

Maddy Yoo, 4th grade, Four Five Academy

Extra Mile Essay for Ms. Waugh

“If plan A doesn’t work, just remember: the alphabet has 25 more letters.”

~Unknown

I put this quote on this essay because it reminds me of Ms. Waugh. It reminds me of Ms. Waugh because she tells us to never give up and to persevere through challenges.

Ms. Waugh goes the extra mile because she teaches us things that are not in the curriculum. She challenges every question we ask because she wants us to become better inquirers and she wants us to think about other perspectives. In social studies she taught us about John Brown who was a white man who led the raid on Harpers Ferry. He was fighting against slavery and he was showing slaves that they shouldn’t be scared to stand up for what they believed in. She taught us about Sojourner Truth who was an escaped slave who learned to read and write. I think Ms. Waugh teaches about these things because she doesn’t just want us to know about Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass, but also about other people who helped.

Ms. Waugh gave us positive notes in our lockers each day during GMAS. She told us to slow down and take our time. Her notes gave me more confidence for GMAS.

Ms. Waugh taught us about diversity in books and connected our reading to the lines of inquiry. Almost all the other fourth grade classes are reading “The Hope Chest,” but Ms. Waugh is reading us “Elijah Of Buxton.” Ms. Waugh wants us to know that diversity is all around us. She said that if someone doesn’t learn about diversity they might go on in life thinking that diversity is just this thing that exists and is not important. We should care about people who are different than us and let them join us in our games.

Ms. Waugh also taught me how to shoot a basketball during math. It helped me learn about line plots because I collected my own data and it also helped me learn how to shoot a basketball.

At dismissal, Ms. Waugh does a handshake with all of us before we leave. At the beginning of the year, Ms. Waugh told all of us to come up with a handshake. We can't leave the room until we do the handshake. Some of us have really long handshakes but she always remembers them.

This is why I think Ms. Waugh goes the extra mile.



