

News from Mrs. P's class

November 9, 2012

Happy Friday! Our first quarter wrapped up last Friday and students will receive their report cards today in their homerooms. This week, students also took the WKCE test. Seventh graders tested on Tuesday and Wednesday while eighth graders tested Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. I think students will be looking forward to a week when they have a “normal” schedule! ☺

What we've been up to . . .

- ❖ **In 7th grade**—Last week, students had a chance to retake their first quarter spelling quizzes. These updated grades are reflected in their final first quarter grade. Students also began a grammar unit on capitalization and punctuation. We have continued this unit this week and today in class, discussed the importance of punctuation by editing a “Dear John” letter. Funny how much a few punctuation marks can change the meaning of writing!
- ❖ **In 8th grade**—Last week, we reviewed some test-taking strategies to hopefully use not only on the WKCE test, but any test in any class. This week, as a result of WKCE testing, I met with my 8th graders only three days. On Wednesday and Friday we did a puzzle activity to outline the writing process. Ask your 8th grader if they could describe to you how putting puzzles together is a lot like organizing an essay. Next week, we'll be working on writing a personal narrative. We'll be in the computer lab a couple days and students will have the opportunity to revise and edit their essays with a partner.
- ❖ Looking ahead . . . on Thursday, November 15, both my 7th graders and my 8th graders will have classroom guidance. Seventh graders will have a lesson discussing cyberbullying and online/technology safety. 8th graders will have a presentation on healthy vs. unhealthy relationships. These topics, too, are great conversation starters and certainly very timely topics.

Have a wonderful weekend and thanks for all you do!
Jen Peterson