

Intermediate Newsletter

Term 2 - 2009

Once again hello from the intermediate division. It is that time again term two, where we give you the low down on what is going on with your ever-changing children. It is hard to believe that we are about halfway through this school year already. We have been very busy in all areas of the school which has made the year seem to fly. Here is a run down of what term two will include:

Language Arts

With the continual help of Mrs. Hurd we have focused on the following areas;

- Procedure Writing
- Persuasive Writing
- Explanatory Writing

Throughout the second term we have looked closely at these three types of writing. In each case we follow the same guidelines. One week in each of the following areas: whole class instruction, small group instruction, pairs, and an individual assignment at the conclusion of the unit. Along with these writing units they are also involved in their very own personal reading program which is running very successfully. It seems that the new series by Stephanie Meyer is a hit amongst many of the students. As well we have continued with our new Nelson Reading program. The teachers can clearly see the impact it has left on many of the students. The discussions that we have these days are well thought out and the students seem to offer more insight into their way of thinking. These books allow the children to make predictions, activate their schema, synthesize and evaluate media. They have been a great add on to our reading program. Finally speeches are coming up again and we are expecting this to be a very competitive year. There are many talented speakers at both the grade 7 and 8 levels. We are eagerly anticipating the topics for this year.

Mathematics

Term two has seen a lot of action already. We started off the term with integers and have progressed to Measurement where the grade 8 focus is on circles and the focus for grade 7's is on many two-dimensional figures. We are currently in the middle of Patterning & Algebra and will be moving on to Geometry in the near future. It is normal for many of the students to have homework at least 3 times a week.

Physical Education

We have moved on from volleyball and are now focusing on basketball. We are continually trying to develop their basketball skills so that we can incorporate them into a successful tournament during the unit. Along with basketball we have also added floor hockey which seems to be a big hit amongst many of the boys. Lastly we will be allowing many of our talented young ladies to teach a unit on gymnastics.

Geography/History

With the end of January coming there will be a shift. Those students who are studying geography will be moving to history and vice-versa. Our last geography unit will be migration where the kids are studying where and why people move. As for history the students are currently involved in a unit on Westward Expansion and will be finishing up with A Changing Society, where they will study the First World Wars.