



Middle School November News

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

ELA - Ms. Grober (301)

Mathematics - Mrs. Sumita (303)

Science - Ms. Khawam (304)

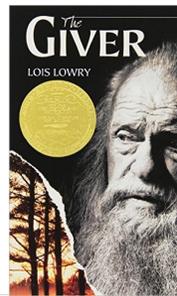
Social Science - Ms. Twillie (302)

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

Important Date!

Parents, please mark your calendars for Wednesday, November 14 – First Quarter Report Card Pick-Up. Teachers will be available for you to meet with and discuss your child's report card between noon and 6:00 p.m. We hope to see everyone there!

English Language Arts



7th graders: We are reading *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. *The Giver*, a utopian and dystopian novel, follows the story of 11-year old Jonas who is chosen to become the new Receiver of an egalitarian society. In this futuristic society, there is no pain, fear, war, and hatred. Students will create their own utopian society and write a literary analysis paper.

6th graders: We are reading *Esperanza Rising*, by Pam Munoz Ryan (historical fiction). Esperanza is living the good life on her family's ranch in Mexico, when she and her mother must escape from Mexico and settle in a camp of migrant farm workers during the Great Depression, she finds poverty, hard work and discrimination. Esperanza becomes involved in California migrant workers' rights, and saves her mother in the process. As with many immigrants, Esperanza must transition from a comfortable life back home to a life of poverty in the US—a land that many immigrants see as wealthy and prosperous. Students will interview someone and write their history.

ELA READING SKILLS AND STRATEGIES:

- Critical analysis
- Critical thinking
- Cultural connections
- Internet skills
- Literary analysis
- 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

- Map Skills

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 have just completed their second unit exploring the concept of integers -- positive and negative -- and developing an understanding of what a negative number means. This includes understanding the difference between rational numbers and integer, and plotting them on a coordinate plane. Next, we will be studying the concept of algebraic expressions and how to write them based on words and operations.

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 Variables and Patterns, being able to “graph stories” and represent data as equations, tables and graphs. Our next unit will be a quick review of positive and negative integers, combining like terms and using the distributive property.

Science

6th graders are exploring **Rocks and Minerals Unit**. In two weeks, they will start new unit : **Plate Tectonics**. In this unit, students will learn 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 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 just started to work working in Ecology. Right now, they are researching introduced species that become invasive. Their research is limited to the species that are found in Chicago and the state of Illinois. Students are creating presentation of their chosen species. Toward the end of November, they will start new unit; **All About You**. 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, s 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.

Social Studies

6th graders: We completed Chapter Two: Early Civilizations. Students have demonstrated mastery in areas of Central Idea and Details and Compare and Contrast. The focus skill for Chapter Three is : Summarize. Students will be

introduced to primary and secondary sources from ancient Egypt and Nubia. Students will end this unit with a series of writing assignments which rely on biography formats.

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 will continue with the Jamestown unit using the Document Based Question (DBQ): Early Jamestown: Why Did So Many Colonists Die? Upon completion of the DBQ analysis students will publish an essay in which they answer the question using primary source documents to support their thesis.

Room 205:

Math: Working on all operations with whole numbers and decimals. Using these skills and apply to real world problems. Reading: Grammar work using a variety of verb tenses correctly in writing. Continue novel study of Shiloh, focusing on comprehension with text evidence, inference and summarization skills. Social Science: read about continued expansion of the United States, impact on land and native cultures. Science. Continue to study process of clinical trials, and moving on to a detailed study of how the body works. Please continue to work on IXL to practice basic skills, and READ, READ, READ!

Reminder

Encourage your child to read daily.

Important November Dates

November 2 - No School (School Improvement Day)

November 14- Report Card Pickup and Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

November 21—23 - Thanksgiving Break

November Stars of the Week

November 5	November 12	November 19	November 26
Vincent Li -- 303	Sophia Garcia 302	Journi Easter 302	David Luo
Yingen Mei 304	Hengeric Wu 304	Alice Jiang 304	Daniel Cen 304