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Mrs. Brown & Mrs. Delucchi's Class

Life Skills

I was researching the top skills our young people will be required to have if wanting to succeed in future professions. The top three skills employers look for are Problem Solving, Adaptability and Collaboration. The list also goes on to include Strong Work Ethic, Time Management, Critical Thinking and Self-Confidence. Mrs. Delucchi and I are proud to say that we work hard to provide a variety of lessons that lend themselves to teaching these life skills.

Many times our students want us to just tell them how to do something because we hear, "I don't get it." They also tend not to read questions thoroughly so they can finish a task quickly. We live in the age of instant gratification due to the massive amounts of technology in our students' hands. Learning doesn't come instantly though; therefore, students must remember **PROBLEM SOLVING** takes time and they can't give up the first time something is hard.

When things don't go the way we plan, we don't give up. We must change our plan by evaluating what went wrong, what worked and then come up with a new way to move forward. **ADAPTING** and changing to a new way of thinking puts many of us outside our comfort zones. Moving outside these comfort zones is when true learning takes place.

COLLABORATION is the act of working together to produce or create something. There are times when we are put into groups we don't necessarily like or want to be in. We hear from students they don't work well with a certain student. While we understand this, it would be a disservice to the students to say, "Ok, you can move to another group." because that will not usually happen out in the real world. And again, our goal is to prepare them for succeeding in the real world beyond the walls of Louis Bohn School.

Other life skills to be discussed in future newsletters...

Substitute Behavior

Yesterday we had a veteran substitute, Mrs. Green, visit while I was attending math training with my fellow fifth grade teachers. While the 5th grade teachers taught for the first hour, Mrs. Green, taught the rest of the day.

It is always great, when we as teachers, get the opportunity to watch and learn from each other to better our own teaching practices. This was especially true yesterday. The lesson involved the strategy of partial quotients to solve long division problems. It was so gratifying, as a teacher, to see our struggling students and most advanced students equally participating, being challenged and succeeding in the math lesson.

After the lesson, we left and Mrs. Green took over the class for the remainder of the day. I was very upset to hear there were students off task, disruptive and disrespectful. It got to the point where one of the tasks of completing a Veteran's Day timeline could not be finished because there was an extreme lack of problem solving, adaptability and collaboration going on. I take this behavior very seriously. These are life skills vital to the success of our students. There will be consequences and grades given based on work produced, or lack thereof, during the day.

I fully understand that not all students participated in this poor behavior. I ask of these students to please notify the substitute immediately when inappropriate behaviors occur. Part of collaborating is that in the end, all of the work must be completed. Yes, that may seem unfair that some work harder than others, but it is a life lesson learned on how to handle those difficult situations.



Red Ribbon Week

We had a great time at the Science Blast field trip last month. The kids enjoyed the hands on lessons involving space and engineering. We also loved listening to NASA astronaut Jose Hernandez speak. He left us with an important message that we must PERSIST because we want to reach our goals.

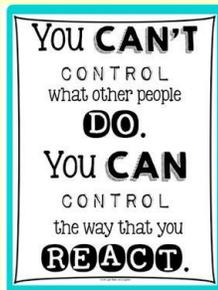
Our class even made it into the Tracy Press!!! If you didn't read the article in the paper, you can find the online version here:

http://www.goldenstatenewspapers.com/tracy_press/our_town/astronaut-kids-explore-science/article_77edb162-a224-11e6-8fae-5fa7e824b5d1.html



Reminders to Students

- Read 20 minutes every night.
- Get a good night's rest.
- Do your homework every night.



Reminders to Parents

- Check and sign the agenda every night, including Fridays. **THANK YOU** to all families for purchasing them!
- Please return Newsletter HW and the blue note in the envelope on Tuesday, November 15th.
- When emailing, please email both tinabrown@tusd.net and jdellucchi@tusd.net. Thank you!
- Students must have all supplies in class each day. Please replace when gone.

Highlights

Math:

We are using partial quotients to solve long division problems.

Grammar/Vocabulary/Reading:

Lessons will be covered in our language arts rotations. Five students will go to Mrs. Ball, eight to Ms. Webb and 12 will stay with us. More information will be sent home from your child's particular language arts teacher.

History:

We are describing and defining key aspects of the US election process.

Science:

We are completing experiments testing the magic of chemistry.

Upcoming Events

November 11th: Happy Veteran's Day

November 18th: Honor Roll/Student of the Month Assembly @ 1:30

November 18th: Happy Birthday Jenna!!

November 19th-27th: Thanksgiving Break

November 23rd: Happy Birthday Evee!!

November 24th: Happy Thanksgiving!

November 26th: Happy Birthday Juliet!!

December 2nd: AR Goal #2 Due

Visit our website at

www.browndelucchi.weebly.com

Newsletter HW: Explain/define what **problem solving, adaptability** and **collaboration** mean. Give an example of when you use problem solving, adaptability and collaboration at home or in extracurricular activities AND at school.