: Recently we took a Chapter 1 test. Now we are moving on the Chapter 2 which is a review of Native Americans in the establishment of the United States. We will move on to early world explorers. In addition we will be studying and memorizing our 50 states and their capitols.

Vocabulary: Each Monday students receive a new list of vocabulary words. They take a pre-spelling test on Monday and a post-spelling test on Friday. You should be seeing their spelling lists come home for them to study. In addition they are to complete their vocabulary journal entries which are also due on Friday each week.

PE: We are focusing on the components of physical fitness. We work on different components each day. We have PE on Tues, Wed, and Thurs. Please remind your student to dress appropriately on those days and wear athletic shoes.

Reading: Right now we are working on Literature Circles. Students are reading books and making journal entries based on each days reading. Each

book group meets with me 1x per week for a book talk. These journals are also turned in each Friday. Students are expected to complete 120 minutes (2 hours) of outside independent reading each week. Reading logs are due on Monday and Tuesday.

Writing: We are working on the writing process. In addition we are learning how to do more technical type of writing such as instructional, expository and informational.

2nd Step: This is our community building curriculum that focuses on making good decisions when faced with difficult choices. This month our theme is bullying; how to identify it, how to combat it and how to support our friends if they are faced with bullying.



THINGS TO KNOW!

* 5th & 6th graders are now subject to the late work policy. Please review this with your student.

* Missing assignment lists will come home 2x a month.

*Check planners daily for homework assignments.

*Student planners are to be signed weekly on Friday. They will be checked on Monday of the following week.

*CISPUS PARENT MEETING 1/31 AT 6PM in MRS VANSOEST'S CLASSROOM.

"Teachers open the door. Students choose whether or not to enter"

A Chinese Saying

Please feel free to contact me anytime at jacqui.vansoest@greenmountainschool.us or before 8 AM or after 3 PM at 225-7366.