

8 NORTH NEWSLETTER

May 2018

Language Arts

Mr. Strecker

In our unit on dystopian fiction, the students have been working diligently in their small groups. At this point, most of the groups have completed reading the first half of their novel and are beginning the second half. During class time, the students have been working collaboratively to delve into the deeper elements of the book, such as making connections between the world of their novel and our world today.

Another use of class time has been to hone discussion skills. Students have been working on asking thought-provoking questions as part of the discussions. As well, they challenge themselves to find multiple answers for those questions rather than settling on easy answers. Finally, the students are expected to utilize support from the text for all assertions, which is an important skill in any discussion.

To wrap-up this unit, the students will be working together to develop short presentations. The purpose of this assignment will be to analyze how the dystopia the group read fits or does not fit within the expectations of the dystopian genre.

Math

Mrs. Ryan

Pre-Algebra:

In Pre algebra, we finished our unit on Linear Equations and Linear Systems in April. The students learned how to model problems using linear equations and how to interpret the solution of linear systems. In May we will begin our unit on Data Analysis. Students will look at bivariate data and its graph, and learn how to add a line of best fit to

determine if data. Please check out the Pre-Algebra Curriculum page on my JW teacher web page for a more detailed description of our current unit as well as links to additional resources.

In Algebra, we completed our unit on Introduction to Exponential Equations in April. Students learned to recognize the difference between linear and exponential data and how to write equations for both. Students conducted a couple of experiments in the classroom and collected data to analyze using these new tools. In May, we will begin our final unit which is a study of Quadratic Functions. Students will investigate what quadratic functions look like and will learn how to solve them using both graphing and algebraic methods including factoring. Please check out the Algebra Curriculum page on my JW teacher web page for a more detailed description of our current unit as well as links to additional resources.

Global Studies

Mr. Bish

Students are currently working through their investigation of the Middle-Ages time period in Global Studies class during the month of April. We covered a great deal of material on this topic including the feudal system, the power of Popes and kings, daily life in Medieval villages, and the holy wars. We will also have a discussion about the events that brought an end to the feudal system and whether it is accurate to describe the Middle Ages as a "Dark Age" or not. Finally, students will take a comprehensive test on the Middle Ages

unit.

In May and June, students will take on the challenge of researching and presenting to the class about a notable individual from the Renaissance, Reformation, Scientific Revolution, or Exploration time period.

Science

Ms ODP

Science classes are investigating the physics of roller coasters. We applied the knowledge that was acquired over the last few weeks such as speed, Newton's laws, acceleration, forces, etc. to how coasters work. Students created an individual model of the perfect coasters. They then brought their ideas to the group. After much collaboration, the group created a new model of the coaster that they would like to build. The coaster includes the best parts of each individual's model. The coasters will be built entirely out of paper! The group with the most thrilling coaster that runs for the longest time will win the contract from Lake Compounce! This is always a great unit and a favorite of the students.

Writing

Students are beginning to present their career presentations/slide show to combined writing classes. They will share three careers of interest and choose the one that is the best fit for their personality and life goals. It is great practice for public speaking and combination of research and writing!

ACT GOAL:

Act Goal of the Month: Leadership

"A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus but a molder of consensus." --Martin Luther King, Jr.

How can one be a good leader? Be a caring person. A good leader cares about others or important causes.

Share ideas and responsibilities. Inspire others. Make those around you want to try even harder.

Learn and grow. Good leaders are always finding new ways to get things done. Good leaders are also good followers. They look for good examples in others. A good leader knows they still have a lot to learn.

REMINDERS:

8 North homework calendars can be found on the team webpage.

<https://sites.google.com/a/reg4.k12.ct.us/8-north-homework-calendar---all-classes/>

Student Success Plans (SSP): goals are ready for viewing in Naviance

All JW students will be creating academic and social goals to focus on their own personal needs and areas for improvement. These goals are a part of our school-wide [Student Success Plan](#), a program encompassing academics, social growth, and early career exploration. Students will revisit and revise these goals throughout the year. Parents and guardians are able to view these goals in [Naviance](#), our online SSP program. Instructions and access codes will be mailed home to all households. We encourage families to discuss these goals at home. If you need assistance viewing these goals or resetting your password, please contact the office.

Title IX Non-Discrimination Notice
The Chester, Deep River, Essex, Region #4, and Supervision District Boards of Education are committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons and equal access to Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. The Chester, Deep River, Essex, Region #4, and Supervision District Boards of Education do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability (including, but not limited to, intellectual disability, past or present history of mental disorder, physical disability or learning disability), genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or federal nondiscrimination laws. The Chester, Deep River,

Essex, Region #4, and Supervision District Boards of Education do not unlawfully discriminate in employment against qualified persons with a prior criminal conviction. Questions or complaints related to Title IX should be directed to Dr. Kristina Martineau, Assistant Superintendent, 1 Winthrop Road, Deep River, CT 06417 or by phone at 860-526-2417 or e-mail kmaritneau@reg4.k12.ct.us; questions or complaints related to disabilities, should be directed to Sarah Smalley, Director of Pupil Services, 1 Winthrop Road, Deep River, CT 06417 or by phone at 860-526-2417 or e-mail ssmalley@reg4.k12.ct.us.