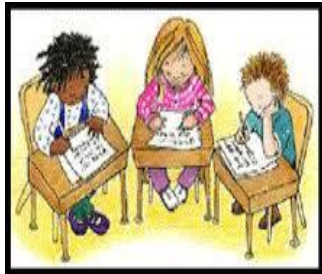


JOHN HILL SCHOOL

January 27, 2012



Mrs. Christian's Writing Classes - This month sixth grade students began exploring the explanatory quote prompt. They discussed what makes up a quote prompt and how this is different from other prompts. The explanatory quote is to be a five paragraph essay divided into an introduction, three supporting paragraphs, and a conclusion. Exploring the body paragraphs, we came up with three types of connections students can use: personal, historical/world, and literary. In the next month we will be working on finding historical/world connection as well as literary connections by creating a type of cue card. Additionally the students have just completed the movie review which is a persuasive piece of writing. This has been a challenge to complete because we didn't have the use of the computer lab. As part of our unit on persuasive writing we have been exploring the use of figurative language. After identify and defining different types of figurative language students worked on placing three examples of it in his/her movie review.

Ms. McCue's Science Classes - This week, in Science, the sixth graders are concluding their work on Ecosystems and Biomes. In groups, the sixth graders have been preparing presentations on one of six land biomes (Tundra, Taiga, Temperate Deciduous Forest, Grassland, Tropical Rain Forest, and Desert). First, the students researched their assigned land biome and created a fact sheet using the information they located. Next, the students designed a poster to illustrate what their biome looks like. Finally, distributing copies of their fact sheets and displaying their posters, each group delivered a presentation in order to "teach" their classmates about their land biome. After the presentations, students had the opportunity to ask one another questions about their assigned land biome.





Mrs. Brown's Health Classes - This week I will begin to teach Health to our fourth graders. The first unit will be about "Community Safety". The students will find information in the "Great Body Shop" student booklets about who in their community keeps them safe and how. They will then create their own drawing of one person who they feel keeps them safe along with an explanation as to how.

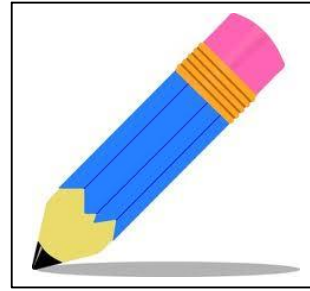
Ms. Filosa's Reading Classes - Fifth grade students are reading "Bud, Not Buddy" by Christopher Paul Curtis. They join Bud Caldwell on an adventure in search of his father. Students take the journey with Bud through the Great Depression and the Jazz era. Curtis' humorous book includes many examples of figurative language. Fifth grade students are also reading "From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler" by E.L. Konigsburg. Claudia and Jamie Kincaid run away from home to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. While there, they become involved in the middle of a mystery about an Angel statue that was possibly sculpted by Michelangelo himself. Will the kids solve this mystery??



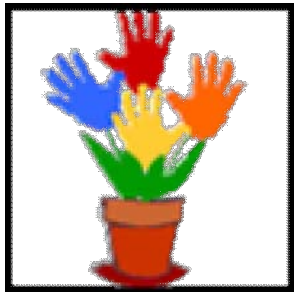
Senora Hame's Spanish Classes - This week the Fourth Graders read *Quien es el Rey Martin Luther?* The students then worked on a writing prompt of their own special dream, drew pictures, and shared them with the class. In celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Fifth Graders read a clip on the life of Dr. King. They discussed his dream for the world and then used a writing prompt to write about their own dream. The

children drew a picture to go along with their dream and shared their work with the rest of the class. The Sixth Graders viewed art work on the life of Dr. King. They then discussed his dream to change the world and then used a writing prompt to write about their own aspirations. Your children drew a picture to go along with their dream for the future and shared it with the rest of the class.

Mrs. Sacco's Writing Classes - During the month of January in fifth grade writing, students are working on their Biographic Sketch. The students were asked to choose someone they admire or want to learn more about and read the Biography.



Following that, students completed a graphic organizer and transferred that information into their essay. Currently, students are finishing a peer-edit activity and then will begin typing their essay. The students are doing an excellent job on the assignment and are anxious to begin preparing for the Wax Museum! The Wax Museum will be held during the last week in February.



Helping Hands Club - Throughout the month of January, Mrs. DeHart and the Helping Hands Club Members will continue to collect "Canned Meats/Fish" (Tuna, Chili, etc.) for our local Food Pantry. Drop off baskets are located near each of the stairwells on the Library side of the building. Donations are greatly appreciated!

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- January 27th - Report Cards go home in Friday Folders
- February 15th - 2nd Marking Period Honor Roll Assembly @2:00pm
- February 16th - Early dismissal for students @12:40pm
- February 17th & 20th - Schools Closed - President's Day Weekend