

## Middle School May 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** - May Responsibility **yellow**

### **English Language Arts**

**6th and 7th graders** are exploring **DRAMA** by reading, analyzing, critiquing, performing, and writing plays. They will be applying their background knowledge of the Elements of Literature and Figurative Language. In addition, they will learn about stage direction, dialogue, set/scenery props, acts, scenes, and playwrights. They will identify the types of speeches in drama: monologue, soliloquy, and aside. Students will be exposed to tragedies and comedies of the Ancient Greeks, William Shakespeare, and modern playwrights. They will explore insights about life and human nature based upon the actions and words of famous characters. In addition to reading and analyzing plays, students will write and perform their own plays.

### **Math**

**In anticipation of NWEA in May all students should be using Khan Academy ([khanacademy.org](https://www.khanacademy.org)) 1-3 hours weekly on those concepts they feel they need additional practice. Those should include probability and statistics!**

**6th graders** are reviewing several important geometry concepts as we near the end of our curriculum. These concepts include finding areas of specific quadrilaterals and triangles, and finding the surface area of polyhedrons. This builds upon their prior knowledge of working with polygons in grades 3-5. We'll finish the year looking at how to display, describe and summarize data, working on such questions as what makes a statistical question and how to make and interpret box plots. This will use their prior knowledge of mean, median, mode and range from previous grades.

As always, 6th graders should continue working to organize themselves for success in the mathematics class! This includes maintaining their binder to include all of their materials (so that nothing is inadvertently left in their locker, in their desks or at home!). They also will continue to update their vocabulary, take notes daily and talk to each other with respect so that we can learn from each other.

**7th graders** are working diligently on complex probability situations in our unit What Do Expect? They are learning how to use tree diagrams and area models to picture the situation and determine the probability of an event. At the same time, they are studying hard for the upcoming NWEA year-end test, and should be spending time at school and home on concepts they need additional support. They have been provided with a list of concepts by RIT band that will help

structure their individual learning.

Once our current unit is complete, we'll switch to an 8th grade unit that focuses on quadratic relationships. This also will help students reach higher scores on their NWEA tests. We'll explore the important vocabulary of quadratics, such as maximum, minimum and vertex, along with how to factor and expand equations.

### Science

**6th graders** will collaboratively decide which final unit would best increase their Earth science knowledge and strengthen their NGSS practices: a) Erosion and Deposition. In this unit they will be introduced to issues concerning the positive and negative impacts of construction on society and the land. Students will use their knowledge of topography, erosion, deposition, landforms, and evidence to make a more informed decision as to which site, hillsides, marshland, and cliff-top areas, would be best for building. b) Rocks and Minerals. In this unit students will be introduced to earth's natural resources and the concept of renewable versus nonrenewable resources. They will also learn about the rock cycle, rock formation, minerals and research about the sources of materials for everyday objects such as their cellphone. c) Studying Soil Scientifically. In this unit students will use their knowledge of soil composition and soil fertility to make recommendations on how to improve the quality of a garden both hypothetical and the Haines garden.

**7th graders** will start their unit on evolution where they study the history of life on Earth by gathering evidence, making connections, and testing theories. They will also learn to interpret the many sources of evidence that exist for the evolution of life on Earth.

### Social Studies

**6th graders** completed their study of the Israel, Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan. The class will travel back in time to ancient China. The class will learn about the great dynasties of China and the legacy. The class will continue analyzing primary and secondary documents, spotlight on answering the historical question: "What caused the fall of the Qin Dynasty?" Students will write an essay in which they defend their answer to this historical question.

**7th graders** successfully completed and passed the required Illinois State Constitution. The students will continue to learn about U.S. history. The upcoming topic will be: Slavery Divides the Nation. Students will be able to describe major events leading up to the Civil War. The class will also create original political cartoons depicting turning points during the period of 1820 - 1860. The study focus for this unit is: Identifying Bias.

**Room 205:** We will be continuing our new novel, "The Lemonade War" and working on comprehension, inference and building vocabulary. In math we are honing our multiplication and division skills. Students should be practicing math facts daily. In science we are continuing to study the Earth, its composition and different processes that affect the planet. In social science we are beginning our study of the events leading up to the Revolutionary War and the formation of the United States. Constitution test coming! . We are also learning about important figures during Women's History Month. Students should continue to read independently nightly and spend some time on IXL at least 5 days a week.

### Reminder

Encourage your child to read daily.

**Important May Dates**

Week of May 15 to June 2- NWEA EOY testing

May 29 - Memorial Day, no school

May or June- Room 302, Northerly Island Exploration (Pending approval)

**May Stars of the Week**

May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
303 - Erica Cao 301- Leyi Wu 308 - Ivan Wu	303 - Leila Robinson 308 - Journey Hodari	303 - Edward Li 301-Andrew Jiang 308 - Lydia Yee	303 - Xing Yu Chen 308 - Shu Yi Chen	303 - Tina Ma 301-Michael Mei 308 - ZiHao Zheng

<p><b><u>Character Trait of the Month</u></b></p> <p>October- Kindness <b>orange</b></p> <p>November- Caring <b>brown</b></p> <p>December- Self control <b>red</b></p> <p>January- Self motivation <b>pink</b></p> <p>February- Cooperation <b>white</b></p> <p>March Honesty <b>green</b></p> <p>April Citizenship <b>blue</b></p> <p>May Responsibility <b>yellow</b></p> <p>June Tolerance <b>turquoise</b></p>	<p><b><u>Area for Recess</u></b></p> <p>November/December - Field</p> <p>January/February</p> <p>March/April - Lot 2, wall</p> <p>May/June - Field</p>
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