

Library Corner Newsletter



Hello Parents. We have had a great start to our year in the library. There are several new series of book selections for the students to choose from this year. It is always fun to have new selections to spark interest in a specific genre or author. Also, the Battle of the Books list is on display along with our designated titles in a specific location in the library. The middle school shelf is forthcoming as we are experiencing some technical difficulties with our system there. You can find a copy of the Battle of the Books list on our website if you should need. For those who are new this year the Battle of the Books competition is held in the spring and is for those students who elect to participate. There are grade level lists of books that must be read and students must take a test to qualify for the team. We will then compete against other schools.

We are busy reviewing and learning information skills this year.

Grades K-2 are reviewing the characteristics of fiction and nonfiction. We have also reviewed or learned the parts of a book and what a call number represents and means on a book's spine. The kindergartners are really enjoying their story time each week and I make every effort to incorporate a curricular idea into our reading selections. They are really good listeners and an engaging audience!!

Our 1st and 2nd graders have reviewed fiction and nonfiction and call numbers. We will begin to move into the reference section with 2nd grade shortly where we will visit almanacs, atlases, dictionaries, etc. This will be an extension and a more in-depth look into that section of the library this year. The 1st graders will visit those as well, but not as in depth and we will continue to focus on making the appropriate book selections for ourselves based on our own ability levels. We continue at this grade level to explore different authors, illustrators, and genres.

The 3rd graders have reviewed the parts of a book, fiction and nonfiction, and we have been studying fictional and nonfictional call numbers. We will move into learning about the Dewey Decimal System and then into reference. We will connect our reference work to our curricular needs when possible.

The 4th and 5th graders have reviewed call numbers and putting them in order as they appear on the shelf. We are reviewing the Dewey Decimal System and will head into reference and provide some research opportunities. We will also learn to provide citations for the resources we use. The 4th graders have researched their assigned or selected Saint for "All Saints Day". We will complete a citation when their research is complete.

The middle school students have explored the Dewey Decimal System and taken a test over the divisions and subjects. We are learning about MLA format and how to complete appropriate citations. They will also begin to use the Big 6, which is a research process model that visits the 6 steps of research. Library time will be used to satisfy research assignments as given by their core content teachers. Students need to make sure they are following the 5 criteria that are used to grade their participation each class meeting. Those are as follows: attendance/promptness,

listening, engagement, behavior, and preparation. These criteria were outlined on the participation rubric that was sent home attached to the syllabus. This grade is a very important part of their overall grade. I expect each child to meet those standards and criteria. I am very excited to be teaching classes at the middle school this year and look forward to our journey through the research process!

Happy Reading,
Mrs. Smith