

5th/6th Grade Classes:

Social Studies with Mr. Bird and Ms. Ferguson:

This week in Social Studies the students finished learning about the different Native American Regional groups. A fry bread recipe from one of the Native American tribes was posted in Google Classroom, please look under the “stream” section if you and your student are interested in making it! We would love to know how they turned out, feel free to share pictures with us!

The students also made digital totem poles this week! Here is an example of one of the totem poles:



Next week we will prepare for the unit test with a project and review games. The unit test will be on Thursday of next week, September 3rd.

If your child needs to locate the readings for this week and last to study they can find them in Google Classroom under the "Classwork" tab in the "Native Americans" section!

Science with Ms. Diaz and Mr. Dougherty

Greetings Scientists! What an exciting month in the lab!

This week: we took our first science test, covering the Scientific Method, sound, ways to earn (+) and (-) points and class expectations. This week has been the most interesting so far because 1) we did our first hands-on, making "singing straws" to HEAR the sound of science in action. Since we have the

privilege of Mr. Dougherty's expertise, we learned about the science in music. But the best part? Wait for it....wait for it...2) we learned that something as simple as figuring out "how to make your own instruments" has a real world application by watching the [Landfill Harmonic](#). This talented group of students from Paraguay have the desire to play music, but due to circumstances, do not have the resources to buy nice instruments. Therefore, as a community, they collaborated with each other to take items from the local landfill to make instruments. That's an awesome "design, science, engineering, music and environmental conservation" collaboration if I don't say so myself (but I do).

Next week: we write-up our first lab report on the "singing straws" activity and then have the weekly quiz on Friday.

Exciting news: congratulations to our fellow 6th grade scientist, Nayomi Shih, who has been made an honorary member of the Behavioural Neuroscience Laboratory, led by Prof Andreas Heuer, at Lund University in Sweden. Click this link to see her profile: <https://behavioural-neuroscience.com/team.html>

Mission to Mars: The trip, rescheduled to November, is still a go, I repeat, is still a go. Over and out. If you have any questions please feel free to email me cdiaz@tracy.lc.net

Math with Mrs. Zuniga

Varsity: We learned about multiplying 2 x 2 digit numbers this week. The students also spent a class day learning how to submit their work through google forms and slides on our googleclassroom. We will be practicing multiplying much more next week and looking at 3 x 2 digit multiplication. Parents, please make sure students are practicing their multiplication facts at home as well!

Scholastic: We spent the week reviewing for our unit test. Our next unit will focus on all things decimals! This will start on Monday with an introduction to decimals before we dive into the four operations.

Honors: The students finished their second quiz of unit 1 this week. Next week we will move onto exponents!

Math with Mrs. Nijjar



All of my students took the Davis Test this week.

Varsity: Students this week learned about multiplying whole numbers using an area model and took the quiz for the same. In the coming weeks, students will be learning about different strategies to divide whole numbers.

Scholastic: Students this week learned about properties of addition and multiplication, and took the quiz for the same. In the coming weeks, students will be learning about place value and rounding whole numbers.

Honors: Students in this week learned about integer exponents and the laws associated with exponents. In the coming weeks, students will be learning about PEMDAS and solving algebraic equations.

Language Arts with Mr. Harding

This year's Pentathlon topic is the Cold War. It has been somewhat refreshing to go back into history and see our greatest fears still not realized. As we read about the organizations and the individual spies that changed and maintained the balance of superpowers, we are learning how fear is generated and how it affects people.

This week, we studied Cold War era propaganda from both superpowers and noticed themes. We may have a project in the near future where the students must create propaganda to promote an agenda.

Language Arts with Ms. Rodieck

During Week 4 Scholastic and Honors started Sentence Diagramming!! This is a way to practice the parts of speech and learn how words can be used in a sentence. It will



improve sentence structure and overall writing. We did not have a weekly quiz this week, instead it will be at the end of each Chapter in our Novel.

Next week all groups will continue to learn about Spies. We will be learning about the FBI units that were first involved in spy hunting. And we will learn about breaking early encryption codes.

Varsity will be split into smaller groups and we will be doing small group reading instruction on Ms. Murzi's days to help the students with their decoding and fluency skills, in addition to comprehension. On the other days, we will continue to learn about Spies and work on our writing skills.