

August 22, 2016

Primary Years Program Classroom and Curriculum News

Dear Parents,

This letter is to inform you about some of the things we will be learning in the next six weeks of school. You will find below each of the Primary Years Programme essential elements of the curriculum: knowledge, concepts, skills and attitudes. You might like to ask your child about what they are doing in the different subject areas. We look forward to seeing the children take action following what they are learning! -Mrs. Smith

Unit of Inquiry (UOI):

Our Unit of Inquiry is about 'Conflict'. Students will inquire into what causes conflict within themselves, peers, the community and globally. They will further this inquiry by investigating strategies that resolve different types of conflict in a positive manner and will demonstrate these strategies by showing their own way to play and live together peacefully.

The central idea is that: **Finding peaceful solutions to a conflict leads to a better quality of life.**

An inquiry into

- Causes of conflict
- Conflict resolution
- Living and playing together peacefully

Learner Profile and Attitudes:

Learner Profile: Thinker, Communicator, Principled
Attitudes: Cooperation, Respect, Tolerance, Empathy

English Language:

In writing, students will engage in activities and tasks that will help heighten their writing skills in the context of persuasive essays. They will learn how to write clear, argumentative expositions (one opinion about a topic) and discussions (discussing both sides of an argument). Students will learn skills like expressing their point of view, demonstrating strong evidence to complement reasons and provide informative examples to support both sides of an argument. In reading, Grade 5 will focus on comprehension strategies that will help develop solid understanding of various texts. These include making connections, questioning, visualizing, inferring, predicting and synthesizing. We will read novels, short stories, news articles and journals to develop our comprehension skills.

German Language:

We will read together the classic book "Das fliegende Klassenzimmer" by Erich Kästner. The students will get to know the different characters of this book. They will deepen their knowledge through different projects and through reading comprehension. This literature fits with our 1st UOI and thus, we will also talk about conflict resolution and management. Further on, we will start with our new workbook which is at "Gymnasium" level, but of course we will differentiate whenever needed. Grammar and spelling will take place in all of the lessons.

Every Thursday the students will get homework for one week.

We work according to the Bavarian Curriculum, Gymnasium Klasse 5. Materials: Deutschbuch Klasse 5 (für das Gymnasium, Cornelsen); Deutschbuch Klasse 5 Arbeitsheft; Ordner
Ms. Gebhardt

German as a foreign language:

The non-native speakers will be integrated with the German speakers in order to build up their vocabulary as quickly as possible. Ms. Gebhardt

Mathematics:...

The first unit for the year will be Whole Numbers and Place Value. Students will learn about place value to millions and beyond, rounding numbers to the closest 10, 100, 1000, ordering and comparing numbers, patterns and problem solving, fractions, percentages and decimals. Within this unit, students will also focus on mathematical language and learn to understand different problem solving techniques in various contexts.

PE:

Our first unit in P.E. this year will be Individual Pursuits and Athletics; running, track and field, and cross country. Students will participate in events such as long jump, relays, sprinting, etc. They will also have an opportunity to learn about pacing, not racing in cross country running.

Mr. Eide

Music:

This Unit we will repeat our last year's repertoire and start building a new one. We will focus on the English and German songs promoting peaceful conflict resolution, learn how to make different sounds for the beat-box, improve music memory, work with rhythms and scales.

At the end of the Unit we will have a Talent Show, when every student can have a chance to present a song, a joke or play the instrument of his/her choice in front of the peers. These days are really loved and popular between our students. This opportunity boosts the self-confidence and gives the chance to open new talents.

Mrs. Sokyrbá-Kostyrko

Art:

For this UOI in Art class, students will work together to create some artworks, developing their understanding of collaboration as well as the art related concepts of balance, unity and composition.

Miss Thomas

How Parents Can Support Learning:

Please check your child's 'Daily Reading Log' and sign accordingly. They should be reading at least 5 times a week. Also, please look at the class website as it will be updated weekly.

<http://2016isugrade5.weebly.com>

Dates to remember:

September 6	Back to School Night 7 pm
September 12	After School Activity Program (ASAP) begins
September 17	Einstein Marathon – optional for students
September 22	School Photos
October 3	School Holiday, No school
October 7	End of 1st Unit of Inquiry
October 28	Parent - Teacher Conferences