



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 begin 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 continue reading the memoir, *Night* this month. As they read the memoir they will cite evidence to support analysis, integrate visual information with print, determine theme by tracking the plot through the memoir, and use communication skills in small groups to interact effectively. Students will continue to utilize POWer words as well as grammar skills using No Red Ink and daily oral language 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 have started their NoRedInk pathways to improve their grammar/writing skills. They are continuing their Poetry unit where they are revisiting the different poetry elements and use of figurative language to communicate their thinking and emotions both in written and oral forms.

Math

- **307 8th graders** - 8th graders will begin to work through the idea 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.
- **308 7th graders** - The students in 7th grade will begin to work through the concepts of measurement of three dimensional shapes. Students will look at nets (the two dimensional, flattened representation) of the shapes and find ways to calculate measurements of the volume and surface area.
- **309 Algebra** - The students in algebra will be working on building a foundation on polynomials. They will look for ways to find equivalence and how to use strategies to solve equations that involve polynomials, with a focus on quadratics.

Science

- **7th grade** - Students will continue their unit on Heredity, as they seek to answer the question, "How can knowing genetics/heredity including DNA and genes help us understand inheritance and variation of traits? They have started to enrich current unit with articles curated by ReadWorks. Students review an article in the Gene and Cells set, look for 2-3 information they would like to learn then share and explain why they are important to know.
- **8th grade** - Students will continue their Energy unit as they answer the question, "How can we connect, qualitative descriptions of phenomena observations (e.g. faster/slower, higher/lower, hotter/colder) to each other, using the idea of energy transfer between objects and systems? They started the ReadWorks protocol of reviewing and responding to the Energy set of articles to enhance their current Energy unit.

Social Studies

- **7th grade** - The students in room 308 will continue studying for the United States Constitution test using a study guide, hands-on activities, discussion, and writing utilizing the online writing tool, ThinkCERCA.
- **8th grade** - The students in rooms 307 and 309 will continue the unit on the Progressive Era to answer the essential question: Were political bosses corrupt during the Progressive Era? Text, images, and political cartoons will be analyzed to answer the unit question.

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: Continuing our novel, "Summer of the Swans" focusing on story elements and responding to literature with well crafted responses. This novel is about a family dealing with a sibling with a disability. 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.

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.

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

Reminders

- Please read each night to build reading stamina.
- Please fill out the volunteer application at <http://cps.edu/FACE/Pages/VolunteerPrograms.aspx>

Important April Dates

April 4 - End of Quarter 3

April 5 - School Improvement Day

April 8 - Lawyers in the Classroom (7th Social Studies)

April 10 - Report Card Pick Up

April 15 -19 - No School - Spring Break

April 24 - 26 - 8th Grade Camping Trip

April 30 - Room 308@Chinatown Library