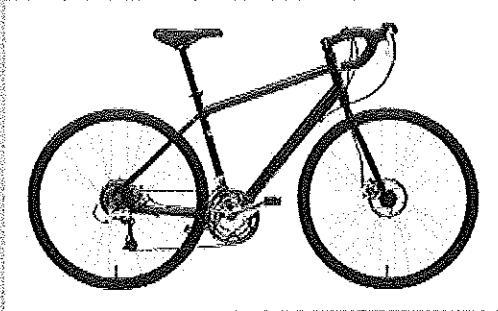




Room 19 News

September 22, 2010



Dear Room 19 Families

Greetings from room 19, the best view in the school! If you haven't been by our class, you should wander by just to look out our windows. We have beautiful trees and of course the Garden of Wonders to feast our eyes on.

We are just beginning our 3rd week of school. I'm sure your kids would tell you that we are testing and assessing constantly. The good news is that we are basically done with the assessments. They wear me out so I can only imagine how your kids feel. It is important to establish a baseline for your kids so we can best meet them where they are and bring them along academically.

To give you an idea, we've assessed math (twice), we've done a baseline writing assignment, and we've been to the computer lab to do a reading/language arts baseline assessment.

Conferences are still a ways off in the distance, but if you'd like to know where your child stands academically, I think I have a fairly good profile on each of them now.

Please feel free to contact me any time. I am best reached by email. I check it before and after school. jhutchis@pps.k12.or.us

WHAT WE ARE UP TO...

In math we are currently working with "Lines of Symmetry" and pushing towards "doubles and halves". Again, it's poking around the idea of multiplication. If your students are nervous about multiplication, we're easing them into it.

This week's story in our Reading Street book was called "What About Me". It's a fable about the acquisition of knowledge. Ask your kids to tell you about it. Also, our novel study on the book, "The Van Gogh Café" is going quite nicely. The students are disappointed when we have to put it down to move on with other things.

Just this week we've jumped into the foundations of writing. We've learned that the best topics are those about which we have strong feelings or experiences. If you have a chance, just have a conversation about things that might make good narrative topics. The narrative topics have to be true and they have to have happened to them.

HOMEWORK

We have our first week of homework under our belts and we had nearly all of the students turn it in. I am so thrilled to have that be the case. It will get more difficult as the year goes on, but not over-the-top difficult. Keep in mind that I want you to make sure you're helping your child establish good study habits. That is paramount! If you have to do a lot of teaching at home, please let me know. It shouldn't be that difficult for them.

Congratulations to Henry Mills for being our first week's homework drawing winner! Homework must be done and in on time in order to qualify.



CLASS WEBSITE

Every Abernethy classroom has a class website that each teacher is using to varying degrees. I am committed to using it this year to help communicate with you and to give you important resources. Homework will be posted each week on the same night it goes home. If you should lose the homework, it will be right there for you. I have also included a 3rd grade reading list, past/present weekly newsletters, a calendar, and permission slips for upcoming events.

To log on, go to:

<http://www.pps.k12.or.us/schools/abernethy/>

On the left side you will see "Staff" pages. Simply find "Hutchison, Jess" and click!

Once you make it to the class page you can navigate to my homework links, my newsletter links, or to the 3rd grade reading list. I'll keep adding more and more!

PARENT HELP

I still have a list of things that I could use help with in my classroom. Even if you just have a couple free mornings or afternoons, I could put you to work. Please email me as soon as you check your schedule to come work in our classroom, thanks!



TOUR DE LADD

On October 6th, 2010 we will be holding our 3rd annual Tour de Ladd Fundraiser. This is a fun event for everyone. The pledge sheets and permission slips just went home yesterday. If your child doesn't want to participate in the ride, they can stand with me to cheer on their classmates.



Quick Notes:

- Back to School Night is September 29th at 6:30pm.
- Snacks – Students may bring a small, healthy snack to eat during the day.
- Make sure to check the Lost and Found (Located across from the office) for missing jackets and lunchboxes.
- Make sure your child is wearing proper shoes for our PE days on Mondays and Thursdays.
- Dress for the weather – We will still go outside for recess and breaks in light rain.
- If you have or want to purchase-to-donate pictures, post cards, maps, old calendars, books, or other literature from Portland to add to our "Portland Bulletin Board" in the back of the room I'd really appreciate it!

STILL ONE MORE THING

If you have an old but usable computer printer or want to purchase one for our class, I'd love to talk with you. It would streamline our class communication significantly and save time for me.

THANK YOU!

If you have any questions please let me know. I'm having a blast with your kids!

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