



# Mrs. Otte's Weekly Update



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October 14-17  
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Curriculum Corner

## The Importance of Nightly Reading

THIS WEEK I PICKED UP A BOOK AT BARNES AND NOBLE CALLED THE BOOK WHISPERER BY DONALYN MILLER. SHE IS A SIXTH GRADE TEACHER WHO USES INDEPENDENT READING IN HER CLASSROOM ON A DAILY BASIS. SHE REFERRED TO MATTHEW 13:12 THAT IS OFTEN INTERPRETED AS "THE RICH GET RICHER AND THE POOR GET POORER" STORY. SHE WAS REFERRING TO STUDENTS AND THE AMOUNT OF READING THEY DO ON A DAILY BASIS. STUDENTS THAT READ DAILY AND NIGHTLY WILL GROW IN THEIR SKILLS, VOCABULARY, SPELLING, AND BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE, AND THOSE THAT DO NOT READ ON A DAILY BASIS WILL FALL FURTHER BEHIND. AS ADULTS, WE WANT TO SHOW THEM HOW READING IS ENGAGING AND WORTHWHILE. READING SHOULD BE SOMETHING STUDENTS WANT TO DO, RATHER THAN A CHORE OR HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT.

HERE ARE SOME IDEAS YOU CAN USE TO HELP CREATE THAT READING SPARK:

1. SHARE WITH YOUR CHILD YOUR FAVORITE BOOK GROWING UP.
2. PROMOTE SPENDING TIME LOOKING AT REVIEWS ONLINE.
3. WRITE REVIEWS AFTER READING STORIES.
4. HAVE YOUR CHILD READ THE BOOK BEFORE WATCHING THE MOVIE.
5. READ TOGETHER!
6. RECORD HOW MANY BOOKS ARE READ. SEE IF YOU CAN READ 50 THIS YEAR. IT IS A REACHABLE GOAL! I PROMISE!

## Edition 8

WRITING: STUDENTS SELECTED THEIR PERSUASIVE ESSAY TOPIC AND LEARNED THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN STRONG AND WEAK REASONS. THEY STARTED TO EXPAND ON THEIR STRONG REASONS FOR OR AGAINST THEIR ISSUE. IN ORDER TO MAKE THEIR REASONS EVEN STRONGER, STUDENTS ARE USING THE IPADS TO RESEARCH FACTS AND INFORMATION RELATED TO THEIR ISSUE. THEY WILL BE USING THIS INFORMATION NEXT WEEK TO CONTINUE WRITING THEIR DRAFTS.

MATH: MATH STATIONS WERE INTRODUCED THIS WEEK. STUDENTS START MATH EACH DAY CHECKING THEIR HOMEWORK FROM THE NIGHT BEFORE AND BEING INTRODUCED TO THE NEW MATERIAL. THEY WATCH MRS. OTTE DO A COUPLE PRACTICE PROBLEMS. THEN STUDENTS ROTATE THROUGH FOUR STATIONS AT 10 MINUTES EACH. STUDENTS WILL BE DOING THIS DAILY STARTING NEXT WEEK.

## STATIONS INCLUDE:

- 1: COMPUTER SKILLS — PRACTICE SKILLS ON MOBYMAX.COM, TENMARKS.COM, AND ARCADEMICS.COM
- 2: REVIEW SKILLS — WORKSHEET, CARD GAME OR STARTING NIGHTLY HOMEWORK
- 3: REAL-LIFE PROBLEM SOLVING MATH SKILLS
- 4: AND LASTLY, MEETING WITH MRS. OTTE TO GO OVER THE DAILY LESSON WITH HER IN SMALL GROUPS.

\*MATH CENTERS ALLOW STUDENTS TO DISCUSS MATH AND PRACTICE REAL LIFE SITUATIONS AT THEIR OWN PACE. STUDENTS LEARN INDEPENDENCE AND PROBLEM SOLVING WITHOUT THE DAILY DRILL OF WORKSHEET AFTER WORKSHEET.

## Dates to Remember

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| OCT 22  | MAP TESTING — FIFTH GRADE WILL BE TESTING AFTER LUNCH (LAST ONE!) |
| OCT. 21 | PICTURE RETAKES<br>SCIENCE PROJECTS DUE                           |
| OCT. 24 | END OF FIRST QUARTER  |
| OCT. 31 | HALLOWEEN PARTY   |

Reflection during religion class this week:

We are to be fruitful people. How are you living out the gifts and the fruits of the Holy Spirit?

COME VISIT THE HALLWAY TO SEE WHAT STUDENTS SAID ABOUT OTHER STUDENTS!

The Fruit of God's Spirit

