Read 180

This semester our school took a bold step towards increasing the reading skills of our students. After an intense study of the research around improving reading skills our teachers and administration decided to implement an exciting program known as Read 180. Sixty of our students in grades 7-9 are enrolled in Read 180 as their core English course. Currently, Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Swan are teaching Read 180.

One student described the new class format as being “pretty swanky”. The experience involves three stations where students engaging in direct instruction, independent reading, and self assessment activities.

A typical day in Read 180 begins with a whole class lesson where the class engages in conversation around academic vocabulary, language usage, and critical thinking about a variety of texts. Student then divide up into three groups: 1) independent reading, 2) small group learning, and 3) computer led instruction and assessment.

Every student regularly takes a reading assessment which allows them to know their Lexile score (reading level). At any given time students are able to announce their Lexile scores and how they expect they will grow that score in the next 2-5 weeks.

Student use of technology, data, and World class instruction is alive and well at White Swan High School and Mount Adams Middle School. Only the best for the best kids in the Valley!
Some things that happen every day at our school: We build robots, we learn to cook, we weld, we dream, and we design things! Making ideas into reality is our reality at White Swan. One big contributor to this mindset is our 21st Century After School Program. Under the direction of Mrs. Shelly Craig, all of our students have a variety of activities to choose from. This week a group of students learned from Mrs. Peggy Sanchey how to prepare a Salmon dinner (below). Students also worked with Mr. Brad Urquhart to prepare student-designed robots for a competition in a couple weeks (right).

“Positive Connections with our Kids, Everyday!”

21st Century / After School Program

Angelica Saiz, 11th Grader

Describe yourself in three words
Awesome, Helpful, Respectful

If you could visit with anyone for one hour, who would you choose?
My Uncle Tony

I dream that someday I will...
Visit Hawaii and swim with Dolphins.

Angelica was also a January Student of the Month!

February Words of the Month:
Trust
K’wyáamtimt
Confianza
White Swan Award

The White Swan Award is a traveling award that is given to deserving staff members each month. Staff members nominate a colleague for a variety of reasons including: best teaching practices, going above and beyond to help students or staff members, special achievements, or community involvement. January’s recipients of the White Swan award are Michael Clinton and Brad Urquhart. They worked together to plan and implement Showghetti, a bi-weekly event for the community that provides a free spaghetti dinner and student-generated entertainment. Previous winners of the White Swan Award were: September, Courtney Lear, Kristin Trease, and Cheree Williams, October, Jenny Saiz, November-December, Aletha Thrush.

Welding

Tarrell Aleck (above) has been working on one of the trailers the welding class will be selling to a community member. Even the saw horses holding the trailer are student made! Charles Yallup and Christian Clark (bottom left) designed a grill using an old propane tank. Marcus Wallahee (bottom right) is making a bow rack for our Cougar Time Archery Class. All of this was done in Mr. Francisco’s Metals class.
White Swan HS Gets a 3D Printer!

As a part of the Gear Up program, our school is the proud recipient of two new 3D printers. The machines are being used in a special project called the "Entrepreneur Challenge. This semester our students will be designing anything their minds can imagine! Above (right) is a picture of one of the machines, and a student designed Nike iPhone case that was designed and printed on the 3D printer.

Be the change you want to see... Volunteer at Mount Adams!

Mount Adams School District
P.O. Box 578
White Swan, WA 98952