



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 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 cooperation. Cooperation is getting along with others and working together to accomplish a goal.

Stars of the Week

Room 307 - TBD

Room 308 - Brenda Vazquez, Aaron Chen, Allen Lau, Yu Ji Mei

Room 309 - Meilian Wu, Vicky Chen, Nina Lin, Erica Cao, Shengteng Wu

English Language Arts

- **309 8th graders** - After an introduction on elements of a drama and how to analyze drama, 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 NEWSELA 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 update their individualized literacy goals and strategies based on their MOY NWEA Reading scores as they continue to build their reading and writing stamina. They will also start to read Susin Nielsen's "The Reluctant Journal of Henry K. Larsen." The book's exploration of bullying, a very sensitive and emotionally, charged real problem plaguing every school across North America, 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 continue the unit on translations and symmetries. The strategies that they will be working further on rotation, reflection and translation rules on a coordinate grid after a focus on triangle congruence and using congruence rules to prove measures.
- **308 7th graders** - The students in seventh grade will continue to work a unit involving 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 functions. Using a foundational understanding of what is a function in terms of tables, graphs and rules, students will write functions in equation form.

Science

- **7th grade** - Students will continue 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 as they investigate the structures and functions of the three major organelles in a cell; cell membrane, nucleus, and mitochondria.
- **8th grade** - Students will continue to explore different ways to model molecules, polymers, polymer parts, the properties of plastic, as well as the environmental impact of computers. They will also explore producing circuit boards, the concept of PPM as they dilute resulting copper chloride wastes as well as conservation of mass.

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 US Constitution, important people from that time in America's history, and the impact of the constitution 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 measurement using standard and metric systems. 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. 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 February Dates

February 2 - End of 2nd Quarter - Teacher Institute Day - No School

February 7 - Room 309 - 826CHI Memoir Writing Field Trip

February 8 - Room 308 - Curiosity Station @ Adler Planetarium Field Trip

February 9 - Report Cards distributed for Quarter 2

February 19 - President's Day - No School