

SIXTH GRADE October

Dear 6th Grade Parents,

First of all, thank you again for your patience as we got this year rolling in 6th grade. I'm quite pleased with how things have been improving in our class. After a little bit of a rough start, the students really have started to come around and are starting to do the job we all know they are capable of. I'm confident they will keep this progress going in the right direction. Thank you for helping me out with this process. Like Bill Murray in "What about Bob?"—Baby steps!!

We have started getting into our material pretty good in this first month. As you can see there are several graded items in Gradelink. I'll try to keep this updated on a regular basis. With the school year just starting there is a relatively small sample to grade on thus far. For that reason, I would not be alarmed if a grade is much lower than you expect. This is true especially in math because we only have one graded assignment so it may not be an accurate reflection. There will be several more small assignments upcoming which will factor in.



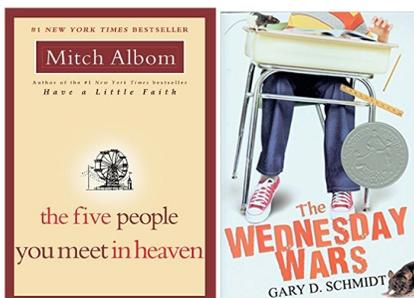
On Tuesday, October 10th at 5:30 we will be holding a camp information meeting. This is my first year going to camp so it will be quite informative for me also.

In language arts, we continue reading on the topic of courage. We also continue with our vocabulary and spelling words. As you have noticed, we alternate between vocabulary and spelling tests. As discussed at Back-to-School night, I have been reading "The Five People You Meet in Heaven" to them. They have

been taking short quizzes after I read each chapter or two. We are about halfway through the book and I think they are enjoying it. I'd love to show them the movie in class. It is fabulous and



is an unrated movie that I have seen several times. There are a couple of war scenes in it that I would fast forward through. Perhaps you can review it yourself and make a decision as to whether you would want your child to watch it. I'll send home a permission slip well in advance. Also, as a reminder, we will be reading "Wednesday Wars" together soon. Please try to have this book by October 2nd.



In math, we completed our first chapter dealing with place values and number sense. We are now learning to multiply whole numbers and decimals using the base of 10, 100, 1000 and so on. They seem to be doing well with this concept. I like to teach math in a way that they think logically about their answers. Even if they struggle with the concept-what answer would make sense?

In science, we have been discussing variables and experimentation and learning the make-up of our planet earth. Some of this has included discussions on using latitudes and longitudes to locate places on a map or globe. Hopefully, they understand it better now as I have shown them some interesting concepts related to it from real life experience with it.

In social studies, we have started our discussion on early civilization. Also, in our studies weekly we have discussed maps and cartography and the layout of the continents. This overlaps quite well with the start of our science studies.

In religion, we have completed our first two chapters relating to God's creation and the contents of the bible.

I am pleased with how the class is doing thus far. Yes, we certainly have some areas to improve on but I have confidence that they will continue to progress. Thank you for your support and for being patient with me as we get into our routine. We are getting reacquainted and in a few cases getting acquainted for the first time. They are a fabulous group of children.

UPCOMING



Jake N. October 16

Alicia G. October 26

Sophia A. October 29

Friday, October 6

Tuesday, October 10

Friday, October 13

Tuesday, October 17

Friday, October 20

Tuesday, October 24

Saturday, October 28

Spirit wear/noon dismissal

Camp information meeting @
5:30, 6th grade classroom

Glow Run

All school Mass @ 11:00am

No school for students

Teacher training

Makeup picture day

Halloween carnival

GOD BLESS,

MR. URTZ