

Mrs. Wilson's Fourth Grade Newsletter

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Friday Routine

I am thankful for our Friday Routine. All fourth graders start the morning with a brief zoom to review the day's schedule and answer any pressing questions. Fourth graders zoom again at 9:45 with Mrs. Sullivan for PE and again at 11:00 with Mrs. Dickerson for Social Emotional Learning. Spanish is given as a google classroom assignment (often with a video attached). Most weeks there is a spelling test given via video. There are also videos to preview Sunday's gospel reading. Our weekly quiz and survey continue in google classroom as does reading Time for Kids and our summary paragraph. As always, there is 20 minutes of reading at each student's just right level.

I so love spending time with your children. Covid restrictions mean I am the main in-person teacher contact Monday-Thursdays. I find myself reaching 3 PM happy and exhausted. That means all the things classroom teachers typically do while their students are at Music or Spanish class is pushed to Friday. I am thankful for this day to correct papers, lesson plan and prepare packets for the upcoming week, record videos and respond to outstanding emails. ☺

Summary Paragraphs:

"Say what's important. Say it in a way that makes sense. Try not to say too much." That is on a poster displayed in our classroom. It captures our lessons on summary, done in the first weeks of school.

There's a lot going on in our weekly quiz summary paragraph task. First students must read an article from "Time for Kids". This was done at the start of the year in video. Now students read individually. I often provide a link to the article as a digital version with an adjustable reading level, so each student can access the article independently. Next students must identify the main idea of that article (I tell them to look to the title for a hint). Then students write a well-constructed paragraph that includes a topic sentence, three detail sentences and an ending sentence. This paragraph must NOT retell the article. Instead, it must point to the main idea. This requires students think. Finally, students write in complete sentences, use capital letters and end punctuation... oh, and I'd like grade level words and words that are also found in the article to be spelled correctly!

Back in September we summarized as a class, over and over again. Here we are in February, not yet done. Fourth Graders typically struggle to identify the main idea. Not so this year. Areas for growth vary from student to student. Some need support with topic sentences. Others need help with endings that feel complete. Still others need capitalization and punctuation. Feel free to coach your fourth grader as you review corrected work. Know that data from weekly quizzes and summary paragraphs feed my classroom instruction. Time and again we regroup, teach again, remind and hold accountable.

Dates to Remember:

Monday, 2-22: Drop off, Pick up for at home learners

Wednesday, 2-24, 6:30PM: State of the School, Zoom

Tuesday, 3-9: End of Trimester 2

Friday, 3-12: No School, Teacher In-Service

Thursday, 3-18: School Mass, sponsored by 4th grade. More information to come!

Friday, 4-2: noon dismissal, Good Friday

Spring Break from April 5 – April 9

Monday, April 12: Back to school

Auction Ahead!

Thank you to all who are working on our OLG Auction!

This week: Items up for bid!

Saturday, March 6, 6 PM: VIP pre event Zoom. We'll have fun!

Register here today:

<https://guadalupe-school.ejoinme.org/register>

More info on the auction:

<https://www.guadalupe-school.org/fundraising/auction/>