



# Middle School Newsletter

October 23, 2018

Crown Pointe Academy

Volume 14 Number 10

## Week of October 23, 2018

### **Tuesday, October 23:**

Report Cards Sent Home

Class Pictures, and Fall Picture Retakes

Choir- Grades 4-8, 3:15-4:30

Cinnamon Crumble

(V) Green Chile & Cheese Tamale, (V) Taco Dippers Kit, Cucumber & Tomato Salad

### **Wednesday, October 24:**

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

All School Photo 10:00

Ukulele Club 3:15-4:30

Bagel with Cream Cheese

Breakfast for Lunch: Pancakes with Sausage, Ham & Cheddar Sandwich, Edamame & Broccoli Florets

### **Thursday, October 25:**

Open Gym all grades, 6:50-7:50am

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

Student Council 3:45-4:30

Apple Crisp Cereal and Orange Juice

(V) Mac & Cheese & Chicken Bites, (V) Hummus Dippers, Glazed Sliced Carrots

### **Friday, October 26:**

Middle School Honor Roll Breakfast 7:30am

Elementary 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Awards assembly 9:00 am

Lemon Muffin

Beef Cheeseburger, Chicken Caesar Salad, Chopped Lettuce & Sliced Tomatoes with Ranch

### **Saturday, October 27:**

Harvest Festival 2:00-6:00

## 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](mailto: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**  
[Marcia.roe@crownpointeacademy.org](mailto:Marcia.roe@crownpointeacademy.org) X504



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: October 2nd was the deadline for the research proposal. Feedback has been given in the document itself and in a rubric emailed to each student with notes to improve their project and revise. The projects have been approved to begin. I will be spending October 26th reviewing how to do the abstract, analysis, conclusion, and the board presentation. All forms and support items for the science fair are on the Google Classroom.

6th grade: We are beginning Plate Tectonics and the Rock Cycle this week. Fresh water test scores and updated bookwork grades will be posted by Thursday.

7th grade: We are continuing our cell energy unit. The unit test was originally planned for 10/24 but will be moved to 10/25 to allow for more review of the cell cycle and photosynthesis/cell respiration.

8th grade: We are continuing our unit on Weather and Climate. The unit test was originally planned for 10/24 but will be moved to 10/25 to allow for more review of the climate and weather.

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. If anyone is interested in volunteering on Fridays to help prepare for lab Mondays, the help would be greatly appreciated.

## Important Dates for Middle School Students!

Tuesday, October 23rd: Report Cards Sent Home

Friday, October 26th: Honor Roll Breakfast

Friday, November 9th: Science Fair Due

Wednesday, November 14th: End of Grading Period for Progress Reports

Monday, November 26th: Progress Reports Sent Home

## Social Studies with Mrs. Hughes

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**Hope you had a great fall break!** Libraries are great but underused tools for students. We live in a day where the book has been digitized and the librarian has been replaced with Google. So what can a librarian give us that Google can't? To begin with, experience. Every librarian has their own story. Within that is a wealth of experience that they can offer to people who are willing to ask. They often don't just love books, but they love helping others love books as well. They may know of books or periodicals or other resources that could benefit a student trying to conduct research. They also have ears. They can listen to what you are researching, what you are trying to discover, what you are interested in. They can then point you in the right direction. Google attempts to do this through predictive suggestions and the do alright but a librarian has the ability to hear you and rapidly adapt their response to little idiosyncrasies that they may hear in what you say. They have access to resources and ideas we couldn't otherwise get ahold of. They have connections. They can hook you up. All of these reasons are why I am requiring that every student get a library card (or at the very least) visit a local public library. Our students are required to use 1-3 books for their National History Day projects this year. I told our students that their job was to get to a library, respectfully introduce themselves and ask for help. You will watch a librarian do amazing things when given the chance to help a student who wants it. Our own Mrs. Strick is a perfect example of this. Say, "Thank you," if you see her.

### History Day (NHD)

Each week students will receive at least one class day dedicated to History Day. This guarantees at least 20 hours of in-class time to work on their NHD projects. Students have started researching a topic that they are interested in for their NHD projects. We set up their notebooks. They all have a Topic Funnel that they are working on and will need to turn in on Wednesday 10/24. We also began working on page 17 of their packet dealing with building historical context. This is a really important step in the developing of their projects.

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

**Google Classroom:** Remember to check Google Classroom for daily updates on what is going on in class.

**6th Grade:** *Geography and Vault* This week we will begin our unit on *Geography*. *There will be no finance unit this week.*

**7th Grade:** *Economics and Geography, and Junior Achievement Finance Park* This week we will begin our unit on *Economics and Geography*. *We will have Finance Friday working on our Junior Achievement Finance Park curriculum this week.*

**8th Grade:** *European Colonization of North America, and Future Smart* This week we will begin our unit on *European Colonization of North America*. *There will be no finance unit this week.*

### Continuation Information

Tuesday, November 13 at 5:00 will be our second Continuation meeting for parents after school. Please see the email I sent last week for more details.

### 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**  
[Jay.scott@crownpointeacademy.org](mailto:Jay.scott@crownpointeacademy.org)



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

6th Grade: Students will be completing and showing off their hamburger paragraphs.

7th Grade: Students will be peer editing their short stories and working on their final drafts.

8th Grade: Students will be reading the horror genre of literature this week.

Let me know if you have any questions!

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

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**SEL Lab**

“When your values are clear to you, making decisions becomes easier”. - Roy E. Disney

**8th Grade:** This week we will continue working on Overcoming Fear. We will examine the fears that stand in our way but that also allow us to discover a great deal of courage inside ourselves. It takes a lot of bravery to overcome our fears, but when we do, we develop a stronger sense of ourselves in the process.

**6th & 7th Grade:** This week we will continue working on Values and Decisions.

Values are a resource students can turn to and use in a wide range of situations. Identifying, focusing on, and remembering values has been shown to improve coping skills and positive decision making. Research on values shows that focusing on them increases people's resilience to stress and improves psychological well-being

Tuesday is a study hall day.

**Drama:**

**\*\*Remember at the start of each quarter, student's grades may fluctuate as there are not too many grades into the grade book yet.\*\***

**8th Grade:** Students will start working on memorizing their monologues and creating a backstory for their character. They are required to memorize 20-25 lines of their monologue and then present the rest in character

**7th Grade:** They will practice, practice, practice throughout the week. We are working on studying our lines for at least 10 minutes of class and then breaking up the class with another activity. This daily exposure should help them memorize and really be able to get into character. This takes hard work. They are required to memorize 20-25 lines of their monologue and then present the rest in character. This will take a few weeks to accomplish

**6th Grade:** We will finish reading our scripts and have an assignment due at the end of the week or the start of next week called “Whose Phone is This?”. This is the capstone project for our Character unit and quality work is expected. Students should have plenty of time to finish this in class.

## 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 complete several culminating assignments to wrap up The Giver.

7th and 8th grade will continue studying the horror genre of literature and continue reading the short stories and poems of Edgar Allen Poe.

Have a great week!

## Math with Mrs. Davis and Mr. MacGregor

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This week in Math:

6<sup>th</sup>: We finished Module 5 (**Operations with Decimals**) last week, wrapping up with a quiz. This also marked the end of Unit 2 (**Number Operation**). Students will take their second unit test of the year this week after a review day. Friday we will move on to **Rates and Ratios**.

7<sup>th</sup>: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade dives into working with percentages. Lessons include **Percent Increase and Decrease, Rewriting Percent Expressions**, and **Applications of Percent**. This module contains a lot of useful, real-world knowledge.

8<sup>th</sup>: Module (**Writing Linear Equations**) concludes this week, with the quiz (likely) Thursday. We'll move on to **Functions** Friday.

Algebra: Students in Algebra will be concluding work on **Combining and Composite Functions** this week. We will be moving on to non-linear relationships and function transformations.

## Community Service/Mrs. Hughes

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### Community Service

2nd quarter hours are due December 14th.

**Total Student Community Service Hours Complete: 1356**

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., Lenna C., Conchita C., Logan K., Allison R., Ezequiel V., Chandler T., Jeremiah M., Irwin T.B., Abad V., Eric S., Ariana O., Giovanni P., Steven B., Anthony M., Savion M., Alex P., Daniel T., Shyya M., Elijah S., Dianna G.	Anaiah C. - 22 Liam S.- 22.5 Jessy M.- 23	Erin S. - 48 Cori R. - 100 Joey R. - 100 Andrew J.- 72 Megan M.-32 Jordyn R.-45 Camryn Jo R.-47

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, 5 hours at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, 7.5 hours at the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, and 10 hours at the May 11<sup>th</sup> cutoff date for 4<sup>th</sup> 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