



Mrs. Otte's Weekly Update



.....
October 20-24

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Edition 9

Check Plus, Check, and Check Minus!

YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED THAT SOME OF THE HOMEWORK COMING HOME LAST WEEK AND THIS WEEK ARE GRADED WITH ONLY A CHECK PLUS, CHECK, OR CHECK MINUS. THIS IS MORE OF A COMPLETION AND EFFORT GRADE. CHECK PLUS IS A 100%, CHECK IS 90%, AND CHECK MINUS IS 80%. IF I BELIEVE THAT A STUDENTS SHOULD RECEIVE LESS THAN AN 80%, THEN I WILL ASK THEM TO COME IN AND REDO THE ASSIGNMENT. MANY TIMES THIS WILL HAPPEN IF STUDENTS DO NOT USE THEIR BEST HANDWRITING OR DO NOT WRITE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

Dates to Remember

OCT. 31	HALLOWEEN PARTY
NOV. 7	REPORT CARDS COMING HOME
NOV. 19	THANKSGIVING FEAST
NOV. 20 & 24	PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES
NOV. 25	11:20 DISMISSAL
NOV. 26-28	THANKSGIVING BREAK
NOV. 30	ADVENT BEGINS

Scholastic Book Order

I SEND HOME BOOK ORDERS ONCE I RECEIVE THEM, WHICH IS QUITE OFTEN. DO NOT FEEL PRESSURED TO BUY BOOKS, JUST KNOW THEY WILL BE COMING HOME ABOUT ONCE A MONTH.

Curriculum Corner

SCIENCE: THE SCIENCE PROJECTS WERE FABULOUS! THE STUDENTS LEARNED SO MUCH DURING THE PROJECT AND FROM EACH OTHER'S PRESENTATIONS. THE CONDOR BLOG WILL HAVE PICTURES OF ALL THE PROJECTS AND PRESENTERS. I CAN'T WAIT TO USE THESE AS EXAMPLES FOR NEXT YEAR. THESE FIFTH GRADERS HAVE SET THE BAR HIGH ON EXPECTATIONS FOR THE PROJECT. WAY TO GO!

SOCIAL STUDIES: AFTER WRAPPING UP OUR RESEARCH ON CLIMATE ZONES, WE ARE GOING TO TAKE A BREAK FROM GEOGRAPHY AND MOVE TO HISTORY! WE STARTED THIS WEEK BY STUDYING THE FIRST PEOPLE TO SETTLE IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE. WE LEARNED THAT THESE FIRST PEOPLE WERE NOMADS AND FOLLOWED THE ANIMALS, THEIR FOOD SOURCE. WE TOOK NOTES ON THE NEOLITHIC AND PALEOLITHIC ERAS AND COMPARED THE TWO. NEXT WEEK WE WILL BE INTRODUCED TO THE INUIT TRIBE AND LEARN ABOUT THEIR CLIMATE, FOOD SOURCES, HOUSING, NATURAL RESOURCES, GEOGRAPHY, AND TRANSPORTATION. THEN STUDENTS WILL COMPLETE A GRAPHIC ORGANIZER FINDING THE SAME INFORMATION ON ANOTHER NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBE. THEY WILL BE THE EXPERTS AND WILL TEACH THEIR GROUP MEMBERS. WE WILL END WITH THE AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION BEFORE MOVING ON TO THE EARLY CIVILIZATIONS: MAYAS, AZTECS, AND INCAS.