



Sixth Grade Scoop

Free Publication

Barry School, Cortland, NY

Current Topics

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Math

Mrs. Snyder is excited to be back and beginning the Pre-Algebra unit.

We will cover:

- The language of algebra
- Evaluating expressions for given values for variables
- Solving one-step equations
- Integers, absolute value and adding them

Science

- What are minerals?
- Properties of minerals
- Identifying rocks by their properties



Important Dates



1/18	No School- Martin Luther King Day
1/22	AR Closes for 2nd Marking Period
1/29	Second Marking Period Ends
2/1	No School- Staff Work Day
2/5	Report Cards Distributed

Social Studies

- Uncover our apple "mummies"
- Virtual visit and exploration of the Great Pyramid
- Famous Egyptians, including Cleopatra, Hatshepsut, Nefertiti, King Tut, Djoser and Imhotep
- How the Egyptians built the first pyramids

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Reading and Writing News



Mrs. Snyder

The students have been assigned their first book packet project of the year. It will be due on Thursday, 1/21!

~Please keep reading. AR Closes on 1/22~

As a class we are doing a FANTASTIC job with our **AR goals** this quarter! Most students are making good use of the time given to them during studyhall. Students who have already made their goal can begin working on a book for the third quarter.

The students are also working on an end-of-the-book project for Jerry Spinelli's Maniac Magee. They have chosen two characters from the novel and are pulling out specific quotes from the book that prove various personality characteristics. They are also making a sketch of each character to show how each reader pictured him/her when enjoying the novel. This will be great test-prep practice for the State exams that will be given in the spring. On the exams, they are often asked to make a statement and prove it by pulling examples from sixth-grade reading passages.

Mrs. Rhyde

In **Reading Workshop**, students are reading independently to reach their AR goals by the end of the marking period. They are also each writing a letter in their Reader's Notebook summarizing their book, (one paragraph minimum,) and then including their personal response to the reading. Students have one letter due every other week.

Reading groups have started! The following novels are being read in groups: Maniac Magee, by Jerry Spinelli, The Phantom Tollbooth, by Jester, and Boy at War, by Harry Mazer. This week students are focusing on the characters and the characteristic traits of the characters they meet in their books.

In **Writing Workshop**, students learned a strategy for writing a personal narrative: list people that matter to them, record moments they remember clearly with that person, and choose one moment to zoom in on and write a story about. Students will continue to practice this strategy to help generate a personal narrative. Next week students will learn a second strategy for generating a personal narrative.

Mr. Caravella

In **Reading Workshop**, we continue to focus on meeting our independent reading goals. Students should complete 7 books by Friday, January 22nd.

In guided reading, some of us have begun reading new books. One group has started reading Stargirl, by Jerry Spinelli, and another group has begun Bridge to Terabithia, by Katherine Paterson. In our reader's notebooks, we will be writing about personal connections (text-to-self) we can make to the stories we are reading.

In **Writing Workshop**, we have selected a "seed" story that we have begun to develop into a published story. We continue to examine published writing, such as The Wall, by Eve Bunting and Thundercake, by Patricia Polacco, to help us improve our own writing. We are focused on telling our stories step-by-step, including details like action, dialog, thoughts and setting.

Teammate of the Week: Haleigh

Announcements



Barry Bulldog Bulletin Online!

The Barry Bulldog Bulletin is now available online! Please go to:

<http://www.cortlandschools.org/teacherpage.cfm?teacher=1195>

and click "Newsletter" on the left side of the page.



We are on the web!

Please visit Mr. Caravella's class webpage and blog, which are located at the following addresses:

Website: <http://www.cortlandschools.org/teacherpage.cfm?teacher=834>

Blog: <http://mrcaravella.blogspot.com>



Mrs. Rhyde and Mrs. Snyder are happy to be back and are looking forward to working with all of you!