

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

#### ELA

The students have been working hard to learn and use their literary vocabulary in our class discussions and in their writing. This will truly help them grow as readers. We continue to work on our Greek and Latin vocabulary program as well. It is critical that the students study for their weekly quizzes, as these words will be of great use to them as they continue their education. Please encourage your child to go on the website Quizlet.com to practice their words or use the flashcards provided in class. We are enjoying our class read aloud, *Inside Out and Back Again*. This novel is filled with figurative language and rich vocabulary. The students are reading informational text about the region and the refugee experience. The skills that we will focus on are identifying tone and mood, analyzing connotative and denotative use of words and strong character development. The students will be writing consistently to demonstrate their knowledge. It is critical that they are able to choose and write using the best evidence. The class will also focus on identifying the text structure in informational writing. Homework continues to be read and respond on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and an informational/literature reading piece due on Friday. Please see that your student completes the ENTIRE packet.

#### WRITING

The students are learning how to regulate their writing and their thoughts to create a positive mindset during difficult tasks. They are becoming much more efficient in their process for responding to a LOW TIDE question in ELA. I am so very proud of their efforts! Now... on to narrative writing! The class has been discussing and mapping out the narrative elements of stories since the start of the year. Now, they will start to compose their own narratives using good literature as their starting sources. They will learn to analyze the character and setting in a story and continue on, they will learn the write from a different point of view and various other narrative techniques. We, as a class, are focusing on the power of words. Help your child use strong vocabulary at home!!

#### MATH

The students have been working diligently to master their understanding of the mathematical concepts given so far. Please continue to have students work on Khan Academy for reinforcement. It is critical that the students practice their math for at least 60 minutes a week on Khan (Less than 10 minutes a day!) This ensures that students will thoroughly understand the mathematical concepts in Sixth Grade and be all that more prepared for the upcoming MCAS. *Also, a big congratulations to our first student for completing the Sixth Grade Mission – 100%! Let's see who is next!*

This month the students are studying ratios and proportional relationships; building an understanding of ratio and rate concepts and using ratio reasoning to solve given problems. To coincide with this, students should be mastering (not just practicing) the ratios, rates and percentages section of Khan Academy.

We have also been completing homework ONLINE for the Pearson Realize component (daily homework). This is another form of assessment to understand if students are understating the lessons and also gives them instant feedback, videos and assistance *at home* if they are having difficulty with the lessons. Please have students complete their daily math homework online on Pearson Realize – and only use the paper if there is difficulty in accessing the online component (and please let me know in the agenda!)

#### SOCIAL STUDIES

This month students will be focusing on the Middle East, researching into the countries, geography, populations, and other information to form a better understanding of this section of our world.

#### SCIENCE

Students are working on their Science Project independently at home and have chosen their projects and working on the research this month. Please follow the given due dates as students are graded on EACH due date.

#### SIXTH GRADE PLAY: WAY OUT CC

It's that time for the Sixth Grade Play: Way Out CC! Here are the dates for both homerooms:

Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm

Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm

All Students must report to the office by 6:00 pm.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS SECTION OF THE NEWSLETTER: \_\_\_\_\_