

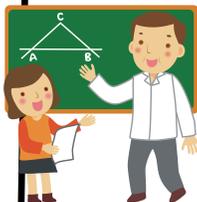


Mr. Devold's Class

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Out of the Class but not Out of the Building



FWIW, being out of the class for three weeks has been tough. I have enjoyed my time as an administrator and learned a lot about a future craft. However, trying to fill two requirements at once has been hard. Mrs. Severson did an excellent job filling in, and made the time enjoyable for the students. My observation has been that the kids have stayed the course for the most part.

Although, working with a sub and working with the teacher is not quite the same. I do believe I was missed, but I also believe it was probably a nice break from Mr. D. in some instances as well.

I will be back in the class next Monday attempting to get us all back on the same page. It may be a bit challenging for some students, and welcomed by others. We will be finishing our focus on Narrative writing a bit later than I wish, and the Native American Unit, may have lost some of its flair, and will be drug out a bit longer to make sure the dots are all connected, and the focus on physics will continue a bit longer into 2nd quarter, but I will give each focus area the time it needs to jell for the students. Then we will get started on 2nd quarter learning. So what's next?

Expository (explaining) writing, non-fiction reading instruction, space science, and U.S. colonization. We will be prepping 5th & 6th graders for their Challenger Center missions, and the 4th graders for their trip to the FAA and Airport. We will continue our water quality environmental studies with Dan, and we will have some opportunities to fundraise for our big field trips later this year.

I am ready to be back in the room helping the students learn new skills, gain new insights, build on interests, and challenge their thinking.

Parent Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conference sheets are posted in the hall for you sign up on. Please come in and sign up for a conference slot. I am looking forward to the upcoming meetings. It is fun to see each of you and share information about your student and compare notes. It is so helpful to get the parents point of view of their child and good to communicate to the students that both the teacher and family have the same expectations for their learning.

It is also fun to experience the difference of a 4th grade conference and a 6th grade conference. 6th grade conferences are comfortable, familiar and

The Halloween Question



So, this year we do not have school on Halloween. Traditionally, we have a student developed party, and boy do these kids know how to plan and throw a party. It has been a great event!

However, this year is quite different. We (the whole school) will NOT be having a Halloween shindig. In fact we will not be having a Halloween celebration at all. So what that boils down to is...

NO COSTUMES. (I do plan on have a few Halloween themed learning activities but no formal party)

I know this is a bummer for the kids and families who really like to celebrate, but think of it as a chance to fill a void. Maybe there is a family out there that would like to plan a Halloween get together.

The week of Halloween is a short week due to parent conferences, additionally the Wednesday before the two conference days is an Early Release Day, and teachers will be meeting and working on Student Growth Map implementations which will be a requirement for all teachers next year. So it is a big business afternoon for teachers. (Tough transition from crazy/messy party to focused working environment.)

To try and assist, the school is planning a school "spirit week" which we try to offer a few times through the year. The week would include a crazy hair/hat day (Monday), sports FAN day [jerseys and such yes, sports gear/equipment no] (Tuesday), and rainbow day (Wednesday). [Rainbow day requires wearing a solid color. 4th graders wear light blue, 5th graders wear navy blue, 6th graders wear violet.]

almost sad since we know we will be parting ways sooner than we would like. 4th grade conferences are a little more uneasy, there is "getting to know you" feel to them. However, they are enjoyable and it is fun to share my initial insights about new students who I've only had the pleasure of working with for two months. But I know, in two more years, we will be familiar friends, sitting at a table, planning for middle school, sad that we are parting ways too soon.

This is the best time of the year. If you need to reschedule to a different day or time, please let me know, I can make arrangements to suit your needs.

On The Back:

No Back Page

Special points of interest:

- October 17th—End of the 1st Quarter—NO SCHOOL
- October 29th—Early Release Day @ 1:55
- October 30th & 31st Parent/Teacher Conferences.
- November 27th & 28—Thanksgiving—NO SCHOOL
- December 17th—FINALIZED—Challenger Center Mission for 5th & 6th Grade. 4th Grade to FAA & Airport
- December 19th—End of 2nd Quarter - NO SCHOOL
- December 22nd—January 2nd—Christmas Break