



Middle School School January News

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

ELA - Ms. Sicora (307), Dr. Ferrer (308), Ms. Suen (309)

Science - Dr. Ferrer

Social Studies - Ms. Sicora

Math/Algebra - Ms. Suen

Special Education - Ms. Berman

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

Free 60/MTSS

- Students will focus on skills and targets identified through the spring administration of NWEA and class assessments through online applications, small group and independent practice, and teacher led groups.
- Our problem based learning project will focus on homelessness in and around Chicago. Students will be identifying a problem, researching, and designing within small groups.

Advisory

This month's character trait focus is self-control. Self-Motivation - Working in a careful and consistent manner without giving up.

Stars of the Week

Room 307 - Rlyvia Wu, Kelly Lin, Joe Wu, Liuhua Lu

Room 308 - Chyna Parker, Philip Cao, Danica Chen, Samantha Wu

Room 309 - Vita Wu, Flora Wu, Isabell Wu, Vicky Mai, Shengteng Wu

English Language Arts

- **309 8th graders** - have finished a novel study of Animal Farm and will be working on a board game project with an Animal Farm theme. After the board game, students will be reading the play "A Raisin in the Sun" by playwright Lorraine Hansberry after working on the drama unit in their literature book. In addition, students will be working on vocabulary that utilizes the root/affix of the week as well as grammar skills using No Red Ink. Finally in terms of nonfiction, students will be working on leveled texts in NEWSOLA and ThinkCERCA, which also develops their argumentative writing skills. The students will continue focusing on the Six Traits of Writing.
- **307 8th graders** - Students will be starting the allegory Animal Farm by George Orwell. We will continue the skill of drawing conclusions, making connections to historical events, and characterization. Students will be writing argumentative papers using the online program ThinkCerca and practicing grammar skills using NoRedInk.
- **308 7th graders** - Students will continue building their reading and writing stamina through their self-selected or texts and/or genre that best support their individualized literacy goals. For writing, they will continue lessons on: a) maintaining focus and b) writing from experience before moving on to Organization. They also continue to close read and annotate adaptive local/global news articles through NEWSOLA. While learning grammar, usage, mechanics and style, students use NoRedInk's differentiated paths as they go through the practice, and quiz cycle for specific skills.

Math

- **307 8th graders** - The students in eighth grade will begin a unit on translations and symmetries. The strategies that they will build will be to slide, rotate or mirror shapes on a coordinate plane. Students will make connections with their seventh grade unit on enlarging and reducing shapes.
- **308 7th graders** - The students in seventh grade will begin a unit on integers, which focuses on the reasoning behind positive and negative numbers. Students will look at scenarios to build number sense and operations for integers and then apply these skills to fractions and decimals.
- **309 Algebra** - The students in algebra will continue the unit that is focused on linear equations. Students will learn more about how to model linear relationships through tables, graphs and equations. By looking at linear relationships, they can look for patterns to create and solve real world problems.

Science

- **7th grade** - Students will continue their first unit "From molecules to organisms." They will role play the history of the Germ Theory of disease, use the microscope to observe and describe similarities and differences in the parts and structures of different plant, animal, and microbe cells. Students will also model cellular respiration, create a model of a cell, and simulate the function of a cell membrane.
- **8th grade** - Students will continue their first unit "Structure and properties of matter." They will investigate how elements are related to compounds, how Mendeleev developed the periodic table of elements based on their physical and chemical properties. Students will also explore different ways to model molecules, polymers, polymer parts, the properties of plastic, as well as the environmental impact of computers.

Social Studies

- **7th grade** - Students will begin crafting questions to develop their Chicago History Fair project. The theme is Conflict and Compromise. Students will also be studying the American Revolution, important people from that time in America's history, and the impact of the revolution on the world.
- **8th grade** - Students will do activities and study the Chicago police torture scandal by analyzing primary and secondary sources. They will understand the role of police, victims of the Jon Burge police unit, community response to tragedy, and develop strategies for building positive police-community relationships.

Room 205

Math: Working on divisions skills using whole numbers and decimals. Using these skills and apply to real world problems, especially in choosing the right operation to use and deciding if an answer makes sense. We will soon be starting number theory and fractions. Reading: Grammar work using a variety of adverbs and adjectives to make writing more creative. Also using and understanding a variety of figurative language forms. Novel study of "From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler", about a brother and sister who run away to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. We will be working on comprehension and writing extended responses. Social Science: read about causes of the Civil War and how it impacted the country and it's economy. We are studying various historical figures and their continued impact on the United States. Science. Continue to study how the body works. Please continue to work on IXL to practice basic skills, and READ, READ, READ!

Reminder

- Please read each night to build reading stamina.
- 8th graders - if you haven't taken the selective enrollment test, make sure you go on the correct date.

Important January Dates

January 8 - Return from Winter Break

January 15 - No School - Martin Luther King Day

January 25 - Room 308 @ MSI's Robot Revolution Exhibit