

DUE: DECEMBER 19TH, 2016



Middle School January 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: - Self motivation **pink**

English Language Arts- POETRY UNIT

6th and 7th graders will enjoy and appreciate poetry by listening, reading, analyzing, critiquing, and writing poems. They will explicate poems by applying Elements of Literature, Figures of Speech and Poetic Terms. They will express feelings, emotions, and creativity while making connections. They will explore the elements of many different types of poetic forms and understand poetic elements, forms, and expressions. This unit will enhance the students' reading, oral, listening and writing skills.

ELEMENTS OF LITERATURE:

Characters, Conflict, Plot, Setting, Theme, Point of View, Imagery, Mood, Tone, Foreshadowing, Flashback, Allusion, Analogy, Symbol, and Irony

FIGURES OF SPEECH:

Hyperbole, Personification, Metaphor, Simile, Antithesis, and Understatement

POETIC TERMS:

Alliteration, Assonance, Ballad, Blank Verse, Caesura, Consonance, Couplet, Enjambment, Foot, Line Break, Meter, Onomatopoeia, Refrain, Repetition, Rhyme, Sonnet, Stanza, Verse, Connotation, and Denotation

TYPES OF POETRY:

Narrative, Lyric, Concrete, Haiku, Limerick, Free Verse

Math

All math students have access to Khan Academy (khanacademy.org) and should be spending 1-3 hours weekly on those concepts they feel they need additional practice.

6th graders have begun their introduction into algebraic reasoning, including writing algebraic expressions, finding equivalent expressions using the distributive property and combining like terms, and have solved one-step algebraic equations. We will now shift our focus to inequalities and their use in the real world, and understand what makes a variable dependent or independent. All of these skills are foundational to being successful in middle school mathematics and beyond.

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 have been exploring the concept of similarity in polygons, determining whether they are similar by looking at corresponding sides, angles and scale factor. They also will develop an algorithm for a very special triangle, the 30-60-90. This relates to the 7th grade Common Core Mathematical Standard of proportional reasoning, a very large topic for this grade level. Once we complete this unit, we'll continue working with similarity, proportional relationships and ratio in Comparing and Scaling.

Science

6th graders will continue their Exploring the Solar System unit trying to answer the big questions, “*How do people investigate & explore the solar system whether from earth or from a spacecraft? *What and how are tools/technology used to study the kinds of objects are in outer space, their size, distance from earth? *What would space exploration be like in the future?” In connection with this unit, students will view two shows, Planet Nine and Cosmic Wonder, that will help answer part of these big questions, during their January 27th field trip to Adler Planetarium.

7th graders have started their Ecology unit where they try to answer the big question: “How can we study ecology; a) interactions between living (biotic) & non living (abiotic) things and b) cause & effect relationships in different biomes so we can make responsible choices regarding our environment & nutrition? They will attempt to reconstruct a skeleton from bones of an owl pellet. In the process they will gather the type of qualitative information used to develop food webs. Students also have been conducting their research on and will be presenting information about their team’s Chicagoland invasive species historical and future impact on our ecosystem.

Social Studies

6th graders have completed Chapter Thirteen: African Empires. Students have demonstrated mastery in the areas of Central Ideas and Claim, Evidence, and Reasoning. The class will travel north to the Mediterranean empire of Greece. The class will continue analyzing primary and secondary documents. Students will be introduced to Greek culture through several close reads of Greek mythology. Students will end this unit with the play “The Trojan Horse”.

7th graders continue to source and contextualize primary source and secondary sources. Students will continue narrowing their focus for the History Fair. The class will complete research both during class and as homework assignments. Students will receive their Federal Constitution workbooks and will prepare for the test.

Room 205:

We are continuing to read *The Watsons go to Birmingham* and will finish shortly after vacation. We will watch the movie and complete a compare/contrast activity. We are working on going back to text to find evidence to answer questions, allusions, and connecting to the real life events that occurred in Birmingham and the South in 1963. In math we are continuing to work on multiplication and division skills as well as beginning algebra. In Social Science we are finishing up our study of Explorers and beginning to study the colonization of the Americas. In Science we are continuing our study of the Earth and Earth processes.

Reminder

Encourage your child to read daily.

Important January Dates

January 27 - 6th grade field trip to Adler Planetarium (Rooms 301, 302, 306, and 308)

December Stars of the Week

January 11	January 18	January 25
	Becky Chen - 302	Haibin Chen - 302

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