



# Middle School Newsletter

November 4, 2019

Crown Pointe Academy

Volume 15 Number 12

## Week of November 4, 2019

### Monday, November 4:

Drama Practice 4:00-5:00

**Menu:** BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich, Cheese Pizza

MS extra option: Pepperoni Pizza

### Tuesday, November 5:

Morning Open Gym 6:50-7:30

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

Yearbook Club 3:40-4:40

**Menu:** Beef or Bean Nachos w/cheese sauce

MS extra option: Taco Salad, Salsa Verde & Brown Rice

### Wednesday, November 6: Picture Retake Day

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

**Menu:** Spaghetti Marinara & Meatball, Green Chile & Cheese Tamales w/ refried beans

MS extra option: Banh Mi Sandwich

### Thursday, November 7:

Morning Open Gym 6:50

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

PTA Meeting 6:00-7:00pm

**Menu:** Oven Fried Chicken with mashed potatoes, gravy and garlic bread, Veggie Burrito

MS extra option: Spicy Beef & Sausage Penne w/ garlic bread

### Friday, November 8:

ASL Class 3:30-4:15

Open Gym Grades 5-8 3:45-4:45

**Menu:** All Beef Hot Dog with BBQ baked beans, Broccoli Cheese Stuffed Potato w/Biscuit

MS extra option: Cajun Cheesy Chicken Po' Boy

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

“Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known.”—Carl Sagan

The last open lab day is rescheduled for today, November 4th from 3:45-4:30. In class, I have several examples of science fair boards to reference in preparation for the final boards and reports, which are due on **November 13th**.

This week, we will be studying:

6th Grade: We will begin Geology and Earth Systems this week.

**Attention 6th Grade Parents:** If you are interested in being a chaperone for our Keystone Science School field trip on February 5th-7th, please send me an email and I will get you the background check information. We are limited to 10 chaperone spaces, and spaces will be reserved based on who has completed their background checks and paid the \$130 fee to the front office first.

7th: The photosynthesis and cell respiration unit will continue this week. The third section on cell division will be a mini unit that we are starting this week. The test will be next Tuesday.

8th: Weather and climate will continue this week with a focus on climate.

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.

Lab Mondays: We have started Lab Mondays. Please remind your child to wear long pants and tie back their hair on Mondays in preparation for the labs.

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!

November 13th: End of Grading Period for Progress Reports

November 13th: Middle School Science Fair Projects Due

November 18th: Progress Reports Sent Home

November 22nd: Middle School Science Fair Awards Assembly 2:45 PM

November 25th-29th: No School— Thanksgiving Break

**Social Studies with Mrs. Hughes**  
 Bonnie.hughes@crownpointeacademy.org x514



**Thanksgiving Thought:** "Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough." -Oprah Winfrey

**6th Grade: Unit 2: Civilizations of the Americas: - Chapter: Early North and South America**

Last week we spent some extra time in History Day activities so this week we will actually be getting into the content while continuing to reinforce the vocabulary we have been working on.

**7th Grade: Unit 1: Ancient Southwest Asia and Africa - Chapter: Judaism and the Jewish People**

Last week we spent some extra time in History Day activities so we only really worked on the vocabulary/key terms for Judaism. This week we will really get into the content of our unit on Judaism. There are 3-4 main units I teach on world religions and this is the first. Because it is about religion I will be teaching the major tenets and beliefs as well as the history of the religion and the role it plays in the modern world. I am in no way trying to convince students of the efficacy of any given religion as I believe religion is very personal for the individual. It is expected that they will know and understand basic beliefs, history and some of the literature of a given religion in order to understand its impact in the world.

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

Last week we spent some extra time in History Day activities so this week we will be getting into our lessons on the first colonies of what would become the United States.

**Continuation Information**

Our next meeting is Tuesday, November 19, at 5:00 pm in my classroom. Please see the email sent from me on Friday afternoon for details from our last meeting.

**National History Day**

Theme: *Breaking Barriers in History.*

I am including a list of important upcoming dates (this is NOT a summary of all due dates).

Important Dates:

- Final Project Due Date: January 21, 2020
- Middle School Showcase: January 27, 2020 - all students are required to attend. This is 100 points on their grade. Please make plans appropriately.
- Regional Charter School Competition Registration Due: January 31, 2020
- Charter School Regional Competition: February 22, 2020
- National History Day State Competition: May 2, 2020

This week we focused on thesis statements and research principles focusing on primary and secondary sources and how to evaluate them.

**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

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



I hope you all had a great weekend! This week in language arts:

6th graders will be reading chapters 7 and 8 of A Wrinkle in Time.

7th grade will begin researching the results of their career aptitude tests.

8th grade will finish their To Kill a Mockingbird unit 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

“Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you’ll start having positive results.”  
 — Willie Nelson

**Monday (All grades)** -- Mindfulness Monday.

**Tuesday (All Grades)** -- Study hall

**Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday (6th and 7th Grade)** -- We will begin a unit on values. 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.

**Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday (8th Grade)** -- We will begin our unit on “My Energy”. This unit is about connecting the examination of all of our thoughts, beliefs, perceptions, assumptions, and interpretations to two types of energy; energy that holds us back (catabolic energy) or energy that moves us forward (anabolic energy). Students will understand the *connection between experiences, thoughts, feelings, and behaviors as a result of this unit.*

### Communications

Students continue to work on their passion projects on Monday, Wednesday-Friday. We have a SMART Goals check-in on Wednesday. Students set a long term semester goal and then six short term goals to reach that long term goal. A Google Form is for a grade. Do Nows will be due on Friday from the last two weeks. Check IC for details.

Tuesdays, all students work on typing.com.

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

[Meghan.laxton@crownpointeacademy.org](mailto:Meghan.laxton@crownpointeacademy.org) x513



We have a busy week ahead in language arts:

The 6th grade group reading Holes will be assessed on the content and vocabulary for chapters 1-25 on Tuesday, November 5th. They will continue to focus on the literary terms foreshadowing and flashback while also emphasizing the correct use of various parts of speech in their sentence structure.

7th grade classes will continue their study of Edgar Allen Poe and four of his works. They began with his poems "The Raven" and "Annabel Lee", and this week will read two of his short stories, "The Black Cat" and "The Tell-Tale Heart". Students will specifically study Poe's use of word choice and the creation of mood in his writing.

8th grade students completed a brief research essay last week in class. This week, students will use their two most recent essays from class to practice compound and complex sentence structure. In addition, students will begin studying and practicing commonly misused words (effect and affect, etc.).

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](mailto:Matt.MacGregor@crownpointeacademy.org) x510

6th Grade- Students will continue working with **Proportions** to solve problems. We will work on solving proportions and then move to using proportions to convert unit measurements by the end of this week.

7th grade- Students will continue honing their skills with **Simplifying Expressions**. This unit is intended to create a solid foundation for the skills required to solve equations, which is our next unit.

8th grade- Students will continue working in our unit on **Solving Equations**. This week we will move towards more grade level material, which includes solving equations that contain fractions and variables on both sides of the equal sign.

\*\*As a reminder our **Mid-Quarter Assessment** will take place **November 15th**.



## Community Service/Mrs. Hughes

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### Community Service

Second quarter hours are due December 13th. Please turn them in as soon as possible if they are complete.

**Total Student Hours Completed: 1458**

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., Desirae G., Elijah S., Dianna G., Leon J., Lucas G., Cesar V., Addy A., John S., Sabastian M-B., Hannah V., Azariah M., Alivia M., Makayla B., Daniela B., Koral M., Nayeli N-M., Shyya M., Darius P., Jovani M.,	Faustina P.-28 Mac Z.-23 Emilia M.-28.5 Anthony M.-21.5 Isabella M.-20 Liam S.-22.5	Cianna S.,-49 Lydia C.- 49 Erin S.- 92.5 Ethan B.-238 Jordyn R.-30 Camryn Jo R.-30 Yaira O-P.-40 Javier H-P-40

### 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 16<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