# **LEAPing into a new school year!**

Announcements

***Are you in the know?***

To get up-to-date information and photos regarding LEAP and other news regarding gifted educations by following me on Twitter!

**MonicaHarned@LEAPinOrange**

Here’s how!

1. If you do not already have the Twitter app installed on your smartphone, tablet or computer, you will need to install it.
2. Set up an account or sign in
3. Find me at: **MonicaHarned@LEAPinOrange**
4. Be sure you select **@LEAPinORANGE**
5. Click FOLLOW
6. I will then confirm your account.

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**LEAP Newsletter**

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It’s November and time is moving! We have been quite busy getting back into the swing of things. Starting the new school year is always my favorite time of year because I get to work with all of my beloved students again! This year, I have decided to utilize Google Classroom to allow students to access and work on activities outside of LEAP in order to keep up timelines and due dates. I also find that this tool keeps communication open on the days we do not meet. Students are able to work on assignments during their own time therefore maintaining a faster paced schedule.



I am also keeping up with our Twitter account. I will be posting pictures of the students as well as articles and events that might be of interest to you. It is my hope that you follow us and see what’s going on in LEAP!

November also brings us new 4th grade students! I am so excited to begin our units of study and to work with these dynamic youngster

# **Conferences for grades 5 & 6**

Conference week is coming up very soon. Again, I will be splitting my time between the three schools. Forms will be coming home shortly after your child’s classroom conference forms. If you prefer an e-mail or phone conference, I can make myself available for those as well.

**TALENT POOL OVERVIEW**

 **Grade 4 LEAP**

Thank you for attending the PPT meetings last week. Classes are beginning this week. I am sending out an email once all the times have been confirmed. I will be sending out a monthly update of our LEAP happenings to keep you in the loop. Stay tuned!!

**Grade 5 LEAP**

Since the end of October, the students were introduced to a new unit! The ever popular bridge unit! The unit began with a performance task then went into a bridge building activity that required the students to construct a bridge using a piece of paper, 5 paper clips and 2 text books. The groups of students all have a very interesting approach to how to construct the bridges. To see what the paper bridges look like check TWITTER! Follow me at monicaharned@LEAPinOrange!!!

Following the activity, the students will begin researching different types of bridges using a variety of internet resources including a Webquest! The research portion of bridges will last approximately 6 weeks. The skills addressed for this segment of the unit is as follows:

S1: Recognize attributes of bridges

S2: Analyze different types of bridges

S3: Deduce the cost of bridges and purpose based on research information

S4: Determine how forces react on bridges

S4: Compare different materials used for the construction of bridges

Once the research segment is completed, the students will move on to a virtual bridge building program entitled, West Point Bridge Designer. This challenging program will introduce students to the engineering design process.

Other skills will include:

S1:Build and test model bridges designed to carry a live load

S2: Investigate how compression and tension affect bridges strength

S3: Determine and remain within a set budget

**Grade 6 LEAP**

 Since last school year, the current 6th grade students have been working on a bridge unit. We decided to leave the construction portion for this school year. To view pictures of the groups completed bridges, you will have to follow us on TWITTER @ monicaharned@LEAPinOrange.

The skills addressed in the unit are as follows:

S1: Develop a persuasive letter using specific characteristics of persuasion

S2: Recognize attributes of bridges

S3: Analyze different types of bridges

 S4:Determine scale

S5. Modify uses of materials

S6. Produce a model bridge with precision

S7: Evaluate

S8: Cooperate in small groups