

Teaching & Learning Newsletter

McMahon Elementary School

Trimester 2 2017–2018



NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

McMahon School has the best students, staff and parents! Throughout the fall we have learned together as we've made the shift to full standards based teaching, learning and reporting for all grades K-6. Our students can tell you what they are learning about and why it is important. Our teachers can tell you what learning each of their students has mastered and what their next learning step is. Our parents have met with teachers during conferences and asked lots of questions about our new report card and how to support their children in building proficiency of learning standards.

Please mark your calendars for McMahon Family Learning Night on March 7th! More information to come but plan to bring your kids, learn some new ways to support learning, ask questions, get answers, and have fun!

IMPORTANT DATES

1/26 Mid-Trimester
2/2 Trimester 2 Progress Reports go home
2/14 Early Release Day- *Teacher PD around aligning student learning tasks to reporting standards*
3/7 Early Release Day - *Teachers will work on analyzing evidence of learning to determine end of trimester standard scores*
3/7 McMahon Family Learning Night 5:30-7
3/15 End of Trimester 2
3/21-3/22 Parent Conferences 3:30pm - 7:00pm

TEACHER TALK – WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

Topic Score: Teachers assign scores to standards. Each standard is assigned a category. Standard scores within a category are averaged to provide a topic score which appears on the report card. Each trimester new standards are added which will impact the topic scores.

Example: Subject: English Language Arts > Topic: Writing > Standards: Narrative, Informational, Opinion

TRIMESTER TWO KEY STANDARDS

Reading:

RI.5 Compare and contrast the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, concepts, or information in two or more texts.

Kid Friendly Language: I can compare and contrast the overall structure of events, ideas, concepts, or information in two or more texts

RL.9 Compare and contrast stories in the same genre (e.g., mysteries and adventure stories) on their approaches to similar theme and topics.

Kid Friendly Language: I can compare and contrast how two stories approach the same topic.

Writing:

W.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

Kid Friendly Language: I can clearly write about a topic providing important facts.

Math:

NBT.B.6 Find whole-number quotients of whole numbers with up to four-digit dividends and two-digit divisors, using strategies based on place value, the properties of operations, and/or the relationship between multiplication and division. Illustrate and explain the calculation by using equations, rectangular arrays, and/or area models.

Kid Friendly Language: I can divide a 4-digit dividend by a two digit divisor to find a quotient with no remainder.

G.B.4 Classify two-dimensional figures in a hierarchy based on properties.

Kid Friendly Language: I can classify two-dimensional figures into categories and/or sub-categories based on their attributes.

HOW TO SUPPORT AT HOME

*Ask your child what they are reading and how it compares to other stories they have read.

*Continue to practice multiplication facts.

*Ask your child to identify different shapes around the house.

Ask students to identify parallel lines in the shapes.

Ask students to use academic Math language

*If you get the newspaper or watch the news, have your child tell you what an article or broadcast was about.

*Ask your child why they like one particular show or book over another, include the reasons why they feel that way.

McMahon 5th Grade Teachers

Eric Beaulieu

Julie Landry

Nicola Donatelli

Marie Dickson

Sherry Johannes

Aime Sherry

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