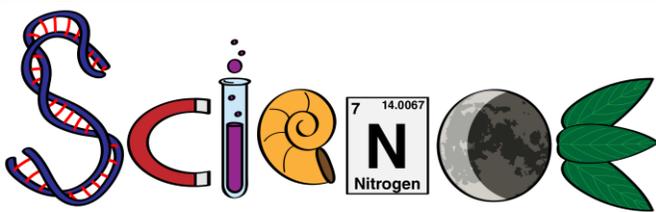


The Cougar Communicator

DEAR COUGAR FAMILIES

We would like to extend this monthly newsletter to keep you up to date on what's happening in our classrooms. Take a look and see what our amazing teachers and students are doing this month!

In October, our 8th grade science department (Ms. Harvey, Ms. Jones, and Ms. Tucker) will start teaching a unit on fossils, rocks, and minerals.



MATH

6th grade math will begin a unit rate project! They will see that unit rates are used in everyday life!

Also, the math teachers are keeping themselves on their toes by observing each other in action. We love being life-long learners!

ELA

6th grade ELA recently just finished reading *My Life in Dog Years*. The primary focus for the first quarter was the literary standards that covers fiction text. We will be moving into poetry and then move into nonfiction standards. We will also read a nonfiction text *The Great Chicago Fire*. We also have been working on writing narrative essays. Our students have been working hard learning our words of the day to help build our vocabulary.

7th grade ELA focused on analyzing non-fiction articles for main ideas, supporting details, author's purpose, and text structure. In addition, 7th ELA read a variety of short stories to study theme, plot development, characterization, and suspense. We focused on building grammar skills through individualized intervention and through writing narratives, particularly writing dialogue. 7th ELA is currently reading *The Outsiders* in order to focus on plot development, conflict, theme, characterization. We will finish our novel study of *The Outsiders* in 2nd quarter with a summative assessment focusing on student choice.

8th grade ELA has been busy annotating nonfiction texts using our weekly article of the week. We have focused on finding the main idea and the evidence that supports the main idea as well as answering text dependent questions. We also have started learning new ACT vocabulary words and writing sentences with those words that also contain context clues. We have been busy reading our novel and writing summaries, learning how to recognize tone and discussion connections between our novel and our world and selves. We have been working on writing narrative essays - specifically with dialogue.

October, 2018

OUR THANKS

