



PAGE #1



6th Grade Computer Applications

I am excited to see the sixth graders again during the second semester in Computer Applications! We have many projects planned for the year, including several collaborative projects using our Google accounts. We start with an extensive Digital Citizenship unit about developing a positive digital presence, cyberbullying, and using the internet responsibly. These are great topics to reinforce at home, where most internet safety issues can occur.

Each class begins with 15 minutes of keyboarding, an essential skill for students throughout their educational careers. Just as we did in fifth grade, students will take regular timed tests to evaluate their improvement, progress, and effort throughout the quarter. All their assessments can be viewed in Infinite Campus. I'm looking forward to another great semester!

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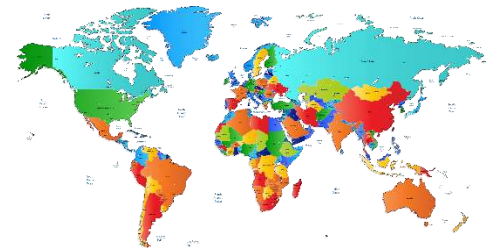


Physical Education 5th and 6th grade P.E.

The 5th and 6th grade students have done the pacer in class. We have a class average hanging up in the gym. The classes will come up with a goal that they would like to reach the next time we run in class. We will talk about factors that have on the students' scores.

The unit that we are in is basketball. We have gone over the fundamentals of the game: passing, dribbling, and shooting. We will play some modified games with classes and talk about some of the rules of the game.

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5th Grade World Studies

Welcome to World Studies fifth graders! I am so excited to see the fifth graders again as we travel around the world, visiting three different cultures- Japanese, Hmong and German. We start with a general world geography overview and then head to the beautiful country of Japan. While there, we will learn what the word "culture" is comprised of as we study the homes, lifestyle, traditions, food and clothing of the people. Bon voyage!

In World Studies, we are always looking for guests to come in and talk about the countries we are studying. If you have visited any of them, or have connections to people who have, I would love to talk to you!

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CHOIR INFORMATION:

Congratulations to the following students who participated in the All-State choir festival for Wisconsin Choral Directors' Association in Appleton on Saturday, January 13: Eli Baker, Sihaya Derks, Addison O'Rourke, Fletcher Retzlaff, Alexis Roberts, Annalynn Smith, and Bianca Soto. They were responsible for learning and memorizing the music on their own and in a few rehearsals with Mrs. Been, so this indeed was a challenge!

The next event for choir will be held February 20th. The Kimberly Area School District Choral Music Festival will be held on Monday, February 20th at Kimberly High School Field House at 6:00 pm. Attire for this performance will be black pants or skirts, with low-heeled black dress shoes, with a t-shirt.

School choir will perform on April 18th, the same date as the band concert. We will begin rehearsing for that concert in February after the festival. There will be a form to register to sing in this final concert. Students who have not yet sung in choir this year are welcome to join for this performance. Look for a link in a February newsletter.



PAGE #2



Healthy Living 5th and 6th Grade

Healthy Living-5

Healthy Living- is a one quarter Wellness class addressing physical, mental and social health, especially as they apply to adolescents. Healthy Living is a non-graded class, but we continue to have standards to address and good habits to establish. Our topics for 5th grade this year include Wellness triangle; Family/Friends; Emotions; Stress/Anger; Nutrition; Tobacco; Personal Health and Safety, and Human Growth and Development. Our first unit will be the Wellness Triangle. Students will learn to broaden their view of what it means to be healthy to include not just physical health, but mental and social health as well. I tell students that other teachers may say theirs is the most important class, but really "Health" is the most important class as we learn information, skills and behaviors that will impact the rest of their lives.

Healthy Living-6

How great it is to see the 6th graders again. I truly have missed them. You may not see it because you look at them every day, but what a change I have seen since Healthy Living 5. Many are taller than me, so I did have to remind them that height does not equal power. :) Not only do I see the changes in their height, but I have also noticed personality changes that most certainly put them in the category of adolescence. (Really, this is positive!)

After reviewing the Wellness Triangle, we will be learning about the Developmental Assets. These are "traits" that researchers have found will help people to be "happy, healthy and successful". I feel very strongly that these assets lay a solid foundation for young people to become physically, mentally, and socially healthy. We will be learning more about the asset of self-esteem including how to raise our self-esteem. A high self-esteem will enable your child to try new things, stand up for themselves and accept their shortcomings.

If you have any questions as the quarter goes forward, please contact me.

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Band

"The Band Blahs"

This time of year is when you may see the "**band room blues**" show up. Why is that? Besides the normal seasonal changes, we recently finishing a concert. Students have been playing the same music for months to make it concert-ready for our performance. Sometimes students grow tired of the same music. Others feel comfort in knowing they "have it down well." So, after the concert when we add new music and work from the book, it is a bit of a shock. We introduce new music each week without months of time to master it.

You can help your child by encouraging them to play for you, end practice time with a song your child plays well and likes, purchase supplemental books from the music store and help them realize this is part of learning an instrument. If we can help each child ride the ups and downs together, it will make the transitions quicker and easier. Please let us know if you need assistance

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MUSIC

Music Class

The 5th and 6th Grade students have been playing tone chimes and getting ready to play on the piano keyboards. All students will play piano keyboards during the third quarter. We will review note names and practice on the computer program Music Ace as well as Music Play to prepare. Those students who would like more time to practice note names and keyboard notes are welcome to use Music Play Online at home using their Chromebooks.

Choir

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ART



5th and 6th Grade Art

All 5th and 6th students had Art with me (Mr. Calmes) for one quarter during the first semester. I am now at Mapleview teaching art to the 5th and 6th grade students there for the second semester. My biggest goal for the 5th and 6th grade students when they were in my classroom was to step out of their comfort zone and try new things. I wanted the students to be respectful, have fun, be creative, problem solve and learn how to think independently.

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