

Mrs. Kerrissey's 8th Grade Humanities:



Hello Faubion families!

Students will begin their novel studies unit soon and will be reading "Copper Sun" which depicts the story of an African girl who was kidnapped and sent to work in North America on a plantation farm. We will be analyzing character traits and literary elements while reading this novel.

In Social Studies, students are learning about the process of colonization with a focus on how it affected Native Americans and Africans. Students will also learn about how the thirteen colonies were created and how the fundamental principles of American democracy relate to today's current events!

Homework

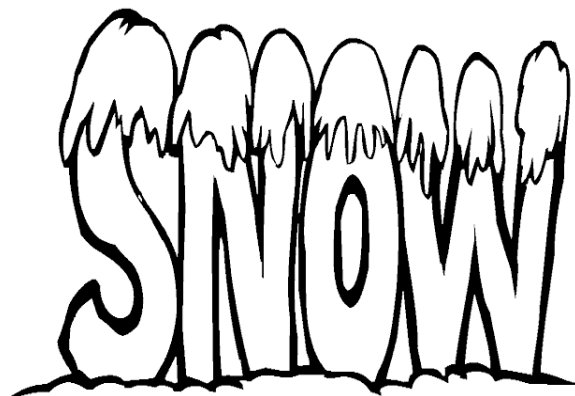
Students will be given an informational Article of the Week each Monday related to our weekly current events in which they are required to show evidence of close reading and write reflections based on textual evidence. There is also a short quiz that is attached to the article. This will be due every Friday.

Students are also required to read at least one novel outside of the classroom each month. They will record their novel information on their reading log (signed by the teacher) and write summaries related to their book. This will be due at the end of every month.

Students may also have homework from time to time depending on whether they finished their daily assignments in class. Please check their planners for more information on classroom assignments and homework. Each student is expected to record this information in their planners on a daily basis.

As always, please never hesitate to contact me with additional questions or concerns. Helping your child find academic success is my most important goal. GO BULLDOGS!

Carissa Kerrissey, Carissa Kerrissey



Mrs. Madison's 8th Grade Humanities:

Fabulous Faubion Families.

We just spent the last couple of weeks digging deep into media literacy and the effect of media on our presidential elections. The beginning of November will be exploring the electoral college and analyzing the election results.

Students are currently working on their novel study projects which are due November 14. Students self-selected the novel they wanted to read. Portions of the novel study project are done with a partner who read the same novel. The remaining portions of the project are to be done independently.

It is not too late to sign up for parent-teacher-student conferences. The middle school teachers encourage and expect middle school students to attend their conferences. If you still need to obtain a conference time, please contact me at pmadison@pps.net.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Madison



Ms. Ackron's 7th & 8th Grade Mathematics:

Happy Winter! I can't believe I just wrote those words! It's so hard to believe that is already December! I hope this letter finds you looking forward to gearing up for the winter holidays to spend some special time with family. The math classroom has been getting more and more exciting here at Faubion. Students are really starting to take ownership in their learning, and I am seeing many more "aha!" moments as the students make deep connections. It's wonderful to see!

8th grade math is finishing up on their points of intersection of linear equations this week. They've done a fantastic job with this difficult algebra concept. 7th grade common core has begun an introduction to linear equations. We were able to calculate each students walking rate, so be sure to ask your student how fast they walk! 7th Compacted is diving straight into a long algebra unit. We've been practicing combining like terms and will soon start solving equations.

As always, please don't hesitate to call or email with questions, concerns, or just with an update. I always look forward to hearing from you! Also, be sure to check out my website for some new photos. Have a restful and family filled break at the end of the month and we will see you in 2017!! Go Bulldogs!

Michelle Ackron



Faubion Middle School Bulletin

Edition #4 December 6th, 2016



*We are a Community for
Safe – Responsible – Respectful & Professional Students*



Upcoming Dates of Interest:

Tuesday, December 13 th	Concordia Neighborhood Association Party	7:15pm
Tuesday, December 15 th	PTA Meeting Concordia Library	6:30pm
Friday, December 16 th	Winter Holiday Concert	9:30-10:45am 1:15-2:30pm
Friday, December 16 th	Koffee Klatch	8:45-9:45am
Friday, December 16 th	Faubion PTA Dollar Days	All Day
Tuesday, January 3 rd	First Day Back to School!	All Day

Middle School Contact Information:

Phone: (503) 916-5686

- 6th Grade Self Contained, Melanie Lieu mlieu@pps.net
- 6th Grade Self Contained, Nekicia Luckett nluckett@pps.net
- 7th Grade Humanities, Phyllis Madison pmadison@pps.net
- 8th Grade Humanities, Carissa Kerrissey ckerrissey@pps.net
- Middle School Science, Melanie Ramsey mramsey@pps.net
- Middle School Math, Michelle Akron mackron@pps.net
- Special Education, Matt Walker mwalker@pps.net
- Middle School P.E., Brian Fennema bfennema@pps.net
- Middle School Art, Mark Gunderson mgunderson@pps.net
- Middle School Chinese, Yuan Jun yunxiaojun2011@gmail.com
- Middle School Band/Choir, Kathryn Giffert kgiffert@pps.net
- Maker Space Instructor, Mara McGreevy mmcgreevy@pps.net
- Chess for Success Coach, Josiah Malone lilsmoove27@yahoo.com
- Academic Advisor, Nik Merrick nmerrick@pps.net
- Student Management, Rory Thompson rthomps@pps.net

Middle School Special Course Offerings:

- * Band * Math in Real Life * Choir *
- * Health * Chess * Poetry *
- * Library * Faubion News * Art *
- * Weekly Incentive & 2nd Chance Time *
- * P.E. * Creative Writing *
- * Survival Geography * Social Justice *
- * Launchpad Tutoring *
- * Mandarin Chinese * Maker Space *

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District Title VI & Title IX Contact: Greg Wolleck, HS Regional Administrator (503-916-3963)
District 504 Contact: Tammy Jackson, Director, Student Services (503-916-5460)
American Disabilities Act Contact: Human Resources (503-916-3544)

Ms. Ramsey's 7th & 8th Grade Science:

Weather + Erosion + Forensics = Fun in Science

The 8th grade Earth Science students will finish their unit on Weather and Atmosphere focusing on Extreme Weather...tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, and droughts in Portland and the world. What causes and effects on the environment and people? What can we do to prepare for this possibility? ARE YOU PREPARED? DO YOU HAVE A PLAN? The students will finally design and build weather instruments and test their functionality indoors and outdoors.

The 7th grade Integrated Science students will be finishing their unit on Erosion & Weathering by studying the impact of erosion and flooding in Oregon and Boomtown. They will write a Geologist's Report giving their recommendation for where to build in the fictional town of Boomtown based on evidence related to geology, topography, and erosion.

The 7/8 Advanced Science students are continuing their studies on Forensic Anthropology and we can use bones, skeletons, height, and teeth to identify possible victims and people. We just finished identifying and constructing a rodent skeleton and will finish with the "Facial Reconstruction" of a person using clay, hair, and a wig-head and of course determine what caused their head trauma. Sincerely,

Ms. Ramsey

Mr. Gunderson's Middle School Art:

7th and 8th Grade students have been learning about and creating simple and complex Ojos de Dios (God's Eyes) which are created for a variety of reasons but have shown to be very relaxing, although sometimes frustrating to figure out the complex designs. The last week of the break we will be getting winter decorations ready for the upcoming holiday concert.

6th grade students just finished their Google art competition where they were creating a doodle that represents something that they envision for the future whether it's an underwater city or hover cars or a school made of candy. There were some amazing concepts and designs from all students.

Happy Holidays!

Mr. Gunderson

Mr. Merrick – Academic Advisor:

A very happy month of December to all!

For this month, I wanted to talk about the practice of forgiveness. Many times we get caught-up in the day-to-day struggles of survival and don't realize the underlying emotional pains that are holding us back from experiencing a richer and more loving life. Forgiveness is not a behavior but more of an internal state of being and feeling – it is a practice. It is when we let go of resentments, ill will, complaint, and bitterness or any other negative feeling we have toward someone or something.

This baggage of negativity harms us more than any other person because we have to be the one who carries it. In many ways, we are the ones who are hurting ourselves more than anyone else can. Harboring negative feelings is counterproductive and does not lead to any logical solutions to problems, or any healthy changes. In the spirit of this holiday season, please find time to forgive yourself, your child, your husband or wife, a coworker, or even the guy who just cut you off in traffic. By releasing the negativity and pain, you liberate yourself.

Remember to check your child's planner and discuss what is happening at school. Happy holidays and happy New Year to each one of you!

See you in 2017,

Nik Merrick

Ms. Lieu's 6th Grade Class:

Greetings from Room 211!

This month has been very busy for our 6th graders. We are currently in the middle of learning about Ancient Sumerian city-states in social studies. We have been exploring the myths of Gilgamesh, and students are writing their own myths, based on our knowledge of Freytag's narrative pyramid. In math, students are studying ratios, fractions, and decimals and new strategies for problem solving real-world math problems. In science, students are finishing their catastrophic weather presentations on Google Slides. In writing, students have been studying different emotions in the human condition by doing an author study of Gary Soto. Students have been sharing their writing with each other in writing circles. For reading, students are encouraged to select a level-appropriate "good fit" chapter book to read independently. Students should expect to be completing a novel each month.

Ms. Lieu



Mrs. Quigley's 6th Grade Class:

The year 2016 is quickly winding down, but it's winding up in 6th grade. In Writing we are working on opinion pieces with defensible evidence using the common core standards. In math we're moving on to Ratios and Unit Rates and in Reading we are continuing our novel study and building vocabulary. All of this is winding up to the fast approaching sixth grade state tests.

Go Bulldogs!

Mrs. Quigley



Ms. McGreevy's Maker Space

Hello, Faubion Families!

It's an exciting time in MakerSpace! We've spent time exploring the cool technology and amazing materials we have in here, and now we're getting down to projects. Our second graders are building rockets and space suits for their exploration unit. Our third, fourth, and fifth graders are learning 3D design to print their very own fidgets-- items they can hold and use in class to decrease stress, anxiety, and increase focus while learning. Our preK students are working on learning letters by programing BeeBots, while our kinders are starting projects on animal habitats. Our middle schoolers will be building earthquake tables on which to test buildings they design in Mrs. Ramsey's science class. It's going to be an exciting month!

--Ms. M in MakerSpace

Go Bulldogs!

Mr. Fennema's Physical Education Class

Happy Holidays from the Department of Physical Education!!!

As we enter the Holiday season we have some exciting things going on in PE. All students from grades 5th through 8th just completed fitness testing by performing the Fitnessgram in class. I will have the results of all the tests soon so that I can compare how the students performed last year and so we can make strides in improving the scores when we test again in the spring.

Over the next three weeks we will be in the basketball unit for all classes. We will be focusing on skill development and learning the essential skills of basketball which include dribbling, passing and shooting. The end of the

basketball unit will include a basketball tournament in which we will crown a Middle School champion team.

As always, if you have any questions about anything going on in PE, please don't hesitate to contact me. Below you will find my contact information, feel free to contact me about any questions, comments or concerns. I look forward to hitting the ground running!

Best,

Brian Fennema

Mr. Walker's Resource Room

Hello Faubion Families,

Last month I highlighted the Portland Public Schools website for its vast amount of information regarding special education. One area I did not mention is the Legal Counsel section in special education. For instance, what is the difference between accommodations and modifications? If you go to the Newsletters section you will find information on this topic and many, many more.

Go to www.pps.k12.or.us click on the Departments tab, go to Special Education, and on the left you will find SPED Legal Counsel.

Of course, I am available to answer specific questions about specific students, special education at Faubion, and more general questions. If I don't know the answers I will find them for you or direct you to those who know.

Go Bulldogs! Go Bulldogs!

Matt Walker

