

Winter 2018

Elizabeth Hastings Middle School

508-979-4063



Principal-Dr. Nicholas Bettencourt email: nbettencourt@fairhavenps.net
Asst Principal - Mr. Andrew Davey email: adavey@fairhavenps.net

Blue Devil Nation,

As we enter into our second semester, it is important to take time and reflect on our achievements and needed areas of improvement. The first semester brings with it transitions to a new grade, new teachers, and many times new social groups. Our student service team, as well as our teachers and staff, have been here to support all scholars in having a successful transition. As we shift gears into semester two, it is crucial to remember where we are going. Many of our scholars have created academic goals with their teachers in order to set high expectations for themselves academically. Celebrate the success that you have already had this year, but do not be satisfied by them. Continue to make high goals and work hard to accomplish them. Our scholars that have struggled academically this first part of the year will be meeting with us to develop goals and concrete next steps in order to improve academic achievement for the remainder of the year. Continue to persevere and strive for excellence within the Elizabeth Hastings Learning Community!

~Dr. Bettencourt and Mr. Davey

***"You have to expect things of yourself,
Before you can do them."***

- Michael Jordan

Happy New Year!

As we reflect on **2017**, our lives may have become all too stagnant, continuing along our familiar paths, our daily routines, feeling harried and busy at times, yet challenged at other times. We may have been well meaning to do or try something new or different, but never quite got there. As we embark on **2018**, it's time to take the risk and work towards new challenges and goals, in order to generate a new energy and lease on life. Goals are an important part of motivation and quality of life. Challenges inspire us to extend ourselves and change our mindset. Goals and challenges can push us further than we thought possible. At times, goals may be demanding and require time, effort, and commitment, but that is the motivation and drive to continue to grow and expand ourselves. Changes can often bring new adventures, new confidences, new friends, new interests, and even a change in the way we view things and think. Making the most of today, rather than waiting for tomorrow, is a way to utilize goals to turn our living into something a little more productive, exciting, and increasingly more rewarding.

This new year is a great opportunity for the Elizabeth Hastings Community to develop short and long term goals with their scholars. This is our halfway point, the end of second quarter! Despite the school year moving along so quickly; this is a time for scholars to reflect on the past five months, and make the necessary changes, plans, and goals to be more productive and more invested in their learning and their future. Quoted as goals from some of our Elizabeth Hastings scholars: "I will turn in all my homework this quarter". "I will work towards a 70 in Science next quarter". "I will have a pencil or pen on me for each class". "I will avoid sitting with 'Johnny' at lunch so I do not get into trouble". "I will join an after school club". "I will show my parents my agenda each night". "I will get here on time each day". "I will work to get into Voke". "I will graduate from Elizabeth Hastings Middle School".

I also challenge you to join us at Elizabeth Hastings Middle School in setting short and long term goals for you and your family this year. Stick to it! You, too, will experience the great benefits that it will bring to you, your family, and our learning community!

As always, please feel free to contact the Office of Student Services at 508-979-4063 with any student concerns or special circumstances.

Bob Mota
Asst. Director of Student Services

Fairhaven Public School District
ELIZABETH I. HASTINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL
30 SCHOOL STREET, FAIRHAVEN, MASSACHUSETTS 02719

Telephone # 508.979.4063 • Facsimile # 508.979.4068

DR. NICHOLAS L. BETTENCOURT
Principal

ANDREW P. DAVEY
Assistant Principal

January 22, 2018

Elizabeth Hastings School Community,

As we begin Semester II, we would like to remind all families that before we know it, MCAS 2.0 will be here. This year, our students will be assessed within English Language Arts and Mathematics. Our Grade 8 students will also be tested through MCAS Science Technology and Engineering assessment. As a community of learners, we embrace the opportunity for our scholars to demonstrate their understanding and growth thus far. It is important that we continue to collaborate to best support the needs of our students. These assessments are truly a snapshot in time and a part of our student's academic profile. These assessments are challenging and crafted in a way to measure the progress of our students and also provide important information for us as parents and a learning community. This test does not assess the artistic ability, creativity, or overall characteristics that truly represent each and every individual within our learning community. These assessments measure their overall growth and academic achievement within the grade span. Below, we have included the upcoming dates for each content and grade level. We kindly ask that as we continue to work together, that you take time to review not only the importance of these assessments, but also how the information from these assessments will provide each of us a profile on areas of success and further growth. Attendance is vital. Let us prove that we are making continuous strides in our learning community, by empowering our scholars to attend and try their very best.

MCAS 2.0 (Computer Based) English Language Arts

Grade 8

Tuesday, April 3 Grade 8 Session 1 White Team
Thursday, April 5 Grade 8 Session 2 White Team
Wednesday, April 4 Grade 8 Session 1 Blue Team
Friday, April 6 Grade 8 Session 2 Blue Team

Grade 7

Tuesday, April 10 Grade 7 Session 1 White Team
Thursday, April 12 Grade 7 Session 2 White Team
Monday, April 9 Grade 7 Session 1 Blue Team
Wednesday, April 11 Grade 7 Session 2 Blue Team

Grade 6

Tuesday, April 24 Grade 6 Session 1 White Team
Thursday, April 26 Grade 6 Session 2 White Team
Wednesday, April 25 Grade 6 Session 1 Blue Team
Friday, April 27 Grade 6 Session 2 Blue Team

MCAS 2.0 (Computer Based) Mathematics

Grade 8

Tuesday, May 1 Grade 8 Session 1 White Team
Thursday, May 3 Grade 8 Session 2 White Team
Wednesday, May 2 Grade 8 Session 1 Blue Team
Friday, May 4 Grade 8 Session 2 Blue Team

Grade 7

Tuesday, May 8 Grade 7 Session 1 White Team
Thursday, May 10 Grade 7 Session 2 White Team
Wednesday, May 9 Grade 7 Session 1 Blue Team
Friday, May 11 Grade 7 Session 2 Blue Team

Grade 6

Monday, May 14 Grade 6 Session 1 White Team
Wednesday, May 16 Grade 6 Session 2 White Team
Tuesday, May 15 Grade 6 Session 1 Blue Team
Thursday, May 17 Grade 6 Session 2 Blue Team

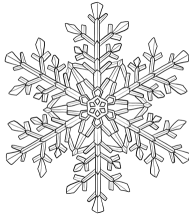
MCAS (Computer Based) Science Technology and Engineering

Grade 8

Friday, May 18 Grade 8 Session I White Team
Monday, May 21 Grade 8 Session I Blue Team
Tuesday, May 22 Grade 8 Session 2 White Team
Wednesday, May 23 Grade 8 Session 2 Blue Team

Warm regards,

Nicholas Bettencourt, Ed.D.
Principal of School



Student Services Support Team

Mrs. Dawn Rego, Mrs. Joan Tracey and Mrs. Michelle Gunschel

The Grinch has been displayed in the hallway all through December and into January. Our school community has done a wonderful job spreading kindness throughout the building, but we still need your child's help! The Grinch's heart has grown but now we need some snow to fall. Let's create our own snowstorm and fill the board with snowflakes. Starting, Tuesday, January 16th, scholars continued to be recognized for demonstrating acts of kindness within our community. When observed they are given a paper snowflake instead of a heart to be placed on the bulletin board. We will continue this until February break.

Any 8th grade scholar interested in applying to a high school other than Fairhaven High School, should be doing so now. Term 2 grades have closed and applications are due. New Bedford Voke and Bristol Aggie would like all applications by February 1st. Anyone who is planning on attending Fairhaven High School does not need to do anything. Your records will be sent to FHS at the end of the school year. Please see your counselor with any questions.

School Nurse Notes

Nurse—Kerrie Edwards Tel: 508 979-4064 Fax 508-979-4068
Email—kedwards@fairhavenps.net

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has some helpful information regarding the flu as noted below. Please make special note of the emergency warning signs and contact your child's pediatrician if you have any concerns that your child may have the flu.

Flu Symptoms—Influenza (also known as the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by flu viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness. The flu usually comes on suddenly. People who have the flu often feel some or all of these symptoms: Fever or feeling feverish/chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, fatigue (tiredness), and some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults. It's important to note that not everyone will have a fever with the flu.

Flu Complications—Most people who get influenza will recover in a few days to less than two weeks, but some people will develop complications (such as pneumonia) as a result of the flu, some of which can be life-threatening.

What are the emergency warning signs of the flu sickness?

In children

- Fast breathing or trouble breathing
- Bluish skin color
- Not drinking enough fluids
- Not waking up or not interacting
- Being so irritable that the child does not want to be held
- Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough
- Fever with a rash

(Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/consumer/symptoms.htm>)

In adults

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen
- Sudden dizziness
- Confusion
- Severe or persistent vomiting
- Flu-like symptoms that improve but then return with fever and worse cough

Honor Roll



The "High Honor" recognition requires that you have "A's" in all your subjects. The "Honor" recognition requires that you have "A's & B's" or all "B's" in all your subjects.



Progress Reports/Report Cards

It is always important for you to know when to expect progress reports and report cards. Our schedule for this school year is listed below.

	Progress Reports	Report Cards
Term 1	Oct. 5	Nov. 9
Term 2	Dec 15	Jan. 26
Term 3	Mar. 7	Apr. 6
Term 4	May 11	End of school

Promotion / Retention Guidelines

All *Elizabeth Hastings Middle School* scholars must meet the following guidelines to be promoted to the next grade:

- All scholars will pass three of four core academic subjects.
- Enrichment classes are considered in promotion as follows: Scholars who fail two enrichment courses in addition to one academic course, will not be considered for promotion.
- Scholars who fail the same core academic subject for two consecutive years will not be considered for promotion.

- In certain circumstances, a Promotion Review Committee may recommend approval of alternative learning experiences when deemed in the best interest of the scholar. The committee will submit its recommendations to the Principal who may at his/her discretion, approve or disapprove.



DON'T FORGET!

**Art Club
is still going!**



Come on and join!

Every Wednesday after school



**Plenty of room
Plenty of projects
Plenty of fun!**

Physical Education

Mrs. Nunes and Mr. Galvan would like to recognize and congratulate the following scholars for being selected Physical Education Scholars of the Month for December and January. These scholars have demonstrated good sportsmanship and always participate with excellent effort.



December

Grade 6—Ava Bissonnette & Scott Joseph

Grade 7—Eric Nunes & Jolie Ferro

Grade 8—Kylie Lague & Jacob Larocque

January

Grade 6—Colin Steussi & Ava Borges

Grade 7—Adin Monroe & Sydney Burke

Grade 8—Josh Mello & Mindy Zhang

Absence/Dismissal By Mrs. Sinko

Please call in student absence before 9 a.m. to Mrs. Sinko
508 979-4063

If you are dismissing a student, have them bring in a note so that they are ready when you arrive.



Early Release Schedule

Scholars will be dismissed at 11:20 a.m.
No lunches will be served on the date listed below:
March 15th

EHMS PTO News!



Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful holiday season and winter break!

Please join the Facebook group (PTO Hastings Middle School) for current information and useful reminders and links. You can also view photos taken of previous PTO events.

Thank you for supporting the PTO with fundraising programs last semester. Many scholars had fun at the Sundae Social and a lucky few were able to collect extra cash in Roll in the Dough! We are grateful for the efforts put in on behalf of the scholars **AND** their families and friends! Fundraising allows the PTO to support scholar events, field trips and some great in-house festivities.

PAINT NIGHT IS BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!!! Paint Night will be held on February 8th. Our fabulously talented Art Instructor, Mr. Lee, will guide painters through steps to create their very own masterpiece. Sign up forms were sent out this week to each scholar. Paint Night will sell out so please reserve your seat right away!

Dine Out Night at 99 will coincide with Paint Night! Keep an eye out for the flier.

If you haven't done so, please sign up for Stop & Shop A+ Rewards program. Whenever you shop using your Stop & Shop card, a portion of the amount spent is donated to the school! Any card can be used! Ask family and friends to register theirs! Once you're signed up, it's an effortless way to contribute. **Our ID is 06737.**

Spirit Wear order forms will be distributed in the next couple weeks. We have broadened our merchandise to include modern styles and some fun accessories for the whole family! The new school logo that was chosen by the scholars will be used in many items!

OUR NEXT PTO MEETING WILL BE FEBRUARY 15th at 6:30pm

Come join us! We look forward to expanding our community and hearing your suggestions or comments.

Please reach out to us! Our 2017/18 board members are:

Co-President Jen Moura- j2moura@comcast.net or 508-525-2569

Co-President Erin DaSilva- erindasilva@gmail.com or 508-525-1525

CO-Treasurer Joan Tracey- jtracey@fairhavenps.net

CO-Treasurer Rosie Byrnes- rbyrnes@fairhavenps.net

Secretary Ally Charpentier- allycharp@outlook.com

**ELIZABETH HASTINGS DRAMA CO
PROUDLY PRESENTS**



Dear EHMS Community,

By purchasing ads in the program book for the EHMS Drama Company, you will help us stage a wonderful production and help our scholars have the opportunity to experience the thrill of performing before an audience. The Elizabeth Hastings Drama Company program consists of sponsor ads ranging from \$20 – \$50. Sponsors are any business or family who submits a business card (or larger) size ad / photo. Please fill out the following form and send it into school (Attn: Mrs. Landis) or you can email a request.

Thank you,
Mrs. Landis & Ms. Pegg

PROGRAM ADVERTISEMENT FORM

DEADLINE: Thursday, March 8, 2018

Ad Submitted By: _____

Paperclip a business card (we will scan it) and/or write your message below. You can also email your request to mlandis@fairhavenps.net.

Please note requests will not be made until payment is received.

Message: _____

Sponsor Ad Prices:

¼ page - \$20

½ page - \$30

Full page - \$50

Please make your check payable to: Elizabeth Hastings Middle School

Send in this form, payment, and any image(s) to:

Elizabeth Hastings Middle School
c/o Monica Landis – Drama Company
30 School St. Fairhaven, Ma 02719

Requests can also be dropped off at the main office. Thank you.

Instructional Technology by Ms. Reuther

Grade 6 scholars started programming with Scratch and are creating interactive stories, games, and animations — they are able to share their creations with others in the online community. Scratch helps young people learn to think creatively, reason systematically, and work collaboratively — which are essential skills for life in the 21st century. *Scratch is a project of the Lifelong Kindergarten Group at the MIT Media Lab. For more information see: <https://scratch.mit.edu>.*



C O D E R S **Grade 7 & 8** coders are programming animations, interactive art, and games in Game Lab. Unit 3 starts off with simple shapes and builds up to more sophisticated sprite-based games, using the same programming concepts and the design process computer scientists use daily. In the final project, they'll develop a personalized, interactive program. Examples of lesson 4 and 6 were on display at the Unified Arts presentation. I'm impressed with what these coders have accomplished thus far.

Rincón de Español-Spanish Corner

¡Hola estudiantes y familias!

Seventh graders have learned to ask for and give basic personal information like their name, birthday, age, and emotions. Now we are beginning our unit on describing ourselves and others. We are also going to listen to music that features our vocabulary from artists such as Prince Royce and Shakira.



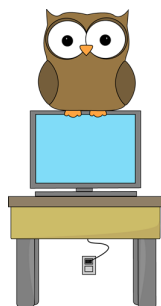
Our eighth graders are continuing to exchange letters with our partner class at Ramón y Cajal in Albacete, Spain. Our penpals wrote to us about their holiday traditions, such as eating twelve grapes on New Year's Eve and getting gifts from the Three Kings on January 6. We are responding with what we did over vacation, such as travelling, seeing family, or just binge watching Netflix! Before Christmas, we also got a surprise: a physical package with holiday cards from Spain! We returned the gesture and sent an envelope of cards we made.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement! Please remember that I am available for extra support most Mondays through Thursdays after school, and please do not hesitate to contact me with comments or questions!

¡Gracias!

Señora Pimental

Art Technology Mr. Sladewski



As term two/semester one comes to a close, so does Art Technology for this group of scholars. Term three and semester two will bring new scholars in to the Mac Lab. At the close of the first semester the scholars worked on and completed their most technically and artistically challenging assignments based on using multiple layers and tools in Adobe Photoshop to create artwork paying homage to the Surrealist artists of the past and present. In their final assignment, the scholars created a portfolio web page using weebly.com as a platform to showcase their body of work. These websites are live so you can view your scholar's work any time.

Grade 8 Advanced English Dr. Bettencourt

We have recently begun reading, *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller. For some time, we have reviewed the historical and political ramifications that prompted the play to be written. Scholars should be selecting two outside reading texts that push their thinking. Once a book is chosen, we will review reading levels as well as content. Scholars will complete dialectical journals in which they analyze the texts for a deeper understanding. Beyond this, scholars completed a group presentation on witch hunts throughout time periods. Collectively, we are focused on analytical writing for various purposes and reading non-fiction texts that foster discussion and curiosity. This class had made strides and I am impressed with their progress. Take a minute to review their writing. There is a clear difference from the fall until now. We look forward to MCAS Testing that will be here within a few weeks.



EHMS Music Department Spring Schedule



Hello Blue Devil Musicians,

We have much going on in our music community this coming spring. I just want to take a moment to remind everyone of the upcoming performance schedule for our band, strings, and chorus students here at EHMS. On May 22, 2018 all of the grade 6 ensembles will be performing in the EHMS Grade 6 Spring concert. The concert will begin at 6:30 pm in the EHMS Auditorium; scholars should arrive dressed and ready to perform at 6 pm. The dress for this concert will be the standard white shirt, with tie, black pants, and dark shoes for boys. Girls should wear a solid white top, black pants/skirt, and dark shoes. This concert includes grade 6 band, strings, chorus, and jazz band.

On May 30, 2018 all of the grade 7 & 8 ensembles will be performing in the EHMS Grade 8 Spring concert. The concert will begin at 6:30 pm in the EHMS Auditorium; scholars should arrive dressed and ready to perform at 6 pm. The dress for this concert will also require the standard white shirt, with tie, black pants, and dark shoes for boys. Girls should wear a solid white top, black pants/skirt, and dark shoes. This concert includes grades 7 & 8 band, strings, chorus, and jazz band.

And finally the grades 6, 7, and 8 bands will be marching in the Fairhaven Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28, 2018. The muster time is 8 am on Main Street across from Pumpnickels café. The dress required for the parade is; the Fairhaven Schools Music T- shirt, tan khaki shorts, and neat sneakers. It is also a very good idea for scholars to wear sun screen and also eat a good breakfast that morning.

So keep practicing! I am really looking forward to all of our performances. I am very proud of all our hard working, and dedicated community of EHMS musicians.

Regards,
Mr. Stanton
EHMS Band/Chorus Director



Health Education with Mrs. Lunney February is Heart Health Month! Remember...February 2nd is National Wear Red Day!

This past week we began semester 2. We'll spend some time getting acclimated to our new learning environment – review syllabi, class expectations, and participate in activities to help classmates get to know each other a bit.

Grade 6 – Scholars are currently working on defining wellness and taking a look at the 3 aspects of health – physical, mental, and social. In the next 2 weeks we will begin learning about the specific body systems. As February is heart health month, we'll take a look at how our circulatory system works. We will learn about the path of circulation as well as how to take good care of our heart. Scholars will also practice finding their pulse, calculating their maximum and target heart rates and participating in activities that will allow them to see what exercises raise their heart rates and what kind of effort is needed to stay in a healthy target heart rate zone.

Grade 7 – Scholars are studying nutrition and learning about the importance of a balanced meal plan that includes all six essential nutrients. Scholars will be asked to track their food intake for two days and spend some time on chromebooks analyzing their own personal eating habits using the www.choosemyplate.gov website. We will also learn to read a nutrition label and participate in the “cheese cracker challenge” in an effort to compare ingredients, labels, and nutritional content from variations of brands, flavors and types of crackers.

Grade 8 – Scholars are currently learning about food safety and how to avoid foodborne illnesses. Mr. Correia from the Fairhaven Fire Department, will be coming in to work with all 8th grade scholars enrolled in health education. All scholars will be taught how to handle emergency situations that may require CPR and/or use of an AED, as well as how to perform the Heimlich Maneuver when necessary. Upon completion, all participating scholars will receive certification cards from the American Heart Association.



GRADE 6 WORLD GEOGRAPHY

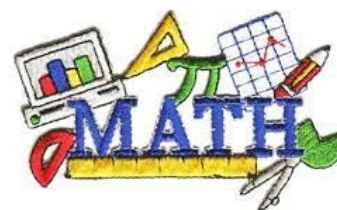
MS. FORD

We are currently in Africa and working through the 5 Themes of Geography as it relates to the continent. We will be focusing on Open Responses and peer editing in the upcoming weeks. Scholars will have an opportunity to look at exemplars, edit, and grade work. These activities will strengthen their writing. After Africa we will be traveling to Asia and Oceania.

GRADE 6 MATH

MRS. OLIVIER & MS. MONTEIRO

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our 6th grade scholars on successfully completing semester one of middle school math. We have seen a significant improvement in their performance over the first half of the year. We are looking forward to term 3 when scholars will be introduced to pre-algebra concepts during our expressions and equations unit. Keep up the good work!!! Stay dedicated and motivated to be your best!!!



GRADE 6 ELA

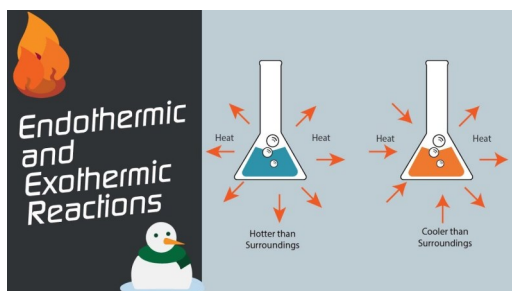
MR. HAMILTON & MR. FURTADO

Grade 6 scholars have been digging deep into poetry and using reciprocal teaching to form a greater understanding. Scholars have been close reading poems with each group member responsible for at least one step in the comprehension of the poem. Whether it's the *Clever Clarifier*, *Tone and Mood Dude*, *Figurative Foreman*, *Successful Summarizer* or *Thematic Thinker*, all scholars work together and annotate for the common goal of a deeper understanding of each poem.

GRADE 6 SCIENCE

MRS. BERNARDO

6th Grade Science is going to get Physical in February! We will study topics ranging from Endothermic and Exothermic reactions to mixtures and solutions. Our scientists will be conducting experiments, describing energy transfer and analyzing and separating substances.



7th Grade Life Science
Miss Beausoleil and Miss Vertulo

After completing a successful unit on ecosystems, organism adaptations, and the impacts that humans may have on their success, the scholars are ready to take on the environmental challenges that their generation may face in the future. Moving on, scholars will continue to discover the wonders of our planet as we dive into the weathering, erosion, heat transfer, and our ever changing landscapes. Scholars will be exploring these topics on a level in hopes to better understand the nature of the world around them. These lessons will be delivered through a variety of modalities such as demonstrations, laboratories, hands on projects and data

7th Grade Math
Mrs. Cadima and Mr. Edwards

7th grade math just finished up a unit on ... unit rates. They are EVERYWHERE! Next time you are in the grocery store, challenge your child to convert a price given as a ratio (like 6 apples for \$3.99) to a unit rate (How many apples per dollar? How many dollars per apple?). Next, we head into order of operations with variable expressions. Prompt them to explain the many reasons why PEMDAS is a terrible way to present order of operations.



7th Grade History
Ms. Bendiksen and Mr. Ricciardi



In Ancient Civilizations, scholars are finishing up “Roots of Western Civilization: Ancient Israel” which examined the history of the Hebrew people, the Kingdoms of Israel & Judah as well as the importance of Jerusalem from both historic and modern perspectives. Next, scholars will investigate “Mediterranean Trade” with the legend of Atlantis, mystery of the lost Minoan civilization and the far-

reaching influences of the Phoenician trade on Mediterranean culture. Scholars will continue to analyze and evaluate a variety of primary source materials to better understand the ancient world.

7th Grade ELA
Mrs. Hunter and Mrs. Leblanc

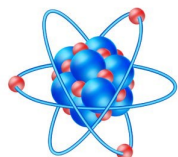
Seventh grade ELA scholars are in the midst of our poetry unit. They have been analyzing various poems. Skills that they have been practicing are identifying the speaker, paraphrasing, generating levels of questions, finding the theme and literary devices. We will be giving a benchmark test for the unit before February vacation. We will resume Vocabulary Workshop on Monday, February 26 with Unit 7.



8th grade World History

Mr. Marshall and Ms. Pegg

We closed term two with a unit test on the feudal system of the Middle Ages. Scholars overall did very well on this and we have shared that data with them in class. They should be very proud of their progress so far. As term three opens we will be continuing our unit on the Middle Ages period. After getting the basics of the feudal and manor system, our scholars we will be building up to talk about one of the world's most impactful religious wars - the Crusades. This has modern day connections that we hope to get across to our scholars, giving them a more connected view of history. We are looking forward to seeing more progress this term!



8th grade Science

Mrs. Karen Arsenault and Ms. Drouin

Our scholars are learning how to describe the arrangement and motion of particles in solids, liquids and gases and how this arrangement determines the volume and shape of a substance. We are learning how to describe and diagram the structure of an atom. Next, we will be using that knowledge to model and describe how adding or taking away thermal energy will affect those particles and lead to phase changes. Once we have completed those objectives, our scholars will learn about properties of matter. We will learn about physical properties and chemical properties. Scholars will be able to describe physical and chemical changes and describe how mass is conserved in a closed system. This will conclude our lessons on physical science and we will begin our study of life science starting with topics related to Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits.

8th Grade Math

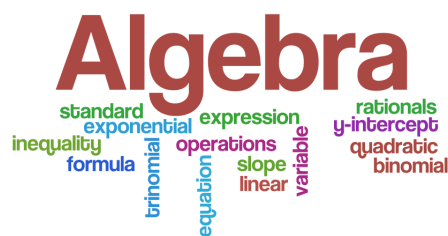
Ms. Pease and Mr. Reedy

Common Core Math

Scholars have been learning about linear equations and how they are used in the real world to problem solve and make predictions. We have concentrated on finding the slope and y-intercept of linear situations and had meaningful discussions on the roles those numbers play. We will then be transitioning into linear systems of equations and focusing on how systems are used in the world of business.

Algebra 1

Our Algebra 1 scholars have just completed working through the 1st half of Chapter 7 on Polynomials. We have focused on multiplying and dividing Monomials as well as performing operations with numbers in Scientific Notation. Next, we will be moving on to adding, subtracting, and multiplying polynomials (FOIL method). We will be exploring a lot of high level Algebra topics in Term 3 and it will be our most challenging term to date.



8th Grade ELA

Mrs. Bradshaw and Ms. Roderick

In 8th grade ELA, we have begun reading the novel *The Contender* by Robert Lipsyte. We have opened the novel with looking into historical background of 1960's America, connecting history to the text's plot and characters, and analyzing how the context of the story connects to the development of the story. Scholars have learned through research, reading articles about the Civil Rights movement and short stories reflecting socio-economic issues of the time, watching video clips, and class discussion. Scholars have already taken their first quiz on the novel. As we continue into 3rd term, we will continue to analyze plot, characters, language, and themes of this novel through writing and discussion.