

TCKS MEDIA

1st Semester

Welcome to Traut Core Knowledge School! We provide this newsletter to parents to communicate the skills that students are learning in both the media center and the computer lab. During the month of September, all students in grades 2 -6 completed both the STAR reading and the MAPS reading and math assessments in

the computer lab. These tools will help teachers determine their reading and math levels for the start of the school year.

During first semester, **Kindergarten** students will become familiar with the media center, computer lab, checking out books, returning books on time, taking responsibility for the materials that they check out and using school established procedures.

1st Grade students will be focusing on understanding the role and function of a school library media center. They will identify the major areas of the media center including the circulation desk, automated card catalog, easy readers, nonfiction, computer lab and the listening area. Each week the students will have the opportunity to work in the computer lab, have story time and check out books.

2nd grade students are off to a great start this school year! At the end of the 1st quarter, students took a giant leap by learning how to use the automated card catalog. It provides them with a little independence as they learn about and understand the role and function of the school media center and they love it!

3rd graders are learning the major areas of the media center. They will also continue to build upon the skills they learned last year using the automated card catalog. This will include recognizing the subject arrangement of books through the Dewey Decimal system in the nonfiction section and the alphabetical arrangement by author's last name in the fiction sections of the media center.

"Left pinkie A, pointer down for B." Students in **4th grade** spent the first quarter learning keyboarding skills using the Tap Rap method. This method has proven to be effective in learning the keystrokes and developing muscle memory to type the desired letter/symbol. Ask your students about this approach.

Students in **5th grade** are working on research skills, learning about copyright laws, bibliographies, and using appropriate resources. They will also be building their computer skills through word processing.

KEYBOARDING UPDATE

The exit proficiency for students in 4th and 5th grade has increased this year. By the end of the school year, students in 4th grade should be typing 15 words per minute (wpm) and student in 5th grade 20 wpm. We will begin introducing keyboard concepts and word processing to students in 1st and 2nd grade students and informally type short paragraphs in 3rd grade but formal instruction will continue to happen the first and second week of school in 4th grade.

ALL STUDENTS:

Each week students may check out 2 books, which are due the following week.

Overdue notices will be sent out every other week as a reminder to bring books back as soon as possible. If your child receives a notice, please help them locate and return their books as quickly as they can.

Returning this year are Sugandha Narayanan as Computer Assistant and Jill Zonnefeld as Media Assistant. Parents are welcome to check out books from the media center and we have quite a few Core Knowledge books in our parent section.

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