



JUNIOR HIGH NEWS

February 2024

- The 8th graders exhibit Christian service through sound booth, kindergarten helpers, acolytes, and recycling bins.
- Information about Academic Fair projects have been shared with parents/students. Students will have aspects to complete at home by deadlines each quarter to prepare for the fair in the spring.
- Students are active in basketball, cheerleading, robotics and Academic Super Bowl teams. Watch for sign-ups for spring athletics!
- Be on the lookout for the jr high musical - Matilda - ticket information!



6th Grade



Literature:

We will continue to develop reading comprehension skills. We'll learn more about and practice the skills of synthesizing and analyzing author choices and continue to review and practice making inferences, summarizing literature, and summarizing information.

We're currently practicing these skills with Gary Paulsen's novel, Hatchet. We'll wrap up the novel unit in mid February and then work on an informational text unit in our textbooks. We'll also continue to use a variety of other texts including short stories, pictures, videos, short stories and novels as we practice our reading comprehension skills. Students should now be 50% or more of their third quarter AR goals!

English:

The sixth and seventh graders are making great progress through the Shurley sentence patterns. More importantly, they are practicing what they are learning through their writing. Currently we are working on persuasive/argumentative writing skills. We know that junior high students can argue their point till the cows come home, but can they write convincingly? That is the objective of this unit of writing. We are also wrapping up our second unit of vocabulary study.

Science:

We have laid a foundation in photosynthesis and cellular respiration and now look at the flow of energy through ecosystems. We'll also talk about the cycling of matter through ecosystems further examining carbon and nitrogen cycles.

Health:

We will start working on learning about the systems of the body and preventing disease. Topics include cell organization, skeletal and muscular systems, circulatory and respiratory systems, digestive and excretory systems, nervous and endocrine systems, heredity, growth, communicable and noncommunicable diseases.

Math:

Students will be learning about ratios and unit rate this month. They will also be converting amounts from US Customary units to Metric units.

Social Studies:

The 6th graders are learning about the geography of Europe and the Greek and Roman Empires and their contributions to the world.



7th Grade



Literature:

We will continue to develop reading comprehension skills. We'll learn more about and practice the skills of synthesizing and analyzing author choices and continue to review and practice making inferences, summarizing literature, and summarizing information.

We're currently practicing these skills with fantasy novel unit, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. We'll also continue to use a variety of texts including pictures, videos, short stories and novels as we practice our reading comprehension skills. Students should be reading be at 50% or more of their third quarter goal by February 1.

Social Studies:

The 7th grade students are learning about Southwest Asia (Middle East) from Old Testament times through current events going on in Israel. We are also learning about the geography and how it shaped the cultures. We are also studying more in depth into the Islamic religion and how it has shaped world history / current events.

Science:

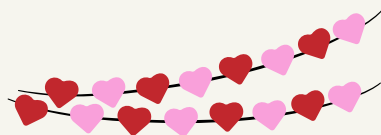
Mitosis is complete! Now we start looking at geologic time and the ways science explains our Earth to us through technology. We start with Continental Drift Theory and will look at tectonic plate movement and the layers of Earth.

Math:

Students in 7th grade will learn to solve two-step equations and two-step inequalities.

English:

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8th Grade



Literature:

We are wrapping up the novel, *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*. Our next unit of study will be a series of short stories with an emphasis on theme. With the season of Advent beginning, we will also be spending time learning about and writing poetry. The Bible provides some excellent sources in this genre.

English:

Grammar: We will review mechanics, usage, and grammar skills with Shurley English (patterns 1,2,3,4,5), daily corrections of sentences, and the online mechanics and usage Quill program.

Vocabulary: We'll continue to improve vocabulary usage with the Words to Enrich Writing unit, making an effort to become familiar with the words so that we can use them in our writing. Vocabulary words and activities are in Writer's Notebooks and on Quizlet.

Writing: Our writing focus for the month will be a review of all genres and then an intense focus on argumentative writing. We've learned the vocabulary, terms, structure, and techniques. We're analyzing various texts and evaluate the structure and arguments that are presented. We'll then practice applying argumentative elements while writing.

Science:

Finishing our deep dive into all things chemistry. Moving into topics related to physical and chemical properties and changes, endothermic and exothermic reactions, and balancing chemical equations.

Health:

We are wrapping up our unit on building safe and healthy relationships. Topics include conflict resolution and dealing with abuse. We will then move on to our unit on substance abuse discussing alcohol, tobacco/vaping, and drug use.

History:

Students are studying and learning about early American history, after the Revolution, the Articles of Confederation, and the US Constitution.

Pre-Algebra:

Students will spend most of the month learning about systems of equations and how to solve them. They will learn to solve these systems by graphing, substitution, and by elimination.

Algebra:

Students will learn about the rules of exponents and how to simplify expressions using these rules. They will also learn about exponential functions, exponential growth, and decay.