



Middle School December News

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

ELA - Ms. Grober (301)

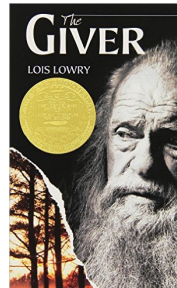
Mathematics - Mrs. Sumita (303)

Science - Ms. Khawam (304)

Social Science - Ms. Twillie (302)

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

English Language Arts



7th graders: We finished reading *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. Students will write a literary analysis paper of the novel. This is a formal writing assignment that includes an outline, rough draft, and final copy. They will analyze the author's purpose in writing this novel and the impact of the dystopian setting.

6th graders: We finished reading *Esperanza Rising*, by Pam Munoz Ryan. Students will interview someone and write their history. They will choose appropriate interview questions and practice how to conduct an interview. They will write both a rough draft and final copy of the interview.

ELA READING SKILLS AND STRATEGIES:

- Critical analysis
- Critical thinking
- Cultural connections
- Internet skills
- Literary analysis
- Map Skills
- Making inferences and drawing conclusions based on text evidence
- Online research
- Using Literary Language in both speaking and writing
- Visualization of Text
- Analyzing Character Development
- Identifying and explaining literary symbolism
- Using a Climax Chart
- Writing summa

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 graders are learning how to write algebraic expressions using precise language and symbology. They also are reviewing order of operations. Additionally, students will be introduced to the distributive property and use it to generate equivalent expressions.

Once we are complete with Topic 3, we begin one of our most important topics: solving algebraic equations using the properties of equality. Students also will be introduced to the concept of independent and dependent variables and find patterns to generate algebraic equations. Lastly, students will use their equations and represent them using tables and graphs. A lot of new learning!

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 finishing their unit on positive and negative numbers and then will begin their important unit on similarity and proportionality.

Science

6th graders already started new unit : **Plate Tectonics**. Students are learning that Earth is a dynamic planet. Earth's landmasses are changing position continuously as they move across Earth's surface. This movement is possible because of the movement of the tectonic plates. As plates move, mountain ranges form, earthquakes happen, and volcanoes form. Just like previous years, students will reflect on their scientific observations and provide evidence on which of the eight (8) NGSS practices they think they used during their learning.

7th graders are still working in Ecology. The unit; **All About You**, will be pushed back till the middle of December. In this unit, students will learn how human body functions and how it is a system made of smaller systems within. Students will learn to make healthy choices to keep their bodies functioning properly.

Science Fair

Every Friday of the week, all classes: 301, 302, 303, and 304, are working on their research for science fair. The projects should be conducted at home, but here in school, every Friday will be spent on research paper which is part of science fair. Please make sure that your child is working on science fair. The school wide Science Fair will be held on December 7th. Students will display their projects and compete for spots to be chosen to the regional science fair

Social Studies

6th graders: We are finishing Chapter Three: Ancient Egypt and Nubia. Students have demonstrated mastery in area Summarizing. Students are comparing map scales. Students will be introduced to primary and secondary sources from ancient Egypt and Nubia. Students will end this unit with a chapter test and a series of writing assignments which rely on informational text.

7th graders: Students continue to source and contextualize primary source and secondary sources. We finished our brief review of early American civilizations and explorers. Students have published their Document Based Question (DBQ): Early Jamestown: Why Did So Many Colonist Die? essays. The students will use primary and secondary sources to research the Thirteen Colonies.

Reminder

Encourage your child to read daily.

Important December/January Dates

- December 10 - Author Jane Kennedy visits Haines
- December 12 - K9s for Vets visits Haines
- December 20 - Winter Arts Festival
- December 21 - Last day of school
- December 24 — January 6 - Winter Break
- January 7 - School re-opens; Progress Reports distributed

December Stars of the Week

Week of December 3	Week of December 10	Week of December 17	
Zhien Luo 301	Zakiyah Griffith 301	Amari Clark 301	
Kevin Fong 303	Amy Wu 303		
	Devyn Moore 302	Maggie Yang 302	
Vincent Wu 301	Zhien Luo 301	Amor Stapleton 301	Asia Randall 301
Ma’Kya Miles 304	Ian Fong 304	Yingen Mei 304	

