



Kennedy Middle School

January 2024 Sixth Grade Newsletter

6th grade Admin Team

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6th Grade Class Schedule

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| 8:45 - 9:15 | Homeroom |
| 9:15 - 10:45 | 1st Block |
| 10:45 - 11:05 | SEL |
| 11:08 - 1:05 | 2nd Block |
| 12:05 - 12:50 | 6th Grade Lunch by team |
| 1:08 - 2:32 | 3rd Block |
| 2:35 - 4:05 | Electives (A/B day) |

Noteworthy Dates

1/3 1st Day back after break
1/15 No School-MLK Day
1/24 End of 2nd Quarter
1/25 No School-TWD
1/29 ELA Benchmark
1/30 Math Benchmark

Happy New Year!

* For technology help, students should go to the following bitly to complete a form to request assistance: bit.ly/kmschromebookform

News By Content Area:

ELA: (Angelou, Lilley, McNeirney & Trice)

This month in ELA, we are working on Unit 2. Students continue to read the anchor text, The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind. Using a graphic organizer to collect evidence of William's problems and solutions, students build understanding of the cyclical nature of design thinking and the way the author develops this key idea with specific details. In the second half of the unit, students finish reading the anchor text and launch their research project. Inspired by a curated list of TED Talks, students choose a different invention designed to solve a critical problem. Be on the lookout for workbook pages being assigned as homework. Thanks!

Math: (Campbell and Solorzano)

6th Grade Math finished Unit 4 before Winter Break. We are currently on Unit 5 which covers decimal operations (add, subtract, multiply and divide). This unit will be calculator inactive. Our students continue to receive weekly homework that is due Friday of each week. We discussed students setting new goals to complete the weekly homework which now includes current and review material from this year. This is an excellent way to get the additional practice needed to achieve mastery of each skill.



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Honors Math (Day and Keady):

We will be continuing with Unit 3 this month. End of Unit 3 Assessment will be Wednesday, January 17. Unit 3 covers Ratios, Unit Rates and Percentages. We will begin Unit 4 on Expressions and Equations on 1/18. Students will continue to have homework weekly that they receive at the beginning of the week and will be due Fridays. Assessment dates are communicated to students in a timely manner. An online version of our workbook can be found at <https://openupresources.org>. PowerSchool is updated regularly to stay apprised of your student's progress.

Science: (Saliba and Taylor)

In December, we wrapped up our final lessons on waves. After winter break, we will review for the light test. Two full class days will be used to review. Light unit test dates: Tuesday, January 9th (A day) and Wednesday, January 10th (B day). Students can take up to two attempts on the test. A district midterm will be taken the following week that will cover all the units we have covered so far: matter, thermal energy and waves. All students will have to complete the midterm and it will be included in the Quarter 2 grades. After the midterm, we will begin our Earth science units by learning about the layers of the Earth and plate tectonics.

Upcoming labs: Sheep Eye Dissection, Edible Plate Tectonics Lab (dates TBD).

A message on Parent Square will be sent prior to the Edible Plate Tectonics Lab asking for material donations.

Social Studies: (Battles and Isgrigg)

The Social Studies team wishes all students and families a happy new year as we approach the end of the first semester. In 2024, we're diving into midterm preparations, focusing on Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, and China. Moving forward, the third quarter will be dedicated to Ancient Greece and Rome. We'll cover Greek and Roman history, geography, government, democracy, philosophers, Greek theater, the Olympics, and the rise and fall of Rome. These student-favorite topics aim to spark excitement and foster a love for learning. Wishing everyone a successful semester ahead!

REMINDERS:

- We are a uniform school. Navy or khaki (not black) pants and navy or white collared shirts are required. No slides or slippers allowed. Thank you for your help and support.
- Please help your student remember to charge and bring their chromebook to school daily, once issued.
- Cell phones must be turned off and put away. If a cell phone is found in use, it will be turned in to the office for later pickup. If a student becomes a repeat offender, that cell phone will require parent pickup from the office.
- Hoodies should not be worn inside the school building. It is a safety concern if hoods are worn inside the school building.
- We love to recognize positive behaviors by nominating Students of the Month as well as issuing WOW cards that can earn students prizes in Friday drawings. Any donations of sweets or treats for the Friday drawings would be greatly appreciated!
- Online incentive trackers promote and recognize positive behaviors throughout Kennedy Middle School. We have a shared and consistent plan for ALL students. It gives students a chance to change behaviors that earn demerits. Students may receive demerits on the incentive tracker for a variety of reasons (Tardy, Disrespect, Disengaged and Forbidden Items). Students



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will also have the opportunity to fix mistakes with a Redemption Card. Redemption Cards can be given by homeroom teachers which will track a student's behavior for a day to remove a demerit. A low number of demerits will earn students the entry to an incentive reward at the end of the four-week period.

- Students are issued a monthly bathroom pass for emergency restroom use. Students must keep track of this bathroom pass. (These passes are in addition to students having the ability daily to use the bathroom during homeroom, lunch, and elective periods.)
- Please don't hesitate to contact teachers using ParentSquare or email with any questions or concerns.