



7-3 TEAM NEWS

English Language Arts

In English Language Arts, students will continue to study reading nonfiction and argument writing. Reading skills include: main idea, accuracy, bias and viewpoint. Students should be able to read a news article and analyze the quality and accuracy of the writing. Additionally, students should be aware how text features such as pictures, maps, charts and diagrams contain important information and need to be “read” in addition to the text. During the argument writing portion of the unit, students will continue to develop the argument structure which was introduced in 6th grade. Students will be expected to select a debatable topic, choose a side or stance, and provide evidence and reasons for that stance. We will also explore the counter-arguments that opponents would likely present and prepare rebuttals for these arguments.

When we return from Winter Break, we will begin our Historical Fiction unit. Students will be back in book clubs reading about a time period that interests them. During the reading process, students will be working on a multi-genre companion book. More information about this assignment will be given at a later time. Students are still encouraged to read 4 nights a week, for 20-30 minutes.

Math

Make a New Year’s resolution to consistently show **ACCOUNTABILITY** with completed homework and positive mental attitude set to ‘ready to learn.’ Resolve to self-assess accurately to determine strengths and weaknesses in daily content understanding – then **PERSEVERE** by taking action and following through on getting help as needed, daily. This might look like asking questions in class, attending help session(s), working with a friend to study.

Continuing unit focus (Algebra): Write and Solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic equations and inequalities. Upcoming unit focus (Geometry): Understand congruence and similarity using physical models, transparencies, or geometry software.

Social Studies

During the month of December, our young historians will continue to learn about the great contributions to history, art, science, literature, and architecture made by the early people of India and China. Our student travelers will be learning about the geography of these Asian regions and determining how that geography helped these civilizations to flourish. In addition, we will continue to learn the basic beliefs of the major world religions, Buddhism and Hinduism, and how these belief systems helped shape these river valley civilizations.

Science

In Science we are moving out of our study on Matter and Chemical Reactions and turning our attention to the stars. We will investigate the Earth in space, the Earth's moon and, the space program in general, and

we will take a broader look at our solar system. We are also going to extend our learning by going on a field trip to the Challenger Learning Center. This is an awesome opportunity for students to learn about space through hands on, real life mission scenarios that the students will have a blast (pun intended) doing.