



Middle School March News

Haines School -- 247 W. 23rd Place -- 773-534-9200

7th/8th ELA - Ms. Khawam, Ms. Sicora, Ms. Suen

Social Science - Ms. Sicora (304) Science - Ms. Khawam (307), Math - Ms. Suen (309)

"Families are a valuable asset to a child's education."

Advisory

This month's character trait focus is honesty.

February Stars of the Week

Room 304 - Tiffany Mei, Wenlong Situ, Siyan Li, Wulong Situ

Room 307 - Tommy Zheng, Allan Peters, Tramy Jiang, An-An Chieng

Room 309 - Cindy Deng, Jonathan Nie, Andy Liu, Sharon C.

Free60

- Students will continue to focus on skills and targets identified through the winter administration of NWEA
- Our next problem based learning project will focus on creating presentations for school and community stakeholders about improvements to Haines facilities.

English Language Arts

- Here in room 307, during month of March we will still continue reading *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen. Upon completion of reading *Hatchet*, students will watch the movie and compare and contrast the novel to the movie, which is one of the common core standards. Next, we will focus on analyzing and writing poetry.
- 8th graders in 304 will continue reading the dystopian/science-fiction novel, *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. Students will work on their analysis skills by analyzing quotes from the text to find shades of meaning, identify paradoxical statements in the text, read informational text and other literature to appreciate the allusions made in the novel, understand the 3 types of irony and be able to identify them in the novel, and understand the author's craft of using motifs in writing to express the theme.
- In room 309, the 8th graders will continue their novel study of *The Children of Willesden Lane* by Mona Golabek and Lee Cohen. Students will continue to with their literature circles (book clubs), in which they will be working on group activities to deepen comprehension and discussion skills. In terms of writing students will be focusing on argumentative writing via ThinkCERCA and narrative writing in Writer's Workshop.

Math

- The 7th graders have begun a unit on linear equations. Students will analyze the relationship between the table, graph and graph. Students will look for patterns that lead to a linear relationship. In addition, students will look at real world scenarios that have a linear relationship and how to derive a linear equation based on information given.
- 8th graders have begun a unit exploring expressions and simplifying expressions to check for equivalency. Students will use variables as placeholders in expressions which can be simplified for more efficient calculation. Then students will look at basic quadratic equations and how to solve for the zeros (roots, x-intercepts).
- The 8th grade students taking Algebra will be focusing on exponential relationships and exponent rules. They will use the rules to simplify expressions as well as calculate with scientific notation. Students will then apply exponential equations in real world situations and how the graph, table, and equation are related and expressed and how each component (base, exponent, initial value) affects the graph, table, and equation.

Science

- 7th grade will continue working on **All About You Unit** and they continue the study of a human body. This unit will carry through the entire month of February. In approximately 2 weeks, we will start Genetics unit. In this unit, students will learn how genetic information in living things cells, decide the genotype and phenotype of living things.
- 8th graders started new unit; **Energy, Force, and Motion**. In this unit, students learn about energy transformation and all the forces that act on it. Students began to design and build roller coasters. During this project, students will explore the energy transformation and the forces.
- I am trying to replenish classroom supplies in forms of tissues, paper towels and printing paper. Not every student brought their supplies in the beginning of the school year. We use lots of paper towel rolls due to the fact that we carry many experiments that can be messy and we have to deal with spills. Please send with your child a roll of paper towel and printing paper. Thank you

Social Studies

- 7th and 8th grade students have worked hard on their skills of reading and writing like historians. This month they will use those skills to create a history fair projects. The theme is *Taking a Stand in History*. 8th graders will be encouraged to apply the theme to the Progressive Era.
 - 7th grade content in March is the Illinois State Constitution and westward expansion.
 - 8th grade content area focus in March: *The Progressive Era: A Study of Developing Urban Life in the early 1900s*. Investigation Topic: *The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire: Who is to blame for the loss of so many lives?* Students will study primary sources to develop an argument about who should be blamed for the large loss of lives in the historic factory fire. The end activity will be a whole group discussion to come to a consensus on the person(s) responsible.

Reminders

- Parents, do you want to know how to check your child's grades and attendance? You can pick up your PIN from Mr. Shar in the office.
- Each week a student will be chosen as the Star of the Week. Your student has their date and expectations.
- Provide teachers with an email to correspond about your student's progress throughout the year.
- Check your student's agenda nightly.
- Expectations are that each student arrive at 7:45 each morning.
- A good night of sleep and a nutritious breakfast will help with success on the PARCC Assessment.

Important March Dates

- March 1 - WEDay Field Trip (Student Council)
- March 2 - Room 309 Field Trip to 826CHI "I Remember..." Memoir Writing Workshop
- March 10 - Volleyball Tournament, Progress Report Distribution
- March 13 - 7th grade Lawyers in the Classroom Visit
- March 14 - PI Day
- March 18 - Final CJML Contest
- March 20-24 - School Spirit Week
- March 20, 22, 23, 24, 27 - PARCC Assessment
- March 24 - Haines History Fair