



Middle School Newsletter

September 17, 2018

Crown Pointe Academy

Volume 14 Number 5

Week of September 17, 2018

Monday, September 17:

Progress Reports Sent Home

- Zac Omega Blackberry Bar
- (V) Cheesy Ravioli, Turkey & Cheddar Sandwich, Garbanzo Beans & Grape Tomatoes

Tuesday, September 18:

Fall Picture Day- Students wear uniforms

Open Gym 6:50-7:50 All Grades

8th Grade Field Trip to the Bird Conservancy

Choir 3:15-4:30

Las Delicias Family Night (Spanish Trip Fundrasier)

- Yogurt & Educational Snacks
- (DF)Crispy Chicken Sandwich, Garden Ranch Salad with Chicken Breast, Steamed Sliced Carrots

Wednesday, September 19:

Ukulele Club Grades 4-8, 3:15-4:30

- Lemon Muffin & OJ
- (V) Breakfast for Lunch: Pancakes with Omelet, (V) Taco Dippers Kit, Sliced Cucumber

Thursday, September 20:

Open Gym 6:50-7:50 all grades

8th Grade Field Trip to the Ropes Course

FISH Grades 4-8, 3:45-5:00

- Corn Chex & Zac Strawberry Bar
- (V) Cheese Enchiladas, Mighty Meaty Deli Combo Sandwich, Broccoli Florets with Ranch

Friday, September 21:

No School- Teacher Work Day

How Do I Know What Homework My Student Has Tonight?

Literature, Writing, Science, Social Studies, and Math:

- Daily homework assignments will be added to the Google Classroom by **the end of every day**.
- Teachers will also add an announcement if there is NO homework that night.
- You must have access to your student's Google Classroom account, or you must request access to the teacher's Google Classroom. If you need your student's Google Classroom login information, please contact Erin Keyes at erin.keyes@crownpointeacademy.org.

How Can I Use Infinite Campus to Understand My Student's Grades?

- If you need access to the Infinite Campus Parent Portal, please contact the front office.
- In order to view your student's grades, please click on the Grades module. This will give you a view of your student's overall grades in each class.
- To get a more detailed view of a class, please click on the individual class to see assignments and grades earned.
- When teachers collect assignments that have not been graded, teachers will put in a score of either **T (Turned In) or M (Missing)**. That way you know if your student has missing assignments. A score of T does not affect your student's grade; a score of M counts as a 0 and will negatively impact your student's grade.
- If you have questions about individual assignments, please contact the teacher directly.
- Teachers will update Infinite Campus each week by Tuesday mornings at 8:00 a.m., so parents can see the most current grades at that time. See below for how long students have to turn in an assignment for credit.

My Student has a Missing Assignment. How Long Does He/She Have to Turn It In for Partial Credit?

- Students will have **at least one week** to turn in a missing assignment for credit. The amount of credit lost is determined by how late the assignment is. If an assignment is one day late, students can earn up to 80% credit. If an assignment is two days late, students can earn up to 60% credit. Assignments turned in three or more days late will be given 40% credit.
- Students will have one additional week to turn in any assignment recorded as missing from the Tuesday after the assignment is posted. For example:
 - An assignment is due on Thursday, August 16th
 - If a student turns the assignment in on Friday, August 17th, he/she will receive 80% of the points earned, so if the assignment is worth 20 points and a student gets two questions wrong for a score of 18 points, they will get 80% credit for that 18 points, i.e., 14.4 points rounded to 14.
 - If a student turns in the assignment on Monday, August 20th, the highest possible grade is 60%, or 10.8 points (rounded up to 11). If turned in on Tuesday, August 21st or later, the maximum possible grade is a 40%.
- The teachers update their grades by Tuesday morning on August 21st, and you notice that your student has a missing assignment. Your student will now have until the **FOLLOWING Monday, August 27th** to turn in the assignment at the 40% credit of the points earned level.
- **In this example, the student had 8 school days** to turn the assignment in for partial credit. Once grades post that following Tuesday however, the assignment will not be accepted and the student will receive a 0.
- Please contact any teacher if you have questions about the late work policy.

Thank you for your continued support of your middle school student!
Please let us know if you have any questions.

Science with Mrs. Roe
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All classes: Assignments will be put on the Google Classroom. Grade information will be available on Infinite Campus this week. Tuesday mornings will be the most up to date grade by 8am.

GUIDELINES and TIMELINES for SCIENCE FAIR have been distributed. All forms and support items are on the Google Classroom. Science fair topic proposals were due for all grades by Friday September 7th. Final approvals for topics means that research can now start. On Friday, September 14th, I discussed with all classes how to use the public library research databases. If your child has a library card that they can use at school to access these, please send it with them. It is possible at the Westminster Library for sure to get a library card that is restricted to e-resources only and not (if it was lost) to be able to check out physical books on that account. October 2nd is the deadline for the research proposal. No experimentation should start before the research proposal is approved.

6th grade: We are beginning the unit on the ocean.

7th grade: We are beginning the unit on the cell membrane and cells.

8th grade: We are looking at bioethics. **We are going to the Bird Conservancy on Tuesday. Remember to send your child with a sack lunch, water bottle, and closed-toe shoes.**

Grades for science are weighted:

15% Homework and Practice

35% Unit Tests

25% Semester Projects (Science Fair-Fall, Grade Specific-Spring)

25% Interactive Notebook and Textbook Checks

Lab Mondays: Please help your child remember to have long pants, short sleeves and a hair tie (if hair is long enough to fall forward if they lean forward it needs to be tied back) for labs on Monday. There will not be a lab on weeks when we do not have school on Monday.

Important Dates for Middle School Students!

Monday, September 17th: Progress Reports Sent Home

Thursday, September 20th: 8th Grade Ropes Course Field Trip

Tuesday, September 18th: Fall Picture Day (Uniforms Required)

Thursday, October 4th and Friday, October 5th: Parent-Teacher Conferences

Friday, October 12th: End of 1st Quarter

Tuesday, October 23rd: Report Cards Sent Home

Social Studies with Mrs. Hughes

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Can you believe it's week 6! I'm going to take a little different approach this week and give a few ways parent involvement can help increase student achievement.

- Get to know your student's teachers. We are a team and we want your student to succeed. Getting to know us makes it easier for communication to flow back and forth.
- Get involved at the school. Join the PTA or volunteer in ways that give you a presence in the building. Even making sure you come to parent teacher conferences can make a difference in your child knowing that we are all working together.
- Keep a positive attitude about education. We understand that not everyone has a great or even a good experience in school. Yours may have been a very difficult experience socially or academically but that doesn't doom your child to the same experience. Speak positively about learning and the opportunities they have to be successful.
- Encourage your student to take responsibility for their work. We all have Google Classrooms that are updated nightly unless we are out of the building and even then they may be updated. Students have multiple ways to know what is going on in class. When students are held responsible for their work they get the benefit of their success and the learning opportunities from their failure.

History Day and Notebooks for Social Studies: This week students will know why they need a 3-subject notebook. If your student does not have a 3-subject notebook they will need another 1-subject spiral dedicated to History Day. They will have until Wednesday to purchase this notebook. If they have a three subject notebook they do not need to purchase anything. We will be beginning the History Day processes this week.

Magazines: We will continue to collect magazines throughout the year. Please feel free to send them in throughout the year.

Google Classroom: By the end of this week all parents will have been invited to Google Classroom. Please see the email sent to you and sign up there for the updates.

6th Grade: *History and Culture and Geography* This week we will finish our unit on History and Culture. There will be a small test at the end of the week over the sections we will have covered. Then we will begin our unit on Geography.

7th Grade: *History and Geography and Economics and Geography* This week we will finish our look at history and Geography. There will be a short test at the end of it. Students need their world atlases this week as we work through these activities. Students will then begin a unit on Economics and Geography

8th Grade: *The Early Americans and European Exploration* We will continue looking at the first exploration of the Americas and how this exploration changed the culture of the native peoples and ushered in the era of colonialism. We will also look at the exploration and colonialism of Africa and Asia.

Continuation Information

Tuesday, October 2 at 5:30 will be our first Continuation meeting for parents after school. These meetings are where we will determine how we want this celebration to happen. Please join me parents.

National History Day

Our theme this year is Triumph and Tragedy. More information will be coming.

Weighted Grades

I do weight my grades for academic classes as follows:

- Major grades = 60%
- Tests, projects, presentations, community service and other major assignments
 - Minor grades = 40%
- Quizzes, homework, classwork, notes, participation, and other daily or minor assignments

This does make it so that you can't add up their total number of points and divide it by the total points possible and calculate a correct grade. Please email me if you have any questions.

6th and 7th Writing, 8th Literature with Mr. Scott

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I hope everyone had a fantastic weekend! This is week in language arts:

6th Grade - The sixth grade will be starting rough drafts of their short stories this week.

7th Grade - The seventh grade will test over The Outsiders on Wednesday!

8th Grade - Short week with the 8th graders due to field trips, but they will be continuing with To Kill A Mockingbird.

Let me know if you have any questions!

SEL Lab and Electives with Mrs. Worley and Mrs. Southern

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SEL Lab

"It's a funny thing about life, once you begin to take note of the things you are grateful for, you begin to lose sight of the things that you lack."

— Germany Kent

6th and 7th Grade: This week we in SEL Lab students will learn how to develop a growth mindset and apply it to their social and academic lives. We will also begin setting goals and begin creating and use If-Then Plans, a research-based strategy for achieving goals

8th grade will begin to examine their "foundation," the identity upon which they stand. Students will examine thoughts, beliefs, emotions, assumptions, interpretations, and perceptions they have about themselves and others. Our goal is to create a greater awareness regarding how their thoughts and perceptions about themselves and others have a large impact on how they feel about the world around them.

Students will have study hall Tuesday.

Drama:

Your student's grades may drastically change from their progress reports as the capstone project grades are entered. Please always check Infinite Campus and do not hesitate to call me with any questions.

8th Grade: We are listening to the Old Time Radio Shows, filling out group evaluations, and starting our section on facial expression and body movement. We will start discussing our silent film project.

6th and 7th Grade: Great job on the puppet shows! We are beginning our facial expression and body movement by working on our photobooth project and posters.

** All students will have a pencil pouch check for supplies that they need to be stocked. They have been aware of this check. ***

6th and 7th Literature, 8th Writing with Ms. Laxton

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I hope that everyone enjoyed their weekend!

This week, 6th grade will continue reading *The Giver*.

7th grade students will begin working on the research and writing pieces of their science fair projects.

8th grade students will also begin working on the written and research portion of their science fair projects. 8th grade will be out on Tuesday and Thursday for field trips.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Math with Mrs. Davis and Mr. MacGregor

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This week in Math:

6th: Unit 2 (**NUMBER OPERATIONS**) begins with a review of *Operations with Fractions*. Later in the week we'll explore *Operations with Decimals*, and move into Ratios and Rates.

7th: Module 3 (**Rational Numbers**) wraps up with the last operation with Rational Numbers, *Division*. A lesson on applying all four operations wraps up the Module **and** the Unit. We'll quiz on the Module later in the week, and 7th Graders should expect the Unit Test early next week.

8th: This will be a short, odd week for 8th Grade, as there is not one, but **two** field trips on tap this week, and Friday is a Teacher Work Day with no students. Having just wrapped up Unit 1, we will ease into Unit 2 (**PROPORTIONAL AND NONPROPORTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND FUNCTIONS**) with *Proportional Relationships*, and then a fun class activity on Wednesday.

Community Service/Mrs. Hughes

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Community Service

Summer and 1st quarter hours are due October 5th.

Total Student Community Service Hours Complete: 561.5

10+ Hours	20+ Hours	30+ Hours
Keira E., Faustina P., Jaelah M., Kevin T-B., Melissa B., Alex T., Tammy L., John S., Mac Z., Jovani M., Lenna C., Josias M.	Anaiah C. - 22	Erin S. - 48 Cori R. - 100 Joey R. - 100 Andrew J.- 72

Community Service Grading

- 2.5 new hours each quarter in addition to the hours required the quarter before
- To receive a 100%, students should have a total of 2.5 hours at the end of 1st quarter, 5 hours at the end of 2nd quarter, 7.5 hours at the end of 3rd quarter, and 10 hours at the May 11th cutoff date for 4th quarter.
- Until the previous quarter's requirements are met no new credit will be given.
- Students will receive 20 points for each **completed** half hour of service in the quarterly requirement. Additional half hours are credited to the following quarter up to the 10 hour requirement. Once the 10 hour requirement is met the student will receive a 100% for that quarter and all following quarters.
- A log (available in Mrs. Hughes' room) must be completed for each month's service and turned in to Mrs. Hughes' room.
- Partial half hours will receive no credit. Hours turned in after the quarterly deadline will be counted toward the total in the next quarter.
- Students cannot receive any compensation for those hours
- Students cannot do the work for the house they live in - exceptions must be arranged through Mrs. Hughes
- Activities like babysitting only count if it is so the parent can complete some kind of service act (serving in a soup kitchen or leading a troop of some kind, etc.) - babysitting for a date night **does not** count