

Middle School Newsletter

January 2020
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!



What is going on in each Class?

Math

In grade 7, students will be learning about direct and indirect proportions and how to identify them in tables, equations and graphs.

Please continue to encourage your child to spend at least 20 minutes on I-Ready instruction at home.

In grade 8, students will be learning about Algebraic Linear Equations. Students are also encouraged to spend at least 20 minutes a day on I-Ready in order to show growth in their academic level.

Language Arts

In 7th grade we are continuing to build reading comprehension skills and working on writing. Students are encouraged to read at home. Ask students about which word they chose for their One Word essay to live by in 2020.

In grade 8, we are continuing to work on Flocabulary lessons as a way to strengthen students' writing and test-taking skills. We will also be spending some time on editing and revising the written component of the Science Fair project. At the end of the month we'll be taking I-Ready winter diagnostic in Reading. This test is important in determining the amount of progress students have made since the beginning of the year, and in forming groups for intervention, so please encourage your child to put forth their best effort. As always, regular independent reading on MyOn and vocabulary practice on Quizlet is strongly recommended. We are lucky to have these resources available and students should be taking advantage of them as much as possible.

Science

In the upcoming week, students will be finalizing their science fair projects, get ready to print and start prepping the science fair display board. The display boards can be pre-ordered with me and will cost \$4. Science Fair is scheduled for next Friday, January 17th, 2020 11am -2pm in the gymnasium.

In 7th grade, we will explore Sound Energy. Students were tasked individually to look for recycled materials at home and bring to class to create a recycle exchange bank for students to design and construct their own instruments of choice. They will present the instrument to the class on Tuesday, January 21st, 2020.

In 8th grade, we are exploring Mendelian genetics through hands-on learning. Students are currently cross-pollinating different seeds to determine the plants genotype and phenotype.

Social Studies

In Grade 7, we are delaying the zombie apocalypse project and focusing on ocean pollution and ways to reduce plastic use and encourage recycling in our school.

In Grade 8, students will be watching how the Iran crisis will unfold and we will begin learning about World War I.

Did you know?

Research shows that missing 10 percent of school, which equates to about 18 days in most school districts, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just two days a month and that's known as chronic absenteeism.



For your
Calendar

Jan 1
No School

Jan 6
No School

Jan 8
Half Day

Jan 17
Science Fair

Jan 20
No School

Jan 31
Block Party

BE A FRIEND, NOT A BULLY



Bullying is being mean to another kid over and over again. Bullying often includes:

- Teasing
- Talking about hurting someone
- Spreading rumors
- Leaving kids out on purpose
- Attacking someone by hitting them or yelling at them

Bullying does not always happen in person. Cyberbullying is a type of bullying that happens online or through text messages or emails. It includes posting rumors on sites like Facebook, sharing embarrassing pictures or videos, and making fake profiles or websites.

Here are ways to help prevent your child from being cyberbullied or cyberbullying others:

1. Monitor their online activity and let them know if you are doing this. If you see something alarming, sit down with your child and talk with them about it before reporting it or jumping to conclusions.
2. Make sure your child has their privacy settings on. On social media sites, this helps prevent strangers from reaching out to harm them, or it can prevent peers posing as strangers from gaining access to a profile with the intent to hurt someone.
3. Make sure your child knows how to block or report a cyberbully. They should also know how to block a number on their phone because many forms of cyberbullying happen over text messaging.

"Bullying cannot be a rite of passage in our nation's schools. Instead, our schools must be safe and nurturing environments that promote learning and full participation by all students. Bullying, sexual harassment and gender stereotyping of any student, including LGBT students, have no place in our nation's schools. We must work to stop those abusive behaviors when they take place, repair their harmful effects and prevent them from happening in the future. We will use every tool in our law enforcement arsenal to ensure that all students have access to equal educational opportunity."

— Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division Thomas E. Perez at the NSBA Council of School Attorneys. Boston ~ Friday, April 20, 2012

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Word OF THE MONTH:

RESOLUTION

Start the New Year fresh with determination to achieve new goals and be successful.

WHAT IS YOUR NEW YEAR
RESOLUTION?

IMPORTANT INFO

This month is the month for I-READY Diagnostics. Students will take their winter benchmark and it is very important for them to show growth!



ONE TEAM, ONE DREAM ...