

## SECOND WEEK OF SCHOOL

We had a wonderful second week of school. We did a lot of team building, including our solar ovens. I hope you enjoyed the pictures which were posted earlier last week. There are more to come.

We spent time learning the classroom routines, teaching grace & courtesy and getting to know one another better. We also started learning the Montessori Great Lessons. These lessons are taught to spark creativity in our children's minds. To help them start asking questions which will lead them to their own vast discoveries of the world.

This week we will be diving into the Montessori materials. We will start work charts and spend a few days learning about Mable Marble. These are wonderful lessons which will guide the students into scientific discovery.

## LEGO LEAGUE

- If a student is interested they need to write an essay on this year's theme "Natures Fury". (No other parameters were given.)
- Students should submit completed essays to Ms. Stephanie, either in person or to her e-mail, **by September 6th**.
- The league has a limit of 10 people, so they should be thoughtful with their essays.
- Encourage students who did not participate last year to submit essays this year, we want as many students to who want to experience Lego League to have the opportunity.
- Students who submitted an essay will be contacted on September 9th on their status in conjunction with club details, etc.
- The first meeting of the league will be Thursday, September 12th at 3:00 in the library.

The above information is from Ms. Stephanie. Julie Rallison is the parent over Lego League, and I am the teacher liason. I am really excited to work with all of the students and parents who are participating with the Lego League.

## SPELLING

Some of the students took their first spelling test last Friday. The rest of the class will take theirs this Thursday. You should have seen their spelling words in their planners last week. Look for them again this week.

We do spelling differently in our classroom than some others. The students move at their own pace within our classrooms spelling program. Each student is required to take a spelling test each week, but he/she will not progress unless he/she can pass the test with 80% accuracy. Each child can move as quickly as he/she would like in this program. I will post the spelling words on our classroom blog. It is up to your child to remember which unit he/she is on. I will have all of the words listen together by level. Your child may be a 5<sup>th</sup> grader and may be doing 6<sup>th</sup> level spelling words. This program has proved to help those children who struggle with spelling, as well as support the children who thrive in this subject.

## SIXTH GRADE FIELD TRIP

Each Spring our 6<sup>th</sup> graders have the unique opportunity to participate in our 6<sup>th</sup> grade field trip. This is a fantastic experience for each one of them. I have had the honor of going on this field trip for two years in a row. The first year I attended as a teacher and a parent. I was amazed at the transformation I watched my daughter go through right before my very eyes. I encourage each and every one of the 6<sup>th</sup> graders in my classroom to participate in this wonderful opportunity.

We have some fundraising ahead of us to raise the money to attend “Alliance Redwoods” again this year. Our first two fundraisers were a huge success. Our next fundraiser is coming up quickly.

- *Our Annual 5K race is coming upon us and it is going to be a fabulous event! It will be held Saturday September 14th at 8 am with registration beginning at 7 am. We are so excited about the race this year. It is a wonderful opportunity for children and families to race together in a fun and safe environment and it will be a blast!! We hope you will all come out to support the 6th graders. There will be medals for every person that finishes the race and a great raffle for all participants afterwards. There will also be some fantastic “Tortoise and Pear” snack sacks for sale as a post race treat that will include a turtle shaped roll, an organic pear, peanut butter, and chocolate milk for just \$5. Come join us for a fun 5K walk/run. The first 50 people registered will get their names put in the raffle TWICE and we have some great raffle items you don't want to miss! Print off your registration form from the blog and drop it by the school office with a check. You can also use a credit card at the office when you drop off your form. We need YOU to make this event successful so register today!!Thanks, Kami Howe and the 5K Committee<http://mma5k.blogspot.com/>*

There is a parent meeting at 4:30 p.m. in the library at the school. At this meeting we will discuss the field trip and the upcoming fundraisers. It is really important every parent of a 6<sup>th</sup> grader is at this meeting. Thank you for being so supportive.

We are encouraging each student and parent alike to sign up for and help with at least one fundraiser.

- Student Sign up  
<http://wejoinin.com/sheets/nitup>
- Parent Sign up  
<http://wejoinin.com/sheets/hvjuu>

Enjoy your Labor Day weekend with your families,  
Ms. Amy