

5TH and 6TH Grade Newsletter

September, 2014

Student Name:

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Math:

We are calculating and recalculating with GRIT, PRACTICE, and SUCCESS! With this phrase as our classroom vision for this school year, we are encouraged to practice and get risks to be successful in math. Students receive homework in math almost every night, and this homework is essential practice for all students. Students must bring their completed homework, their blue notebook, their blue folder, their Jumoke agenda and at least three pencils to each math class. We all have to be ready to learn!

In 5th grade, we are continuing Unit 1: Making Algebraic Connections. Last week, we practiced evaluating with the order of operations using PEMDAS. The students enjoyed creating "PEMDAS PIZZAS" as they evaluated the numerical expressions. This week we are analyzing and creating real-world situations that match numerical expressions. To show what we know, we will have a Unit 1 Quiz on evaluating numerical expressions using PEMDAS!

In 6th grade, we are continuing Unit 1: Operating with Positive Rational Numbers. We have learned how to divide multi-digit numbers, and now we are focusing on dividing fractions. We are using two formats to find quotients when dividing fractions: the area model and the reciprocal model. To show what we know, we will have a Unit 1 Quiz.

Language Arts:

We are in the process of completing our unit on Understanding Text Structures for the month of September. In October Ms. Bailey and I will be working together on the Holocaust combining writing an informational piece and using primary and secondary sources with fifth grade scholars. In sixth grade we will be working on informational writing also and connecting it with social studies. The scholars will also be using primary and secondary sources and learning about Africa.

Social Studies

This week we are beginning to learn about primary and secondary sources in fifth and sixth grade. In fifth grade we will be analyzing primary and secondary sources to learn about the Holocaust. We will learn about the causes and effects of the Holocaust through research and document analysis. In sixth grade will be learning about the different issues affecting Africa. We will focus on a series of topics like geography, economics, and apartheid to help the scholars grasp the beauties and issues of Africa.

Science:

During September both the 5th and 6th grade scholars have been practicing using the scientific method, as well as, skills that will allow them to conduct scientific investigations throughout the year. Through an experiment with paper airplanes, the 5th graders created and tested their own hypothesis and used rulers to make quantitative observations. The 6th graders conducted an M&M lab that gave them the opportunity to conduct a scientific investigation, as well as, helping them to become familiar with graduated cylinders, an important tool in science experiments. After a test next week, the 5th graders will begin a unit on sound and the 6th graders will begin investigating the properties of matter.

