

October Newsletter

Middle School Language Arts -- Catherine M. Odell

Sixth graders are enjoying a variety of fictional stories in Literature class and will soon begin reading a book together as a class. In English class, the focus has been on mastering spelling word lists, and studying nouns and preposition usage. They are also practicing the writing of complete sentences, and identifying parts of speech.

In the seventh grade, students have been reading *Roll of Thunder: Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor. This book is a Newbery Medal winner about a black family facing racial prejudice and social barriers in the 1930s. English classes are reviewing and honing skills needed to identify parts of speech and applying lessons learned to writing. Spelling scores have been improving as students have worked a little harder each week.

Eighth graders are reading the classic American novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird* and viewing scenes from the movie, as well. In English, students are working hard on mastering spelling lists and studying different kinds of nouns and pronouns. The Eighth Grade and the other two classes will also soon do a unit on Journalism and will learn about interviewing people.