

Troopers Team Newsletter

March 6, 2020



Dates to Remember:

Monday, March 9th—Teacher Workday
Wednesday, March 11th—Spring Picture Day
Friday, March 25th—Neon Glow Dance!!
Friday, April 3rd—Quarter 3 ends
Saturday, April 4th—Beginning of Spring Break
Tuesday, April 14th—School Resumes/Spring Break ends
Friday, April 17th—Report Cards go home
Tuesday, April 21st—6th grade field trip to the NC Outer Banks 😊

ELA/Gabbard:

Thank you so much to everyone that sent gallon size Ziploc bags! The World Without Fish books and workbooks are very happy to have a safe place to rest after our use. The Narrative of Adversity products have been scored and the values entered in to PowerSchools.

Next week, students will continue working with questions that require text evidence to respond accurately. We will continue reading WWF and learning more about overfishing and sustainability. Also, students will have a quiz on Wednesday or Thursday of next week.

Have a great week!
Mrs. Gabbard

PTSA Info:

****For all PTSA information (membership, fundraising, events, & more) please visit their website: www.afmsptsa.org**

A million thanks to those lovely adult humans who have volunteered to be chaperones for our field trip! As a result of your amazingness, we now have enough chaperones! Woohoo!

Social Studies/Rabb:

A little blurb about PowerSchools and Social Studies grades: While PowerSchools is a great tool to keep up with the academic progress of our kiddos, I know from personal experience that it can also drive you nuts! I had to turn off the notifications for my own four children (and the youngest one, currently in 11th grade, is quite happy with that decision!).

For the most part, students are working pretty hard to get the hang of how to learn about and study ancient history. It's a challenge...my sweet kiddos have little background knowledge on these civilizations, so they are taking in new vocabulary, new content, and new information. It's been difficult for a lot of them! Be patient as they are learning...even six months into the school year!...and encourage them to ask me questions!

Upcoming Unit:

We begin our study of ANCIENT ROME on Tuesday! We will learn about the rise and fall of the Roman Empire, including Roman achievements, social structure, politics...and, of course, Julius Caesar and Caesar Augustus! We will end our unit with a look at another world religion, Christianity.

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

Math/Figueroa:

The advance class is back into the 6th grade concepts, Rational Numbers. There are only 2 more units to teach before preparation of the EOG's. The time is flying. The coming up assessments will be a quiz for the advance class and Unit 7 Mid Test for the regular class both on Thursday March 12th. All students have been giving EOG 4 which will be the last one for this quarter. It is due on Monday March 23rd. Have a good weekend.

Science/Hipps:

Rock on Planet Earth

We are continuing our journey through plate tectonics. All of yesterday's quizzes are graded. Students either did very well, or not very well (and not much in between). Some of this was because it was a very different quiz. No multiple choice, and mostly application. For this reason I will have a retake on this particular assessment.

Science is now moving at a quicker pace, and the rigor has picked up. I am proud of how well most of our students are learning. It is reflected in solid grades and some very deep and pointed questions in class.

Project Alert

RAFT projects are due 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.

Rock-On!

Next week will provide us a great opportunity to segue to the rock cycle before our quick trip into soil. Understanding how rocks form is the key to classifying rocks.

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**