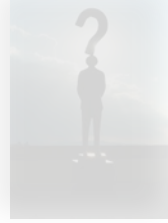


September 5, 2016

Structures Structures Structures

You will notice that the school year is broken up into 4 big units, one for each quarter. Each unit has a set of overarching Understandings and Essential Questions that we will revisit throughout each unit.

What is happening in Grade 6?



U: Structures provide order and can change.
U: Structures exist within structures.
U: Understanding structures on one scale can help us understand structures on a different scale.
EQ: What is a structure?
EQ: Life without structure; what are the possibilities?
EQ: How do structures complicate or simplify?

Points of Interest:

- Holiday: Sept. 12th
- No School: Sept. 13th
- MAP Testing begins: Sept. 26th

Dear Parents,

Parent meetings are underway. Thank you for using the online booking system to secure a spot. If you haven't already done so, here's the link:

<https://feliciano.youcanbook.me/>

Only the highlighted times are available. If you'd like a different time than what's shown, I'm sure we can arrange a common time that works for all of us. Please email me.

Again, the purpose of the meeting is to give me input how on we can work together to make this a successful year for your child. By Parent Teacher Conferences in October, I would like to have a prepared Learning Support Plan that outlines the supports and services your child will receive this year, as well as 1-2 goals to address your child's areas of need.

Regards,
Elaine Feliciano



(Wellness)

Assignments this week:

English

Book Club – Students will be participating in a month-long book club with 4 to 5 other classmates. Each week, students will be assigned a chunk to read and a specific reading strategy to focus on while reading. During Book Club on Wednesdays (meets four times in total), students will be assessed on how well they are organized (bringing their book and completed role sheet) and preparedness to participate in discussing how they used a specific reading strategy while reading.

What do good readers do while they are reading?

How aware are they about the processes happening in their minds while they read?

Four different kinds of reading strategies will be assigned each week and will include at least one of the following: making connections, visualizing, asking questions, or inferring. In addition to that, students will be asked to write a summary for each chunk.

Tip: The size of the chunk is about 25% of the book at a time. This may be more than a student is used to reading. It is recommended that each night is spent chipping away at the chunk. Leaving the reading for the night before it's due is NOT a good idea! Sometimes class time will be given for reading, so students should always remember to bring their book home and back to school. A tip for families is to incorporate reading time as a whole family every night. To see what the reading strategies look like, watch the [videos](#) on my blog.

Social Studies

Assignments this week:

Service Learning – Work towards creating a service learning project in Manila will continue every Fri. Students will be researching more on their topic through media resources (print, video, websites) this week. Next week will focus on designing interview questions.

Tip: Becoming more familiar with global issues can spark interesting conversations at home. Two free resources that offer non-fiction readings at various reading levels are [Newsela](#) and [Tween Tribune](#).

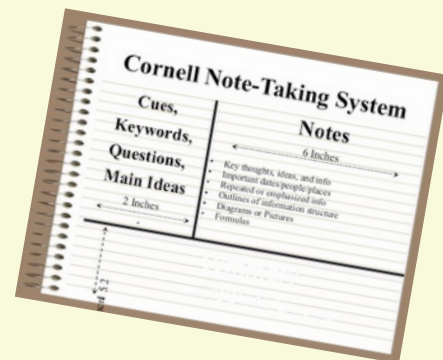


Government and Economic Structures –

To lay down the foundation of what is needed to develop an ideal, viable society, students will learn about the different forms of government and economic systems around the world using a method of note-taking called Cornell Notes.

Vocabulary: democracy, monarchy (constitutional and hereditary), theocracy, dictatorship, transitional, capitalism, socialism, communism

Tip: Checkout [Quizlet](#) on my blog!



WHAT IS QUIZLET?

Quizlet is an online learning tool to improve memorization. I have created many sets of terms for different subjects to help students learn content-specific vocabulary. The terms can be studied across several different study modes: Flashcards, Gravity, Learn, Long-term Learning, Speller, Scatter.

Learn more about the Quizlet Study Modes

Science

Assignments this week:

Cells Analogy – Cells are made up of many organelles. A way to remember them and their functions is to think of real life things that function in a similar way. Creating these analogies will improve their retention and understanding. Watch the [video](#) on my blog to see how a cell is like a city! How can a cell be like a classroom? Students will be creating their own analogies in class.

Due on Wed., Sept. 7th – [Analogy Infographic](#)

Plants vs Animal Cells – To remember the **similarities and differences** between plant and animal cells, a **Brain Frame** will be made in class.

Tip: [Cells Quiz is scheduled for Sept. 21st](#). To start the review now, visit Quizlet on [Cell's Organelles](#) and [More about Cells](#) on my blog.

MATH (Wellness)

Assignments this week:

Number Sense Assessment – The topics covered for the first assessment on Mon, Sept. 5 (McKnight, Freeman, and Phillips HB) and Tues, Sept. 6 (Walker HB):

- Place Value and Expanded Form
 - Rounding by place value
 - Multiplying and Dividing by base 10, including estimation
 - Metric conversions (mm, cm, m, km)
- multi-digit addition and subtraction, including decimals
- multi-digit multiplication and division, including decimals

Tip: [a study guide with practice problems](#) was given in class last Fri.

HW: Mr. McKnight's gives the homework in the beginning of the week with the expectation that it will be due the following week (first lesson). His [blog](#) will always have the homework posted as well as extra practice (optional) for further development and enrichment of skills.

Flash Cards

This mode is similar to paper flash cards. In it, users are shown a "card" for each term. Users can click to flip over the card, or use their arrow keys, and see the definition for that term.^[17]

Gravity

In this study mode, definitions scroll vertically down the screen in the shape of asteroids. The user must type the term that goes with the definition before it reaches the bottom of the screen. It is one of the 'Play' study modes.^[18] Gravity was adopted from a previous game, Space Race.

Learn

In this study mode, users are shown a term or definition and must type the term or definition that goes with what is shown. After entering their answer, users see if their answer was correct or not, and can choose to override the automatic grading and count their answer as right if needed.

Long-Term Learning

In this study mode, users are given a recommended study set based on whether or not they answer study set questions correctly. Repetition of terms answered incorrectly increase in frequency and a dashboard shows learning progress over time. The mode uses spaced repetition concepts to focus on longer-term retention and subject mastery versus shorter-term memorization.^[19]

Speller

In this mode, the term is read out loud and users must type in the term with the correct spelling.^[17]

Scatter

In this study mode, users are presented with a grid with terms scattered around it. Users drag terms on top of their associated definitions to remove them from the grid, and try to clear the grid in the fastest time possible. Users may also access microscatter by editing the URL in scatter mode as "microscatter" instead of "scatter."^[17]