

# Bilingual Middle School --- April Newsletter

Room 306-5th and 6th- Liang and Room 310-7th and 8th - Ruan

Haines School  
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**Middle School ELA Literacy/Novel Study:** Both rooms will **CONTINUE** to actively engage the students in reading and studying a new novel based on the main theme that is connected to the basal. ***Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*** (306) and ***WONDER*** (310). Within the stories, students will learn about literary elements, comprehension skills, critical thinking skills, and annotation. They will also write reflections, finish projects, and create POWERPOINT presentations.

**306 -5th/6th** We will focus on vocabulary development, plot elements, types of conflicts, story devices, and character traits using ***Where the Mountain Meets the Moon***. We will incorporate school's social emotional learning theme with ELA and Social Studies each month. Students are encouraged to read 30 minutes on a nightly basis to make reading a lifelong habit. Students also read informational texts and practices skills by going to KidsA-Z and NewsELA. The concentration for this month is current events and biographies.

**310 - 7th/8th** Literacy/Novel Study: Main Theme: Culture, Identity, Acceptance. Students started to read the new novel, ***WONDER*** by R.J. Palacio that match the theme within the basal. Within the stories, students will learn about comprehension skills, annotation, think-pair-share, write reflections and create POWERPOINT presentations.

Students will read stories/informational texts that focus on identity and culture (diversity) in Unit 1. The skills we are focusing on include: learning how to annotate with texts; identifying theme/central idea, analyzing the elements of a short story; analyzing the story's plot

development; applying vocabulary in a specific domain; using context clues to figure out the meanings of the unfamiliar words from affixes with Greek and Latin roots.

### **ELA Literacy/Writing Across the Content:**

306 - **5th/6th** - Students will practice writing reflections concentrated with the trait voice of the 6 writing traits. They will also learn how to find evidences in the texts to support their ideas.

**310 - 7th/8th** - Students are currently paired up with partners to write letters to their penpal at Roosevelt University. They are also continuing to learning how to write MEL-Con by implementing 6 traits of writing with main idea, evidence, link and conclusions. Writing Across the Content Areas: Narratives, Expository Writing, Poetry; Article Reflections/Exit Slips.

### **FREE 60/Intervention RIT Band Focus**

\*\*\*Students are grouped according to their NWEA Reading RIT scores for both native language or/and ESL from Ms. Cheung, Ms. Liang and Ms. Ruan. \*\*\* Our focus is to enhance students' vocabulary skills by implementing different reading strategies to guide them to build on more academic vocabulary words. Ms. Ruan plays "Musical Card", each student will pick a vocabulary card when the music stops, by incorporating "Chicago Run" activities ( by doing different morning exercises like jumping jack, lunges, yoga posts accompanied with listening to their favorite English songs) to engage students in learning more vocabulary and apply those words in daily conversations (writing sentences with those newly words). Mrs. Liang focuses on grade 5 - 8 prefixes and suffixes (hypo-, hyper-, -ology, and -phobia) for this month. Students pair up to study the words and teach the words to the entire class. They also perform read-around review and play kahoot game to reinforce the new words. Students take weekly quiz and monthly unit test.

### **Middle School Math:**

This month the students from the following grades are learning:

306 - 5th - Topic 7: Use Equivalent Fractions to Add and Subtract Fractions

306 - 6th - Topic 3: Numeric and Algebraic Expressions

**310 - 8th** - Prentice Hall - Chapter 11 Probability; Algebraic Relationship

**7th** - Prentice Hall - Chapter 12 Probability; Algebraic Relationship

enVision Math: Topic 3-Use Functions to Model Relationships

### **Middle School Science:**

306 and 310 - **Chemical Magic** This unit helps students develop the concepts of "substances" and "chemical reactions." Students see that chemical reactions enable us to make new materials by transforming the ones we have. The results of these reactions are interesting and sometimes profoundly useful.

Incorporating science link: <http://www.mysteryscience.com>

### **Middle School Social Science:**

306 -- Students continue to learn to read and annotate non-fiction texts (biography). They are engaged to present the facts that they learned about a particular person with a choice of powerpoint slides presentation, poster or acrostic poem. As a way of assessing their understanding of what they read and learn, the students will be given an 'EXIT SLIP' to reflect on what they know or remember. Learning the location and geography of 50 states are on-going process for them as we discuss the texts and make real-life/real-world connection. Watching current events and writing reflections on what they watch.

310 -- **Constitution:** Students are continuing to learn about the content of U.S. Constitution from Unit 9 on. Locating places on the map -- World and US Geography; current events; news articles on newsela and brainpop to make real-life/real-world connections. Students are also encouraged to debate on social topics like discussing on famous quotes from historians and famous people like Helen Keller.

**310 -- Incorporating Character Education as Part of the Social Studies curriculum(SEL):**

**310 - 7th/8th - Haines MONTHLY CHARACTER TRAITS: HONESTY**

Students will focus on character traits, communication skills and ways to show acts of kindness to others as becoming good citizens in order to promote positive learning environment.

**Lunch and Recess:**

12:00-12:45 for Rooms 306 and 310

**Important April Dates:**

**April 13, 2018 - Professional Development Day**

**April 18, 2018 - Report Card Pick-up Day**

**April 20, 2018 - LSC meeting**

**April 27, 2018 - PAC Meeting**

**Stars of the Week for month of April:**

Ms. Ruan - 310

Ms. Liang - 306

04/02/2018 -BaiHui Zhou

Danny Shi

04/09/2018 -YuYi Wu

Jiecong Weng

04/16/2018 - KitYu Mui

Thalia Wu

04/23/2018 - YuanYang Qiu

Zhihao Zeng

**Ancillary Class Schedule**

Room	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b><u>310</u></b>            (Enrichment            Classes are from            9:00-10:00 a.m.;            10:00-11:00 every            first Thursdays of            the month -            DANCE)</p>	<b>LIBRARY</b>	<b>DANCE</b>	<b>MUSIC</b>	<p><b>TECH</b>            (DANCE -            every first            Thursdays            of the            month            @10:00am)</p>	<b>PE</b>
<p><b><u>306</u></b>            (Enrichment            Classes are from            8:00-9:00p.m.            except Thursday            10:00 for Music)</p>	<b>Gym</b>	<b>Library</b>	<b>Dance</b>	<b>Music</b>	<b>Art</b>