

SMS Grade 6 Newsletter February 17, 2023



Take a look to see what we've been working on!
Keep scrolling to see pictures from the last two weeks!

Social Studies: Mr. Codair

We began our unit on Mexico this past week and we are off to a strong start. We have learned about Día de Muertos (Day of the Dead), and the 3 major ancient civilizations of Mesoamerica. We will begin honing in on the Aztec, Maya, and the Inca civilizations next week in order to have some background information for our **Night at the Museum project** coming up. BIG things ahead including our **Mexican Fiesta** party at the end of the month. More info to follow!

Language Arts: Mrs. Dowe

Students read, "The Most Dangerous Game" by Richard Connell and worked in groups to complete a plot map. Using their plot maps, students wrote a summary of the short story, using text evidence to support their writing.

We also worked on identifying themes. Students watched an ESPN E60 titled *Will Power*, featuring a wrestler who has cerebral palsy and perseveres to earn his first win. Students used Will's story to determine the theme, or life lesson.

Today we finished reading "The Veldt" by Ray Bradbury. Students worked in groups to determine the theme using the evidence gathered from the story.

Next week we will work on our Night at the Museum project creating artifacts from different ancient civilizations to put on display!

Vocabulary workbook chapter 6 due Friday, 2/24.

As a reminder, students are asked to read 20 minutes a day, or 600 minutes a month. Their next reading log is due on March 6th! Please ask to see your child's reading log.

Math: Mr. Felch

Next week, students will begin a new unit on rational numbers. We will begin by exploring negative numbers this week.

Students continue to get a weekly math packet at the beginning of each week and it is due each Thursday. Next week's packet is packet #10. ***If students do not have this packet done by Thursday, they are expected to show up to my room during flex to complete the packet and/or receive any help, if needed. If students continually aren't getting their packets turned in, I will be contacting home for your support.***

Extra help is every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 2:30-3:25. I kindly ask that students let me know in advance if they plan on attending. Extra help can be used to work on current class work or their current math packet that is due each week.

<p>Library Media: Mrs. Harter</p> <p>Students have been working hard all week constructing their cardboard arcade games! They will be testing out their game, writing gameplay instructions, and then trying out each other's games. Games will be on display for next month's exhibition night!</p>	<p>Science: Mrs. Hopkins</p> <p>We are currently working on our new unit all about weather and climate. Students have explored the composition of the atmosphere and how air masses can bring certain weather patterns. This past week we have been focusing on density that we will apply to high and low air pressure systems. Check out the pictures below to see students layering different solutions of sugar water to demonstrate how density can impact the interaction of fluids.</p>	<p>Special Education Case Manager: Ms. Zammer</p> <p>Please know that I am available to help all students and I regularly consult with the team of teachers. Feel free to contact me anytime.</p>
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Reminders:

- **Please dress appropriately for the weather.**
- **The permission slip and \$20 for the field trip to the Fisher Cats in May is due ASAP. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.**
- **The Powerschool Portal will be closed March 7th for trimester 2 as the trimester ends March 13th.**
- **Trimester 2 Exhibition Night March 9th! From 5:30pm - 7pm**
- **Start collecting cardboard boxes and tubing for an upcoming arcade project in Library Media.**
- **Spirit Week is next week!**
 - **Monday: Wear SMS Gear and/or Blue and White**
 - **Tuesday: Decade Day, dress in a certain decade (ex: 80s).**
 - **Wednesday: Sports Day, wear your favorite teams!**
 - **Thursday: Twins/Triplets Day, dress just like a friend!**
 - **Friday: Hawaiian day, dress for a tropical vacation!**

At-Home Conversation Starters you can ask your kids:

- What book are you independently reading right now?
- What was the theme of ESPN E60's *Will Power*?
- What is "The Most Dangerous Game" by Richard Connell about?
- What is "The Veldt" by Rary Bradbury about?
- What are some of the vocabulary words that you've learned so far?

- How many minutes do you have on your reading log?
- Share a success that you had this week.
- What is a loonie?
- What does culture mean to you?
- What are the ancient civilizations of Mesoamerica?
- How is life in Mexico similar to life in the US? How is it different?
- Where and when do you plan on doing your homework for math?
- Do you have to line up the decimals when multiplying?
- Do you have to line up the decimals when adding and subtracting?
- How is math used in Scratch coding?
- What gases make up Earth's atmosphere?
- How do you calculate the density of an object?
- What are mass and volume?
- What tools do you use to find the mass of an object and the volume of an object?

Contact Information:

Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions, concerns, or if you need any help accessing PowerSchool.

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