

English Language Arts

During the month of April, we will be in a unit on developing analytical reading strategies. Students will be reading in book clubs and analyzing their book through jots, long writes, and small group discussions. We will require students to read multiple books during this time. We will focus on skills including character development, determining and comparing themes across texts, analyzing author's craft, and questioning the text. Throughout the length of the unit, students will be writing about their reading as we reiterate both narrative and argument writing skills. All of this work along with some additional practice will help prepare students for MAP testing in May.

Math

Happy spring! This month in Math, all classes will be completing a unit focused on probability. Students will do experiments involving pennies and dice to learn the difference between experimental and theoretical probability. We will also use two weeks of our time to review important curriculum topics we have learned so far this school year. This review period will help your student to prepare for the upcoming MAP test at the beginning of May. We want students to feel as prepared as possible when taking the test so successfully completing review material is important. Please be on the lookout for more MAP information to be sent out soon.

Social Studies

During the month of April, we will finish our unit on Rome where we will learn reasons for its collapse and the rise of the Byzantine Empire. Our next unit will be the Middle Ages where we will look at the social and economic systems in Europe during this time (Feudalism). We will then examine life in Europe during the latter half of the Middle Ages, with an emphasis on the influence of Christianity, the Crusades, and the political and social changes that take place.

Science

Students are beginning to anticipate the end of the 2018-19 school year. That being said, we still have a few concepts in science that we want to cover before leaving on summer break. The students will be investigating a few of the ideas surrounding genetics and heredity before the end of the year. We plan to research why we have brown hair or blue eyes and what does a DNA strand look like? This piece of curriculum always seems to generate curiosity within the students.