



Middle School Newsletter

September 9, 2019

Crown Pointe Academy

Volume 15 Number 4

Week of September 9, 2019

Monday, September 9:

SPIRIT WEEK: Sports Day

6th Grade Spanish Trip Meeting Room 406 6:00pm

Menu: Chicken & Waffles, Cheese Pizza, MS extra option: Pepperoni Pizza

Tuesday, September 10:

SPIRIT WEEK: Time Travel Day (Dress in the attire of your favorite decade)

Morning Open Gym 6:50 permission slip needed

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

7th Grade Spanish Trip meeting Room 406 6:00pm

Menu: Beef Nachos with Cheese Sauce, Bean Nachos with Cheese Sauce, MS extra option: Taco Salad, Fresh Pico de Gallo, Brown Rice

Wednesday, September 11:

SPIRIT WEEK: Jungle Day (Dress as your favorite animal)

End of Grading Period for Progress Reports

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

BAAC Meeting 4:30-6:00

CPA Board Meeting 6:15-8:15

8th Grade Spanish Trip meeting Room 406. 6:00PM

Menu: Chicken Potstickers with Fried Rice and Flatbread, Spaghetti Marinara & Cheese, MS extra option: Chicken Gyro on Flatbread with marinated tomatoes and creamy cucumbers

Thursday, September 12:

SPIRIT DAY: Comic Con Day (Dress as your favorite comic, t.v., book, or movie character)

Morning Open Gym 6:50 permission slip needed

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

Menu: Oven Roast Chicken with Brown Rice, Cheese Calzone, MS extra option: Turkey Bacon Bagel Sandwich

Friday, September 13:

SPIRIT DAY: Pajama Day

PTA Pajama Dance 5:00-8:00 pm

Menu: All-Beef Hot Dog with BBQ Baked Beans, Justin & Hosea's Veggie Enchiladas, MS extra option: Italian Sausage Hoagie with Roasted Red Peppers & Provolone

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.
- *****The exception to this late work policy is daily math homework. Students now have three days past the DUE DATE to turn in homework for partial credit. Any work turned in on the fourth day or later beyond the due date will receive zero credit. We cannot stress how vitally important it is for students to keep up on daily work, and the new policy is designed to encourage accountability. Late homework piling up creates a snowball effect. Students begin to feel overwhelmed and the material is not relevant to them after a week. Please note that awarding of credit remains the same (80% one day late; 60% two days late; 40% three days late; 4+ days late = no credit)*****
- 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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"Imagination is more important than knowledge."— Albert Einstein

Nearly all students have a topic approved for the science fair. We will begin the research phase of the project. All students will have access to the research plan today in Google Classroom. The completed research plan is due October 2nd. Please do not begin testing until the plan has been finalized and graded.

This week, we will begin:

6th Grade: We will continue our oceans unit this week.

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

8th: Genetics— Mendel and Punnett Squares. The Genetics Test Part 1 is on Friday, September 13th.

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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September 11 The 18th anniversary of the September 11 tragedy will happen this week. As we remember this week, don't be afraid to talk to your children. I will be doing a lesson this week on the events of that day and the days that followed but your students may have questions that don't hit them until after they leave my class. Here is a link to a resource that might help you in figuring out how to address the very complex issues of that day: <https://www.today.com/parents/how-talk-kids-about-september-11-age-age-l381045>.

End of Grading Period September 11 is the end of the grading period for progress reports. All work that will be on the progress report needs to be turned in by Friday (9/13) for my class.

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). 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 most units. INs may be used for this assessment as well.

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 most units. INs may be used for this assessment as well.

8th Grade: Topic 2: European Colonization of North America

Students will be working on activities that will help them learn the content of 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 most units. 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

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:

6th grade will start their creative writing unit this week.

7th grade will finish reading The Outsiders this week. They will have a test over the book next week.

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

Please contact me with any questions! Have a great week!

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

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SEL Lab:

"Don't believe that winning is really everything. It's more important to stand for something. If you don't stand for something, what do you win?" - Lane Kirkland

Monday -- Mindfulness Monday. Students will play the MINDfulness game. It is a fun game that educates students about mindfulness practice and self-awareness that can be transferred into life skills.

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 - Friday (6th and 7th Grade) -- Students identify challenges many students face while in middle school. They will identify people students can go to for help with these challenges.

Wednesday - Friday (8th Grade) Students will continue working on connecting their thoughts, feelings, and beliefs to self-perception. They will also work on a project about what they stand for.

Communications:

We will finish looking at the Classroom Climate Inventory and learn about and set personal SMART goals for the semester. Tuesday will be typing.com day. I hope students can learn skills that will help them in the future through goal setting and typing.

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 continue working with grammar and parts of speech this week. They will finish their review of prepositions and begin working with conjunctions and interjections.

7th Grade will finish their review of short story fiction elements with a test on Langston Hughes' "Thank You Ma'am" on Thursday. Information about the test can be found on Google Classroom

6th Grade will continue their study of O. Henry's humorous short story, "The Ransom of Red Chief". They will have a test on this story along with short story literary terms on Thursday. Information about the test can be found on Google Classroom.

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

Math with Mrs. Davis and Mr. MacGregor

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6th Grade - Our next unit deals with **Number Operations**. Students will learn to multiply and divide fractions (including mixed numbers) and decimal numbers.

7th grade - 7th grade will move on to **Rates and Proportionality** this week. Rates help consumers make wise choices by comparing cost per unit. Students should expect to see continuing practice with rational number operations as this is the basis of everything we'll do going forward.

8th grade - We continue with **Real Numbers, Exponents, and Scientific Notation**. Specifically, we'll learn how to perform the four basic operations with numbers in scientific notation. Later in the week we'll move into **Proportional Relationships and Functions**.



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., Dominic H.,		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