

7TH AND 8TH GRADE NEWSLETTER

ELA Update: In 7th and 8th grade ELA, students have moved from narrative writing (8th-Memoir, 7th-Realistic Fiction) into argument writing. Students will refine their skills in making a claim and backing it up with evidence and cohesive ideas. During reading workshops, students are focusing on reading for setting and how complex setting can be at the middle school level. Most recently, students looked at how “flash-backs” are actually a change in setting and what that change can tell us about the characters and story as a whole.

Science Update: In 7th grade, students will be creating models of atoms and learning how the behavior of atoms influences the behavior of matter as a whole. Students will also write their first Claim-Evidence-Reasoning paper based on scientific literature. In 8th grade, students just finished exploring photosynthesis and will move on to studying cellular respiration.

Math Update: In 7th grade, students are working on proportional relationships and learning how to test whether quantities are proportional or non-proportional, using tables and graphs. In 8th grade, students are developing their understanding of functions. This is an important domain that looks at how functions can model real world problems. Students will be graphing and comparing functions by analyzing the slope and the y-intercept.

Social Studies Update: In 7th grade, students are working on European exploration and discovery. Students will explore New World and Old World food origins by conducting research to create a project that demonstrates their understanding of how the Columbian Exchange altered people's lives worldwide. In 8th grade, students are strengthening their argument writing skills by analyzing document based questions involving The American Reconstruction.

Shout Out!

803- You did an excellent job publishing your memoir writing pieces and reflecting on the small moments that have impacted your life.

Single Shepherd Reminders:

If you have not finalized your student's high school application please schedule an appointment with Ms. Gentile at mgentile@psms29.org.

Upcoming Events: 12/7 & 12/14 Bronx Community College Trip