



Weekly News

Week of 1/28-2/1

Mrs. Wooden's Thoughts

- Friday was an unexpected, COLD day off, so it shifted our lesson plans over a day. I still expect students to have all of their "Words Their Activities" done **on Monday**. I will be giving the students their "Words Their Way" tests **on Monday** so please make sure your student studies his/her list of words tomorrow. We will be having a Text Structure Quiz as well on Monday. I am going to send home Conduct + Effort sheets Monday but I'm going to keep all the papers and send those home on Friday, Feb. 2nd. Let's keep our fingers crossed that the colder weather they are predicting doesn't hit us this week!!!
- Keep filling out the Reading Calendars! This calendar will be for the month of January + February. Please make sure your student is reading for 15-20 minutes every day.
- We are moving right along in our Engineering in the Classroom in Science! Our theme is MUSIC and students are building machines to make sounds. **We are really in need of scrap wood**. No other donations are needed. Our competition date is February 23rd...time and location is TBA, but mark your calendars!!!
- **Students are running out of paper and pencils!! Please get some this weekend or this week and send to school with your students. Thank you! My extra supply is almost gone. Some students also still need earbuds or headphones for when we work on our chromebooks.**

Reminders

- 2/4 – District Spelling Bee – 1:00 p.m.
- 2/8 – Family Fun Night at Armstrong ~ 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- 2/14 – Valentine's Day Parties – 2:15 p.m.
- 2/15 – 1/2 Day SIP – 1:00 p.m.
- 2/18 – President's Day – No School
- 2/20 – 3rd Quarter Midterms

Upcoming Tests

- Monday- Words Their Way Tests + Text Structure Quiz

Classroom Feature

Homework

There is a lot of controversy out there in the media over homework; I see it all over Facebook from parents in my newsfeed. A lot of research has been done on this topic; there is research both for and against it. I wanted to fill you in on why we have homework in fifth grade and why my experience as a teacher of fifth graders shows that *SOME* homework is necessary for a student's success in the future.

Some of you have students that have been through junior high, high school, and perhaps even college, so you understand the necessity of homework. In the higher grades, students are expected to have the responsibility to keep track of their assignments and to bring home the work they haven't completed in class. The workload can be very demanding at times for students. My hope is that if I make doing homework a habit each night now in fifth grade then my students can have more success when school gets tougher and more demanding.

That being said I make sure I give students homework that isn't too tasking and I never send home assignments that I feel they shouldn't be able to do independently.

Here is what I assign each week:

1. Words Their Way-one activity a night (5 total)
2. Reading Calendar-read 15-20 minutes 5X a week
3. Math Problems- four each night Monday-Thursday (These problems are review of what we have learned so far this year so students can keep the skills fresh in their brains.)
4. Occasionally, students may have some work they didn't finish in class to complete.

If you notice that your student is bringing home a ton of work each night, then you need to let me know. If students are utilizing class time and free time in class correctly, then they won't have a ton of work each night. Thanks for your help with this. I am being very strict about homework completion which will be reflected in the students' effort grades. They are going to be so ready to move on to Central if we make homework a priority.

Contact Me

If you ever have any questions or concerns, never hesitate to contact me.

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