

North Bethesda Middle School

6th Grade Team Weekly Parent Update



6th Grade Parent Update #20 March 5, 2020

Dates:

Tue-Thurs 3/24 - 3/26	Session 3 of Outdoor Education
Fri. 3/27	Early Release Day for Students - end of Q3
Mon-Mon 4/6 - 4/13	Spring Break - No School for students and staff
Tues. 4/28	No School - No school for students and staff

Outdoor Education Session 3

Session 3 has been rescheduled for March 24-26. Because of the new dates, we are in need of more parent chaperones. Parent chaperones must be fingerprinted and complete an online training. If you are interested, please complete this form [linked here](#) AND email Jennifer_a_Byrd@mcpsmd.org as soon as possible as this process takes a few weeks.

ACADEMIC UPDATES

English Department

English 6 - Ms. Brown

This Week: This week are finishing the Quality of Character Essay. We are continuing our review of parts of speech. We have finished worksheet #11, a review of nouns, pronouns, adjectives and verbs

Next Week: Next we will talk about our novels and begin Unit 5: Making your Mark.

English 6 - Ms. Giorgio

This Week: Students completed their Argumentative Essays on Google Classroom. Students spent time in class completing the essay, along with time for peer editing and revising. Students also listened to a presentation from the Counseling Office, and had time to prepare for their County test on Friday, 3/6.

Next Week: Students will begin Unit 5, *Making Your Mark*. Students will discuss the genre of the unit, drama, and take notes on dramatic elements. Students will read their first text of the unit, "Amigo Brothers".

Argumentative Essay deadline - Tuesday, 3/10

LP Due Dates

- LP #6 - due Monday, March 16th

English 6 - Ms. Hill

This Week: This week students completed their plans and drafted an introduction for their writing project that communicates the qualities of character that matter most. We also had our weekly book discussion on *Freedom Walkers* and completed the Unit 4 MCPS StudySync Exam.

Next Week: Next week students will continue to use the writing process to craft and complete their literary analysis argumentative essay on qualities of character. Students should continue to follow the reading homework schedule for *Freedom Walkers* posted in Google Classroom.

English 6 - Mr. Martin

This Week: Students continued drafting their argumentative essays. Students should be working on their Literature Profile Reading at home. Wednesday, students took part in a county mandated lesson on the signs of suicide prevention under the instruction of a counselor.

Next Week: Students will peer-review their essays and Literature Profiles. The students will begin on Unit 5.

Digital Literacy - Ms. Byrd, Ms. Hill, Mr. Hill

This Week:

Next Week:

Read 180 - Ms. Collins

This Week: This week students expressed the main ideas and theme of the text in the form of a poster about water conservation.

Next Week: Next week students will begin a new Workshop by taking a look at dystopian fiction. The next homework reading log is due on Monday, March 9, 2020.

ESOL - Ms. Francis

This Week: Students continued to work on the literary analysis evaluating the qualities of character in two texts: non-fiction and fiction. They completed the 4-paragraph organizer.

Next Week: Students will take the end of the unit exam at the beginning of next week. Students will start the new unit next week.

Math Department

Applied Investigations into Mathematics - Mr. Fitzpatrick

This Week: This week, in the first topic of Unit 5, students continue their study of exponents from earlier grade levels by investigating very large and very small quantities. This requires them to represent, estimate, and calculate numbers expressed in scientific notation. Students apply the properties of integer exponents to transform expressions as they explore equivalency.

Next Week: In the second topic, students differentiate between rational and irrational numbers by exploring repeating decimal patterns. They evaluate square roots and cube roots of perfect squares and perfect cubes. Students use rational approximations of irrational numbers to estimate the value of irrational numbers, compare their size, and locate them approximately on a number line diagram.

C2.0 Investigations into Mathematics - Mr. Kuhn

This Week: Students are applying the properties of integer of exponents to transform expressions as they explore equivalency. Friday will be our last day on the topic of Magnitude and Scientific Notation.

Next Week: Students will prepare for their Formative on Magnitude and Scientific Notation. Formative is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10th, 2020. We will then begin the unit on Rational and Irrational Numbers. Students will learn to differentiate between rational and irrational numbers by exploring repeating decimal patterns.

Math 6: - Ms. Rothstein & Mr. Leffler

This Week: This week students used equations to solve problems involving percentages and described the solution method. Students looked at different algebraic expressions to determine if they were equivalent. Students finished the week working with the distributive property.

Next Week: Next week students will interpret expressions with exponents larger than 3, and comprehend the phrase “to the power of” or “to the ___ power.” Students will justify whether numerical expressions involving whole number exponents are equal. Students will evaluate numerical expressions that have an exponent and one other operation, and explain the process. By the end of the week students will solve expressions that have a variable, an exponent, and one other operation for a given value of the variable, carrying out the operations in the conventional order.

Physical Education & Health Department

Physical Education

This Week: This week students will continue with their third unit of the quarter.

Next Week: Next week, they'll complete their third unit and choose their “choice unit” for the last unit of the quarter.

Health - Ms. Heyn

This week: Students identified strategies for living a drug-free lifestyle. In addition, they listed various reasons to remain drug-free. We discussed the opioid epidemic, addiction, and the harmful effects of opioids.

We started the Safety unit. Students learned how to respond to an emergency, including the "3 C's" (check, call, and care).

Next Week: Students will learn about internet safety. In addition, we will learn how to respond to cyberbullying.

Music & Art Department

Orchestra - Mrs. Hepburn Lun

This Week: This week 6th grade Band and Orchestra students have spent class time rehearsing selections that will be performed at the Spring Concert in June. At home you should be hearing Orchestra students practice “*March of the Bowmen*” and “*Clog Dance*” while band students should be practicing “*Barbara Ann*” and “*African Folk Trilogy*.” Both classes will have a playing assessment on Friday, March 6th. (Band - Page 18 Method Book, Orchestra - Clog Dance) Please encourage your music student to check the portal and make up any missed assignments.

Next Week: Band and Orchestra students will continue to work on technical exercises out of their method book and rehearse for the Spring Concert. Please work with your band or orchestra student to develop a consistent practice schedule. A little practice each day is more beneficial than a lot of practice before a test. Have a great weekend.

Chorus - Mr. McFeaters

This Week: This week in chorus, students have learned “B.A. Bay,” “Gina Lola Brigita,” as well as many other vocalizes aimed at extending their vocal ranges. We continue to work on “Give Us Hope,” and “Elijah Rock”.

Next Week: Next week, we will work on breathing, with a focus on range extension.

Art - Ms. Partlow

This week: Students will practice several different drawing techniques to prepare for an upcoming observational drawing unit. Students will create bind contour, contour, and gesture drawings, practice shading and blending with pencil and colored pencil, and will consider composition as they sketch a rough draft. Students will be creating an observational drawing of candy.

Next Week: Students will consider composition (arrangement of visual elements on/in a work of art) and create an observational drawing of candy that demonstrates value, form, proper proportions, and excellent craftsmanship.

General Music - Mr. Brown

This week: This week we are working on playing five finger patterns in C, F, G, and D on the keyboards. We are also working on our Selecting Repertoire seven music elements paper analyzing two songs Ma Teodora and Take Time in Life.

Next Week: Next week we will begin to learn how to play Ma Teodora and Take Time in Life on the keyboards with percussion and boomwhackers.

Science Department

Science 6 - Mr. Elmer, Ms. Lutchenkov, Ms. Sadeghi

This week: This week in science we focused on the impacts of plastics and identified potential alternatives to using petroleum-based plastics. We continued our discussion of impacts on the environment by looking at impacts on air pollution, water pollution and land. Using Google Earth images, we examined how the Earth changed substantially over a brief amount of time.

Next week: Next week we continue to focus on air pollution and begin to consider specific impacts on land and water.

Social Studies Department

World Studies 6 - Ms. Beaton, Ms. Conley, Ms. Jasti Currie

This week: Students reviewed the timeline of Rome's Republic and incorporated elements of storytelling while creating comics about how Rome became a Republic. We completed review activities and the week ended with students taking their Ancient Rome Quiz. Scores will be posted ASAP and students interested in a re-take should prepare over the weekend. Retake opportunities will be available 3/9 to 3/13 only.

Next Week: How well did Rome support the common good?

Special Request Ms. Jasti Currie is asking for donations of hand sanitizer and/or Clorox wipes. Her supply is getting low – thanks in advance!

Global Humanities 6 - Ms. Grace & Ms. Steimer

This Week: At the start of the week, we completed our written responses answering the prompt: "What kind of leader was Augustus?" In this writing, students focused on skills that help them prove the reliability of their sources. In particular, we focused on *corroboration* (comparing multiple documents to look for agreed-upon facts) and *sourcing* (using information about the author's background, experiences, and purpose in writing to evaluate reliability and any possible bias). Next, we turned from Augustus and the Pax Romana to increasing problems that developed in the Roman Empire in the third century CE. From political violence to economic problems to an empire that had grown too big to effectively govern, Rome was in crisis. Working in table groups, we tried to solve the Empire's problems and compared our solutions to Emperor Diocletian's reforms, evaluating the effectiveness of his policies and the trade-offs that were required. We also looked at the changing attitude toward, and role of, Christianity within the empire under the reign of Constantine. At the end of the week, we began analyzing sources to determine the primary causes of the long, slow fall of the Western Roman Empire.

Next Week: We will leave Rome and begin a new unit on economic systems.

Technology Education Department

Coding & Robotic Design - Ms. Chang

This week:

Next week:

Imagineering Technology - Ms. Paul-Phillips

This week: This week students were introduced to the four forces of flight by playing a game. They will continue to explore the forces by building mini rockets for the rest of the week.

Next week: Students will test their paper rockets and collect data to draw conclusions about the nature of rockets in general

World Languages Department

Spanish

Spanish 1A - Ms. Ranaweera

This week: This week, students applied the rules for conjugating regular AR verbs to describe what they do throughout their school day. There was a quiz on this concept on 3/5/20.

Next week: Next week, students will apply the vocabulary and grammar learned in the unit to write about their school day including classes, teachers, supplies, schedule, etc. They will practice throughout the week and take a common writing task on Friday, 3/13/20.

Spanish 1A - Ms. Markos

This week: This week we learned how to conjugate AR verbs and used them in context to discuss things that we do at school such as take the bus, work together in groups or participate in class. On Friday students took an AR verb quiz.

Next week: Next week students will have their quarter 3 writing task on Friday. We will spend the rest of the week preparing/reviewing for that task and then after the writing task students will begin to work on their unit 2 exam study guide. As always, please continue to check MyMCPs Classroom regularly if not daily, for important announcements and information about upcoming assignments.

French

French 1A - Ms. Myers

This week: This week the students continued to work with adjectives and adjective agreement. We focused on adjectives that go before the noun, such as beau, nouveau and vieux. The students were introduced to hair color/style and eye color. The students practiced describing themselves by giving personality traits and physical descriptions (i.e., hair color, eye color). Additionally, we reviewed the irregular verb, avoir. There will be an exit ticket on *avoir* on Friday, March 6th.

Next week: We will continue to work with adjectives and adjective agreement. The students will practice describing themselves and others. They will work with both irregular verbs, avoir & être and will practice using them and knowing when to use them in their descriptions.

COUNSELING UPDATES

SSL UPDATES

This Week:

Completed SSL Verification forms turned into the Counseling Office are processed towards the end of each quarter. During 3rd and 4th quarter completed SSL Verification forms belonging to 8th graders are processed more frequently due to the Superintendent Award hard deadline. All students should keep a record of their forms (hard copy or scanned copy) at home. Third quarter completed SSL Verification forms will be processed by April 15th. Please see screenshot below for other timelines.

Incomplete SSL Verification forms will be returned to students through her/his/their 1st period teacher. There are five forms posted on the NBMS SSL Google Classroom that have no identifying information. Unfortunately, Mrs. Jurewicz cannot complete forms on behalf of students. Hard copies of completed forms should be turned into the SSL bins located in the Counseling Office.

Next Week:

Students interested in earning the Superintendent SSL Award this school year (only awarded once) need to have 75 hours submitted by April 3, 2020 (hard deadline).

If your student has any questions please ask her/him/them to stop by room A104 and ask for Mrs. Jurewicz or send an email to Carla_A_Jurewicz@mcpsmd.org.

Add to Your "To Do" List:

- For students-Add NBMS SSL Google Classroom to your G Suite using the code "iwmjnms". It is the same process you would use to add a Google Classroom for an academic class.
- For parents/guardians-Have your student add NBMS SSL Google Classroom to her/his/their G Suite using the code "iwmjnms". It is the same process she/he/they would use to add a Google Classroom for an academic class. Once your student is registered Mrs. Jurewicz will use the "Invite Guardian" function to invite parents/guardians. Please email Mrs. Jurewicz the email address you would like to use.

Ideally Mrs. Jurewicz would like students and guardians to join the NBMS SSL Classroom.

SSL Opportunities:

[See the NBMS SSL Google Classroom.](#)

Looking Ahead:

"Nonprofit organizations that are not identified with a graduation cap graduation cap on the Montgomery County Volunteer Center (MCVC) website require pre-approval.

The MCPS Form 560-50, Individual Student Service Learning Request, must be submitted and approved by the school-based SSL Coordinator *two weeks* in advance of service. All pre-approval requests must be submitted in a timely manner. There is a two-week allowance for school-based SSL Coordinators to review the request for approval or denial based on compliance with MCPS SSL Program."

The ten hours students may earn in 6th grade (Outdoor Ed), 7th grade (in English class), and 8th grade (in Social Studies class) are automatically added in the summer after completion. If students did not complete the ten hours or did not complete the assignment that is equivalent to ten hours, he/she/they will not earn the ten hours.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS