

Middle School June News



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

ELA - Ms. Grober (301)

Mathematics - Mrs. Sumita (303)

Science - Dr. Ferrer (302)

Social Science - Ms. Twillie (308)

Special Education - Ms. Berman (205)

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

Character Trait of the Month - June Tolerance **turquoise**

English Language Arts

6th graders are reading, analyzing, critiquing, and performing plays in their DRAMA UNIT. This unit began with exposure to the elements, structure, and conflicts in dramatic literature. They are currently directing and performing the play **THE MONSTERS ARE DUE ON MAPLE STREET** by Rod Serling. The unit will also include reading sililoquies from several of Shakespeare's plays and the culminating project will be writing and directing their own skits

7th graders are in the throes of their DRAMA UNIT where they have learned to analyze, critique, and perform plays. We began the unit with learning the Elements, Structure, and Conflicts in Drama. After exposure to the Ancient Greek dramatists, students read and performed **MEDEA** by Euripides. They are now reading Shakespeare's **Romeo And Juliet**. The Unit will culminate with the students writing and performing plays.

Math

6th graders will complete the year working on the topic of Statistics, specifically working with measures of central tendency (mean, median, mode) and measures of variability (range, interquartile range and mean absolute deviation). It's important to be able to look at a set of data and analyze what "story" the numbers are telling you (e.g., are the numbers far apart? Is the mean or the median a better measure of the "average/middle" of the set? What does it mean if all the numbers are close together?).

Once that topic is complete we will work on re-examining linear relationships. This will help students better prepare for 7th grade -- that important year that determines high school selective enrollment eligibility.

7th graders already are working on 8th-grade material, specifically an overview of quadratic relationships. Our unit, "Frogs, Fleas, and Painted Cubes," helps students examine the difference between linear, exponential and quadratic functions through tables, graphs and equations.

Science

6th graders have presented their recommendations for the school garden based on what they learned about soils and growing plants. Then they will explore the source of the inorganic part of soils. Students will investigate rocks and the minerals that form them as well as what makes different rocks and minerals valuable. As a final project, students will choose a common object, like their cell phone and research what rocks and minerals and other natural resources are needed to make them.

7th graders will continue their Evolution unit as they investigate: a) how factors i.e. environment and the presence of predators affect the process of natural selections, b) the role of mutations in natural selection, c) what they can learn about evolution by comparing the fossil records of fish, mammals, and reptiles, d) how modern and fossil skeletons are used to investigate evolution, e) how DNA provide evidence about how animals are related, and f) how natural selection help explain the extinction of the dodo bird and the success of the common pigeon.

Social Studies

6th graders completed their study of Ancient China. The class will travel south to present day india and Pakistan, and Afghanistan. The class will learn about Hinduism and Buddhism. The class will continue analyzing primary and secondary documents, spotlight on understanding artifacts.

7th graders The class completed their focus on Illinois State Constitution and government. The entire class has passed the Illinois State Constitution with a grade of A or B. The students are currently learning about the Civil War and will focus on a document based question: "What was Harriet Tubman's greatest achievement?"

Room 205:

We have finished our novel study of The Lemonade War. We will be reading short stories and continuing to work on comprehension skills. In math we are working on division and divisibility rules and solving real world problems. We have begun studying the Constitution and will take the test in 2 weeks. STUDY!!!. In Science we are reading about rocks and minerals.

Reminder

Encourage your child to read daily.

Important June Dates

June 5 - Northerly Island exploration - Room 302

June 16 - Haines Field Day - Parent volunteers needed! 308- Vincent Siu and John Liang

June 20 - Last Day of School

June Stars of the Week

June 7
303 - Vicky Mai 308 - Yong Yan Zou

Character Trait of the Month

October- Kindness **orange**
November- Caring **brown**
December- Self control **red**
January- Self motivation **pink**
February- Cooperation **white**
March Honesty **green**
April Citizenship **blue**
May Responsibility **yellow**
June Tolerance **turquoise**

Area for Recess

November/December - Field
January/February
March/April - Lot 2, wall
May/June - Field