

Trail Blazer News

October 15-19

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Expedition

It's All Greek to Me is off and running! Please have a sheet in this week so we can do some dress up. There is quite a ruckus over the competitive nature of the city-states in our Base Camps.

We are deep into our God and Goddess project. Students are working in pairs to research a Greek God or Goddess, which they will present to their classmates on Thursday or Friday.

Math

6th Grade –We were successful in our understanding of how to add fractions. We learned the importance of finding common denominator and creating equivalent fractions. This week we will learn how to multiply fractions in Investigation 5.

5th Grade – Now that our understanding of factors and multiples is becoming stronger, we will investigate how these principals are different and how they are connected.

Vocabulary

This week we are using the Greek prefixes for numbers 1-10 as our vocabulary. They are as follows:

- 1- mono
- 2- di
- 3- tri
- 4- tetra
- 5- penta
- 6- hex
- 7- hept
- 8- oct
- 9- ennea
- 10- dec
- 11- hendec
- 12- dodec



Reading

We are continuing the study of Activating Schema (background knowledge). We will now move into some literature outside of our Ancient Greece expedition to teach text-to text connections.

Please remember to have your child read their 30 minutes at home each evening. Talk with them about it and ask them if they made any text-to-self connections.

Writing

We have learned a great deal about using prewriting to get our ideas (our thinking) on paper. This week we are beginning to write a memoir about an event in our lives. We will walk through the entire writing process over the next two weeks as they produce this piece. The writing process involves prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing.

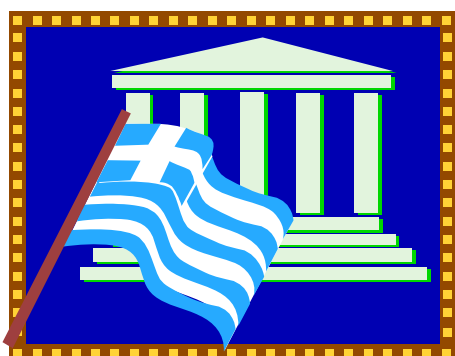
Spelling –The students will select 10 words that they will be weekly accountable for on Thursday for a test. Please help them make wise choices about the words that they choose.

Workshop Model

(Predominant method for teaching reading and writing at Summit)

Readers' Workshop consists of a six step process:

1. *Introduction* – (1-2 minutes) Introduces what the focus of the workshop will be.
2. *Mini-Lesson* – (3-5 minutes) Clearly defines the skill that is to be learned.
3. *Modeling* – (7-10 minutes) The teacher models the skill.
4. *Independent Practice* – (10-15 minutes) Students practice the skill on their own.
5. *Group Sharing* – (10 minutes) Students share with a partner or in table groups.
6. *Debrief* – (5-10 minutes) Class comes back together as a large group and summarize learning from the workshop.



Upcoming Important Dates

Oct. 18-19 – God/Goddess Project Presentations

Oct. 24 – Mid-Term Reports due back to Base Camp teacher

Oct. 26 – Fall festival

****Reminder: Please drop off students no sooner than 8:45 unless they have breakfast or are involved in a before school activity. Thank you!**