



Middle School Newsletter

October 29, 2018

Crown Pointe Academy

Volume 14 Number 11

Week of October 29, 2018

Monday, October 29:

Hearing and Vision Screening

1st Grade Music Program 6:00-7:00 Students line up at 5:45 in library

Wholegrain Cheerios and Mini Dipperdoodle Bar

Creamy Chicken Alfredo, Turkey & Cheddar Sandwich, Steamed corn

Tuesday, October 30:

Open Gym 6:50-7:50 All Grades

Choir 3:15-4:30

Yogurt and Granola

Cheesy Chicken Quesadilla, (DF) Egg Salad Sandwich, Sliced Cucumber with Ranch

Wednesday, October 31:

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

Zee Zees Berry Apple Crisp Bar and Orange Juice

(DF) Hot Dog, Mighty Meaty Deli Combo Sandwich, Baby Carrots & Edamame

Thursday, November 1:

Open Gym – All Grades 6:50-7:50am

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

PTA Meeting 6:00-7:00

Honey Grahams & Cinnamon Rumbles

(V) Breakfast for Lunch: Pancakes with Omelet, Garden Ranch Salad with Chicken Breast, Glazed Carrots

Friday, November 2:

Brown Bag Pick Up event during dismissal

Open Gym grades 5-8 3:45-4:30

Mini French Toast Muffin with String Cheese & OJ

(DF)Classic Spaghetti and Meatballs, Ham & Cheddar Sandwich, Broccoli Florets

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?

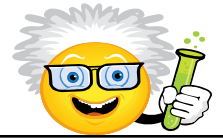
- If you need access to the Infinite Campus Parent Portal, please contact the front office.
- In order to view your student's grades, please click on the Grades module. This will give you a view of your student's overall grades in each class.
- To get a more detailed view of a class, please click on 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: November 9th is quickly approaching. Last Friday, we reviewed analysis, conclusions, abstracts, and printing a final report in all classes. You student should bring their final report with their board to Mrs. Roe's room the morning of Friday, November 9th. All forms and support items for the science fair are on the Google Classroom.

6th grade: We are continuing Plate Tectonics and the Rock Cycle this week.

7th grade: 7th grade test scores from the cell energy lab will be posted tomorrow. We will begin our unit on DNA this week.

8th grade: 8th grade will go "out of this world" with this week as we explore the sun, moon, and earth systems beginning this week.

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!

Friday, November 9th: Science Fair Due

Tuesday, November 13th: 8th Grade Continuation Planning Meeting 5:00 p.m.

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

Monday, November 26th: Progress Reports Sent Home

Thursday, December 6th: 7th Grade Field Trip to JA Finance Park

Thursday, December 6th: Middle School Spelling Bee

Friday, December 14th: Middle School Winter Festival and Dance

Wednesday, December 19th: Middle School Geography Bee

Social Studies with Mrs. Hughes

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How come we never give a trick? Every year on October 31st, children come to our doors, or we take our children to theirs, and say the same thing, "Trick or Treat!" The children say this with the full expectation that we will give them some kind of non-nutritious, wrapped with heat-sealed wrappers, and a known name on it treat. The closest thing that comes to a trick is that neighbor that hands out raisins in boxes. Can you imagine what would happen to the holiday if more people offered a magic or card trick at the door? Or worse, something harmful? Sometimes I think students believe that we are playing a game of trick or treat with them. We claim to want to teach them to love learning and then we throw what they perceive as busy or pointless work at them. To them, this has become the trick of the teacher. But the reality for many teachers is that we do want learning to be something students love but if it is always easy and never asks them to be challenged, it would be like having your Halloween candy become your main food supply. It isn't healthy, it doesn't help them grow and in the long run it is actually detrimental to their health. Learning is the same. We teach a concept, often engaging in direct instruction that can be easy to follow and often times we give them the answer during this time. Then, we set them up with the challenge: do it yourself and prove you have learned it. This is when it gets hard - like eating your vegetables every day. Students are forced to engage on a deeper level and internalize what they have learned. This takes on several forms: a worksheet for repetition, at home reading so they are prepared to discuss something, a test, or a project. Remember, we are here to help your student and give them the support they need for success. They only need to ask. This is no trick; it is our treat to work with students that want to learn.

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.

6th Grade: Geography This week we will continue our unit on *Geography*. *We are going to change up our notes a bit and do more with graphic understanding instead of just written outlines. I am hoping to catch a few of my students that struggled a little bit with our last unit and also move a little faster through it. We will be dropping our Finance Friday's until February so that students have more opportunity to work on their NHD projects in class.*

7th Grade: Economics and Geography, and Junior Achievement Finance Park This week we will continue our unit on *Economics and Geography*. *We are going to change up our notes a bit and do more with graphic understanding instead of just written outlines. I am hoping to catch a few of my students that struggled a little bit with our last unit and also move a little faster through it. We will have Finance Friday working on our Junior Achievement Finance Park curriculum. Your students may be asking you for a job history or a receipt this week.*

8th Grade: European Colonization of North America This week we will continue our unit on *European Colonization of North America*. *We are going to change up our notes a bit and do more with graphic understanding instead of just written outlines. I am hoping to catch a few of my students that struggled a little bit with our last unit and also move a little faster through it. We will be dropping our Finance Friday's until February so that students have more opportunity to work on their NHD projects in class.*

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



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

6th Grade: Students will learn about paraphrasing and citing sources this week.

7th Grade: Students will be starting the careers unit this week, beginning with a career aptitude test to see potential paths for their futures.

8th Grade: Students will be working on identifying persuasion in texts, and we still start by looking at advertisements.

Let me know if you have any questions!

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

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SEL Lab

“Turn down the volume of your negative inner voice and create a nurturing inner voice to take it’s place. When you make a mistake, forgive yourself, learn from it, and move on instead of obsessing about it. Equally important, don’t allow anyone else to dwell on your mistakes or shortcomings or to expect perfection from you.” — **Beverly Engel**

8th Grade: This week we will continue working on Overcoming Fear by focusing on fear and negative self talk. We will examine some exercises that will assist us with negative self talk and also work on a collage. We will begin work on the planning of our fence building next week.

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:

8th Grade: Students will continue memorizing their monologues. We will do a rough take of presenting the monologue in front of their friends and providing feedback for improvements. Next week we will film the final takes. Students are required to memorize 20-25 lines of their monologue and then present the rest in character.

7th Grade: We will do a rough take of presenting the monologue in front of their friends and providing feedback for improvements. We will be filming final takes at the end of the week or beginning of next week.

6th Grade: Students will start a new unit on Tech and Stage Theater. We will learn all about what happens behind the scenes, IE lighting, set design, props, costume design. Students will have a test on stage directions and type of stages we can find. We will take notes on this and practice before the test.

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

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.

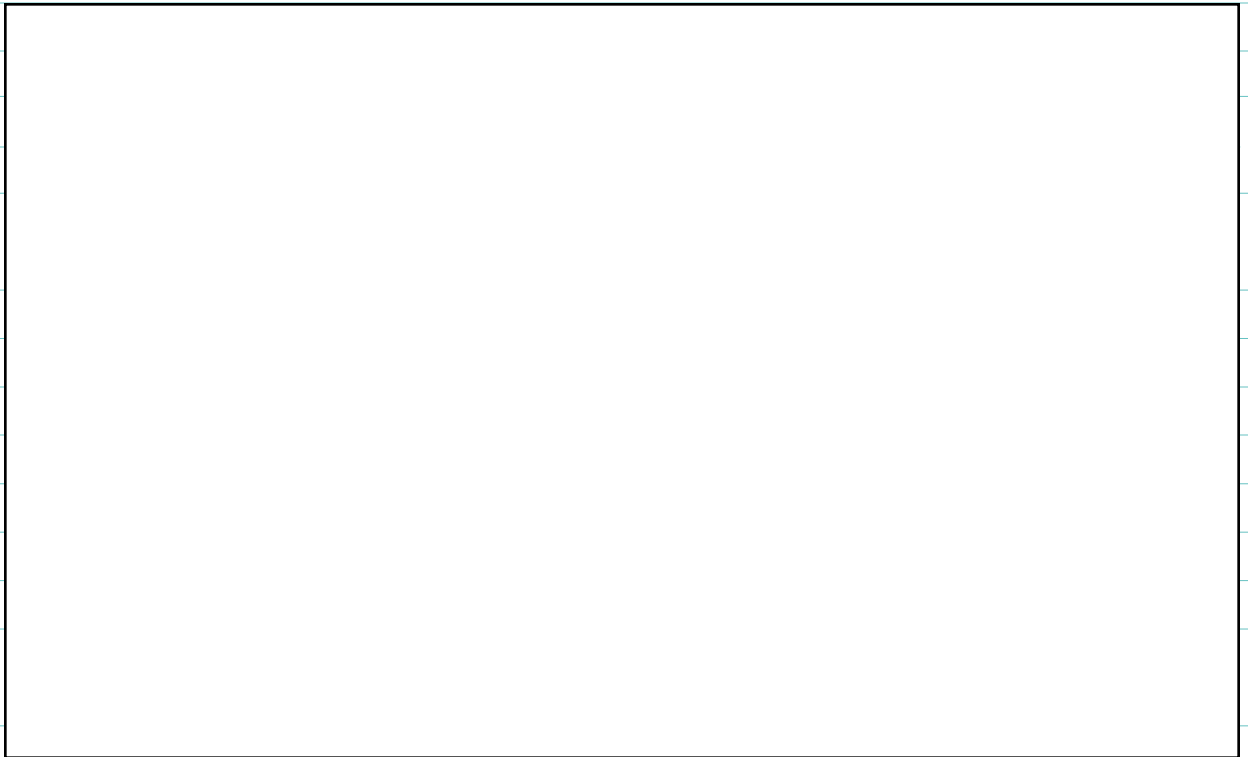
7th and 8th grade will finish studying the horror genre of literature and continue reading the short stories and poems of Edgar Allen Poe.

Have a great week!

Math with Mrs. Davis and Mr. MacGregor

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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., Hannah V. | 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 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