



Middle School April 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 winter 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 citizenship. Citizenship is being law abiding and involved in service to school, community and country.

Stars of the Week

Room 307 - Tony Ng, Anthony Qiu, Kyla Osborne, Patricia Petty

Room 308 - Natalie Lao, Josie Li, Helen Mei, Mandy Ma, Journey Hodari

Room 309 - Allen Peters, Leo Huang, Carson Zhang, Edwin Rong

English Language Arts

- **309 8th graders** - We will wrap up reading the play "A Raisin in the Sun" by playwright Lorraine Hansberry. 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 NEWSELA and ThinkCERCA, which also develops their argumentative writing skills.
- **307 8th graders** - Students in room 307 will start reading the novel, *Fahrenheit 451*. As they read they will identify and write about running themes, paradoxical language, allusions, text to text connections, and motifs. Students will be writing argumentative papers using the online program ThinkCerca and practicing grammar skills using NoRedInk.
- **308 7th graders** - Students have started to read Susin Nielsen's "The Reluctant Journal of Henry K. Larsen." They are exploring bullying, a very sensitive and emotionally, charged real problem plaguing every school across North America, which is cleverly presented with humor through the main character's journal entries. For writing, students will start journaling like the book's main character.

Math

- **307 8th graders** - The students in eighth grade will be working through a unit that focuses on solving systems of equations. Students will build on their skills of solving linear equations with one variable to focus on solving equations of two variables. Students will focus on the relationship of the system of equations through looking at the equations, graphs and tables.
- **308 7th graders** - The students in seventh grade have finished their unit on linear equations and will now turn their focus on 3D shapes of which students will be finding surface area and volume. Students will learn about deriving the formulas, rather than relying on memorization.
- **309 Algebra** - The students in algebra are in the middle of a unit that focuses on polynomials. Students will learn about expanding and factoring of polynomials as well as notation and degree of polynomials. Furthermore they will learn about applying mathematical operations on polynomials and how to simplify.

Science

- **7th grade** - Prior to the unit on Evolution, Unity and Diversity among living organisms, students will study genetics as they learn why some children look very much like their biological parents while others look completely different. Also, why doesn't a child look like a simple blend of his or her parents? Or, why do some siblings look so different?
- **8th grade** - Students started their energy unit by exploring the relationship between climate and energy usage, as well as designing an experiment to find the best combination of mass and height of rods that will generate the most potential gravitational energy. In connection with this experiment they will also investigate the opposite but equal forces exerted by two interacting objects on each other (Newton's third law of motion).

Social Studies

- **7th grade** - Students will continue to learn about the U.S. Constitution and prepare for their test at the end of the month. 7th grade will focus on theme of the U.S. Constitution being created to eliminate tyranny of a majority, minority, or individual by analysing the Federalist Papers.
- **8th grade** - Students will learn about the Gilded Age leading into the Progressive Era. Students will focus on the skills of corroborating evidence from multiple source to support a thesis. This unit will focus on the fire that killed many workers at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in 1911. Students will participate in a discussion once they gathered enough evidence to support an argument.

Room 205

Math: Working on doing operations of fractions. 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. In grammar we are also working on simple and compound sentences, and using adjectives and adverbs to make sentences more interesting. We are also working on 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 Reconstruction 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!

Reminders

- Please read each night to build reading stamina.
- Please fill out the volunteer application at <http://cps.edu/FACE/Pages/VolunteerPrograms.aspx>
- 8th Grade Graduation fee of \$45 is due by parent conferences on April 18
- 8th Grade Luncheon fee of \$70 is due by parent conferences on April 18
- 8th Grade Graduation Pictures may be ordered online or through the school

Important April Dates

April 3 - Room 308 @Chinatown Library, 12:45 pm to 2:00 pm

April 5- Future Founders begins for grade 8

April 13 - End of Quarter - No School

April 18 - Parent Teacher Conferences

April 25- WEDay for Student Council

April 26 - Room 308 @MSI Crime Lab