



Mrs. Otte's Weekly Update



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January 12-16
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Edition 17

Two weeks worth of Information!

BECAUSE OF THE SNOW DAY LAST FRIDAY, AND BEING THE FIRST WEEK BACK TO SCHOOL, I DID NOT SEND OUT A NEWSLETTER. I HOPE EVERYONE HAD A JOYFUL CHRISTMAS SEASON. I HAD A WONDERFUL BREAK, BUT WAS EAGER TO GET BACK TO SCHOOL AND START MANY NEW UNITS OF STUDY.

THESE LAST TWO WEEKS HAVE BEEN GREAT FOR LEARNING AS WE HAVE HAD VERY FEW INTERRUPTIONS.

WE TOOK OUR FIRST NWEA MAP TEST THIS WEEK. STUDENTS COMPLETED THE READING TEST. IT WAS GREAT TO SEE HOW THEIR READING STAMINA HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR. STUDENTS CHARTED THEIR GROWTH NEXT WEEK. RESULTS WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE UPCOMING CONFERENCES.

SOPHIA, THOMAS, AND EMMA COMPETED IN THE 5-8TH GRADE GEOGRAPHY BEE. THE FIFTH GRADERS DID A GREAT JOB AND I AM PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT SOPHIA WAS THE OVERALL WINNER! CONGRATULATIONS SOPHIA!

Dates to Remember

JAN. 12	MAP TESTING STARTS
JAN. 16	END OF 2 ND QUARTER
JAN. 19	NO SCHOOL
JAN. 20	STUDENT COUNCIL UGLY DRESS DAY
JAN. 25	CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK — BE LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE WEEK!

Writing: WE BEGAN OUR NONFICTION WRITING UNIT. WE ARE LEARNING THE DIFFERENT TEXT STRUCTURES THAT AUTHORS USE TO WRITE NONFICTION. THESE STRUCTURES INCLUDE DESCRIPTION, COMPARE AND CONTRAST, CAUSE AND EFFECT, PROBLEM AND SOLUTION, AND ORDER AND SEQUENCE. WE PRACTICED READING AND WRITING THESE TYPES OF NONFICTION PARAGRAPHS.

THIS UNIT GOES HAND IN HAND WITH READING. WE ARE ALSO READING NONFICTION AND TRYING TO DECIDE WHAT TEXT STRUCTURE AUTHORS USED. NEXT WEEK WE WILL BE WORKING ON CLOSE READING AND LEARNING TO READ A PASSAGE MULTIPLE TIMES WITH DIFFERENT READING GOGGLES.

Religion: AFTER TAKING A BREAK FROM LEARNING ABOUT THE SACRAMENTS, WE STARTED THE THIRD SACRAMENT OF INITIATION THIS WEEK. WITH EACH SACRAMENT, WE REVIEW THE PARTS OF THE MASS IN RELATIONSHIP TO THE CELEBRATION OF THE GIVEN SACRAMENT. IN CLASS WE ALSO PARTICIPATED IN A GUIDED MEDITATION.

Science: WE ARE STARTING OUR LIFE SCIENCE UNIT BY DIVING RIGHT INTO LEARNING ABOUT THE SKELETAL SYSTEM. STUDENTS READ ABOUT IT, WATCHED A FEW SHORT VIDEOS, LABELED THE BONES OF THE BODY, ROTATED THROUGH CENTERS, AND TOOK A QUIZ OVER THE SKELETAL SYSTEM. WE ARE STARTING THE MUSCULAR SYSTEM NEXT WHERE AND WE WILL LOOK AT HOW THE SYSTEMS WORK TOGETHER.