



7th Grade November Newsletter 2020

Wow! October flew by! The 7th grade is in full swing! November brings us to the end of the first quarter and time for Parent Teacher conferences. Please check google classroom for updates on assignments and Zoom links for conferences.

In **Math 7** the students are learning to calculate percentages including tax, markups and discounts. The students are learning to solve problems involving percentages. They are learning to apply proportions and the percent equation to a variety of contexts, including percent change, percent markup and markdown, percent error, and simple interest.

In **Science**, the students will be introduced to the human body and its systems. The students will learn how the body is organized and how organs in different systems work together to supply energy, manage materials, and control processes. In the following weeks of study, the unit will provide the 7th grade with a deepening understanding of the human body.

In **Social Studies**, we are investigating the Thirteen Original Colonies. We will find out how each colony was formed and how they developed economically, politically, and culturally. Students will be asked to compare and contrast each region and identify key figures. This will lead us to the French and Indian War and then to our own fight for independence. To keep abreast of current events we are reading *Upfront*. This is a magazine produced by Scholastic and the New York Times. The articles have been fascinating.

In **Language Arts** we completed a unit on space exploration. We read short stories, performed a play and dissected nonfiction material. We will end the unit by writing an argumentative essay, taking a stand on the need for space travel to Mars. We will review the elements of an essay, tackle the idea of evidence and review conventions of grammar. Our next unit is entitled "Facing Adversity". The selections expose the obstacles faced by people and how they overcome these hurdles.

In **Earth Science** we will begin studying rocks and the rock cycle. We will learn about igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks. We will learn how they are formed and how to identify some of them. After we finish with rocks we will move on to learning about natural resources. We will learn the difference between renewable and nonrenewable resources and we will discuss ways to use our resources in a more sustainable way.

In **Math 8** the students are solving multistep linear equations developing a better understanding of inverse operations. Later this month students will understand that solutions to a system of two linear in two variables correspond to points of intersection of their graphs as they expand their knowledge of solving algebraic equations to systems.