



Middle School March News

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

ELA - Ms. Grober (301)

Mathematics - Mrs. Sumita (303)

Science - Ms. Khawam (304)

Social Science - Ms. Twillie (302)

Special Education - Ms. Berman (205)

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

Character Trait of the Month: Honesty

Pi Day Activities: Please mark your calendars for **Wednesday, March 14** -- Pi Day (3.14). The Math and Science teams are working on some fun activities to mark this event and will celebrate both during the school day and with families in the evening. You don't want to miss it!

In addition, the BAC will meet on that day.

School Safety and Security

In an effort to keep our students, teachers, and staff safe and secure at Haines we are implementing new rules in addition to our existing safety and security rules.

1. Parents must have an appointment to speak to any teacher.
2. If a parent does not have a scheduled appointment, they are welcome to leave a note for the teacher in the office.
3. The office will not be calling up to the classroom if there is no meeting set.

Important Information Regarding Parent Portal

A flyer was placed on the Haines website regarding how to log into Parent Portal. If you have not seen it, and are still not connected to Parent Portal, please go to the Haines website and/or send an email to your child's teacher so that they may send you a copy.

English Language Arts

6th graders will read and analyze ***TOUCHING SPIRIT BEAR*** by Ben Mikaelson. They will apply the Elements of Literature terms from the Short Story and Esperanza Rising units in addition to the Figurative Language terms from their Poetry unit. This novel is about a 15-yr old juvenile delinquent, Cole, with anger issues. He severely injures one of his classmates and to avoid going to prison, he agrees to participate in an "alternative sentence" based upon Native American Circle Justice. He is sent to a remote island in Alaska where he encounters a ***SPIRIT BEAR*** who changes his life. Students will

create a plot line and write an Expository Essay.

7th graders will read, analyze, and critique **A LESSON BEFORE DYING** by Ernest J. Gaines. They will use their background knowledge of the Elements of Literature and Figurative Language to enhance the comprehension of the novel. The novel takes place in a small Cajun community in Louisiana in the late 1940's. A young, black man, Jefferson, is wrongly convicted of murder and sentenced to death. Grant Wiggins, a teacher, is persuaded by his aunt and Jefferson's godmother to impart his learning and pride to Jefferson before he is electrocuted. The two men form a bond and the unexpected irony is that Jefferson becomes the teacher. Students will create a plot line and write a Persuasive Essay.

Science

The sixth graders are still studying the Weather and Climate unit. Currently they are working on travel brochure. The travel brochure focuses on weather and climate of assigned destination. Students are to persuade potential traveler to visit the destination. In two weeks or so, sixth graders will start new unit; **Astronomy**. In this unit they will learn all about our place in the universe.

The seventh graders are continuing learning about human body. They will study this unit for the next two weeks and we will move on toward **Evolution** and **Adaptation**.

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 grade students have completed their unit on representing and solving equations and inequalities and have moved into our next topic: understanding and using ratio and rates. Student are learning what ratios represent and use unit rates to solve everyday problems. Additionally, students will work on converting both customary and metric units of measure.

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 are revisiting and putting to use their knowledge of positive and negative numbers in Accentuate the Negative. They will apply their past knowledge of the Commutative, Associative and Distributive Properties as well. All investigations in this unit relate the mathematical knowledge to everyday situations, so that students can understand how this mathematical topic relates to their lives outside the classroom.

Social Studies

6th graders: We have completed our study of Rome. We are currently learning about the Chicago History Fair theme: Conflict and Compromise in Chicago History. The students will continue to utilize primary and secondary sources that they have located through independent research. The students will formulate their own historical question based on their interests. The students will design a History Fair exhibit that answers their historical question and adheres to the Chicago Metro History Fair guidelines.

7th graders: The class completed essays that answered the historical question: "Valley Forge would you have quit?". The students have begun to study for the United States Constitution Test. We are currently learning about the Chicago

History Fair theme: Conflict and Compromise in Chicago History. The students will continue to utilize primary and secondary sources that they have located through independent research. The students will formulate their own historical question based on their interests. The students will design a History Fair exhibit that answers their historical question and adheres to the Chicago Metro History Fair guidelines.

Room 205

Math: Working on doing all operations on fractions and whole numbers.. Using these skills and apply to real world problems, especially in choosing the right operation to use and deciding if an answer makes sense. **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. Adding grammar topics such as use of prepositions and commas. Using context clues to learn new vocabulary. 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!

Important March Dates

March 9 -- 6th grade field trip to Alvin Ailey Dance Troupe at The Auditorium Theatre
 March 14 -- Pi Day Math and Family Night
 March 26 - March 30 -- Spring Break

March Stars of the Week

5th-9th	March 12-16	March 19-23	
Kitrell Ellis (304) Ethan Wang (303) Erica Zheng (302) Jennifer Mei (301)	Isaac Chung (304) Sandy Yuan (303) Yazi Huang (312) Jiayi Chen (301)	Haibin Chen (304) Oscar Xu (303) YanHeng Liu (302) Raymond Ou (301)	

<p><u>Character Trait of the Month</u></p> <p>Oct Kindness orange</p> <p>Nov Caring brown</p> <p>Dec Self control red</p> <p>Jan Self motivation pink</p> <p>Feb Cooperation white</p> <p>March Honesty green</p> <p>April Citizenship blue</p> <p>May Responsibility yellow</p> <p>June Tolerance turquoise</p>	
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