Mondays: Grammar Basics

This term we will finish the parts of speech with pronouns (quickly) and verbs. Then, we will work on verb tenses, moods and forms. The study of verbs will include verbals--participles, gerunds and infinitives. Their function in sentences is much different, working as adjectives and nouns. We will have a quiz most Mondays on the previous week's lesson. If you struggle with the practice, be sure to see me during passing for extra practice and study helps. As we finish up the basics of the eight parts of speech, there will be a cumulative assessment.

Wednesdays: Vocabulary

This term's vocabulary will focus on six lists based on the 100 words every freshman should know. The lists are already posted on my website. There are 12 mandatory and 4-5 bonus words each week. You will begin a list on a Wednesday with a pre-quiz on spelling. Your assignment for Wednesday will be to write out the definitions (no, you may not just print it off of quizlet, although I encourage you to use the definitions found there). You will have to complete a vocabulary 4-square for Friday. Your quiz will be the following Wednesday, and you will start the process again with the next list. Your vocabulary quizzes will be on Socrative so you should have instant feedback on how you did; however, I will also try to have your quiz scores posted in PowerSchool by Friday. If you decide that you need to retake that quiz, you will have to go "old school" and write out your list 5 times each to work on spelling and be sure that your 4-square was done. Those two things must come to me on Monday in order to get a pass to retake the quiz in passing on Tuesday that next week. You may not wait until the end of the term and go back.

Fridays: Reading

Each Friday we will work on reading. For the third term we will concentrate on some note-taking and summarizing skills for our non-fiction reading. These basic skills will be helpful to you in all of your classes and are key in the common core.

In addition, you will be working on reading strategies as I read a novel to you, <u>The Shadow Club</u>. Then, we will move on to another novel about growing up in a different time period, <u>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</u>. We'll look at the writer's craft and analyze that in our discussions and writing about both novels

Public Speaking:

We will be working on public speaking a lot this term. We'll start with some simple things like impromptu speeches. But, we'll have some other presentations where we work on aspects of public speaking--proper voice, volume, enunciation, etc.

In addition, each week you will have vocabulary 4-squares to do and various grammar or reading exercises that I would like to have shared. You will need to use the document camera to share yours at least once during the term (there will be a sign-up on the side board each week). Each "sharing" will be worth 5 points in your practice/preparation grade. Do NOT wait until the end of the term to sign up since we'll have lots of people to get in before the end of the term.

Major Units:

This term we will have a unit on Growing Up. I will finish reading <u>The Shadow</u> <u>Club</u> to you and we will read <u>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</u>. We will begin looking into careers and your choices as you grow up.

We'll also be focusing on public speaking this term as well as persuasive writing (doing speeches to persuade as well. We'll focus a lot on organization in our writing and speaking.