

Study Club is Now Open

Need some help with homework or help with navigating your on-line classes, Study Club is now open on-line Monday - Thursday from 1-2 pm. It is set up through a Google Classroom - class code i4qa3ga. Click on the Zoom link at the top of the stream page for help.

Tuesday and Thursday we have a Math Tutor available to help out with Math.

As I have been helping students, one thing I have discovered is they have way too many windows open on their computers. During Zoom meetings, we can share screens and this is one way we (the teachers) can help the students navigate on-line lessons. But when a student is having trouble, sometimes it is because they have too many windows open. So the next time they can't get on-line or go to that website or hear during class, check to see how many windows they have open and if any of them can be closed.

5th/6th Grade Classes:

Social Studies with Mr. Bird and Ms. Ferguson:

This past week (9/14-9/18) the students worked on building a 31 slide powerpoint that discussed important themes and topics of exploration. The students ended their week with a short quiz relating back to the last two weeks of discussions!

Next week (9/21) the students will begin learning about the Columbian Exchange and will again end their week with a short quiz on the topic. To end the unit the students will be working on a project the following week and the next unit test will follow.

Science with Ms. Diaz and Mr. Dougherty

Greetings Scientists, congratulations on completing week 7!

This week: All hands on deck as DCS scientists were asked to help solve a crime. Our very own forensic scientists were given a mystery powder found at the most atrocious of crime scenes (a baker's kitchen....someone stole the cookies from the cookie jar). Using water, vinegar and iodine, the scientists have so far analyzed baking powder, baking soda, salt and sugar to test their properties and reactions with the three liquids. With this information, they hope to be able to identify the mystery substance. On Friday they also had their weekly quiz.

Next week: DCS crime labs continue its investigations by analyzing corn starch, and finally, the long awaited, "mystery substance." What will they discover? Who actually stole the cookies from the cookie jar and why? And most importantly, what kind of cookies were they?

Mission to Mars: I have a phone meeting scheduled for Sept. 18 with the trip coordinator to get updates and information about the trip Nov. 21-24, 2020. I will email all attending parties the information that I receive.

Math with Mrs. Zuniga

Varsity: We started looking at division by using what we call a chunking method. Now we are working on the standard algorithm of division. We have a lot of work and practice with this method before we move forward.

Scholastic: Our focus this week was on comparing and ordering decimals as well as multiplying and dividing by powers of ten with decimals. Next week will be another quiz on Wednesday. So students should be reviewing the past 4 concepts we have learned for this quiz.

Honors: Students focused on scientific notation this week and moved into dividing and multiplying scientific notation. Our goal for next week before we take a quiz will be adding and subtracting scientific notation. Our first test for this unit will be coming up soon so keep an eye out for the date.

Math with Mrs. Nijjar

Varsity: Students this week learned to solve multiplication and division word problems. In the coming weeks, students will be taking the quiz for the same. IXL is an online resource available for the students to practice and reinforce the math concepts.

Scholastic: Students this week took their very first math unit test and started with the second unit. In the coming weeks, students will be learning about expanding, writing, and reading decimal numbers.

Honors: Students in this week learned about solving algebraic expressions and translating phrases into mathematical expressions. In the coming week, students will be taking a quiz and will also be learning about scientific notations.

Language Arts with Mr. Harding

Be sure to check grades often as they are updated frequently. We will be posting and grading more assignments now that our routines are locked in.

Chapter 3 of Spies is about how much damage one person could inflict on an enemy superpower. The book is fecund with vocabulary forus to harvest. As we study the Korean War, we are attempting to connect to the time and get a feel for people's feelings about politics and war. We will examine character motivation and subsequent action.

NewsELA, IXL, and NoRedInk are online resources we used throughout the 2019-2020 school year. We will continue to use these resources, and emphasize their importance in the gradebook. Every student is encouraged to practice using these online resources to build skills and knowledge.

Remember, I hold office hours from 1:30 - 2:00 PM, Monday through Thursday. Check Google classroom for the link.

Language Arts with Ms. Rodieck

Did you know this was week 7 and we are halfway through the first trimester?!

Scholastic and Honors have been reading about George Blake, a double agent for MI6 and KGB during the Cold War. He was a prisoner of war during the Korean Conflict, so we also learned a very little bit about the Korean War. To showcase our learning and demonstrate how events and experiences can change a person, we are creating



a graphic novel of the chapter. Below are some pages that have been created. They are a work on progress and we will be finishing both the chapter and this project next week. Also next week, we will start working on Argumentative Essays focusing on the first paragraph only (to start). We will also move on to diagramming articles, adjectives, and adverbs, oh my.

SPIES - THE DOUBLE

How a patriotic soldier becomes a double agent during the Cold War
Graphic Novel



THE EARLY YEARS

GEORGE BLAKE WAS BORN IN ROTTERDAM, HOLLAND IN 1922. MY MOM IS A DUTCH PROTESTANT, AND MY DAD WAS AN EGYPTIAN JEW.



POW! **BANG!**

HE WAS SWEEPED UP INTO WORLD WAR II WHEN HE WAS ONLY SEVENTEEN!

WHEN HE WAS 25 YEARS OLD, THE ARMY SENT HIM ON A MISSION IN KOREA TO ESTABLISH A NETWORK OF SPIES IN THE FAR EAST.




THE KOREAN WAR

CAUTION TO WHEEL

THE KOREAN WAR WAS ABOUT POWING, AND PRISONERS OF WAR.

AMERICAN AIRMAINES FINDING FIRST THE BODY OF AN ENEMY SOLDIER ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA, 1950.



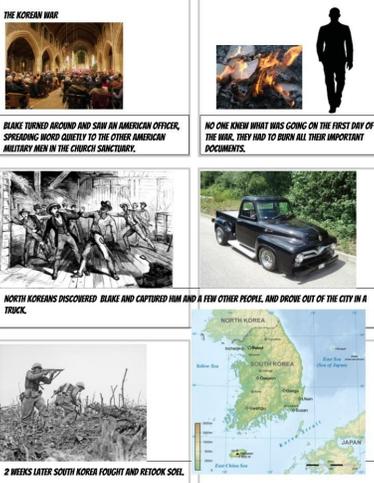
THE KOREAN WAR

BLAKE TURNED AROUND AND SAW AN AMERICAN OFFICER, SPREADING WORDS OF DEATH TO THE OTHER AMERICAN MILITARY MEN IN THE CHURCH SANCTUARY.

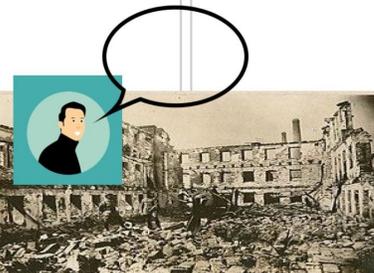
NO ONE KNEW WHAT WAS GOING ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WAR. THEY HAD TO BURN ALL THEIR IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS.

NORTH KOREANS DISCOVERED BLAKE AND CAPTURED HIM AND A FEW OTHER PEOPLE, AND DROVE OUT OF THE CITY IN A TRUCK.

2 WEEKS LATER SOUTH KOREA FOUGHT AND RETOOK SOUL.



PRISONER OF WAR



Varsity classes finished their first unit on story elements and will be moving on to main ideas and supporting details in non-fiction. We will continue to learn about Spies and the Cold War with abridged reading passages from the book. We are also working on parts of a sentence and writing complete sentences. Some varsity students are very good writers and will start work on paragraphs and paragraph formats in the next few weeks.