



The Monthly Prophet

Ms. Vega

Class 6/7/8 – 422

November 2015 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

New this Month: In this issue of the Monthly Prophet you will notice that we have added a Coming Up in Italian section, as well as some strategies that can be used at home.

Coming Up in ELA...

For the month of November we will be finishing up the final parts of Workshop 2 in the *READ 180* program and begin to work on Workshop 3: Identity Crisis. During this unit students will be able to read various texts in order to discover some of the consequences that people face when they change or hide their identity. We will be watching video clips, reading a short story, and two poems. Students will then be able to write up a literary analysis of the texts read.

Key Vocabulary: unique, recognize, identity, secure, deceive, error, genuinely, precisely, evident

Coming Up in Math...

The 6th and 7th graders have just begun their second unit on Proportions and Similarity. The essential question is “What are ratios and proportions and how do we use them in our daily lives?” During this unit the students will learn how to find proportions, how to draw scale drawings and models, and understand the similarity and proportional reasoning between similar figures.

The 8th graders in the class have begun their second unit on Triangles & Transformations. The essential question is “How are similar triangles, right triangle relationships, and transformations used in the real world?” During this unit the students will learn about similar triangles, the Pythagorean Theorem and how to apply it, and about the various transformations of a shape such as translations, reflections, rotations, and dilations.

Key Vocabulary: see below

Dates to Remember

Nov. 1	Daylight Savings Time (Time back 1hr.)
Nov. 3	Election Day (School Closed)
Nov. 5	Parent Teacher Conference (Half Day)
Nov. 6	Lunch Money Due
Nov. 9	Picture Day (K-7)
Nov.11	Veterans Day (School Closed)
Nov. 18	Parents' Association Meeting
Nov. 26-29	Thanksgiving Recess (School Closed)

Key Vocabulary for Math

6th/7th: rate, unit rate, proportional, non-proportional, equivalent ratios, cross products, scale model, scale factor, similar figures, corresponding sides and angles.

8th: similar polygons, corresponding parts, scale factor, tangent ratio, hypotenuse, Pythagorean Theorem, converse, distance formula, translation transformation, reflection, symmetry, rotation.

Coming Up in Science...

This month in Science the students will be continuing on our unit on reproduction. We began with the basics of cells, and are now focusing on cell and plant reproduction. During the unit we will discuss the importance of mitosis and meiosis, compare the cells of animals vs. plants, and learn how cells are produced and reproduced. We will also be conducting mini labs in order to connect what the students are reading and learning about in the text to real world hands on experience.

Key Vocabulary: mitosis, chromosome, asexual and sexual reproduction, sperm, egg, fertilization, zygote, diploid, haploid, meiosis, DNA, gene, RNA, mutation.

Coming Up in Social Studies...

In Social Studies we will be focusing on "Agriculture and Human Civilization". Our essential question for this unit is "Was the Development of Agriculture Good for Humans?" where students will be able to answer how environmental changes and new technologies affected the development, how the development in Mesopotamia lead to the development of writing, and what the consequences of agriculture were for humans.

Key Vocabulary: Neolithic Era, Paleolithic Era, Mesopotamia, domestication, agriculture, megaliths, cuneiform, famine, pandemic.

Coming Up in Italian...

In the month of November, the students will continue the unit, Introduction to Italian. In this unit, they will learn the importance of L'alfabeto italiano! Students will be able to use the five Italian vowel sounds to read Italian more easily. Additionally, they will learn that unlike the English language, Italian is **phonetic**, meaning that every letter is pronounced as written. Finally, it is important that the students practice their Italian language skills outside of the classroom by doing homework and showing off what they know to family and friends. I encourage parents to ask children, "What did you learn in Italian class this week?" This will promote student learning outside of the classroom and encourage them to do their best. Grazie e Buon Giorno del Ringraziamento!

Strategies to use at home

- i-Ready lessons
- Going over class notes and asking students to explain the topic
- Using the Reteach & Skills Math workbook for extra support
- Flash cards to help remember vocabulary terms



Have a great month and remember
Achieving is what we do at P.S./I.S. 102!

