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January 8, 2018

"B"e "W"ith It Bulletin Bierbusse/Wolinski 6th Grade News

Vocabulary Study and Homework

A vocabulary quiz is scheduled for this Friday, January 12.

Spelling/Word Study

There will be a word study/spelling test on Friday, January 19.

Winter Studies Day

Students will participate in various winter activities and attend various learning stations presented by other grade levels. The majority of the day will be spent outdoors, so students should come dressed in boots, coat, hats and gloves. Snow pants are also recommended!

Mid Term Exams

Students will take midterm exams on Tuesday, January 23 (ELA and Science) and Wednesday, January 24 (Social Studies and Math). The exams will assess students knowledge and understanding of concepts taught over the course of Semester One (Marking Periods One and Two). Sixth graders have received and reviewed strategies for properly preparing for an exam. All classwork and previous class tests will be especially helpful for reviewing class content.

Following our winter break students received a study guide for both Science and Social Studies. They may develop a "notes page" for each midterm, so long as the notes are handwritten on one lined piece of paper. They may record notes on both sides of the piece of paper.

There is no study guide for ELA. Our writing exam will assess students understanding of composing an argument paragraph and skills studied while completing our 5-A-Day language review and other grammar lessons. The reading portion will assess various reading comprehension strategies practiced during the school year.



"To avoid situations in which you might make mistakes may be the biggest mistake of all."

Peter McWilliams

"We don't see things as they are, we see them as we are."

Anais Nin

Don't make a mountain out of a molehill.

It's very easy to lose perspective, especially if you are stressed and you are going too fast.

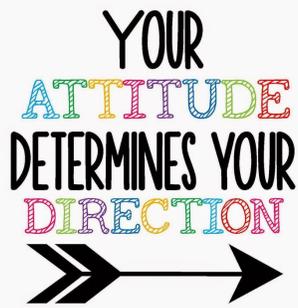
And so a molehill can become a big and terrifying mountain in your mind.

A simple three step way to handle these situations so they don't get out of hand is to:

- ★ **Say stop.** In your mind, shout "STOP!" or "NOPE, we are not going down that path again!" as soon as thoughts of this kind starts to spin in your head.
- ★ **Breathe.** After you have disrupted the thoughts by shouting stop sit down and just be still. Breathe with your belly and focus on just your in-breaths and out-breaths for a minute or two to calm your mind and body down.
- ★ **Refocus.** Question your mountain building thoughts by talking to someone close to you and getting a more grounded perspective on the situation by just venting or by getting his or her input. Or simply ask yourself this to widen your perspective and to chill out: Will this matter in 5 years? Or even 5 weeks?

By HENRIK EDBERG, www positivityblog.com

YOUR
ATTITUDE
DETERMINES YOUR
DIRECTION



Smile. :)

Why? Because it makes you
attractive. It changes your
mood. It relieves stress. And
it helps you stay positive.

PRACTICE
makes
PROGRESS,
NOT
PERFECT.

Annual Chili Cook-off and Winter Fun Night

Friday, February 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Madagascar Musical

Middle school theater students will present the musical, Madagascar Jr. on January 31- February 2 at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased through the main office.

Pictured Rocks Trip Payment Due

The next Pictured Rocks trip payment for students and chaperones was due last Friday, February 3.

Sweetheart Ball
Thursday, February 8,
6:30-8:30 p.m.

This is a sixth grade fundraiser, volunteers are Needed! A handout with details will go home this week explaining our expectations for this event. We have set up a sign-up genius link for each family to sign up to donate an item for the event.

If you have any questions, please contact us.

Thank you!

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE AND ICE SKATING

Friday, January 19.

Free admission! Casual Dress!

The CMS Cafe will be open to purchase snacks and drinks! Bring your own skates or borrow a Chatfield pair, if weather permits skating on the pond will be an option!

Classroom Corner

MATH: Each day your child will receive a math assignment. Please check your child's classroom calendar to stay informed on what lesson your child is completing.

SOCIAL STUDIES: In Social Studies, sixth graders will continue to examine the five themes of geography: Location, Place, Movement (of people and goods), Human-Environment Interaction and Regions. Students will learn about various forms of government. They are expected to be familiar with forms of government found in the Western Hemisphere and compare them to our form of government.

SCIENCE: In Science, students will continue the Solid Earth Unit of study. Students will learn the cause and effects of earthquakes and volcanoes. Students should also have an understanding how natural forces, such as earthquakes and volcanoes are constantly changing and reshaping earth's surface. Additionally, students will learn about earth's structure and complete a study of the three types of rocks: Igneous, Metamorphic and Sedimentary. Students will also learn about the effects of weathering and erosion on earth's surface.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS: We will continue reading aloud *Harris and Me* by Gary Paulsen. Students will continue the novel study, *Tuck Everlasting*, by Natalie Babbitt. As a class we will read and discuss each chapter. Students are expected to respond in writing for each day's reading to check for understanding and comprehension of the text. In writing, students will learn the fundamentals to composing an argument paragraph. Additionally, students will learn how to develop different types of sentences, use commas correctly and cite facts from outside sources.

40 BOOK READING CHALLENGE: Our challenge as a middle school teaching team is for all students in grades 6-8 to independently read 40 books this school year. Students will have access to our school library and classroom books Monday through Thursday from 8:20-8:45. Students are expected to be reading at home daily for 30 minutes.

