



Welcome back to school! January is quite a busy month, luckily we are all well-rested from Christmas break and ready for the tasks ahead.

In ELA we are focusing on reading and writing literature and informative text. We will be reading short stories, poems, and articles that relate to the theme of “growing up.” Students will also be reading the novel “Fish in a Tree,” paired with this unit of study. As we read the various texts, students will be looking for connections and similarities in theme, tone and purpose. The unit will culminate in an analysis essay where students use textual evidence to support a claim.

Our exploration of Ancient Civilizations continues in Social Studies. Students are working on understanding the characteristics of the Indus River Valley Civilization. They will compare and contrast this group of people to those we have already studied.

In Religion class we are reading about the journey of the Hebrews and how they made it to the promised land and settled in Canaan. This will bring about many trials and tribulations for God’s people, and we will examine the key choices they made; along with the key figures like Samson, Ruth and David, who helped lead them.

In Science, students are expanding their knowledge of energy systems by focusing on thermal energy. Students will be able to describe the relationship between heat, temperature, and thermal energy. We will be studying how this form of energy moves and changes, and how it impacts many of Earth’s systems from geology to weather.

In Math this month the students will continue to focus on algebraic equations. They will determine if possible solutions make an equation true by using substitution and properties of equality. Later in the month, they will apply these concepts to write inequalities that describe real-world situations.

I am very excited to ring in the new year with this 6th grade class!