

# Troopers Team Newsletter

## March 13, 2020



These are unusual times. The kids are showing some stress related to the evolving news surrounding the Coronavirus—it is a constant topic of conversation, and there are lots of rumors swirling. We are trying to help them process the information they have as well as help them weed out fact from rumor.

With that in mind, we wanted to make you aware that there is a FAKE Instagram account that claims to be from Wake County Public School System. That account is called @wcpssalerts. Please know that the information from that account is not reliable and is not from the Wake County Public School System.

For accurate information about school system alerts, please visit their website at [www.wcpss.net](http://www.wcpss.net).

### ***Social Studies/Rabb:***

**There is so much to know about ROME!** We started the unit by front-loading vocabulary—and there is a LOT of vocabulary for this unit! We have studied the geography of Italy, learning that Rome sits on the west coast of Italy. We spent Thursday and Friday learning about the government of Ancient Rome, from the early rule by kings (monarchy) to the rise of the Roman Republic.

Next week, we will continue learning about the social structure of Ancient Rome as well as discover Julius Caesar!! We will conclude the week connecting our earlier learning about the Silk Road (in China) with new information about its impact in Rome.

**Our next unit assessment (50%) is currently planned for Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>.** The test will cover both Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome. There will grade recovery opportunities for this assessment.

### **Dates to Remember:**

Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>—Neon Glow Dance!!  
Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>—Quarter 3 ends  
Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>—Beginning of Spring Break  
Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>—School Resumes/Spring Break ends  
Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>—Report Cards go home

### ***ELA/Gabbard:***

WOW! We had a super productive week in ELA! I was very impressed with the interest and discussion centered around our current text, World without Fish. Students analyzed text to determine main idea and used multiple strategies to understand complex vocabulary. Also, we continued to practice finding and using text evidence to bolster support for answers and ideas. A test was taken today and grades will be input soon.

Next week, students will complete a GooseChase covering excerpts and ideas from World without Fish. This is an excellent tool to process information in multiple ways and gain understanding of varying formats. Soon, we will transition to a fiction text entitled Flush. Our plan is to move to that text in the next week. We will continue to analyze text for main idea, multiple meaning words, gist, and using text to support written and verbal responses.

Stay well and have a great week!  
Mrs. Gabbard

PS--If you are willing to donate sticky notes, we would certainly appreciate your generosity!

Have a great week!



Mrs. Gabbard

## **Math/Figueroa:**

The advance class will have Unit 10 Mid Test this Tuesday. There is a quiz for all classes on the coordinate plane this Friday March 20<sup>th</sup>. All classes will be assessed on Unit 7/10 Test on March 25<sup>th</sup>. We then will go into Statistics. EOG4 is due March 23<sup>rd</sup>. This will be the last one for the quarter. Have a great weekend.

## **Science/Hipps: Rock on Planet Earth cause "It's Alive"**

Soil (especially topsoil) is teeming with life. Because of this, scientists often refer to soil as being, "alive." This coming week will be devoted to rocks, minerals and soil. We will complete our Rock Cycle lab on Monday and move from there to soil.

Students are often surprised to learn that soil is a pile of very small rocks and minerals, dead stuff, water, and lots of living things. So. We will also become aware of just how poorly we treat soil during construction, mining, farming and everyday living. Therefore, we must then examine ways we can conserve, protect, and develop our necessary resource.

Rocks are classified according to they are formed. Therefore, to understand the rock cycle, you must understand the forces responsible for each rock. For example, igneous rocks are formed form mama or lava cooling into a rock. That makes the forces, melting and cooling.

Like rocks, how soil is formed is huge. Soil is a combination of dissolved minerals, decomposers, water, air spaces, and organic materials. *Knowing how water and heat impact this formation process is vital.*

### **Project Alert**

I know I said this last week, but our RAFT projects are due on Friday. This project is wide open and has a planning rubric that students can adjust and change. Only students that complete all class work may work on the project. Any student not able to finish in time for the project will take an assessment. In this way, if a student is working methodically through the web-quest, they won't be penalized. Plus, those students who complete the web-quest, can dive creatively deeper with the RAFT options.

### **Assessment Alert!**

Next week we will take Plate Tectonic Test #2. At this juncture, most students have a very solid grasp of plate tectonics. In addition to plate tectonics, the rock cycle and soil will be on the test.

### **Key Concepts**

1. Heat moves from high to low concentration until thermal equilibrium.
2. Convection causes tectonic plate movement.
3. We classify plate boundaries according to how they move.
4. We classify rocks according to how they are formed.
5. Soil is essential for life on our planet.

### **Key Questions**

1. How do we know what the inside of our earth looks like if we have never seen it?
2. What do the location of earthquakes and volcanoes tell us about our earth?
3. What are the three types of tectonic plate boundaries?
4. What process form and change rocks onto other rocks in the rock cycle?
5. How is soil formed?
6. How do farmers conserve soil?
7. After evaluating the evidence showing plate movement, which piece of evidence is most convincing

**Science Rocks,  
Mr. Hipps**

**Thank you for the Starbursts and Jolly Ranchers! Troopers Families ROCK!**