



7-2 TEAM NEWS

English Language Arts

In December, each seventh grade writer will be coached to create an argument paper on a topic of his/her choice. Throughout this unit, students will be discovering the art of argument. As a final writing piece in this unit, students will be completing a final, independent argument paper on a class topic.

While researching for these papers, we will also highlight nonfiction reading skills that consider the author's viewpoint and bias. Students will be able to determine whether or not a source is accurate, find the main idea of a text with supporting details, and identify the central idea of a nonfiction text.

In January, our readers will explore the world of historical fiction. Short text read alouds and book clubs will immerse students into a wide variety of historical time periods. Readers will read closely for setting and conflict, examine the interaction and intersection of characters, events, and history, and interpret personal and historical themes. Readers will also consider the literary choices an author has made in relation to the theme being developed. Within this unit, students will have the opportunity to sharpen both fiction and nonfiction reading skills.

Our historical fiction text will spark interest in our informational writing pieces. Each reader will respond to not only the fiction elements within his/her historical fiction book club book, but will also research the historical time period. The final product will consist of a cross-genre companion book.

Math

Math 7:

In the months of December and January, students will be working hard as we finish Expressions and Equations before entering their Unit covering Proportional Relationships. Students will analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve problems. . They will be using properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions and solve problems. At the end of January, we will begin our Geometry Units by drawing and describing geometrical figures and describing the relationships between them.

Compacted Math 7/8:

Students will continue to work diligently getting through all of the seventh and eighth grade rigorous curriculum. In the month of December, students will be focusing on Rates and Proportional Relationships through various models as well as in real-world situations. In January, we will begin our Geometry Units by drawing and describing geometrical figures and describing the relationships between them.

Math 8

In the months of December and January, students will be working to understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines and linear functions before starting their final part within Expressions and Equations. In Expressions and Equations, they analyze and solve linear equations and inequalities with rational number coefficients.

Social Studies

In Social Studies during the month of December, we will study ancient China. We will look at the geography of this region and its impact on China's development. Students will also be studying ancient

Chinese philosophies, dynasties, and achievements.

In January, we will be returning from break to participate in the Geography Bee. Next, we will begin to learn about ancient Greece. In this unit we will learn how geography impacted Greece. We will also focus on the development of government in this ancient society as it is so different from that of the other civilizations we've studied and yet the most similar to our own government in the US. We will also explore, briefly, mythology and its role in their culture. Finally we will look at the conflicts between different city-states and the achievements of the ancient Greeks.

Science

The Champion Science students will be working on the Chemistry unit during the month of December. The focus of the unit will be on structures and properties of matter and interactions. The students will learn about atoms and bonding properties that will lead to building models of simple molecules. Furthermore, students will learn how temperature affects the state of matters, how synthetic materials affect society, and how chemical reactions happen.

In January, we will learn about Astronomy. The students will learn basic facts of our relative position within the solar system. Students will learn about the moon (surface, the phases, eclipses, and how the tides affect planet earth.) The students will learn about the sun and how the tilt of the earth affects the seasons.