



Middle School February 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

6th graders will enjoy and appreciate poetry by listening, reading, analyzing, critiquing and writing poems. They will explicate poems by applying Elements of Literature, Figures of Speech and Poetic Terms. They will express feelings, emotions, and creativity while making connections. They will explore the elements of many different types of poetic forms and understand poetic elements, forms, and expressions. This unit will enhance the students' reading, oral, listening and writing skills.

In addition to applying Elements of Literature and Figures of Speech, students will be exposed to the following Poetic Terms: Alliteration, Assonance, Ballad, Blank Verse, Caesura, Consonance, Couplet, Enjambment, Foot, Line Break, Meter, Onomatopoeia, Oxymoron, Refrain, Repetition, Rhyme, Sonnet, Stanza, Verse, Connotation, Denotation, Allusion, and Illusion.

Students will explore Narrative, Lyric, Concrete, Haiku, Limerick, and Free Verse poems. They will read the poems of Gary Soto, Ogden Nash, Jack Prelutsky, Edgar Allan Poe, Maya Angelou, Lewis Carroll, Langston Hughes, Emily Dickinson, Sandra Cisneros, Nikki Giovanni, E. E. Cummings, Robert Frost, Octavio Paz, Shel Silverstein, Gwendolyn Brooks, William Shakespeare, Emily Dickinson, Carl Sandburg, Pat Mora, Naomi Shihab Nye, Nikki Giovanni, Langston Hughes, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Shel Silverstein, Robert Frost, Claude McKay, Dylan Thomas, John Donne, W. H. Auden, Mary Oliver, Edgar Allan Poe, Edgar Allan Poe, Gwendolyn Brooks, E. E. Cummings, Dylan Thomas, and more.

7th graders are reading *I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS* by Maya Angelou. This memoir by the poet captures Maya's wonder of words against the backdrop of the brute bigotry of segregation during the 1930's in America. Maya learns that love for herself, the kindness of others, her own strong spirit and the ideas of great authors will allow her to be free instead of imprisoned.

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 completing Topic 4, which introduces algebraic equations and inequalities. Importantly, students use

their pattern detective skills to write equations from tables and then interpret them on a graph. Being able to seamlessly move from table to equation to graph is an important skill for all math students throughout their academic career! Following this Topic, we move into our unit on rates and ratios.

Parents are asked to encourage their students to use Math IXL and Khan Academy each week for at least one hour.

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 have completed their investigation of what it means for shapes to be similar. Currently they are exploring how to write comparison statements and which ones make a bigger impact. Seventh graders also will explore using unit rates to solve problems and use proportions to make sense of what it means to scale up or down (building on our previous unit of similarity and scale factor).

Science

6th graders are learning all about water in their new “Hydrosphere” unit. From tiny atoms and molecules of water, water unique properties to water movement throughout the Earth. Water is driven by the energy of our sun and contributes to the changes of our dynamic planet. 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 learning about human body in the new unit; **All About You**. They are learning the structure and functions of animal cells, the organs and organ systems, and how everything works together to contribute to wonderful human body. Students will learn about different diseases that very often accompany in our lives. Students will learn how to take care of their bodies to prolong their well being.. Students will learn to make healthy choices to keep their bodies functioning properly. 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.

Social Studies

6th graders: We have travelled north by way of the Mediterranean Sea, to the ancient country of Greece . Students will begin to demonstrate mastery in areas: Drawing Conclusions and Comparing Map Scales. Students will continue their journey north to : Ancient Athens and Sparta. Students will acquire information from primary and secondary sources to answer the question: “ How do civilizations become empires?” Students will end this unit with a chapter test.

7th graders: Students continue to source and contextualize primary source and secondary sources. The class will continue learning about the American Revolution. Students will be able to identify major root causes attributed to the revolution. The students will continue their research on their chosen topic for the History Fair in March. Students will complete projects related to the theme: “Triumph and Tragedies In Chicago/Illinois History.

Reminder

Encourage your child to read daily.

Important February Dates

February 1 - End of Second Quarter (no school for students)

February 5 - Chinese New Year celebration

February 7 - 6th grade boys Courthouse Tour at the Richard J. Daley Center Courthouse

February 8 - Second Quarter Report Cards distributed to students

February 18 - President's Day- No school

February 28 - Black History Month expo

February Stars of the Week

| Week of February 4th | Week of February 11th | Week of February 18th | Week of February 25th |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Lanyra Jones/301 | Jasmine Liu/301 | | |
| Cindy Cen/ 303 | Derek Liao/ 303 | Nicole Nie/ 303 | Ellis Alexander/ 303 |