

May 9, 2008

Dear 5th and 6th grade families,

Happy spring! It was wonderful to come back from my trip with the 7th and 8th grade and to here from everyone involved how well behaved, polite, and motivated the students were in my absence! They had many special activities with guest teachers and tried their hand as “leaders of the school.” I was impressed with the reports on their performance, as well as their incredible roles as actors and authors of *There’s Gold in California*.

Enjoy the weekend!

Best,

Sarah Barthelow

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Monday: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Check in2. Thank you cards
Tuesday: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Spring cleaning!
Wednesday: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. VCR intro2. Semi-colon usage3. Elements of a story
Wednesday: <ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Go over VCR5. Analyzing a story6. Read aloud “The Mysteries of Cabala”
Friday: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Create visual for elements of “Mysteries of Cabala”

5th and 6th Math

Dear 5th and 6th grade families,

Students stepped up to the plate this week to take what they’ve learned and apply it to extremely challenging word problems. They were encouraged to use methods that worked best for them, either drawing diagrams or creating equations.

Please support your children with their homework by encouraging them to walk you through problems using strategies they are comfortable with; if they are stumped, have them begin by drawing a diagram that includes all of the information they know and work from there. Often this opens the door to being able to solve complex problems.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like suggestions for how to support your children with their homework or if you’d like a demonstration of how we work problems in class.

Best regards,

Best regards,

Dan Conzelman
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5th and 6th Science

It was very exciting to return from Hawaii to find the awesome egg drop devices that the 5th and 6th grade constructed while I was away. Monday's class was spend testing their designs and making modifications in preparation for Tuesday's competition. Everyone should be commended for designing great devices, as everyone's egg survived the drop! Thursday's class was spent reconstructing marble tracks in the great room to get ready for Friday's morning meeting presentation. The 5th and 6th graders should be really proud of their designs and their presentation... they were amazing!!

Kirsten Ostberg
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5th and 6th Spanish

Dear TMS families,

The fifth and sixth grades impressed me with their reading and comprehension skills upon my return to class. They are doing very well and have voted to work on a project the last 2 classes this week and the beginning of next week. Look for floor plans of their dream homes to be displayed in the hallway next week.

Jennifer Manhoff
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5th and 6th Music

This week we had everybody back together for the first time since before spring break. It is always interesting to see how much we remember, what we forget... the mystery of the learning process. We are all focused on our upcoming June 5 concert here at the Mountain School and are finalizing our parts. Therein lies the beauty of the band approach – we are only as strong as our fellow band mates and, as our success is inextricably linked to our fellow musicians, we must be as invested in their success as we are in our own.

Mark Galbo
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3rd/4th and 5th/6th PE

Dear TMS families,

Students are back to spending time outside on the Lawson Hill field for regular PE. Activities will be limited due to the short spring season, but we will pack in a number of skills and experiences with a variety of sports.

- With the 3rd and 4th graders away, the 5th and 6th graders hiked and explored Keystone Falls; they looked specifically at water flows, structure, and wildlife while developing hiking skills and physical fitness.
- Practiced basketball shooting skills and played Horse (actually FROG and TREE).

Best regards,

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