



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 wrapping up applications for high school and will begin to work on service projects for the school and fundraising for student council.
- 7th graders will continue to develop and practice actively participating, collaborating, and communicating using various tools i.e. Discussion Sentence Starters, Discussion Partners, and Small group/Whole class Participation/Collaboration Rubric.

English Language Arts

- **309 8th graders** - Students have begun a new novel study of Animal Farm. This allegorical novel will focus on the themes of power (and the struggle to power), the power of education/literacy, class stratifications, as well as the historical significance of the novel. 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 drama *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry. As they read, they will use mentor text to write a poem using figurative language in the style of Langston Hughes and write a speech using metaphors and allusion in the style of Dr. King's *I Have a Dream* speech. Through the unit students will learn about the history of the Civil Rights movement in the United States and the impact it had on the people of Chicago. 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 building their literacy stamina. They will also be exposed to engaging adaptive local/global news 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 also use various writing strategies from mentor texts and practice accuracy and fluency through self-selected high interest literary and nonfiction texts.

Math

- **307 8th graders** - 8th graders will wrap up their exploration of exponential relationships. Students will look at real world applications of exponential growth and connecting the modeling of the relationships through the equations, tables, and graphs of both growth and decay. They will then begin a unit on transformation and different types of symmetries.
- **308 7th graders** - The students in 7th grade have begun a unit focusing on ratios and proportions through a unit called Comparing and Scaling. Students will use their prior knowledge from the previous unit of enlarging and reducing (Stretching and Shrinking) and build upon the ideas of equivalence. They will look at situations that require the use of setting up proportions to look for a missing variable.
- **309 Algebra** - The students in algebra will begin a unit that is focused on linear equations. Students will learn more about how to model linear relationships through tables, graphs and equations. By looking at linear relationships, they can look for patterns to create and solve real world problems.

Science

- **7th grade** - Students will continue their From molecules to organisms: Structures, functions, and processes (Growth and development; Organization for Matter and Energy Flow; Information Processing) unit. They will conduct investigations to provide evidence that living things are made of cells; either one cell or many different numbers and types of cells. Students will continue refining their microscopy skills as they observe, draw and analyze their observations of microscopic organisms in general and plant and animal cells in particular.
- **8th grade** - Students will continue their unit on the Structure and properties of Matter and Its Interactions (chemical reactions, nuclear processes). They will resume their adaptive online curriculum which will be supplemented by other collaborative activities and investigations where they could be developing models to describe the atomic composition of simple molecules and extended structures.

Social Studies

- **7th grade** - The students in room 308 will begin the inquiry unit with the compelling questions, "Was the American Revolution Avoidable?" Students will answer supporting questions by analyzing primary sources, maps, and engravings. The historical thinking skills of contextualization, sourcing, and corroboration will be taught in this unit. Students will take an informed action by proposing a resolution to a growing disagreement by honoring the needs of both sides and send the proposal to a local elected official.
- **8th grade** - The students in rooms 307 and 309 will begin choosing a compelling question to research for their Chicago History Fair Project. The theme is Triumph and Tragedy in Chicago or Illinois. Students will also be working through a unit on the Progressive Era with a focus on laborers and the Shirtwaist Factory Fire. Students will participate in a mock trial based on the events of the fire.

Room 205

Math: Working on division skills with whole numbers and decimals for 7th and 8th grade. Fifth grade is working on interpreting and creating a variety of graphs. Sixth grade is using Touch Math to do addition and subtraction problems.

Reading: Beginning a new novel, "One Crazy Summer" focusing on story elements and responding to literature with well crafted responses. This novel incorporates real events that occurred in our country in the late 1960's. We are continuing building basic grammar skills and constructing paragraphs with a main idea and details.

Social Science: Study ancient civilizations. We are studying ancient Rome and learning about the culture and learning about historical figures from ancient Rome..

Science: Studying the water supply and how contaminants can cause massive disease. They are learning how disease can spread and what can be done to keep the water supply safe.

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 December Dates

January 7 - Classes Resume

January 9 - Spelling Bee

January 14 - School Spirit Week

January 15 - Room 308 @Open Books Creative Nonfiction Writing and Presenting Wordshop

January 21 - NO SCHOOL- Martin Luther King Day

January 23 - Social Studies/ELA Family Night