

Amargosa Valley Schools

777 E. Amargosa Farm Road
Amargosa Valley, Nevada 89020
<http://amargosa.nye.k12.nv.us/> T: 775-372-5324

Welcome Back!

The 2017-2018 school year is off to a GREAT start!! As a staff we are thrilled to see your students smiling faces every day! As you may have heard we have new staff members on board at Amargosa Valley. We have welcomed each of them with open arms. If you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact us or come in. We are looking forward to a wonderful school year!!



Principal: Chris Brockman

Assistant Principal: Melinda Jeffrey

Pre-K: Rebecca Tate

First Grade: Mary Douglas

Middle School Math: Brian Gauthier



Upcoming Events

September 1

Teacher In-Service Day

September 4

Labor Day—No School

September 15

Football vs. Tonopah (in Beatty)

September 22

Teacher In-Service Day

Football vs. White Pine (in Beatty)

Visitor Badges are required whenever you visit our school. Visitor Badges can be obtained in the office.

We collect Box Tops!



Classroom News

♥ Welcome to Kindergarten

Kindergarten has finally started and we have been learning rules and procedures. We are also learning all the letters of the alphabet and how to write our names. In math, we are learning counting and cardinality. Please make sure your child gets plenty of sleep as we have a long day of learning with only a little rest time.

Mrs. George



First Grade has spent a lot of time reviewing procedures, and school rules! We just started homework and library this week! In reading, we are practicing reading and writing our letters and sounds. We are also practicing sight words, key details, and working to identify main idea. In math, we are adding, counting, and looking for number patterns.

Ms. Douglas



In third grade this year, we are working on being better readers. This month, we have learned how to Check for Understanding and Back Up and Reread. We have also learned the "I Pick" method of picking good fitting books that will help us become better readers. Your child should have brought home Parent Pipelines on how to do Check for Understanding and how to Read Appropriate Level Texts That Are a Good Fit. As your child reads at night, please talk to them about why the book they are reading is a good fit book, and help them remember to stop and Check for Understanding. Thank you for all your support!!

Ms. Spencer

Attendance

Students are at risk of being marked truant when a call or written note from a parent/legal guardian is not presented to the school within three (3) days of an absence. The definition of an absence includes: a partial or full day absent from school. These types of absences can be marked truant if contact from the parent/legal guardian is not made within the allowed time limit.

Tips and Tricks

Tips to Get Your Child to Talk About Their School Day

1. Ask open ended questions that cannot be answered with yes and no.
2. Be familiar with their school schedule.
3. Use the papers in their backpacks to begin a conversation about their day.
4. Use time at dinner to talk about both the good and bad things that happened during the day. Model by sharing about your day.
5. Remember to listen, listen, listen!!



Welcome! My name is Laurel Weaver and many of you know me as I taught in first grade last year. This year is my second at Amargosa Elementary School and I'm teaching fourth grade. Our 4th grade class has some new faces among familiar ones from last year. We have completed our second week of school, gotten to know one another, and we are looking forward to a happy and successful school year! I was born in Arizona and my family is from the Southwest. I am a UNLV graduate with Bachelors and Masters in Education. I have taught in Nye and Clark County School District. Ten of those years were those of teaching fourth grade at George E. Harris Elementary School and Gene Ward Elementary School in CCSD. I know fourth grade well, and I know nine turning ten is a great age where the children are funny, quirky, and wise. My goal as your child's teacher is to build a strong classroom community where students can feel comfortable to take risks, in a safe environment. I believe students should be held to high expectations, in order to continue growing in a positive manner in and outside of school. I will create an engaging learning environment that allows students to learn when they have opportunities to discover and inquire.

Ms. Weaver



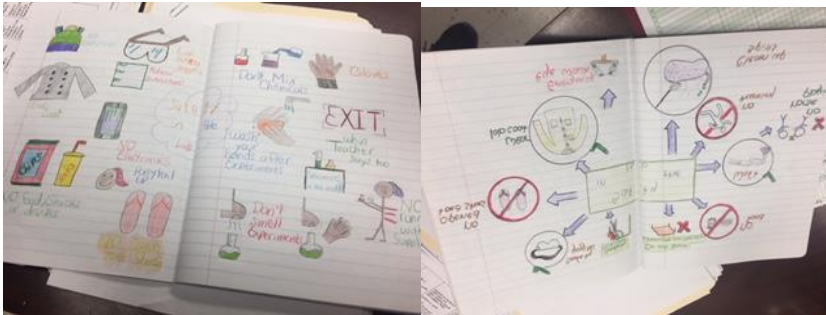
In the past two weeks we have learned about science safety and the tools scientists use. We've celebrated two birthdays already. "Happy Birthday, Caleb and Karen!" We've listened to seven read-alouds and started writing our first essay. We dived into our Chromebooks and got acquainted with Google Classroom, Google Docs, and Google slides. Also, we learned several new math games. Fifth Grade is to..to..totally awesome!



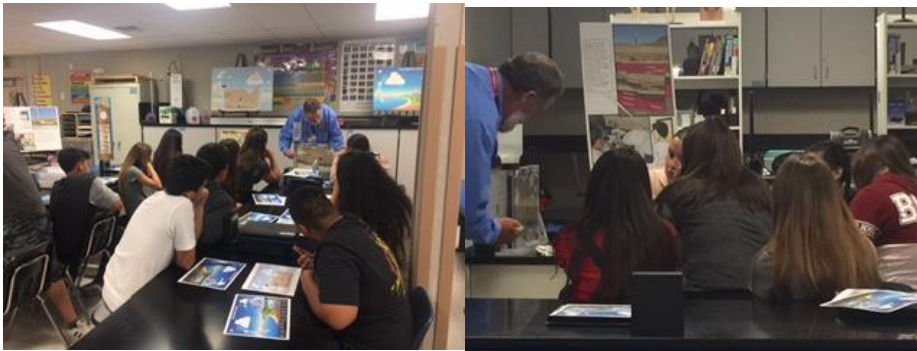
The exploratory class has started using an interactive on-line program to introduce computer coding to the students.



We are in our new building with more room, a bathroom, a phone and a connected smart board. Some of you received the grand tour at Open House. Thank you for coming! At that time they had decorated the outside of their science journal. Since then, we have mind mapped safety features. Here are some examples, but ask your child to show you theirs.



We had guest speakers from the Department of Energy last Thursday (August 17). The students watched a video that showed some of the testing that happened at the test site at Mercury before 1992. They then observed a model of ground water and how the scientists study it to assure our drinking water is safe. Here are a few pictures of very engaged students.



Aviation Field trip in September: Our middle school girls have been invited by a local chapter of **Women in Aviation** located out of Las Vegas to attend **Girls in Aviation** outing. They will tour a real plane and have pilots talking to them. I'm in the process of filling out the field trip forms now and will be able to take the first 14 girls to bring in their permission slip after it has been approved. It will be September 23rd and we will leave here on a Saturday at 6:30 am. They will be fed lunch so they will be responsible for breakfast and snacks. We should be back by 4 pm.

Nothing is the **Matter** is what we will be studying next. Thank you for your support and the opportunity to work with your child. I look forward to an exciting year of growth and learning for all!

Social Studies

We just finished journaling geography terms and now are studying the GRAPES acronym to prepare for studying our assigned country. We have some football players that will miss social studies but I have given them their assignment and they can make up quizzes and work on assignments during their P.E. time as that is also a study hall option.



Mrs. Dymond's ELA classes have started this year with some amazing growth in MAPS. Generally the students who read all summer enter school ready to go. Thank you to the parents who helped their students achieve. All Middle School students need to be reading at least 20 minutes every day and talking to family members about what they have read. Reading is the key to unlock your child's future. Sixth grade will be reading about Turning Points, places in your life where critical events happen that may determine the course of your future. The seventh grade reading unit is In Pursuit, what drives us to pursue goals? Eighth grade is reading Suspense, the genre of reading that draws you in and scares you. I am very excited to start this year with these amazing students, what a journey we will have!



Please remember that we already have kids experiencing germs and being sent home because of fevers, coughs and rashes. Remember the signs of illness:

- Headache
- Chills
- Body ache
- Sore throat
- Fever
- Feeling tired for no good reason
- Stomach aches

If you don't feel well before you come to school, please have your parents check your temperature before sending you to school, any fever over 100 you need to stay home. Bottom line: if you're sick, please stay home!! Please remember that we cannot and do not provide medications.