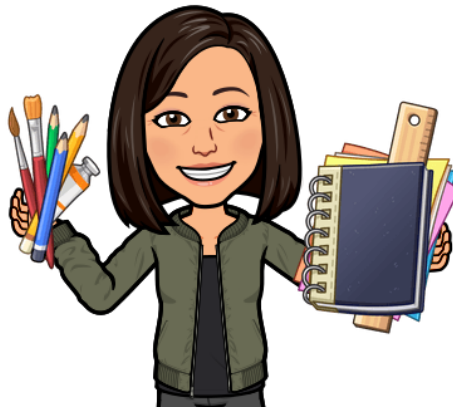


CLASSROOM UPDATES



APRIL 29–MAY 10, 2024

LITERACY

Nonfiction: Children of the Wild West and The Oregon Trail simulation

Students will learn about pioneer life in the 1800's as we read and discuss Children of the Wild West. The knowledge gained while reading is used as the students participate in a simulation of the Oregon Trail in these final weeks. Students have been placed into one of four wagon trains, and will be selecting identities/roles they will play. They will elect a wagon master to lead their wagon train on the Oregon Trail. Wagon trains will pack the necessary supplies (hopefully) as we prepare to leave on the trail. During the remaining time, students will work together to make decisions about where to go on the trail and what to do when faced with difficult choices. They will discover their fates along the way based on those group decisions. Students will also be expected to journal throughout the experience.

April/May Book Clubs

For our final book clubs students have formed their own groups, selected their own genre/books, and have set their own reading schedules. Books Clubs will be meeting on **Thursdays, May 2 and May 9**, to discuss that week's reading. In lieu of the letters they usually write to me each week, groups have chosen a written task to prepare for their meeting that they will be turning in on Thursdays.

Writer's Workshop: Expository Writing

Students have been busy researching their chosen nonfiction topics. All topics are focused on learning more about ecosystems. This week, we will be organizing our notes and working on the first draft of our expository pieces. Students will be using Book Creator to create and publish their own Question & Answer books. I will send a notification when books are ready. You'll be able to access the class "bookshelf" to enjoy our books!

MATH IN FOCUS with MRS. McLOONE

Unit 10: Percents

Students continue to learn to use a percent to represent part of a whole and to write percents as fractions and decimals. They will find the percent of a quantity and learn to calculate sales tax, discounts, and interest. Mrs. McLoone will reach out with more information.

BIG IDEAS MATH with MRS. CIONI

Unit 9: Statistical Measures

This next unit will focus on the variability of statistical questions and understanding that data used to answer statistical questions has a distribution that can be described by center and spread. Students will learn to use measures of center to summarize the values in a data set with a single number. **There is a U9 test scheduled for Monday, May 6.**

SCIENCE

Ecosystems

The final lessons of our Ecosystems unit have students learning about decomposers and their role in an ecosystem. We will conclude next week with learning about how matter cycles through an ecosystem, and how introducing new species or making changes to a species can disrupt the balance of an ecosystem.

UPCOMING DATES

- ✓ May 3 Walkathon Fundraiser: PJ Day (\$2 suggested donation)
- ✓ May 6 Patton Band Concert at Hersey High School 7:00 PM
- ✓ May 7 Walkathon Fundraiser: Pie in the Face
- ✓ May 8 Walkathon Fundraiser: "Wear Purple for Wren" Day (\$2 suggested donation)
- ✓ May 8 Art Reception at AHML 6:00 PM
- ✓ May 9 Thomas Middle School Summer Reading Assembly 11:40 AM
- ✓ May 9 17th Annual Walkathon for Make-a-Wish 4:00 PM
- ✓ May 16 All Patton library books must be returned to the LMC
- ✓ May 16 D25 5th Grade Track Meet at South Middle School 4:00 PM
- ✓ May 17 Frozen- Afternoon Rehearsals 1:30-3:30 PM
- ✓ May 20 Happy Birthday, Sami!
- ✓ May 20 Frozen- Full Day Rehearsals 8:00-3:30 PM
- ✓ May 21 Frozen Jr. Blue Cast performs 9:30 AM/7:00 PM
- ✓ May 22 Frozen Jr. White Cast performs 9:30 AM/7:00 PM
- ✓ May 24 No School: SIP Day
- ✓ May 27 No School: Memorial Day
- ✓ May 28 5th Grade Recognition Night at Thomas Middle School 7:00 PM
- ✓ May 29 Happy Birthday, Ivan!
- ✓ May 29 Patton Field Day
- ✓ May 30 5th Grade Trip

✓ May 31 Last day of school; 5th Grade Clap Out at 2:30 PM (Parents are invited to join the fun.
More info to come...)

If at any time you or your child have any questions regarding this information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Mrs. Cioni

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