



Middle School 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.

Advisory

- 8th graders will be visiting a college and researching careers.
- 7th graders will continue to work and reflect on developing their Socio-emotional and communication skills.

English Language Arts

- **309 8th graders** - Students will continue to work on the study of the play *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry. They will be focusing on the elements of a play as well as the development of themes throughout the play. In addition, students will be working on vocabulary that utilizes power words 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. This year's vocabulary focus will be on power words that are helpful to know for standardized testing.
- **307 8th graders** - Students will begin reading the allegory, *Animal Farm* by George Orwell. Focused skills will be: reading informational text, making text connections, and analyzing characters using dialogue and interactions with others. Students will continue to utilize *POWER* words as well as grammar skills using *No Red Ink* and daily oral language skills. This month students will start using the online writing program *ThinkCERCA* to improve argumentative writing skills.
- **308 7th graders** - Students will continue to build their literacy stamina and continue on their *Word Work* project to expand their vocabulary. They will also be exposed to adaptive local/global news and *SEL* articles through *NEWSELA*. Through *ThinkCERCA*'s framework, students will learn to develop evidence-based argument in response to a claim or debatable question. Students will continue their *NoRedInk* pathways to improve their grammar/writing skills. They will end their Poetry unit then start reading *The Reluctant Journal of Henry K. Larsen* by Susin Nielsen as they analyze characterization and shifts in characters and explore issues surrounding bullying, suicide, homicide.

Math

- **307 8th graders** - 8th graders will continue to work through the concept of systems of equations. They will apply the ideas of congruence as well as linear relationships to search for the point of intersection of lines and what that means in terms of the variables and situation.
- **308 7th graders** - The students in 7th grade will compete to work through the concepts of measurement of three dimensional shapes. Then they will be doing a unit on probability which will lead to a probability carnival.
- **309 Algebra** - The students in algebra will complete the final course concept for the Algebra Exit Exam, which is quadratics. Students will apply concepts from previous units in order to determine the characteristics of parabolas based on the different forms of the quadratic equation, but also draw meaning from the equations, tables and graphs of a parabola.

Science

- **7th grade** - Students will start their unit on Evolution, as they seek to answer the question, “How can learn to interpret the many sources of evidence that exist for the history and evolution of life on Earth? They will also continue have to enrich current unit with articles curated by ReadWorks.
- **8th grade** - Students will start their Waves unit where they explore wave properties, their applications in technologies for information transfer as they answer the questions, “How are sound and light waves similar and how they are transmitted? In which situations are some waves harmful to your health?

Social Studies

- **7th graders** - The students in room 308 will start studying the Illinois State Constitution. Students must pass this assessment in order to graduate in 2020. Students will also be studying the challenges of expansionism in the United States. The essential question for this unit will be: How do economic needs and wants affect decisions of individuals, groups, and institutions?
- **8th graders** - The students in rooms 307 and 309 will begin the unit, Choices in Little Rock. The unit focuses on efforts to desegregate Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. They will learn about the decisions people make and how democracy is a work in progress. Students will make connections between the events in Little Rock and Chicago. The unit will end with students creating an informed action to respond to a contemporary issue in the city.

Room 205

Math: We are working on doing all operations with fractions, solving computation and real world problems (7th and 8th grade). Sixth grader is learning multiplication facts. Fifth grader is working on division.

Reading: We will begin our novel “Bud, Not Buddy”. This novel deals with real world challenges children may face. We will continue to focus on comprehension skill, inference and summary.

We are continuing building basic grammar skills and constructing paragraphs with a main idea and details. Additionally we will be learning the various genres of literature. We will continue are grammar lessons, and begin to learn the various forms of figurative language..

Social Science: Study ancient civilizations. We are learning about the ancient civilizations in Mexico and South America (Mayas, Aztecs, Incas). This involves learning about their culture and contributions. This will fit in with the upcoming Cinco De Mayo

Science: Studying a unit on energy. Learning about potential and kinetic energy as well as how to conserve energy and how our use of energy impacts the environment. We are also learning about different changes in materials (chemical and physical)

IXL: Students must work on IXL math and reading skills at least 90 minutes a week. This is a homework requirement.

Reminders

- Students will enter the building on Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 7:50-7:55 AM, when weather permits. Students will line up in the lunchroom or in the multi-purpose room.
- Please read each night to build reading stamina.
- Please fill out the volunteer application at <http://cps.edu/FACE/Pages/VolunteerPrograms.aspx>

Important May Dates

May 3 - Room 308 @American Writers Museum Trip

May 14 - Haines Presents: Aladdin Kids at 5:00pm - Purchase tickets \$1 per student and \$5 per adult

May 17 - Room 308 @Chicago Botanic Garden

May 21 - Room 308 @Chinatown Library

May 27 - Memorial Day - No School

May 30 - Algebra Exit Exam - Room 309

June 4 - STEM family night - 4:30 pm

June 7 - 8th Grade Luncheon

June 19 - Student Attendance Day - Snow Day Make-up

June 20 - Last Day of Student Attendance - Report Card distribution