



Middle School January 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 self motivation

January Stars of the Week

Room 304 - Wenlong Situ, Siyan , Bryan Ruan

Room 307 - Kelly Lin, Louis Taylor, Amy Chen

Room 309 - Sharon Zheng, Jai Bao Yu, Jonathan Mei

Free60

- Students will conduct research on issues pertinent to the city of Chicago, come up with a solution to those issues, and present their findings to their teachers. Students will also use online educational resources to do independent work that is set at their individual level. The Free 60 Expo will be in the new year!

English Language Arts

- During the month of January, students in room 307 will explore the power of "spoken words". They will analyze various speeches of famous people . The ultimate goal will be to analyze the speech of Dr. Martin Luther King. Some of the activities will include comparing different speeches, Culminating activity will require to write own, powerful speech.
- 8th graders in 304 will finish reading *A Raisin in the Sun*, a play by Lorraine Hansberry. The play covers themes of social, educational, political, and economical impacts on family during the 1950's in Chicago. Students will focus on the connections between the themes of the play and Dr. King's speeches and poetry by Langston Hughes. Students will also practice fluency skills while doing dramatic readings from scenes of the play. At the end of the month students will start Animal Farm by George Orwell.
- In room 309, the 8th graders will wrap up their novel study of Animal Farm. After finishing the novel, they will work on a culminating project for the novel. 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 will begin a new unit focusing on ratios and proportions through a unit called *Comparing and Scaling*. Students will use their prior knowledge from the previous unit of enlarging and reducing (*Stretching and Shrinking*) and build upon the ideas of equivalence.
- 8th graders have finished their exponential growth/decay unit, *Growing, Growing, Growing*, and moving onto the unit on transformations. In the unit of *Hubcaps, Mirrors, and Kaleidoscopes*, students will look for patterns on rotational symmetry, reflection symmetry, and translational symmetry.
- The 8th grade students taking Algebra are in the middle of a unit on linear equations. After focusing on the different forms of the equations as well as jiffy graphs, we will now shift focus to application. Such applications include using graphs to analyze for better deals or to solve for missing quantities of two variable equations.

Science

- 7th graders will start new unit; "All About You". In this unit, students will learn about human body and its function. We will focus on exploring healthy habits that students can practice to keep equilibrium in their bodies.
- 8th graders already started new unit; **Water**. students will continue exploring and test the unique properties of water. Students will dive into the exploration of sustainability of water on Earth. They will investigate the sources and quality of local water.
- After school STEAM will start on January 23rd. Please encourage your child to join. In this program, students will explore the physics of sounds and the mathematics of music. Students will design and built musical instruments.

Social Studies

- 7th and 8th grade U.S. History will continue to work on reading and writing like historians. Students will continue to source primary source documents, corroborate evidence, and this month they will learn how to figure out when and where a document was created and how these circumstances affect its content.
 - 7th grade content in January is continuing *Building a Republic: The U.S. Constitution*. Investigation topic: *How Does the U.S. Constitution Guard Against Tyranny*. 7th grade will also continue studying for the U.S. Constitution test to take place in 2017.
 - 8th grade topic in January: Content area focus: *The Progressive Era: A Study of Developing Urban Life in the early 1900s*. Investigation Topic: *Immigrant Groups of the 19th Century*. Students will put new research skills to use when writing a narrative for a 19th century immigrant.

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.

Important January Dates

- January 9 - Quarter 2 Progress Reports are sent home.
- January 9 - School Spirit Week
- January 10 - STEAM recruitment
- January 18 - Martin Luther King's Holiday - NO SCHOOL