



Middle School Newsletter

September 3, 2019

Crown Pointe Academy

Volume 15 Number 3

Week of September 3, 2019

Tuesday, September 3:

Morning Open Gym 6:50 permission slip needed

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

Adult Yoga 4:00

Lunch Menu: Meatball Sub, Cheese Pizza, MS extra option: Pepperoni Pizza

Wednesday, September 4:

Ukulele Club Grades 4-8, 3:15-4:15 with sign up

Adult Refit 4:00 \$5 donation requested

Lunch Menu: Chicken Strips w/ Dipping sauce & garlic bread, Chickpea Masala with flatbread, MS Extra Option: Korean BBQ Turkey Sliders

Thursday, September 5:

Morning Open Gym 6:50 permission slip needed

FISH Grades 4-8 with sign up 3:45-5:00

PTA Meeting 6:00-7:00pm

Lunch Menu: Roast Turkey Dinner w/ Mashed Potatoes, Gravy & Roll, Cheese Ravioli with Roll
MS Extra option: Buffalo Style Chicken Drumsticks with Roll

Friday, September 6:

Fire Dept to visit Kindergarten 9:30

Open Gym Grades 5-8, 3:45-5:00 w/permission slip

Lunch Menu: Hamburger or Cheeseburger with Oven Baked Fries, Falafel & Hummus Flatbread with Creamy Cucumbers, Fresh Tomato Cucumber Salad

Science with Mrs. Roe
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Welcome back from a long weekend!

Topic proposals need to be approved by Friday through Google Classroom. If there is a note from me and a score the topic has been approved. This is a great chance to choose a topic/question that will help them to learn at a deeper level something they will learn this year. This is an editing process and may take a few times of them submitting different ideas to get a project approved. Topics will be turned in on Google Classroom so that we can track the editing. Students have been working hard and we are at 70% with approved projects going into this week. Projects need to be approved by September 6th not just turned in by that date. Please let me know if you have any questions.

This week, we will begin:

6th Grade: Review energy types and forms. The test on science experiment vocabulary/energy is on Wednesday. We will begin the study of oceans on Thursday.

7th: Atoms and bonds– The chemistry test part 1 is on Wednesday, September 11th.

8th: Genetics– Mendel and Punnett Squares

It is my recommendation that each student study 10 minutes per day the notes or book work that we did each day. Homework is posted daily on Google Classroom.

Parent/Teacher Conferences Note: Conferences this year for fall semester are October 3rd and 4th, 2019. I will be out of town for a family commitment. While I am always available by email, in person conference times can be made by appointment and I will also have the following dates that I am in my classroom from 4pm-6pm : September 24th, September 26th, October 1st, October 8th, October 10th

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

Important Dates for Middle School Students!

Wednesday, September 11th: End of Grading Period for Progress Reports

Monday, September 16th: Progress Reports Sent Home

Thursday, September 26th: 8th Grade Ropes Course Field Trip

Friday, September 27th: Middle School Social Event

Thursday, October 3rd and Friday, October 4th: Parent-Teacher Conferences

Friday, October 11th: End of 1st Quarter

Thursday, October 17th-Monday, October 21st: No School— Fall Break

Tuesday, October 22nd: Report Cards Sent Home



Social Studies with Mrs. Hughes

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Happy Labor Day! Have you ever wondered why we celebrate it? The following was taken from the U.S. Dept. of Labor: "Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country." So to all the workers from the factory to the farm, to the trash collector and then street sweeper and to everyone who keeps this great country going, cheers to you.

Updating Late Work on IC: Just a quick reminder that when an assignment posts on IC, students will have one week to get it turned in for credit. Once they turn it in, teachers have until the next post date (usually a Tuesday at 8:00 am) to update the grade. It is really important that students turn work in on time.

Magazines: Send in any of the following or similar: Time, Sports Illustrated, National Geographic, Better Homes and Gardens, Good Housekeeping, Newsweek, Popular Mechanics, Life, Popular Science, or any other magazine that is more education based. Please have your student bring them to my classroom.

Google Classroom: I update Google Classroom daily. Please check it for homework and upcoming due dates. This is also a great resource for missing work.

6th Grade: Unit 2: Civilizations of the Americas: - Chapter: Mesoamerican Civilizations

Students will be working on a packet that will help guide their reading through the chapter and then they will complete an activity to highlight important ideas from the chapter in their Interactive Notebooks (IN). Check updates on Google Classroom for quizzes that may be coming up.

7th Grade: Unit 1: Ancient Southwest Asia and Africa - Chapter: Ancient Egypt and Nubia

Students will be working on a packet that will help guide their reading through the chapter and then they will complete an activity to highlight important ideas from the chapter in their Interactive Notebooks (IN). This will be the basic structure for much of our course work. There will be small assessments along the way and there will be a larger unit test or project at the end of each unit. INs may be used for this assessment as well.

8th Grade: Topic 1: The Early Americas and European Exploration Topic 2: European Colonization of North America: Students will be working on a packet that will help guide their reading through the chapter and then they will complete an activity to highlight important ideas from the chapter in their Interactive Notebooks (IN). This will be the basic structure for much of our course work. There will be small assessments along the way and there will be a larger unit test or project at the end of each unit. INs may be used for this assessment as well.

Continuation Information: Stay tuned for our first meeting date.

National History Day

Our theme this year is *Breaking Barriers in History*. *More information will be coming.*

Weighted Grades

I do weight my grades for academic classes as follows:

- Major grades = 55%
- Tests, projects, presentations, community service and other major assignments
- Minor grades = 45%
- 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 you all had a great weekend! This week in language arts:

Mrs. Southern is lead teaching in 6th Grade Writing class this week. Students will continue to learn about the 6 + 1 Traits of Writing this week. The focus will be wrapping up the Ideas Trait and begin discussing the Trait of Organization. Ask your student how a story about Mrs. Southern's trip to Nicaragua involving a shark demonstrates focusing, developing, and adding details to an idea makes the story more engaging. This story was shared with them on Friday of last week.

7th Grade will continue reading The Outsiders this week.

8th Grade will continue reading To Kill a Mockingbird this week.

Please contact me or Mrs. Southern with any questions! Have a great week!

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

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SEL Lab:

"Mindfulness is a way of befriending ourselves and our experience." – Jon Kabat-Zinn

Tuesday -- All grades/classes will have study hall. Students will check their grades on IC. Afterwards they work on missing work, school related assignments, or read their AR book.

Wednesday -- All grades/classes will learn about the Safe2Tell program.

Thursday and Friday -- All grades will continue to learn about Mindfulness and the benefits of it in our everyday life.

Please reach out with any questions or concerns. Have a great week!

Communications:

All classes took a Quiz over the 5 Aspects of Great Voice. If students do not like their grades, they can retake it once, and I will count and record the best grade that they get on it. They need to ask to do this either 7:30-8am through an appointment made at least a day ahead of time, or planning a day ahead and asking if they can take it during class during the Do Now time.

This week students will learn how to set SMART goals for the semester. Students will also begin working on Typing.com. This work will go towards their overall grade in Communications as keyboarding/typing is a skill that students need to master and become quicker at as they continue to work more and more on computers throughout their educational and career settings.

****Note,** I update grades by Tuesday, 8 am, weekly on Infinite Campus (IC). If a student has missing work that they turn into me, I am happy to sign their planners after they write down that they turned it into me. However, I will only do this by the student requests. IC will not necessarily be updated until the following Tuesday at 8 am, as I have commitments outside of school hours and schedule my time to be able to meet the Tuesday, at 8 am deadline.

Also, IC is the most up-to-date as far as grades and homework turned in, not Google Classroom. Google Classroom may note that an assignment is missing, that could be because your student did not click the submit button when they handed me a hard copy of the assignment, etc. Please also defer to IC for current grades as well.

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

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We have a busy week ahead in language arts:

8th Grade will practice working with various types of conjunctions along with beginning an intensive review of comma usage and run on sentence.

7th Grade will begin the study of Langston Hughes' *Thank You M'am*. They will focus on character analysis, plot organization, and theme.

6th Grade will begin reading O. Henry's humorous short story, *The Ransom of Red Chief*. They will also focus on characterization and plot elements, along with the use of conflict in a story.

My classes will not read their selected AR books this Friday in class due to the holiday on Monday.

Let me know if you have any questions. Have a great week!

Math with Mrs. Davis and Mr. MacGregor

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Matt.MacGregor@crownpointeacademy.org x510

ALL GRADES: *The mid-quarter test is on September 6th.*

6th grade - This week we continue with **The Number System**. Students will learn how *Rational Numbers* differ from Integers, and classify numbers into number sets. We will also be converting between fractions and decimals and end the week comparing and ordering Rational Numbers.

7th grade - 7th Grade also continues with **The Number System**. Students will learn how to convert fractions (and mixed numbers) to decimals, and decimals to fractions. We will then move into performing operations with Rational Numbers.

8th grade - We now move on to **Exponents and Scientific Notation**. These concepts allow students to express and perform operations with very large and very small numbers. Exponents and Scientific Notation are essential for the science classes students will encounter in high school, especially Chemistry.



Community Service/Mrs. Hughes
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Community Service

Summer and first quarter hours are due October 3. Please turn them in as soon as possible if they are complete.

Total Student Hours Completed: 301

10+ Hours	20+ Hours	30+ Hours
Jakob H., Jessany A., Ella F., Lila R., Myra W., Anaiah C., Valeria C., Tammy L., Michaelangelo D-R., Isaac E., Itzel S., Kevin T., Emma B., Owen C., Oliver D., Jaelah M., Demarco L.,		Cianna S.,-49 Lydia C.- 49 Erin S.- 92.5

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