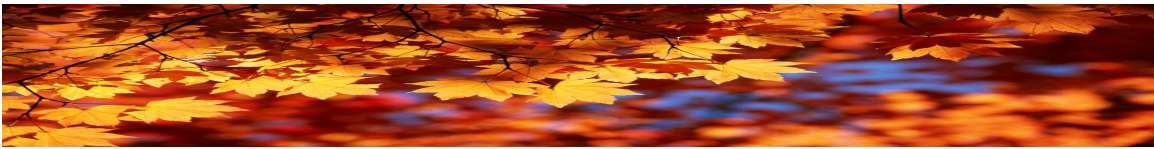


Fall is Here!

Can you believe we are already half way through October and looking right down November!?! We are doing well here in 5th grade, not letting anything grow under our feet. In class we have continued to push forward in our areas of reading, adding Accelerated Reader to our Scholastic reading program. This has allowed more books for the students to read and continue improving their comprehension skills. I have also added the use of our Story Webs to help increase the choices the students have in sharing knowledge from their reading. To date we have over 75% of the class above the required number of books for the quarter...and we still have 3 weeks to go!



This year, I have looked to change things up in the classroom. We have been working on research in the classroom with the use of our school lap-top computers. The class has chosen topics of interest to research and share with the class by creating power point demonstrations. This was one of my goals for the students this year, to spend more time tying research and technology together. Throughout this school year, we will be looking at certain research information tied to alternate means of sharing knowledge. Besides power points, we will also work in Publisher to create both bi-folds and tri-folds for creating reports and sharing knowledge.



We will continue to push forward in both reading and math along with continuing the fun with science. Freaky Fridays will still be around, but they will be moved to different days of the week. Our next experiment coming up involves building a device that will capture air pressure to make these apparatuses move. This will be challenging for the students since they will need to create this machine with a partner and their understanding of weather and simple machines. In math we have finished reviewing math skills and have been working with real algebra. The students never seem to amaze me with their willingness to try something new and in all honesty quite difficult.



On that note, congratulations are in order for this class in particular. As we all know, most all of my students this year, have looped with me from last year. As a teacher, I always want to know how well my class performed on the ISAT tests we take in the spring. Well, if you do the math, our class had 30 students take tests in reading math and science. So out of a possible 90 test scores, we met or exceeded 88 of these tests!!!! This was an unbelievable achievement by our class and should be a huge reason to celebrate. Hats off to the students for their hard work and the great support from all my parents. Together we had an amazing 4th grade year, and I plan on making 5th even more memorable.

Thank you for the great support and as always if you should need anything please call me at 630-458-2959 or e-mail me at rwojtas@asd4.org

Sincerely,

Mr. R. Wojtas