



Middle School School October 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 first problem based learning project will focus on creating an anti-bullying campaign that will be painted on the "Be Buddies, Not Bullies" hallway murals.

Advisory

This month's character trait focus is kindness. Kindness is being compassionate and generous.

Stars of the Week

Room 205 - TBD

Room 307 - TBD

Room 308 - Ephraim Liang, Andrew Jiang, Asata Hodari, Junhui Lin

Room 309 - Edward Ruan, Tina Ma, An An Chiang, William Wu

English Language Arts

- **307 & 309 8th graders** - The students will continue the short story unit in which students will focus on the elements of short stories. As they work in groups to read and discuss to develop stronger reading comprehension skills. 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 writing trait we will continue to build on in October is Ideas. Students will be learning the writing trait of Organization this month.
- **308 7th graders** - Students' unit on short stories, explores the Big Question, "Does every conflict have a winner? As students build reading stamina, they focus on areas suggested by their NWEA reading performance using self-selected or texts and/or genre that best support their individualized literacy goals. Students get exposed to engaging adaptive local/global news articles through NEWSELA. Results of their NoRedInk diagnostic test set them on differentiated path while learning grammar, usage, mechanics and style. Through ThinkCERCA's framework, students will learn to develop evidence-based argument in response to a claim or debatable question.

Math

- **307 8th graders** - 8th graders will finish a unit on deriving and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. Moving on to the next unit, the students will focus on looking for patterns in tables and graphs which will lead to writing equations based on the mathematical models. Students will focus on linear and inverse variation equations.
- **308 7th graders** - 7th grade math will be working on a geometry unit, Shapes and Designs. In this unit, they will be looking at patterns of polygons such as interior and exterior angles. This will build background knowledge for the following unit where we will study similar figures, both reduced and enlarged.
- **309 Algebra** - The students in algebra will begin to explore patterns to create expressions and equations. Through understanding the basic rules of arithmetic, students will apply rules in order to solve equations.

Science

- **Students** continue to present their STEM-related summer news articles, analyzing whether they are examples of experimentation, design solution, or just for information. They have submitted their Genius hour cross-classroom proposal where individuals, pairs, or teams of three or four students declare what project they want to pursue for Haines' Science and Engineering Design fair in December 7, 2017.
- **308 7th grade** - Students will start their first unit "From molecules to organisms." In this unit students will learn about the relationship among structures, functions, and processes involved in growth and development; organization for matter and energy flow; as well as information processing.
- **307 & 309 8th grade** - Students will start their first unit "Structure and properties of matter" where they investigate how matter's structure determines its properties which in turn dictates how they interact, like during chemical reactions and nuclear processes.

Social Studies

- **7th grade** - Students will begin by learning about sourcing of documents, corroborating evidence, and contextualizing evidence using multiple historical sources. The investigative focus for this month is on the colony of Jamestown. Students will continue to organize, draft, and write an essay in response to a DBQ (Document Based Question) on the topic of Early Jamestown: Why did so many colonists die?
- **8th grade** - Students will begin with a review of sourcing documents, corroborating evidence, and contextualizing evidence using multiple historical sources. The investigative focus for this month is on North or South: Who Killed Reconstruction? Students will begin examining primary sources to answer the DBQ (Document Based Question) argumentative paper on the topic: North or South: Who Killed Reconstruction?. Students will demonstrate critical thinking skills by preparing for small group negotiations in which they look through various historical lenses. The negotiations will conclude when each group determines the best ways to heal the U.S. socially, politically and economically after the American Civil War.

Room 205

Welcome back! This will be an exciting year. In reading, we will continue to build comprehension skills through the reading of novels and short stories. We have just begun to read *Shiloh*, a story about a boy who finds a dog that is being abused. In social studies, we are beginning to learn about the expansion of the United States, focusing on the Lewis and Clark exploration and the movement of Americans west and the impact on the land and Native tribes. . In science we will be studying at ways in which scientists study people scientifically and detailed exploration of how the body works. In math we are studying operations on decimals.

Reminder

- Please read each night to build reading stamina

Important October Dates

- October 6 - Quarter 1 Progress Reports are distributed
- October 20 - School-wide Fall Pictures
- October 24 - Room 308 Chinatown Library walking tour
- October 30 - High School Fair
- Week of October 30 - School Spirit Week