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Principal's Message



Dear South Middle Families,

Our students have started off the school year in a very favorable manner. They are excited to be here and their enthusiasm is contagious! Thank you for sending your children to school each day prepared and ready to learn. Many thanks to our PTA for purchasing such wonderful outdoor furniture and games. Our students have really been enjoying the fabulous weather as they dine "al fresco".

As you know, our students must "tap in" each morning with their ID badges. We need your assistance in helping our students to secure their ID badges each night in their sling bags or backpacks. Some students are still arriving to school without their ID badges and it holds up the check in line each day. Please make sure your children arrive each day with their ID badge readily accessible. If children have lost their ID badges, they can report to the main office. New ID badges are \$5 each.

Students can be dropped off to school at 7:45 AM. If students wish to participate in our intramural program, they can arrive at 7:30 AM. Many students are enjoying both our morning and afternoon intramural programs.



Great Neck South Middle School

349 Lakeville Rd, Great Neck, NY
(516) 441-4600

www.greatneck.k12.ny.us/SMS

PRINCIPAL
Dr. Gina Cartolano

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS
Mr. Ryan Nadherny
Mr. Leonard DiBiase



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The administrative team is here to assist you in any way that we can. I will be the administrator in charge of 6th grade, Mr. Lenny DiBiase will lead the 7th grade and Mr. Ryan Nadherny will be the point person for 8th grade. Feel free to contact us with any questions or comments. In addition, **we strongly encourage all parents to contact individual teachers first** as questions arise about homework, tests, quizzes, assignments or any aspect of classroom life. If you have a question regarding your child's adjustment to middle school, issues regarding friendships or peer pressures, or general academic concerns, please call your child's guidance counselor. Our counselors are the following:

- Ms. Jecelyn Scauzillo – 6th Grade
- Mr Brian LoRusso - 7th Grade
- Ms. Jessica Chase – 8th Grade
- Ms. Jen Hill – (all grades) Guidance Chairperson

Questions regarding discipline or student behavior should be directed to our deans Ms. Karla Krupala and Ms. Kristin Randazzo or to our assistant principals.

We hope that you find our PTA Newsletter to be helpful and user friendly. We have tried to limit our verbiage and thus are providing you with highlights of school activities, as well as more photos.

I am fortunate to lead this amazing school each day. Our school is blessed with enthusiastic students and supportive parents. If you haven't already done so, please consider joining the PTA.

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=WS55TUNR2R3SQ&ssrt=1692748545831

Thanks for your continued partnership with our school!

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/gnsms/>

Best always,

Gina M. Cartolano, Ed. D.

Principal



PTA MESSAGE

Great Neck South Middle School PTA

CO-PRESIDENTS

Clara Feacher
Sicheng Peng
Karen Yan

EXEC. VICE PRESIDENTS

Anita Cheung
Elena Keung

VICE PRESIDENTS

Shihpei Chang
Jenny Hwang
Matthew Jagoda
Fan Jia
Penelope Nirenstein
Ana Paranos
Carol Peng
Angela Pian
Evelyn Stravrinides
Ping Su
Kevin Sun
Ruoyi Xu
Ellen Yi

TREASURER

Holly Wong

RECORDING SECRETARY

Charlotte Chiu

MULTILINGUAL COORDINATOR

Joyce Jing

SEPTA REPRESENTATIVE

Julie Lam

UPTC DELEGATES

Benjamin Wang
Si Wen

SHARED DECISION MAKING

Maria Condello
Wendy Halpern
Angela Pian

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Antoinette Capodanno

ptasouthmiddle@gmail.com

<https://ptasouthmiddle.wixsite.com/sms-pta>

Dear South Middle Families,

What a wonderful First Quarter it has been! We're so happy to have welcomed everyone back to school, and we hope your children have enjoyed these last few months as well. The PTA has been planning and hosting many events at SMS this quarter, and we look forward to continuing to work with you for the advancement of our students, our school, and our community!

This year thus far, the PTA has:

- Gifted SMS logoed magnets and personalized SMS t-shirts for all of our incoming 6th graders
- Welcomed back the administrative team and custodial staff with a luncheon
- Organized Photo Day to capture the smiles of students and staff
- Welcomed new families to our school by hosting the New-to-District Parent Meeting
- Conducted the First General PTA Meeting with Mr. Damon Reader on Digital and Instructional Technology
- Assisted with translation services and hosted dinner for the ENL New Families Meeting
- Held several restaurant fundraisers, including Yaaastea, Smashburger, and Mr. Wish
- Ran two snack sales, all sold out within minutes! Krispy Kreme is next on 11/17!
- Coordinated a fun and successful Scholastic Book Fair
- Facilitated a terrific Spirit Wear sale
- Purchased blankets and outdoor games for the students to use during their lunch break, as well as raised planting beds for the 7th grade pollinator garden
- Contributed gift cards for the winners of the Badminton Tournament

Of course, none of this would be possible without your dedicated support! The PTA board cannot do this alone, and your generous contributions of volunteered time and funds enable us to give back to our students and our school as much as we do. So, a big THANK YOU to everyone who has joined the PTA and continued to support our fundraisers!

If you haven't already, it's not too late to [pay your dues](#)! Please also consider volunteering for any of our upcoming events. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us at ptasouthmiddle@gmail.com.

From all of us at the PTA, we wish you a happy and warm Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Clara Feacher, Karen Yan, and Sicheng Peng

SMS PTA Co-Presidents



ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS



Mr. Nadherny's Message

The 2023/24 school year is off to an incredible start. Each day at South Middle is full of excitement and enthusiasm, both during school hours and after school. I continue to be amazed by our outstanding teachers, who are dedicated to fostering the success of their students, parents who are supportive and place a tremendous emphasis on education, and a student body which is diligent, creative, and enthusiastic. This combination makes South Middle School a very special learning community.

SMS continues to participate in a school-wide initiative to help raise money for cancer research. Our Relay Field Day initiative is off to an amazing start. We had another incredible Flapjack Fundraiser, through which we were able to raise over \$2,300. We also held our incredible Relay For Life Badminton Tournament. This is always a fun and competitive event! Our first Purple Day of the year will take place on Friday, December 1st. On Purple Day, students and staff are encouraged to wear purple clothing and other purple items in support of our Relay Field Day initiative and cancer awareness. Purple Day will culminate with the sale of purple doughnuts after school. I cannot thank the whole South Middle community enough for their support while we fight this terrible disease.

As you will see in this newsletter, many exciting events are happening at SMS. Between innovative and engaging classroom instruction, exciting sport teams, clubs, and activities, as well as school-wide initiatives, this truly is a special place. Our eighth-grade students all recently participated in their fall team trips, during which they bonded with their peers while exploring various sites in Brooklyn or the West Side of Manhattan. It is our hope to keep you informed of all the wonderful things going on in our school. As you will read in the following section, our eighth graders are involved in many meaningful endeavors, both inside and outside the classroom. We hope that you enjoy the entries, and if you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. We love your feedback! You can contact me via email at rnadherny@greatneck.k12.ny.us or by phone at 516-441-4600.

Mr. Ryan Nadherny



ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Applebee's Breakfast



Messages

8th

Team A
Team B
Team C

7th

Hero
Voyager
Wonder

6th

Discovery
Endeavor
Innovation

Special Areas

Art
FACS

Library
Music
Health

PE
Tech
Language

Teams & Clubs

Special Events



ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Applebee's Breakfast

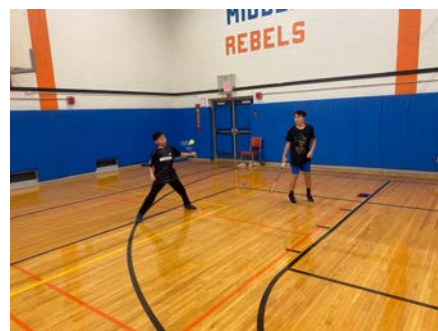
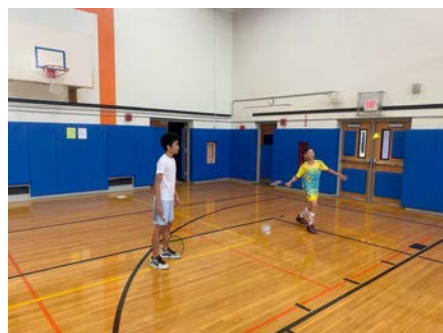




ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS



Badminton Tournament



Messages

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Team B
Team C

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Voyager
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ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS



Mr. DiBiase's Message

There is an old proverb that asserts, "Nothing ventured, nothing gained". It means that risks must be taken in order to achieve anything meaningful. As we reflect upon the first quarter of the new school year we should ask ourselves what risks we have taken? This applies to students, staff, families, and every member of our school community.

Students can take risks by joining a club, trying out for a sport, or making a new friend. What could be gained by taking those chances?

Parents and guardians can take risks by granting their children some more independence, allowing their children to experience new things, or joining the PTA. What would be gained by taking those chances?

Staff could take risks by trying new lessons, taking professional development courses, or joining a committee at work. What would be gained by taking those chances?

What we do now in the first quarter will have a significant impact on the next three quarters.

South Middle school is a place of opportunities. These opportunities are developed by the staff, supported by the community, and open to the students. School is a social apprenticeship. It is so much more than a grade on a test. It is so much more than a letter on a report card. What kind of citizens are we developing? What kind of society are we building? What are we venturing? What do we hope to gain?

When I reflect on the first quarter, I see clubs and sports that are well attended. I see parents that are giving back through the PTA. I see staff members joining committees to improve their pedagogy and our school. I see what is being ventured. I envision what will be gained.

But I also see some students that have not come out of their comfort zone. I see parents that have not yet joined the PTA. I see opportunities to venture. I see opportunities to gain.

Let me know how I can help.

Mr. Leonard DiBiase



GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT



Feeling Overwhelmed?

If so, you're not alone. We all feel overwhelmed at times.

When you're feeling overwhelmed, it's important to have strategies that help you cope and feel more on top of things.

Here are some tips that might help.

Take deep breaths. When you're feeling stressed out or overwhelmed, stop, breathe in deeply, count to four, and exhale. Do this for two minutes.

Take time out. Do something that has nothing to do with school, work, or any of your obligations – read a book, listen to music, go for a walk, take a hot bath.

Learn to say no. Don't be afraid to turn down requests and say no to invitations.

Look at all you're doing. You may have taken on more than you can handle. If this is the case, try to simplify your life. Look for activities or obligations that you can eliminate, shorten, or postpone. Do not sacrifice sleep to get everything done.

Get organized. Sometimes things feel chaotic because our space feels chaotic. Take time to clean and organize your living space, study area, and backpack.

Improve your time management. Having good time management skills will help you use your time more efficiently – and feel less stressed and overwhelmed.

Here are some time-management tips.

Make to-do lists. Having a to-do list allows you to focus on what you need to do, instead of wasting time worrying about how you're going to get everything done – and wondering what you forgot.

Create routines. A good morning and nighttime routine will save you time and help your day run more smoothly.

Control time wasters. Social media, TV, and video games can all be huge time wasters. Schedule short periods for these activities and stick to your schedule.

Look for wasted chunks of time. Think about how you can use these times more effectively. For example, review your notes while waiting for a ride.

Plan out the week. Each Sunday night, plan out the coming week. Make sure you have time to do everything that's scheduled.

Take time to relax. Set aside time to rest, relax, and recharge your batteries.



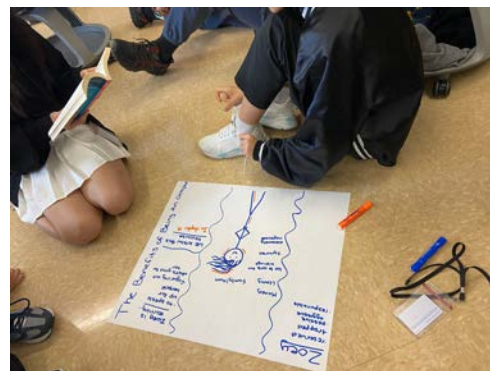
8th Grade TEAM A

ENGLISH

Students in **Dr. Walter's English classes** are in the midst of an independent reading unit and using the library as a resource to find appropriate grade-level texts.

In **English 8 with Mrs. Klein**, students have been:

- Examining the moves and choices authors make when designing how their characters transform throughout the course of the story
- Working in book clubs to discuss literature (in the photos below, groups are discussing the pressures experienced by their characters, and how those pressures shaped those characters' evolution)
- Strengthening their analytical skills by creating - and assessing! - written responses about their books
- Elevating their ability to discuss character growth by learning and using new, more sophisticated vocabulary
- Varying the structure of their sentences by using commas and understanding clauses
- Relying on their independent reading novels as mentor texts for creating their very own character studies
- Writing letters to the authors of their summer reading novels – we hope we get some personalized messages in return!





8th Grade **TEAM A**

SCIENCE

Students in **Mr. Cardo, Mr. Hatten, Mr. Pernice, and Mrs. Hoey's Earth Science classes** have been busy exploring the maps of Great Neck to understand topography (the shape of the land). This hometown Earth Science lab allowed students to find meaning in the data that they have been studying as they applied their skills.



SOCIAL STUDIES

In **Social Studies with Mr. Isaac**, students have been:

- Examining the past 120 years of American history in brief, developing a shared vocabulary and general understanding of the past that will help them throughout the school year
- Learning the principles of conservative and liberal economic theory, and observing how American economic policy has vacillated between the two over the past century
- Debating the historical impacts of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal, and evaluating its successes and shortcomings in both the short and long-term
- Uncovering the economic successes, cultural changes, and possible shortcomings of the post-WWII era, and trying their hand at persuasive writing in pretending to "sell" people overseas on the benefits of the "American way of life"
- Embarking upon a culminating project that will challenge them to take a stand on whether Lyndon Johnson's Great Society has succeeded, by examining the past 60 years of American history as well as our current reality



8th Grade *TEAM A*

MATH

Mr. Zweig's & Ms. Jeshiva's math classes are focused on solving challenging problems to help students become critical thinkers. Students are using the Classkick app that allows us to see everyone's work in real time. Our goal is to become better problem solvers by understanding how to organize information, develop a plan of action, execute the plan, reflect on the effectiveness of the plan, and adjust if necessary. These are steps that can be applied to any new problem that arises, and practicing these skills will help students become more efficient, independent problem solvers. Some of the topics we have studied in each class include:

Pre Algebra

- Order of Operations
- Writing mathematical expressions and equations
- Solving all types of equations- 1 step, 2 step, multi-step & Fractional
- Creating and Solving Word Problems
- Evaluating expressions
- Translating English to Algebra
- The real number system
- Intro to Geometry

Algebra

- Solving multi-step equations involving rational numbers.
- Solving literal equations
- Solving and graphing Inequalities
- Evaluating expressions
- Mindful Manipulations
- Complex Equivalency
- Functions

We encourage you to review your children's progress using the Parent Portal.



8th Grade *TEAM A*

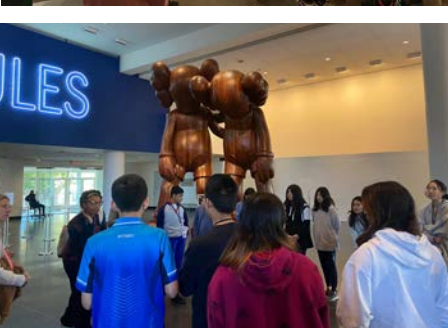
School Trip





8th Grade *TEAM A*

School Trip



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Hero
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Special Events



8th Grade *TEAM B*

ENGLISH

In **Ms. DiSilvio's and Ms. Griffin's English 8 classes**, students:

- Began the year by having Book Club discussions based on their Summer Reading selection and notes taken over the summer.
- Created a sense of community in the classroom by collaboratively discussing and deciding on a Shared Vision board with our class goals and aspirations for the future.
- Read short stories and a whole class novel where students analyzed text using a variety of lenses. They created focused annotations on characterization, conflict, shift in tone, and perspective.
- Documented their thinking about literature and their own experiences in their Readers/Writers notebooks.
- Participated in Book Clubs and Fishbowls where they actively engaged in discussion using multi-dimensional and complex examples from text and notes.
- Visited the library and chose Independent Reading Books that were of interest to them. Students were then asked to use their own agency and self-awareness to create individualized reading goals for themselves.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students in **Mr. Bua's, Mr. D'Angelo, and Mrs. Galgano's classes** started the quarter with brief chronological overviews of the eras we will cover in order to give our students foundational knowledge before we started our first thematic unit, the critical lens of Economics to view American history. Some topics covered include:

- Basic economic principles, and the economics of the American Dream
- Roosevelt's Square Deal and Wilson's New Freedom
- Trickle-Down Economics vs. Pump Priming
- The Roaring 20's, The Great Depression and FDR's New Deal
- The GI Bill of Rights, Levittown, and the Rise of the Suburbs

Students will continue to explore the economic causes of and implication on American history as we progress through the remainder of the 20th Century and explore more modern times.



8th Grade *TEAM B*

MATH

Mrs. Tanner's and Mr. Giannone's math classes are focused on solving challenging problems to help our students become critical thinkers. Our students are using the Classkick app that allows us to see everyone's work in real time. Our goal is to become better problem solvers by understanding how to organize information, develop a plan of action, execute the plan, reflect on the effectiveness of the plan, and make adjustments if necessary. These are steps that can be applied to any new problem that arises, and practicing these skills will help students become more efficient, independent problem solvers. Some of the topics we have studied in each class include:

Pre Algebra

- Order of Operations
- Writing mathematical expressions and equations
- Solving all types of equations- 1 step, 2 step and multi-step
- Creating and Solving Word Problems
- Evaluating expressions
- Translating English to Algebra
- Intro to Geometry

Algebra

- Solving multi-step equations involving rational numbers
- Solving equations with unspecified constants
- Evaluating expressions
- Mindful Manipulations
- Complex Equivalency
- The Real Number System
- Set theory
- Modeling real-world scenarios with equations and inequalities
- Functions and function notation

SCIENCE

Students in **Mr. Pernice's Earth Science Class** began the year by reviewing core concepts from previous years. Skills such as calculating density and understanding graphing relationships are key components of the Earth Science curriculum and will be used throughout the year.

Topics covered during the 1st quarter include:

- Earth's Shape
- Locating positions on Earth
- Spheres of the Earth (Lithosphere, Hydrosphere, Atmosphere)
- Mapping
- Rocks and Minerals



8th Grade *TEAM C*



Team C Teachers & Counselors (from left to right):
D. Bordi, J. Hill, A. DeSiano, J. Chase, A. McManus, E. Friedman, K. Dervin, and M. Hafele

Not pictured: J. Migliano, J. Workosky

SOCIAL STUDIES

Mr. DeSiano and Mrs. Workosky's 8th grade Social Studies:

- The quarter began with an overview of US history from the late 1800s to the 21st century.
- Following the overviews, classes began the first thematic unit: Economic Policy and the American Dream.
- Beginning at the age of imperialism, students began to view American history through an economic lens to determine how finite resources, supply and demand, and finance affected the United States.
- Taking the Progressive Era into the 21st century, classes studied the economics of the US food industry.
- Students also worked on a Food For Thought project where they looked at the food industry through an economic lens and researched how it affects the United States socially, politically and economically.
- Classes covered the economics of World War I and its impact on the country. Following this, the Roaring Twenties were dissected as students discussed the changes brought about by new appliances, the automobile and installment purchases.
- Students then compared and contrasted the US economy of the 20s and 30s to the early 2000s and began discussion on the New Deal agencies and reform for the future.

SCIENCE

Mr. Bordi and Mrs. Hafele's Earth Science:

Students in Earth Science completed their Density unit with a fun activity which included the use of a Density balloon to show how heat from the sun can decrease the density of an object allowing it to rise. Students are currently studying Rocks and Minerals where they will again venture outside to participate in a rock hunt.





8th Grade *TEAM C*

ENGLISH

Mrs. Dervin and Ms. McManus' 8th grade English:

- Students began the year reviewing and identifying literary terms and closely analyzing short stories.
- Students have also been doing lots of independent reading. We spent time getting excited about books, thinking about how we tend to choose books and whether these strategies are working for us, finding out how we can access the books we want to read, and setting goals for our reading.
- Students are currently using what they are noticing and learning about how authors craft compelling narratives to write their own creative short story. Our main focus has been on writing as a process, and students are now revising their drafts by evaluating what their narratives need more and less of. Students have explored the different modes of storytelling writers use, how to effectively write and punctuate dialogue, when to break paragraphs, and crafting strong beginnings and endings. Ask your child to share their story with you!



Students tell stories in concentric circles as a way to generate ideas for their narratives and as a reminder that we are all already storytellers.



8th Grade *TEAM C*

MATH

Mr. Friedman's Algebra and Friedman-Migliano's Pre-Algebra:

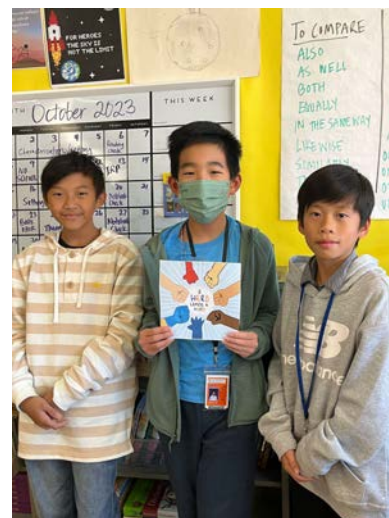
- Mr. Friedman and Mr. Migliano's math classes are focused on solving challenging problems to help students become critical thinkers.
- Students are using the Classkick app that allows us to see everyone's work in real time.
- Our goal is to become better problem solvers by understanding how to organize information, develop a plan of action, execute the plan, reflect on the effectiveness of the plan, and adjust if necessary. These are steps that can be applied to any new problem that arises, and practicing these skills will help students become more efficient, independent problem solvers.
- We encourage you to review your child's progress using the parent portal.
- **Some of the topics we have studied in Pre-Algebra include:** Order of Operations, Simplifying Algebraic Expressions, Writing Mathematical Expressions and Equations, Solving all types of Equations: 1 step, 2 step, Multi-Step, and Fractional, Creating and Solving Word Problems (Perimeter, Consecutive Integers, etc...), Evaluating Expressions, Translating English to Algebra, Real Number System, Geometric Terminology, Complementary and Supplementary Angles, Adjacent and Vertical Angles, Parallel Lines cut by a Transversal and the resulting angle relationships, Congruence and Congruent Triangles
- **Some of the topics we have studied in Algebra include:** Properties, including Closure Mindful Manipulations, Complex Equivalency, Laws of Exponents, Multiplying Polynomials Rewriting Expressions as the product of two binomials, Translating English to Algebra Solving Multi-Step Equations of Rational Numbers, Solving Literal Equations, Real Number System, Consecutive Integer and Linear Word Problems, Solving and Graphing Inequalities Inequality Word Problems, Sets of Numbers (Union, Intersection, Complement), Introduction to Functions (Desmos Graphing Calculator was introduced), Interval & Set Builder Notation, Function Notation, Average Rate of Change, Domain and Range, Introduction to Linear Functions



7th Grade **HERO**

FLEX CLASS

- In team-building activities at the start of the year, students worked on creating a **team identity** by creating personal logos and slogans and a team logo and slogan. Congratulations to Trevor Lee, who created Team Hero's 2023 logo and slogan, *A hero lends a hand*.
- In the unit on **digital citizenship** with Mr. Reader, students considered ways that social media has impacted their lives and discussed how to be more responsible digital citizens.
- Students are preparing for our **Thank a Veteran Event** to be held on Wednesday, November 8th and Thursday, November 9th. Veterans from local community centers are invited to speak to students about their personal experiences while in service to our country. The veterans bring history to life for our students. What kids remember most, however, are the life lessons the veterans share with them. Students are learning about the history and importance of Veterans Day, researching historical events that impacted veterans in the twentieth century, and creating art to honor our veterans for their service.



SOCIAL STUDIES

Mr. Nahoum and Ms. Jeshiva: Social Studies

- Students began the school year with an overview of the entire timeline of curriculum for 7th grade social studies (1600's-early 1900's) as well as an introduction to our **themes** for the year. The themes we will explore include:
 1. Government and Constitutional Issues
 2. Conflicting Ideals and the Quest to Define America
 3. War and Peace
 4. Silent Voices
- Students began the first theme of **Constitutional Issues** with a project exploring the purpose of government and the values and ideals of the United States that are contained in the Declaration of Independence. Students created children's books and iMovie videos highlighting these ideas.
- Classes are currently exploring the Constitution and the powers that each branch has in a project titled, "The Branches."
- Our classes have stayed current with news both domestic and abroad. Students have watched, in some instances live, the votes for the next Speaker of the House of Representatives, as well as had discussions and readings about the Israel-Hamas War.



7th Grade **HERO**

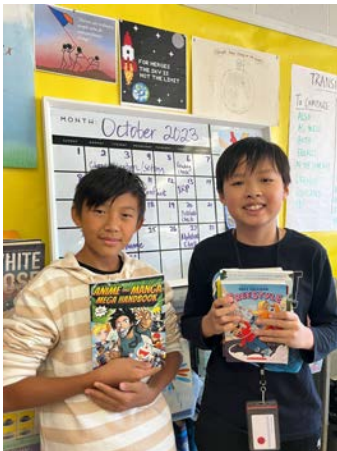
Mr. Desiano: Social Studies

- Four specific **themes** will be covered during the course of the year in social studies: Government and the Constitution, the Quest to Define America, War, and Silent Voices.
- The first few weeks covered a **timeline** of US history to help put the years 1600-1900 into perspective. This helped to create a base to begin the exploration of various eras using a theme-based template.
- Students just finished learning about how our government was created and how it works. They are now focusing on issues revolving around interpretation of the **Constitution**.
- **Current events** in the US and around the world have provided opportunities for curriculum connections especially considering the two wars currently taking place and issues in the U.S. Congress.

ENGLISH

Ms. Marr and Ms. McManus: English

- Students in **Mrs. Marr and Ms. McManus' English classes** began the year reflecting on their reading and writing experiences and setting goals for the seventh grade. They explored our extensive classroom library and chose books to jumpstart our unit on **fantasy** and traditional literature. They analyzed characterization, conflict, setting, and theme in an Independent Reading Project on a fantasy novel from the classroom library, in Bernard Evslin's **The Adventures of Ulysses**, and in **The Monkey King** by Wu Cheng'en, translated by Julia Lovell. They made good use of graphic organizers, annotations, and classroom discussions to deepen their thinking about a text. They filled their notebooks with text-to-self, text-to-text, and text-to-world connections. In their writing, they worked on creating strong claims, supporting those claims with specific evidence from the text and deep analysis, and organizing their ideas using transition words and phrases.
- A special thanks goes to the **PTA** for nurturing a love of reading in our students by organizing and managing the Scholastic **Book Fair**. It is wonderful to see students excited about reading. We appreciate your time and effort.





7th Grade **HERO**

MATH

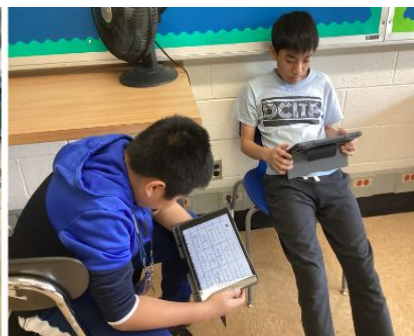
Ms. Sagevick and Ms. Jeshiva: Math 7

- Students have been collaborating on reviewing concepts from 6th grade:
 - Multiplying and dividing fractions and decimals
 - Ratios and Rates
 - Computations with Calculators
- Students have worked on their understanding adding and subtracting signed numbers by playing Battleship and enjoyed the review games to help prepare them for their assessments.
- Students have worked in groups to solve Escape Room puzzles as a way of getting to know their classmates.
- Students were challenged to complete various activities during Team Day as an opportunity to learn more about their teachers and fellow classmates.
- Students will be exploring concepts of proportionality and percents in the coming weeks.



Ms. Sagevick: Pre-Algebra

- Students have been engaged in class discussions and collaboration on topics such as operations with signed numbers, variables and expression solving multistep equations and modeling linear equations.
- Students have worked together to solve Escape Room puzzles. This activity gave students an opportunity to meet and get to know their classmates. Students have also enjoyed the review games played in class that help prepare them for their assessments.
- Students will be geometry and transformations over the next few weeks.
- Students were challenged to complete various activities during Team Day as an opportunity to learn more about their teachers and fellow classmates.





7th Grade HERO

SCIENCE

Mr. Wong and Ms. Diesu: Science

- Welcome back scientists! We welcomed 3 new class pets into the classroom! Our crayfish, bearded dragon, and mealworms are happily thriving in room 827! Jim, the bearded dragon, has many friends and helpers who feed him, clean his tank, and bathe him throughout the week.



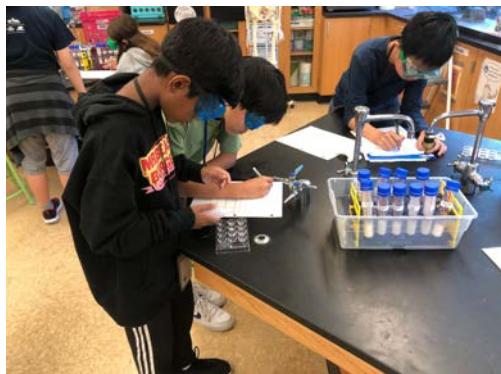
- We started our year with our experimental design unit. We learned how scientists go about answering their questions through investigation. Through designing controlled experiments, we learned so much about mealworms and answered our questions about mealworms' senses.



- We practiced the engineering design process as we built free standing towers out of newspaper. Our engineers built really tall towers that almost touch the ceiling!



- We are currently working on our chemistry unit. Students were given a mystery mixture of two unknown white substances. Using our investigation skills, we studied the chemical and physical properties of the mystery mixture, and we were able to identify the two substances in the mystery mixture!





7th Grade VOYAGER

FLEX

In Flex:

- Mr. Reader gave several lessons on digital citizenship.
- Mrs. Galgano has gone over topics in social studies.
- We have done gizmo labs and are starting to choose our science fair ideas.
- We went over how to talk like a scientist and work in groups.
- Observed some chem demos.



SOCIAL STUDIES

In Social Studies, Mrs. Galgano's students:

- Examined an overview of the 7th grade curriculum, which will be broken down into four themes this year. These themes include Constitutional Issues, Conflicting Ideals and the Quest to Define America, War and Peace and Silent Voices.
- Explored some of the political questions of the time, and how they finally led to our current constitution.
- Examined the Constitution from today's point of view including who our representatives are and what their job entails.
- Created a U.S. Constitution Portfolio of various current events to make connections between the Constitution written over 200 years ago and today.
- Analyzed the Bill of Rights through role-playing and scenarios.
- Explored our emerging nation and the Constitutional issues that Americans faced in the early years of the republic.

In Social Studies, Ms. Miranda's students:

- Examined an overview of the 7th-grade curriculum, broken down into four different themes throughout the year. These themes include Constitutional Issues, Conflicting Ideas and the Quest to Define America, War and Peace, and Silent Voices.
- Explored the political climate of the time and how that led to our current constitution.
- Examined the three branches of our government, including who our representatives are and what their job entails.
- Formed their own opinion and created an argument based on the validity of the Electoral College through research.
- Explored the Constitutional issues Americans faced in the republic's early years and the impact on our government today.

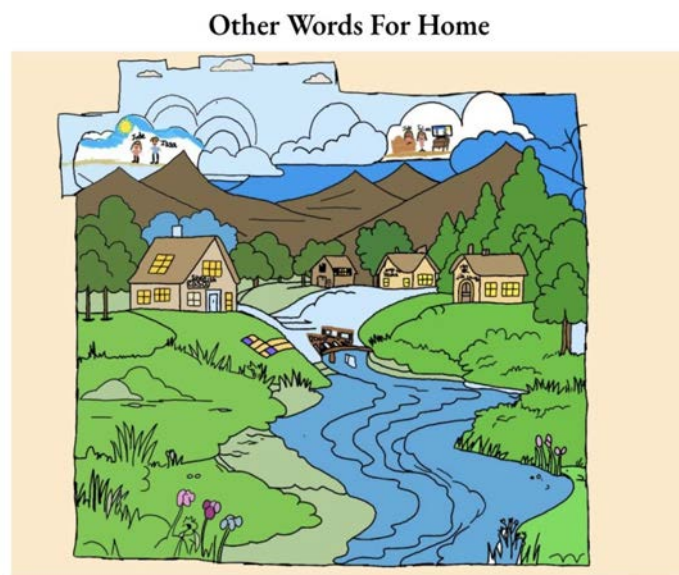
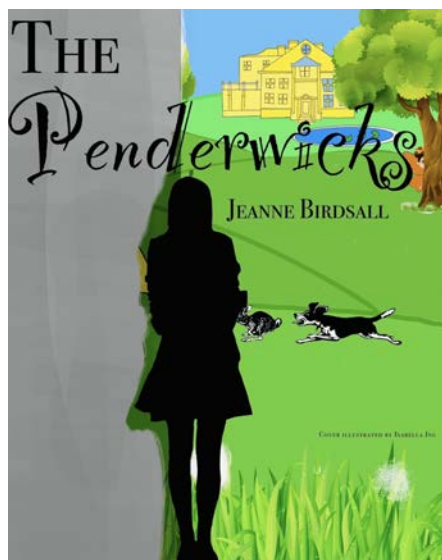


7th Grade VOYAGER

ENGLISH

In **English with Mrs. Sandrowicz & Ms. McManus**, students:

- became cartographers mapping out their goals and voyage plans in 7th grade English. These “road maps” will help students document, visualize, and extend their skills learned throughout the year.
- researched various components of history and created timelines to gauge the validity of the information as it was presented in fiction.
- voyaged along with Ulysses and critically analyzed his decision-making in *The Adventures of Ulysses*.
- analyzed character and setting in *Monkey King* and worked to extend their thinking by applying personalized feedback in the revision process.
- compared Ulysses and Monkey King as role models for 7th graders through the lenses of the true qualities of a hero
- combined symbolism and graphic design in a creative classroom library book project.



MATH

In **Math, Mrs. Zambrotta's students**:

- **Math 7 students** have been exposed to Integers and Rational/Irrational Numbers (definitions, classification, operations involving them).
- **Pre-Algebra students** have spent some time uncovering the methods for solving word problems (working backwards, trial and error, using organized lists or tables, etc.) We are now building and expanding on our previous knowledge of equations and word problems applying equations.

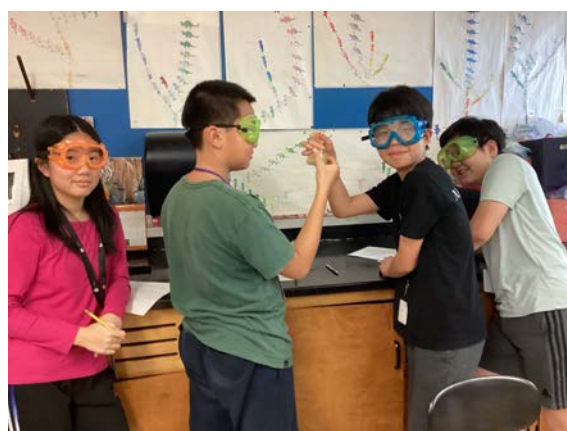


7th Grade VOYAGER

SCIENCE

In Ms. Caplain's and Mrs. Hoey's science classes, we did the following:

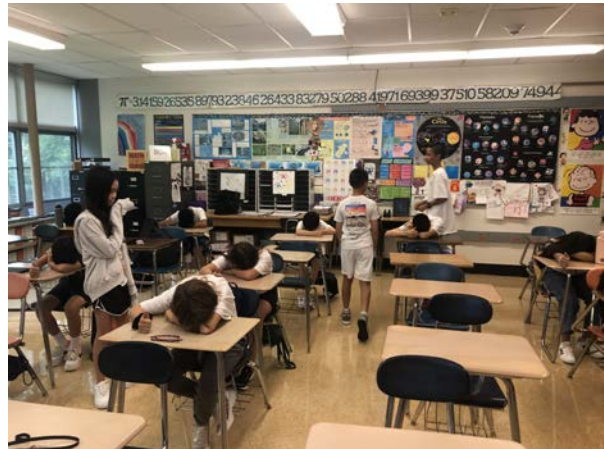
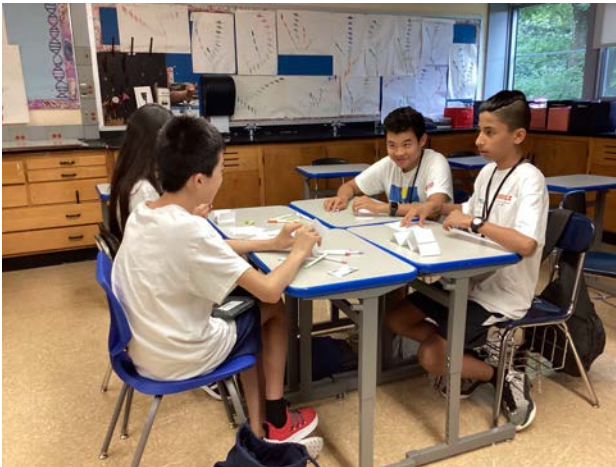
- Reviewed lab safety, observations and measurements
- Experimental design, wonder journal to narrow down science fair question
- Chemical reactions and chemical indicators





7th Grade VOYAGER

Rebel Day Pictures





7th Grade *WONDER*

ENGLISH

English with Mrs. Sabino:

- Students started off the year by learning about the ideas behind Growth Mindset and the science behind learning. They completed a self-assessment and looked at their own behavior and habits. From there, they created S.M.A.R.T goals which will guide their reading, writing, and behavior throughout the quarter.
- From there, students spent a week reading mythology from diverse cultures, thinking about why we tell stories and why myths endure the test of time. They pondered these ideas while practicing the skill of annotating and close reading.
- From there, students jumped into their first book unit, East Meets West: Monkey King and The Adventures of Ulysses. They started off learning about the elements of the fantasy genre and did a deep dive into character, pondering their traits, considering their likable and unlikable sides, and discovering how literary characters, like us, change as they encounter pressure and problems.
- Recently, students started to examine the setting in both texts. They learned about different ways to identify settings, and they selected words and phrases which conveyed mood. Finally, they started to ponder the various ways setting impacts characters emotionally, physically, and psychology.
- During this unit, they have been working hard to hone their writing skills and make revisions after extensive feedback.

FLEX

Flex with Ms. Willis:

- With the approach of October, things got spooky up in the science hallway! Ms. Willis encouraged students to learn all about the "Science of the Spooks" by investigating specimens of bones and life-size torso models of human organs. They also delved into the science of mummification, blood types and the genetics of black cats. The hope was to make scary things less scary by understanding what they're all about!





7th Grade *WONDER*

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies with Mr. D'Angelo:

- Four specific themes will be covered during the course of the year in social studies.
 - Government and the Constitution
 - Conflicting Ideals and the Quest to Define America
 - War
 - Silent Voices
- The first few weeks covered a timeline of US history to help put the years 1600-1900 into perspective. This helped to create a base to begin the exploration of various eras using a theme-based template.
- Students just finished learning about how our government was created and how it works.
- Current events in the US and around the world have provided opportunities for curriculum connections.
- Flex rotations have dealt with reviewing local and national geography as well as Digital Citizenship.

MATH

- **Mr. Friedman's Math 7** class has completed the following topics through the first quarter of the 2023-2024 school year:
 - Real Number System
 - Properties
 - Operations with Integers
 - Absolute Value
 - Order of Operations
 - Converting between fractions, decimals, and percents
 - Operations with Fractions
 - Translating into Algebraic Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities
 - Combining Like Terms
 - Solving Equations
 - Solving & Graphing Inequalities
- Word problems are a major focus within every topic that we study. The students are becoming more confident and seem much more relaxed in class, so I expect a lot more risk taking as we move along through the school year.
- To begin the second quarter, the students will be studying Rates, Ratios, and Proportions. Then, they will dive into Percent Applications (Percent Change/Percent Error, Markup/Markdown, Discount, Sales Tax, Gratuity, Commission, as well as Interest).



7th Grade *WONDER*

Mr. Zweig's Pre Algebra class is focused on solving challenging problems to help students become critical thinkers. Students are using the Classkick app that allows us to see everyone's work in real time. Our goal is to become better problem solvers by understanding how to organize information, develop a plan of action, execute the plan, reflect on the effectiveness of the plan, and adjust if necessary. These are steps that can be applied to any new problem that arises, and practicing these skills will help students become more efficient, independent problem solvers. Some of the topics we have studied in each class include:

- Order of Operations
- Writing mathematical expressions and equations
- Solving all types of equations- 1 step, 2 step, multi-step & Fractional
- Creating and Solving Word Problems
- Evaluating expressions
- Translating English to Algebra
- The real number system
- Intro to Geometry

We encourage you to review your children's progress using the parent portal.

Mrs. Tanner's math class are focused on solving challenging problems to help our students become critical thinkers. My students are using the Classkick app that allows me to see everyone's work in real time. My goal is for the students to become better problem solvers by understanding how to organize information, develop a plan of action, execute the plan, reflect on the effectiveness of the plan, and make adjustments if necessary. These are steps that can be applied to any new problem that arises, and practicing these skills will help students become more efficient, independent problem solvers. Some of the topics we have studied in the class include:

- The Real Number System
- Properties
- Operations with Integers
- Operations with Fractions
- Combining Like Terms
- Solving 1 & 2 Step Equations
- Unit Rates Complex Fractions



7th Grade WONDER

SCIENCE

Science with Ms. Willis:

- The 7th graders in Ms. Willis' Science class are virtually hiking the Appalachian Trail as they "Stroll Through Seventh Grade" this year. They began their 10-month trek with a review of metric measurement by investigating the importance of a special Long Island native, the North Atlantic Horseshoe Crab. Students took measurements of various anatomical structures to determine if they could be viable blood donors for the biomedical industry. Here are some photos of them hard at work!



- To master the skill of designing a valid experiment, we tried to answer "Which Cookie Will Get the Least Soggy in Milk?" We tested 3 different brands, and figured out our favorite (some participants *preferred* the soggy ones!) Here are some action photos of "The Great Cookie Dunk!"



- Our current Chemistry unit has found 7th graders posing as "magicians" as they use chemical indicators to cause color changes and determine the pH of various household liquids. Look at the colors they made!





6th Grade *Discovery*

ENGLISH

- **Ms. Kuhn's English classes** kicked off the year with a visit to the library to pick out independent reading books. Students had independent reading time during class and conference time with Ms. Kuhn. Daily mini-lessons were discussed as ways to add to their reading lives with new skills to help raise the level of their annotations and their thinking about reading.
- Students were asked to write personal narratives that focused on small moments in their lives where an important life lesson was learned. Students were only allowed to write 100 words for their personal narrative so they learned to revise, edit, and highlight the most important parts, while still including dialogue, action, sensory details, and a reflection.
- We are currently in our second unit, The Deep Study of Character. Students are reading Touching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson and focusing on deepening our thinking about characters and how a character can have less likable sides due to pressures they face. TSB offers a perfect example of how a character (or person) can transform. The unit will culminate with the students writing a literary essay about a claim they have made about the novel.

SOCIAL STUDIES

In sixth grade social studies, students began the year with:

- A discussion, on and activities involving, "What is History?" We studied timelines, as well as the difference between primary and secondary sources. This will help the students better understand the study of ancient cultures
- Minting coins, where students, acting as amateur archaeologists, through a dig site, use artifacts (coins) to uncover clues and insights to help us understand how people lived in the past
- An exploration of world geography. Through the "Five Themes of Geography," students will be able to organize the world in a meaningful way. The goal is for students to understand that, where a person lives affects how they live



Minted coins "discovered" at an archaeological dig site

SCIENCE

- Team Discovery students used their knowledge of experimental design to carry out their own investigation. The students tested different sized paper helicopters to see which one would reach the ground the fastest when dropped from the same height. The students learned that the smallest helicopter was the fastest and the largest helicopter was the slowest. Ask your child to explain the reasoning behind this phenomenon. The students designed a follow up investigation to determine if the mass of the helicopter would affect the time it takes to reach the ground!
- We have many more fun phenomena to observe and investigations to explore. I am looking forward to a fun year full of opportunities for students to observe and make sense of the world around them!



6th Grade *Discovery*

MATH

Mr. Hoshino's Math 6 and EP Math Class:

Math 6 students are working to develop fluency and flexibility in their understanding and application of a variety of topics including divisibility, prime factorization, LCM, GCF, rate and ratio. In class, students are encouraged to work together to strategize, conceptualize, and talk through problems. We use a variety of platforms including Classkick, IXL, Quizizz, and Nearpod (below right) in class and on homework assignments. This year, we have introduced a HW Menu. The HW Menu provides a host of tasks used to preview, practice, and review the current unit of study.



EP Math students are working to build understanding and fluency in the language of Algebra. Students are working with negative numbers, evaluations and algebraic equations. They work collaboratively and put their knowledge and problem solving skills to the test to solve puzzling complex multistep problems. We use a variety of platforms in class including Classkick, IXL, Quizizz, and Nearpod. This year, we have introduced a HW Menu. The HW Menu provides a host of tasks including Puzzle and Challenge tasks that require application of new skills and understandings in new and unexpected ways. I highly recommend these tasks when completing assignments from the HW Menu.





6th Grade Endeavor

Students on Team Endeavor are encouraged to share their Google Classroom assignments with their families and celebrate the milestones they reach this year!



Mr. Hatten, Mrs. Rumble, Mr. Nahoum, Mr. Cohn, Mr. Reader



SCIENCE

Mr. Hatten's Science 6

- Students have been starting their study of physics through the exploration of cars! Over the coming weeks students will learn the physics concepts of motion, forces and energy through explorations in cars and some fun Hot Wheels Science experiments and engineering challenges.
- These photos show students carrying out their experiments to find the fastest car and quantitatively calculate the speed of a Hot Wheels car through slow motion video analysis!





6th Grade *Endeavor*

SEL LEARNING / FLEX

- Students created passion projects to help their teachers and peers learn more about the things that excite them.
- We watched the film "Inside Out" as a mentor text for writing our own personal narratives, stories about our lives.
- Students visited the Bronx Zoo for a personalized experience with some of the zoo educators.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Team Endeavor Social Studies 6

- Students examined the question "What is history?" We explored ideas of perspective and bias in the development of our historical understanding.
- Students learned about the 5 themes of geography and applied those themes to their favorite place in the world. As a credit to their families, most students chose their home as their favorite place.
- To help further students' geography skills, they were challenged to create a world map using only their hands & two sheets of paper. They had to tear out the shapes of each continent without using any scissors or tools.
- Students participated in a virtual field trip to the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve in Nome, Alaska. Ranger Ava shared historical maps, as well as images from current day Nome, to give students a glimpse into a time and place with which they may not be familiar. They learned about the land bridge and human migration theories to kick-off our Paleolithic Era unit.





6th Grade Endeavor

MATH

- **Mr. Cohn's EP Math Classes** explore solving complex multi step algebraic equations using the Desmos app. You can see they had so much fun, combining like terms in order to isolate the variable.



- **Mr. Cohn's Math 6 Classes** find equivalent ratios, complete ratio tables and finally calculate unit rates on Classkick. Easily 6 out of 8 students or $\frac{3}{4}$ of my class enjoyed showing how fractions are just one way to show ratios



ENGLISH

Mrs. Rumble's English 6:

- Students began the year reflecting on pivotal moments in their lives. They crafted two personal narratives using tension, perspective, and descriptive language.
- Students embarked on an exploration of character while delving into the world of Refugee by Alan Gratz and Finding Junie Kim by Ellen Oh. Students began to understand character through traits, pressures, and relationships. They also explored various perspectives of other refugees in nonfiction articles, picture books, and graphic novels.
- Students made book recommendations about some of their favorite novels to encourage classmates to try new titles.





6th Grade *Innovation*

MATH

Math with Ms. Conlon:

We are well into the 6th grade groove! Math class has been held in our classroom and in our state-of-the-art library. We are working to make sense of and solve higher-level math problems. Sometimes, students work independently on an activity and sometimes, they work together. We use Classkick to share the math strategies we used and to explain how we arrived at an answer. The challenge is to persevere when we do not know how to solve a problem, to focus on what we know, not what we don't know!



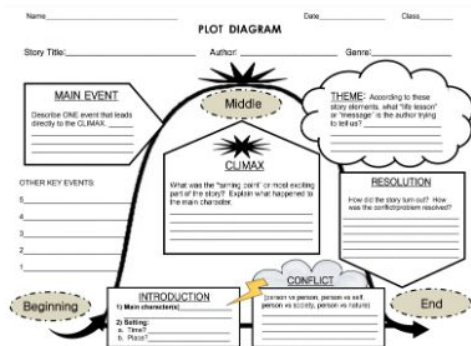
Ms. Conlon, Ms. Ganz (bottom row), Ms. Parnell, Mrs. Lipetz (top row)



ENGLISH

English with Ms. Ganz:

- Ms. Ganz's ELA students started off the year by creating their Writer's Notebooks. Writer's Notebooks will serve as a place for students to journalize, generate text, find ideas, and practice what they know about spelling and grammar.
- Team Innovation students have been working on understanding the Elements of a Short Story. They read several short stories and used the Elements of a Short Story to understand how short stories are created. Students have also been working on honing their annotation skills while reading short stories. Students continue to work on improving their writing, reading, and grammar skills.





6th Grade *Innovation*

SCIENCE

Science with Mrs. Lipetz:

- Science students on Team Innovation started off the year by learning about experimental design and how to become scientists! They learned how to ask questions and carry out investigations by making claims based on evidence.
- Students conducted an investigation about how fast a paper helicopter will fall to the ground and what variables they could change to make it fall faster.
- We are starting to learn about forces and motion and are looking forward to more exciting investigations!



SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies with Ms. Parnell:

- Students "Mapped the World" by tearing paper to create a world map featuring the seven continents and five oceans. They included other map elements, such as a map key, compass rose and major lines of latitude and longitude. Students enjoyed the challenge of tearing the paper without using scissors or tools and had a great time with this creative activity!
- Students created "one pagers" to explore the 5 Themes of Geography. Each student selected a country and visually represented each theme: Movement, Region, Human Environment Interaction, Location and Place. As a culminating activity, students took part in a gallery walk around the room to view their classmates' projects.





Art Department

ART 6 - GRADE 6

Creating clay gargoyles using hand building techniques - **Ms. Smith**



Glazed Gargoyles



Pop Art Self Portrait Prints inspired by Andy Warhol - **Ms. Smith**

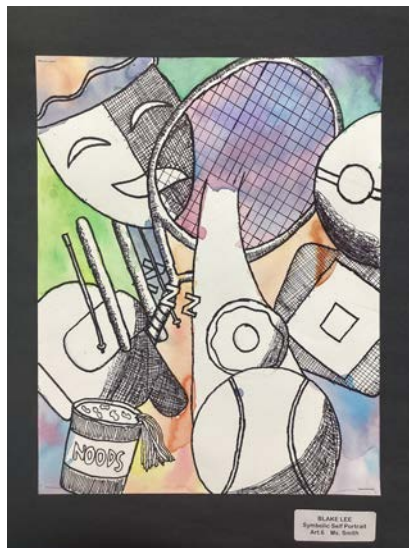




Art Department

Tessellation Prints - Ms. Krupala

Symbolic Self Portraits with linear shading and wet-in-wet watercolor washes - **Ms. Smith**





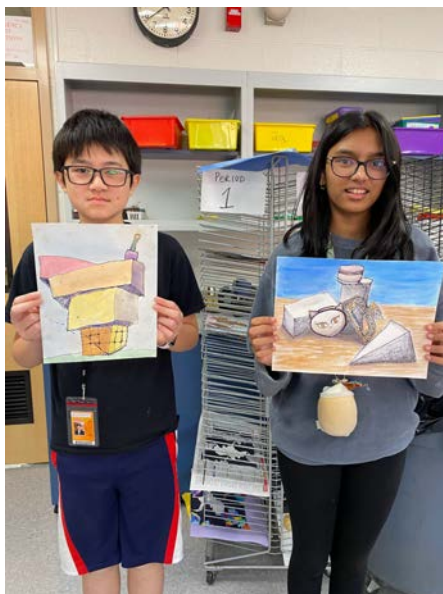
Art Department

ART 7 - GRADE 7

Abstract Initial Designs exploring the seven elements of art: Line, Shape, Form, Color, Value, Texture, & Space - **Ms. Smith**



Still Life Drawings using continuous contour line, watercolor, and personal objects - **Ms. Marciana**





Art Department



“In-Process” Still life Drawings with multiple shading styles - **Ms. Krupala**

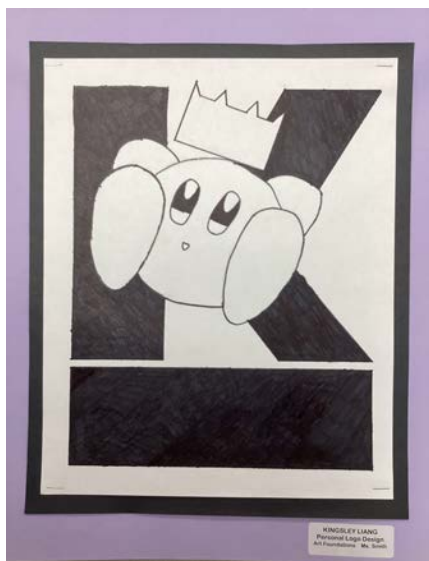




Art Department

ART FOUNDATIONS - GRADE 8

Personal Logo Designs - Ms. Smith



Milton Glaser-inspired Tessellation Collage - Ms. Marciana





Art Department



September Artists of the Month



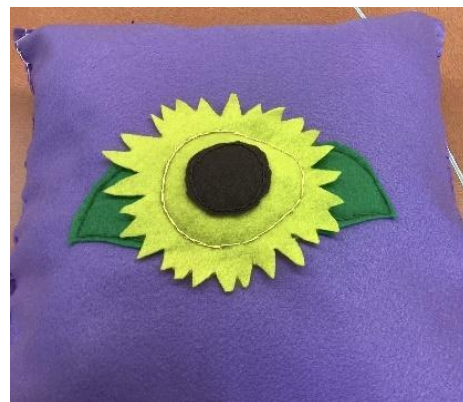


Family & Consumer Sciences

The FACS Department is in full swing. **Mrs. Stefandl's, Mrs. Giannone's and Ms. Panzarino's classes** are engaged in hands-on authentic learning that connects to real life experiences.

6th Grade - Hand Sewing Project

Students designed and created a pillow that reflects their individuality!



7th Grade - Travel Pillow and Tote Bag

Students learned how to use the sewing machine and create a travel pillow! Currently they are working on the Tote Bag.





Family & Consumer Sciences

8th Grade - Chefs Group Demonstration

Students worked together as a group to select a recipe, identify cooking techniques and teach it to their classmates! Below is a demo on California Sushi Roll and Wontons with impossible meat.



California Sushi Roll



Wontons with impossible meat



Library



The chess club meets after school to play and learn together.



SMS parents visit the library during Open House 2023!



Mrs. Conlon students using the library to work at different math stations set up around the room.



Music Department

FRIDAY IN THE FRONT





Music Department

FRIDAY IN THE FRONT





Health Department

Health 6

Learning How to Deal with Emergencies

During FLEX all 6th grade students have health education class. Featured here are students understanding the importance of recognizing an emergency and calling 911. They also were trained in how to use an EPI-Pen. Understanding about food allergies and reading labels is an important part of safety.



HEALTH 7

Health Education connects to the community through education.

Police Officer Tom Merkle from the MTA discussed the importance of safety with the students. Learning how to navigate public transportation, train safety, communication with police officers and trespassing hazards were included in the presentation.



Thank you Ms. Jessica Grella, a safety expert on brain injury from Northwell Health. The health classes understand the importance of helmets and safety. The increased use of electric scooters has led to an increase in serious injuries. A helmet must be used for bicycles, scooters, and skating.





Health Department

HEALTH 8

Using resources to better understand Mental Health

The 8th grade classes researched many different MENTAL HEALTH topics and issues. The photo below captures the students sharing their research in small groups.



Wellness Walks in Health

Walking is good for the BODY and MIND. These sunny days in the Fall help us to enjoy the beautiful campus at SMS. Our heart rates, mood and smiles are increased.





Physical Education / Athletics





Physical Education / Athletics



Messages

8th

Team A
Team B
Team C

7th

Hero
Voyager
Wonder

6th

Discovery
Endeavor
Innovation

Special Areas

Art
FACS

Library
Music
Health

PE
Tech
Language

Teams & Clubs

Special Events



Physical Education / Athletics



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Technology Department

The Technology Department is buzzing with new projects, new activities and lots of fun.

In **6th Grade** students are currently working on their mass production project. They are also learning the basic fundamentals of Technology and the "human made" world. Students are learning materials processing and problem solving by constructing a desk organizer project out of wood. Students learn about wood, where it comes from and how we can use it to make our lives better and easier

In **7th Grade** students are chowing down on smores that they cook using the sun's energy. Students design and construct solar coolers to trap light energy and convert it into heat to cool and melt marshmallows and chocolate for a tasty learning experience

In **8th Grade** grade students are working on a brand new electricity project. Students are fabricating an electronic bug. Students learn the basics of electronics and apply it to make a robot that will run around the room on the floor and change directions. The project has students be introduced to new processes such as wire stripping, soldering, forming, and reading electronic schematics.

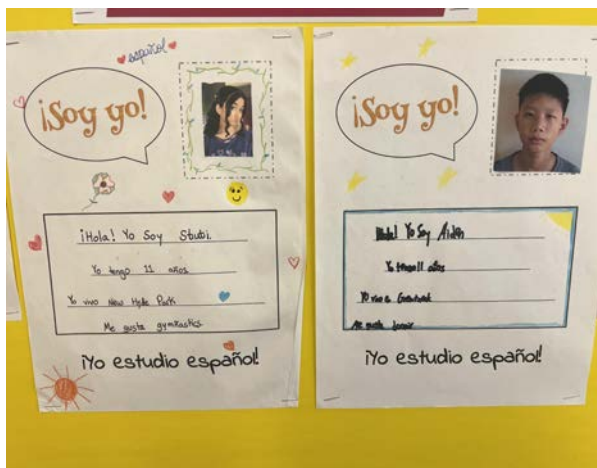




World Language & ENL

SPANISH 6

Students in **Ms. LaFaye's Spanish 6** class created a mini project the first week of school titled "Soy yo". They were tasked to answer 3 basic questions about themselves and then attach a photo of their choice!



To practice the letters of the Spanish alphabet as well as numbers 0-10, students **Ms. LaFaye's 6th grade Spanish** students created their own license plates with a fun message for others to decode!



In order to practice the alphabet, students in **Mr. La Greca's Spanish 6** class listened to recordings of objects in the classroom being spelled. They used their iPads to take pictures of the objects that were spelled for them.





World Language & ENL

Ms. Valli's Spanish 6 students celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month by building with legos! Students built various flags of Spanish speaking countries.



SPANISH 7

Ms. Valli's Spanish 7 students play *Bingo Humano* by interviewing classmates in Spanish to find out information like who has twins in their family, who has a pet, who is an only child, who has a sibling in college, and more!



¿Quién Soy Yo?

Me llamo Yael.
Yo tengo once años y
estoy en el Séptimo grado.

Mis cosas favoritas
Color: morado
Comida: Sushi
Cosa: ingles
Deporte/Actividad: El Water

Mi cumpleaños
es el de de

Yo vivo en Yo soy honesta
solitaria y alto

Hay 5 personas en
mi familia. Mis amigos son ...

¿Quién Soy Yo?

Me llamo Jacqueline Guo.
Yo tengo doce años y
estoy en el séptimo grado.

Mis cosas favoritas
Color: morado
Comida: ensalada
Cosa: arte
Deporte/Actividad: dibujar

Mi cumpleaños
es el de de

Yo vivo en Yo soy maraca
trabajadora y simpática

Hay 8 personas en
mi familia. Mis amigos son ...

¿Quién Soy Yo?

Me llamo Chael Koveri.
Yo tengo ... años y
estoy en el ... grado.

Mis cosas favoritas
Color: ...
Comida: ...
Cosa: ...
Deporte/Actividad: ...

Mi cumpleaños
es el de de

Yo vivo en Yo soy ...
trabajadora y simpática

Hay ... personas en
mi familia. Mis amigos son ...

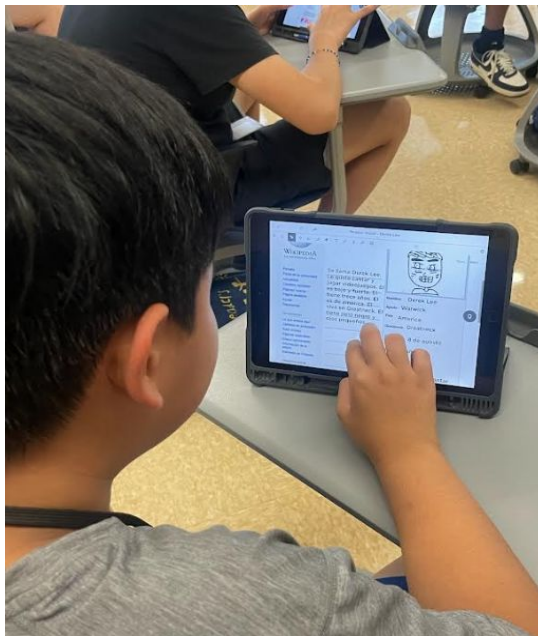
Ms. Valli's Spanish 7 students create profiles in español to introduce themselves to the class and review information they learned last year.



World Language & ENL

SPANISH 8

Students in **Dr. Pipala's Spanish 8** class created Wikipedia profiles for a new celebrity. They had to include information about the person's celebrity nickname, age, place of origin, and reason for being famous. Students then shared their celebrities in small group presentations and their classmates voted for the most creative Wikipedia pages!



To review personality/physical characteristics from 7th grade, **Ms. LaFaye's Spanish 8** students played "¿Quién es?" (guess who) with their partners.



Students in **Ms. LaFaye's Spanish 8** class practiced identifying and expressing personal information through creating a driver's license for a Hispanic celebrity during Hispanic Heritage Month!





World Language & ENL

SPANISH I

Eighth graders in **Ms. Valli, Mr. La Greca and Dr. Pipala's Spanish I** class practiced the Spanish alphabet with a fun activity, *Un examen de ojos*. Students played the role of doctor and patient and took turns reading from an eye chart using Spanish letters! Some students even covered one eye and stepped further away from the exam to make the activity as authentic as possible. Each doctor then filled out a "prescription" with recommendations for their patients.



Nombre de paciente: Kelly

REFILL _____ TIMES

Rx

de errores: 2 Pronóstico: I Paciente ve muy bien!

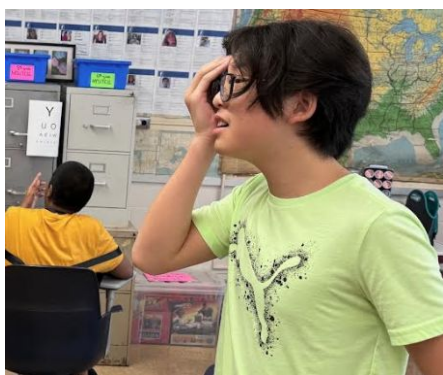
Dos ojos: 2 Necesita anteojos (glasses icon)

Ojo derecho: 0

Ojo izquierdo: 1

Firma de doctor(a): Doctor Hanna

Reorder Item #0100 Total Pharmacy Supply, Inc. 1-800-878-2822



Ms. Valli's Spanish I students created profiles with a basic introduction they learned on the second day of school!





World Language & ENL

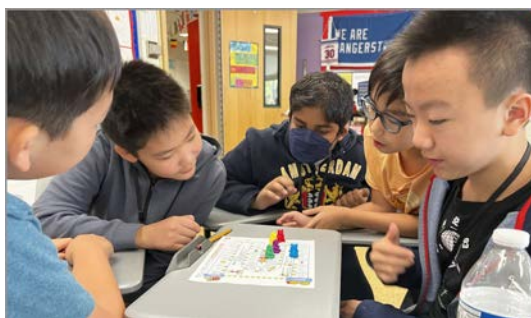
FRENCH 6

Sixth grade French students have hit the ground running and already know hundreds of French words and phrases! Students are able to have a conversation introducing themselves, ask how others are feeling and spell their names and all the French words they have learned so far. We even had a French Spelling Bee! Students went on a scavenger hunt in their homes looking for French items. They couldn't believe that French really is everywhere! We are having so much fun learning French!



FRENCH 7

Ms. Smith's 7th grade French students have spent the first quarter revisiting many of the topics we learned last year. Students are able to describe themselves and others. They have even described their favorite celebrity! Students are looking forward to learning about our community, all the things one can do in the community and how to get around from place to place.





World Language & ENL

FRENCH 8

8th grade French students are still thinking about summer vacation in our first unit! We have spent much of the first quarter reviewing questioning techniques in French and have finally started learning how to talk about past events. Students have been working on project that details all of the wonderful things they did over summer vacation!



CHINESE 6

Students celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival in **Ms. Zhang's Chinese 6 Class**. They designed mooncake postcards and lantern postcards themselves in Chinese.





World Language & ENL

Students in **Ms. Zhaomu's Chinese 6** class have learned to greet each other and express love and gratitude in Chinese. They've even created heartfelt cards to share their affection with loved ones. These cards are a symbol of appreciation and can be given to anyone special in their lives.



CHINESE 7

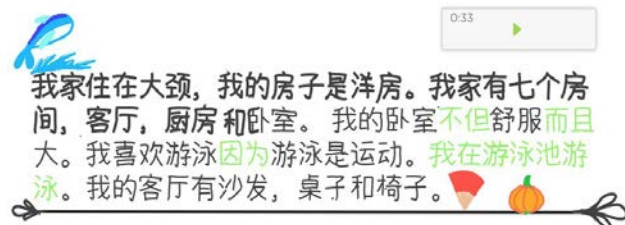
Students in **Ms. Wang's Chinese 7** class completed a lantern poster. As part of their Mid-Autumn Festival celebration, the students were tasked with creating a lantern poster. The project involved cutting out a rabbit lantern and writing a Chinese poem that expressed feelings of homesickness and family reunion.





World Language & ENL

The students in **Ms. Wang's 7th grade** class recently completed an "All About Me" project using Classkick. They created five-page books about themselves, which included their personal information, family members, school information, and living conditions. The students even added a personal touch by handwriting Chinese characters and adding recordings and decorations.



CHINESE 8

Students played "The Celebrity Banquet" game in **Ms. Zhang's Chinese 8 Class**. They pretend to be celebrities from all over the world. They communicate and exchange information in Chinese and make new friends.





World Language & ENL

LATIN 6

Our **Latin 6 students** have been immersing themselves in Roman culture and language through interactive games with their help of their friend, Feles the Cat!



LATIN 7

Latin 7 students learned the Latin numbers 1 to 21 by playing a game called "Say '21' and Win!" ("Si Dicis 'Viginti Unus,' Vincis!") with a partner. Rematches provided fun and friendly competition and increased the students' confidence.

SAY "21" AND WIN!
SI DICIS "VIGINTI UNUS," VINCIS!

- With a partner, take turns saying Latin numbers, one or two at a time (in a row)
- The person who says "**VIGINTI UNUS**" wins!
- Example:
 - Person A: unus Person A: sex, septem
 - Person B: duo, tres Person B: octo
 - Person A: quattuor Person A: novem, decem
 - Person B: quinque Person B: undecim, duodecim



LATIN 8

Latin 8 students are hard at work learning about the Republican Era of Roman history, including stories of legendary heroes like Manlius, as well as the geography of the city with the Seven Hills and important buildings that still stand today!





World Language & ENL

ENL

Students in the ENL/ELA classes spent time learning about September 11th. They then learned to associate something entirely different with the Twin Towers. They read about Phillippe Petit, the high wire walker that walked between the towers in 1974. They then wrote "love letters" to the towers from Phillippe, imagining what he must have felt watching the buildings he loved destroyed in 2001.



They also conducted peer interviews to learn more about their classmates and build a classroom climate of partnership and togetherness.



Students in the stand alone classes have been working on their "Identity" unit. They have learned descriptive words, the origin and popularity of names in the United States, as well as some geography terms. We reinforced these skills with US map puzzles. We also practiced letter writing/envelope addressing skills and even sent real letters!





Teams & Clubs

LEGO CLUB

Lego Club has gotten off to a great start! Students built their names to introduce themselves to their peers. Next up are holiday creations!





Teams & Clubs

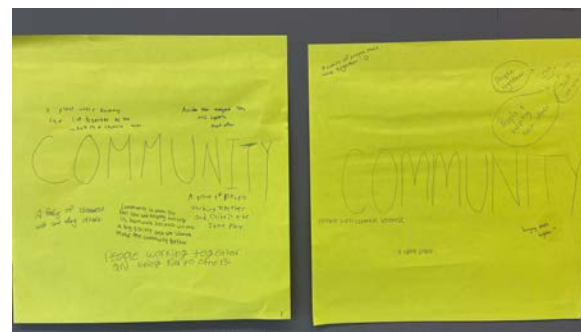
COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

In the Community Action Committee with Ms. Bazzani and Mrs. Klein, students have:

- discussed the concept of community and their places within the community
- spread messages of hope and inspiration through CAC's annual Sidewalk Chalk event

Over the next few weeks, students in CAC will be:

- organizing care packages of necessities for children in need in conjunction with Bellerose Assembly
- collecting Halloween candy for the New Hyde Park chapter of The Ronald McDonald House
- running a Thanksgiving food drive for St. Aloysius food pantry
- providing gift cards for local families to offset holiday costs





Teams & Clubs

PEER LEADERS

The Peer Leaders are excited for the 2023-2024 school year and have already participated in a number of school-wide events. The students kicked off the year by acting as tour guides for incoming 6th graders and new SMS students prior to the first day of school. Back-to-School night occurred the first week back and many leaders volunteered their time to help families navigate the building throughout the course of the night.

The students were also heavily involved in the annual Applebee's Flapjack Breakfast Fundraiser. They helped to promote the event by selling tickets at the start of the school day, making posters that were hung around the building, and by joining staff members at the actual event to assist with serving, seating, and selling 50/50 raffle tickets. More recently, the students hosted a number of snack sales in order to fundraise for their team building trip to Epic Escapes. On the trip, Peer Leaders collaborated to try and solve a number of puzzles that ultimately allowed them to successfully "escape the room." It has been a busy first quarter and we look forward to more fun and meaningful experiences in the coming months!

CHESS CLUB





Teams & Clubs

RIBBON & LION DANCE

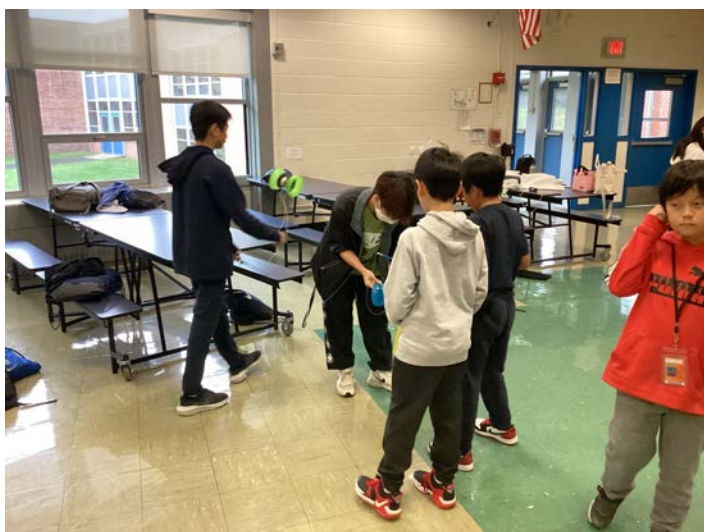




Teams & Clubs

CHINESE YO-YO

From the very first meeting of the Chinese Yo-Yo club, experienced students took charge and immediately began teaching beginners the ropes. They broke off into groups in order to introduce new students to Chinese Yo-Yo and before you know it, they were doing tricks on their own! This gave the students not only their talent, but their leadership skills, cooperation, and willingness to learn from each other.





Community Closet

Thank you to all SMS community members and staff who have donated clothing to the SMS Community Closet. South Middle School was able to open its doors to community members on Thursday, October 26, with its fall Community Closet Event. The SMS Community Closet events can only happen with the collaboration and support of so many stakeholders. Ms. Piperno and Ms. Klein send a huge "thank you" to the Community Closet helpers who gave their lunch time to help sort and fold clothing. The Community Closet accepts donations year-round. Bagged clothing can be left in the main foyer. Be on the lookout for the next Community Closet event!





Halloween



Messages

8th

Team A
Team B
Team C

7th

Hero
Voyager
Wonder

6th

Discovery
Endeavor
Innovation

Special Areas

Art
FACS

Library
Music
Health

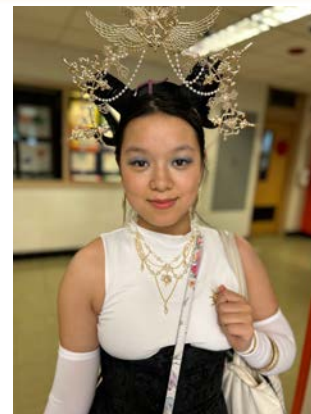
PE
Tech
Language

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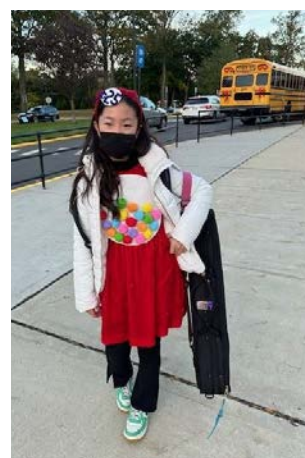
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