



Mrs. Otte's Weekly Update



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January 20-23
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Edition 18

Read Aloud this month

THIS MONTH I AM READING THE BOOK WONDER BY R.J. PALACIO OUT LOUD IN CLASS. IF YOU HAVE NOT READ THE BOOK YOURSELF, I WOULD HIGHLY RECOMMEND READING IT AND DISCUSSING IT WITH YOUR CHILD. THE STORY IS ABOUT A BOY WHO WAS BORN WITH BIRTH DEFECTS, AND IS A FIFTH GRADER GOING TO SCHOOL FOR THE FIRST TIME. THE BOOK SHOWS HIS HARDSHIPS AND HAPPINESS FROM A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT PEOPLE'S PERSPECTIVES. STUDENTS ALSO ASK IF THERE IS A SEQUEL, AND YES THERE IS!

Social Studies and Research

WITH ALL OF OUR FOCUS ON NONFICTION WE ARE JUST ABOUT TO START OUR RESEARCH MAGAZINES OVER OUR GIVEN COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH WE USE THE INTERNET FOR LOTS OF PROJECTS, THIS PROJECT WE ARE GOING TO USE ONLY A COUPLE RESOURCES AND REALLY DIG DEEP INTO THE MATERIAL. STUDENTS FOUND ONE OR TWO BOOKS ABOUT THEIR COUNTRY AT OUR LIBRARY. STUDENTS WILL BE ASKED TO FIND ONE MORE FROM YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY. THEY ARE ASKED TO HAVE THE BOOK BY NEXT FRIDAY.

Dates to Remember

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| JAN. 25 | CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK — PLEASE CHECK PURPLE SHEET FOR DETAILS |
| FEB. 5 & 9 | PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES |
| FEB. 13 & 16 | NO SCHOOL |
| FEB. 18 | ASH WEDNESDAY — FIFTH GRADE MASS |

Writing: THIS WEEK WE TOOK A BREAK FROM NONFICTION WRITING AND LEARNED HOW TO WRITE A START AND STOP POEM. EACH MONTH WE CREATE A POEM FOR OUR WRITING PORTFOLIO AND TO GIVE TO OUR SNAIL MAIL BUDDIES. FIFTH GRADE ALSO SPENT TIME WRITING A PERSONAL LETTER TO THEIR SNAIL MAIL BUDDY.

Vocabulary: THE GREEK AND LATIN ROOT WORD FOR THIS WEEK IS MOB AND MOT, MEANING TO MOVE. AS A CLASS, THE VOCABULARY PORTION OF THE MAP TESTING IMPROVED THE MOST IN ALL READING AREAS. THE STUDENTS' HARD WORK IS PAYING OFF!

Religion: STUDENTS USED A WEBSITE CALLED THINGLINK TO CREATE A RELIGION PROJECT. THIS WAS A NEW WEBSITE FOR THE STUDENTS AND ME. I ENJOY SEEING THE STUDENTS EXPLORE NEW WEBSITES AND TEACHING OTHERS HOW TO NAVIGATE THE SITE. DURING THIS PROJECT THEY WERE GIVEN A PILGRIMAGE LOCATION AND WERE ASKED TO GO ON THE JOURNEY RECORDING THEIR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ALONG THE WAY.

Science: STUDENTS READ ABOUT THE MUSCULAR SYSTEM ONLINE AND ANSWERED COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS. THEY TOOK A QUIZ OVER THE MUSCLE SYSTEM USING AN APP CALLED CLASSRESPONDER. BECAUSE THIS APP WAS NEW, THEY HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RETAKE THE TEST ON MONDAY. NEXT WEEK STUDENTS WILL BE CONDUCTING THEIR FIRST LAB REPORT THIS YEAR ON DISSECTION OF A CHICKEN WING.