

Ms. LaCasse's Newsnotes

WEEK IN REVIEW

Well, it was our first full week together in the 5th grade! We were able to accomplish some testing, such as the Words Their Way assessment, Star360 reading assessment, and we began the high frequency word assessments (reading and spelling). I use all of these tests to drive my instruction throughout the year, while monitoring progress through quarterly assessments and end of the year tests too! The kids are all aware what the purpose of these tests are, and they honestly try their hardest. We even had a visitor who is the brother to one of our students. Sargent Stanford came to visit on Wednesday to talk about education, his army career, and more. We also had picture day, early release day, and we had a band demonstration. Phew! What a week!

LANGUAGE ARTS

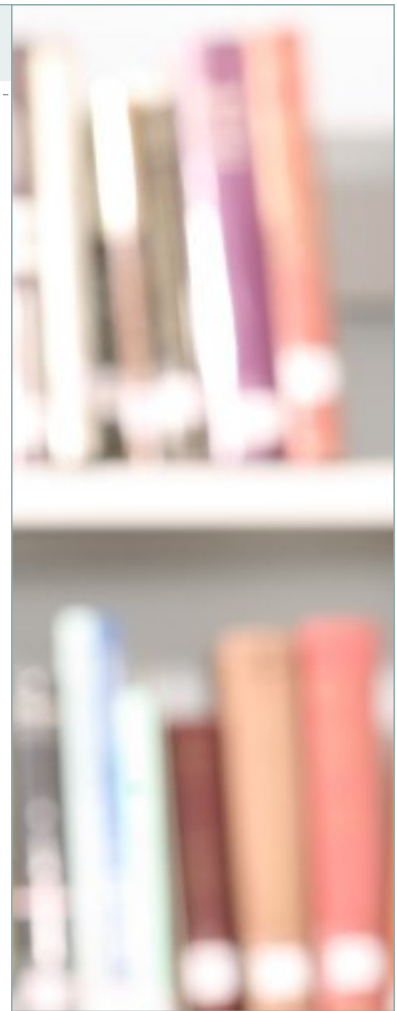
In ELA this week, we started worked on our Collaborative Discussion Guidelines, we learned about the reading strategy "Making Connections" and we started to read, Because of Mr. Terupt. The kids were able to connect to the 5th grade characters in the book , and we used it to start discussing the weekly reading homework expectations that will be starting next week. We also were introduced to our writing binders, and we continued to brainstorm ideas that we could write about. We are up to 17 minutes of read to self stamina, and we just began our work on writing stamina.

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CELEBRATION STORY

This week, there was a student who felt that his behavior in library was not as great as it could have been. So, without any direction, this student wrote an apology note and was persistent on getting it to the librarian. This ownership is a huge step for this student, and I am so proud of him!

MATH

This week in math, we decided to try something new. We split the students up into 3 math groups. Since there are so many students, we thought that this idea would be best to cover their math needs. Ms. Hockmeyer and Mrs. Bushey are helping me in this endeavor. So far, the students are reacting to this in a positive way. They are happy to be

getting the attention that they need and deserve in math! We have been working on decomposing whole numbers into fractions, and composing unit fractions into whole numbers. We are writing number bonds, number sentences, and exploring how many different ways that we can decompose whole numbers as well!

SCIENCE/SOCIAL STUDIES

This week, we worked hard on the classroom community in our classroom. There were moments when our behavior was not conducive to learning, so we definitely talked about it. We recalled that we have shared agreements, and we have classroom consequences, as well as expectations. We also talked about how we need to work as a team. Right now, that is our social goal: to work as a team.

DATES AND REMINDERS

- It is getting colder in the morning, so please remind students to bring a sweatshirt or a nice fall jacket!
- Open house is on Wednesday, September 28th, 2016 at 6 pm. It is also when our book fair event will occur!
- GHS Homecoming parade is on 9/30/16
- No school 10/7/16 or on 10/10/16.