



Middle School November News

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

ELA - Ms. Grober (301)

Mathematics - Mrs. Sumita (303)

Science - Dr. Ferrer (302)

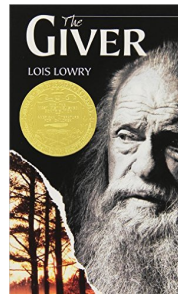
Social Science - Ms. Twillie (308)

Special Education-Ms. Berman (205)

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

Character Trait of the Month: Caring (Brown)

English Language Arts



7th graders: We finished reading *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. *The Giver*, a utopian and dystopian novel, follows the story of 11- year old Jonas who is chosen to become the new Receiver of an egalitarian society. In this futuristic society, there is no pain, fear, war, and hatred. Students will now create their own utopian society, design a collage explaining the theme of novel, and write a literary analysis paper.

6th graders: We are reading *Esperanza Rising*, by Pam Munoz Ryan (historical fiction). Esperanza is living the good life on her family's ranch in Mexico, when she and her mother must escape from Mexico and settle in a camp of migrant farm workers during the Great Depression, she finds poverty, hard work and discrimination. Esperanza becomes involved in California migrant workers' rights, and saves her mother in the process. As with many immigrants, Esperanza must transition from a comfortable life back home to a life of poverty in the US—a land that many immigrants see as wealthy and prosperous. Students will interview someone and write their history.

ELA READING SKILLS AND STRATEGIES:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Critical analysis •Critical thinking •Cultural connections •Internet skills •Literary analysis •Map Skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Making inferences and drawing conclusions based on text evidence •Online research •Using Literary Language in both speaking and writing •Visualization of Text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Analyzing Character Development •Identifying and explaining literary symbolism •Using a Climax Chart •Writing summaries of narrative text •Working in collaborative groups
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Math

All math students are encouraged to discuss the mathematics in the classroom by asking questions and building on each others' ideas. Being able to communicate is extremely important in building knowledge and practicing the use of good vocabulary!

6th graders have gained access to their Pearson Realize accounts and have many resources available to them online! This includes an online version of their textbook and practice tools to help them maintain basic skills. We are completing our first topic, exploring rational numbers and their operations. We will be moving on to the important understanding of integers -- positive and negative -- and developing an understanding of what a negative number means.

All 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 begun our geometry unit, Shapes and Designs, focusing on the properties (attributes) of certain shapes and their use in designs. Additionally, they are exploring using important theorems and properties to solve larger geometry problems. This will set them up for success in their high school Geometry classes, in which they will need to conduct formal proofs.

Science

6th graders will continue to analyze weather, climate, and factors that affect them through the eyes of scientists who study the earth's weather and atmosphere. For each lesson, students will reflect and provide evidence on which of the eight (8) NGSS practices they think they used.

7th graders have conducted their experiments to test their hypothesis or have tested their prototypes to see if they meet the criteria they set. They will be analyzing the results of their experiments or prototype testing and will be using data as evidence to form their conclusions. Some teams might need to conduct further research to help explain their results or to think about their next steps or recommendations for future studies. Finally, they will be reflecting on the benefit to the community of their investigations or engineering design projects and start preparing for judging by peers and guests during Haines' middle school STEM fair on December 8th, 2016.

Social Studies

6th graders: We completed Chapter Two: Early Civilizations. Students have demonstrated mastery in areas of Main Idea and Details and Compare and Contrast. The focus skill for Chapter Three is: Summarize. Students will be introduced to primary and secondary sources from ancient Egypt and Nubia. Students will end this unit with a series of writing assignments which rely on biography formats.

7th graders: Room 303 continues to source and contextualize primary source and secondary sources. We finished our brief review of early American civilizations and explorers. Early this month we will learn about the Thirteen Colonies. Students will continue with the Jamestown unit using the Document Based Question (DBQ): Early Jamestown: Why Did So Many Colonists Die? Upon completion of the DBQ analysis students will publish an essay in which they answer the question using primary source documents to support their thesis.

Room 205: We are continuing to read *The Bridge to Terabithia*, focusing on story comprehension and finding text

evidence to answer comprehension questions. We are also focusing on summarization skills and figurative language. We will be watching the movie and doing a compare/contrast in the way a movie is produced based on a book. In Math we are working on understanding large numbers and doing all operations on whole numbers and decimals. In Science we are studying weather, natural disasters and the effects on humans and the environment. In Social Science we have been studying Native American tribes with a understanding of the rich cultures that already existed in this country before European exploration. Students will create a poster focusing on one tribe. We will soon begin a study of early exploration of the New World.

Reminder

Encourage your child to read daily.

Important November Dates

- November 3 - 7th grade field trip to Whitney Young High School
- November 4 - No School (School Improvement Day)
- November 6 - Daylight Savings Ends
- November 8 - Election Day
- November 9 - Report Card Pickup and Parent/Teacher/Student Conference
- November 11 - Veterans Day (no school)
- November 14, 16, & 21 - The Lincoln Project will visit 7th grade Social Studies classrooms 304 and 308.
- November 15 - All 6th grade girls will attend the SAIC Green Cities event at the Sullivan Gallery
- November 18 - Room 302 and Shedd Aquarium’s Great Lakes Action Day @Bob Mann Woods, Northbrook IL
- November 23 to 25 - Thanksgiving Break

November Stars of the Week

November 2	November 16	November 30
David Wang - 302 Jian Qiang Wu - 303 JingYing Tan - 308 Ya Ching Chen- 301	Ron Sun - 302 Long Lin - 303 Chen Chen-301	Sincere Rocquemore - 302 Shengteng Wu - 303 Assata Hodari - 308 Nicole Zheng- 301

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