

# 8TH GRADE NEWSLETTER



## Important Announcements

- **End of the Nine Weeks is coming soon, report cards will be available on Infinite Campus by October 30th.**

## English 1

This week students have begun their "Animal Farm" unit. They have started to read the first few chapters of the novel and are participating in class discussions to uncover its themes of power and corruption. Students are also learning vocabulary alongside their reading and will be quizzed on the words next week. As students continue to read the novel, we will discuss historical events that inspired the book and make connections between characters and historical figures

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA

Our ELA scholars will be reading the short story "The Monkey's Paw" and analyzing the use of setting, conflict, and character interactions to create suspense. Upon finishing "The Monkey's Paw," students will read the scientific article "The Psychology of Suspense" to practice diving deeper into why people enjoy suspenseful stories. This article will allow students to look deeper at the connection between a text and the development of key concepts. Students will begin their final project for Unit 1 on September 30th.

## Math 1

This week students will be finishing up working with functions and moving into linear equations. This will include defining and understanding the different parts of a linear equation and utilizing the equations to solve, both graphical and word problems, in a multitude of ways.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math

This week your student finished up learning about transversals and is learning about angle relationships in triangles. Students will learn that the sum of the interior angles of triangles is  $180^\circ$ . They will also learn about exterior angles of triangles. Students will have a unit test on angles next week and then we will move on to slope and graphing lines in the form  $y=mx+b$ .

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## 8th Grade Science

In science class, our 8th grade students have been learning about physical and chemical properties of matter. Students discovered that physical properties, such as color, texture, mass, and density, can be observed or measured without changing a substance into something new. They also learned that chemical properties describe how a substance can change into a new substance, such as when it burns, rusts, or reacts with another substance. Through hands-on activities and observations, students practiced identifying the difference between these two important types of properties.

## American History

This week American History students are wrapping up their unit on the events leading to the American Revolution and the War of Independence. They've explored why colonists began to resist British rule, including taxes like the Stamp Act and Tea Act, limits on colonial self-government, and growing tensions between Britain and the thirteen colonies. They've also learned about major battles at Lexington and Concord, Saratoga, and Yorktown. This week's assessments will give students a chance to show what they've learned about these moments and the influential people who shaped this period. Next week, we'll turn to the building of the new nation and the creation of the Constitution. Students will learn why the Articles of Confederation failed to govern the young country and how that led to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787. They'll explore the Framers' debates about how government should be organized, how states should be represented, and how individual rights should be protected. This unit will help students see how ideas from this period still shape American government today.

## 8th Grade NC History

In 8th grade Social Studies students are beginning to explore European exploration and the colonization of North America. Students will examine the motivations behind European exploration, including economic, political, and religious factors, and investigate the interactions between European explorers, Native American societies, and African peoples. We will also study the establishment of early colonies and how geography, resources, and cultural interactions shaped the development of what would become the United States. Throughout the unit, students will analyze primary and secondary sources to understand multiple perspectives and the lasting impacts of exploration and colonization.