

I have been so impressed with the growth in writing that students have shown this year. In the last few weeks the students have written expository, expressive and persuasive pieces as well as revisiting poems for a short lesson. This week students will get chance to blindly correct another student's paper. They will use the AIMS style six point scale that I use (in addition I will grade each paper.) This will give the students a chance to see how hard it is to grade writing assignments, and they will gain understanding as to why I feel at this point in the year they need to be hitting it out of the park to get an A.

Over the next few weeks as we prepare for AIMS we will take a break from science and social studies. We will use the extra time to work through the subjects that will be tested. I don't want the kids panicking when testing time comes. To ensure this we will prepare them the best we can. My goal is that when they open the test they say to themselves, "Ah, this is easy, it's no biggie, and I can do this." While I want every student to try their hardest, I don't want them stressing about these tests. Please help by also reminding them it is important to just do their best but to not worry. Traditionally the more relaxed students are, the better they do on tests.

As I reach the end of this newsletter, where the spelling words would normally be, you'll find none. I want to give the students a break this week, instead I ask that they reflect on their journey so far in 5th grade and what they hope for the rest of the year. In 9 short weeks they will be middle school students!

Have a great week,

Mrs. B

