



## 6-1 TEAM NEWS

### **English Language Arts**

For December and January, we are continuing with the Critical Literacy unit for Reading Workshop. This unit focuses on reading to deepen our interpretation of how authors craft stories to convey messages. The essential question for this unit is: *How can we read to be alert to social issues and analyze how authors develop perspectives and power dynamics in stories and other texts?*

For our Writing Workshop, we are continuing with the Literary Essay and how to elevate the complexity of our writing. This unit helps students understand that writing can be a way to hold onto one's thinking about a particular subject or text, and to help them clarify and elaborate on that thinking.

Please remind your child to read each school night for 30 minutes.

### **Math**

Our mathematicians will be focusing on the following learning targets:

- \*Solving Equations
- \*Writing Equations given real world scenarios
- \*Solving Inequalities
- \*Writing inequalities given real world scenarios
- \*Using variables to represent change

### **World Geography**

We have been vacationing in Latin America, excited to experience this region's physical geography and history! We will begin studying the various cultures we will meet as we move across the region taking a closer look at the geography of Middle America, the Caribbean, and South America. Be sure to ask your student about their travels in each of these areas in the coming weeks! We also will begin research of specific countries as we create projects to display and share our knowledge. Students also will be competing in a team-wide geography bee, selecting a winner to go onto the school wide competition later this year.

### **Science**

At the beginning of December, 6-1 scientists will be working on their human impact mini-projects and presentations. Each group of students will choose a different topic revolving around the impact that humans have on our planet. Groups will do guided research and share their findings with the class through a Powerpoint project. There will be a final test over all of the presented topics.

Post winter break, we will begin a "Living Things" unit starting with need and characteristics of living things and the levels of organization in the human body (ie. cells, tissues, organs, organ system, organism). Students will differentiate between unicellular and multicellular organisms, and learn some basic cell organelles along with understanding the differences between plant and animal cells. Finally, we

will learn the parts of the microscope and utilize this knowledge to observe and study both pre-made plant and animal slides along with live organisms (protists).