



Sixth Grade Scoop

Free Publication

Barry School, Cortland, NY

Current Topics

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Math

We continue our exciting unit of Geometry.



We are in the process of discussing:

- Perimeter of polygons
- Area of rectangles and triangles
- The parts of a circle
- "Pi" and how it relates to the radius and diameter of a circle
- Measuring and drawing angles using a protractor

Science/Health

We are learning about the Human Body



We are in the process of learning about:

- Puberty Discussion 2/24
- Nervous System
- Parts of the Human Brain
- Lobes of the Human Brain
- Neurons



Important Dates



Social Studies

We continue to explore ancient Greece. Students are learning about:

- Daily life in ancient Greece
- Greek alphabet
- Birth of democracy

****Unit projects due 3/2****

On 3/3, Nancy Hatch will visit and share her experiences in Nepal as a member of the Peace Corps.



3/2	Ancient Greece Unit Project Due
3/3	7th Grade Orientation at High School, 7-8pm
3/4	Founder's Day Dinner, 6 pm
3/9	Fundraiser Ends
3/12	Wellness Day at Barry School 7th Grade Course Registration Forms Due
3/19	NO SCHOOL, Professional Development Day. Storyteller Melanie Zimmer @ daycare in auditoria
3/26	PTA Winter Carnival, 7pm

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Reading and Writing News



Mrs. Snyder

In small group, we are working on answering not only literal questions, but inferential questions as well. We will begin referring to these two types of questions as “fat” and “skinny” questions. Good readers ask both types of questions to themselves as they read.

~Please keep reading. It is hard to believe that we are already at the halfway point for the 3rd grading period. Students should have earned approximately 50% of their AR points for the quarter already. Students who are behind on their reading read with Mrs. Snyder at recess on Thursdays.~

The Cay, by Theodore Taylor is the book we are currently reading as a class. Mrs. Hutchinson shared her survival backpack in morning meeting. As an extension activity, students were asked to pack a hypothetical raft with 10 items they would like to bring, if they had been in Phillip and Timothy's situation. They made thoughtful choices and wrote reasons for bringing each item.

Students are also drawing pictures of their own version of the cay. We talk about how good readers form mental images in their heads, complete with details that the author depicts for us. We work hard to bring those images back each time we refer to the text.

Mrs. Rhyde

In **Reading Workshop**, we are working on recognizing organizational formats to assist in comprehension of informational texts. We are also focusing on identifying evidence and examples from a text to support our thinking about a main character in our reading.

~Please keep reading. It is hard to believe that we are already at the halfway point for the 3rd grading period. Students should have earned approximately 50% of their AR points for the quarter already. Students who are behind in reading, will stay in to read at recess on Tuesdays to catch up on reading!

In **Writing Workshop**, students continue to work on writing a personal narrative. Students wrote a variety of leads and chose their strongest lead to make their narrative even better. They also added physical details and figurative language to their writing. Next week, students will add personal thoughts and feelings, as well as dialogue. The students are becoming fantastic writers! They are noticing how much they can improve their writing when they take the time to practice many of the strategies they learned during our mini lesson meeting times.

Mr. Caravella

In **Reading Workshop**, we are focused on keeping up with our goal of reading at least 7 new chapter books at our reading level before the end of the quarter. At this point, students should have completed 3.5 new books. **Students who are behind on reading will read at recess on Wednesdays and on Friday afternoons to catch up.**

We have been exploring non-fiction texts and the text structures used by authors to organize their writing, such as sequence, cause/effect, problem/solution, question/answer, and compare/contrast. Identifying the text structure helps us better understand the information we read.

In guided reading, we continue to read Star-girl, by Jerry Spinelli, and Bridge to Terabithia, by Katherine Paterson. We continue to focus on identifying evidence and examples to support our thinking about these books.

We are also continuing our read-aloud of The Odyssey, retold by Geraldine McCaughrean. We have focused on identifying story elements, such as characters, setting, problems and solutions as we read about Odysseus' troubled journey home.

Announcements



This year, our room mothers are as follows:

6C- Mrs. Trunfo
6R- Mrs. Adamczak and Mrs. Reygoudt
6S- Mrs. Gabriel

Their hard work makes it possible for the sixth-graders to enjoy holiday parties. They are sincerely appreciated!

7th Grade Course Registration Orientation



On Wednesday, March 3rd in the High School Auditorium at 7pm, there will be a presentation regarding 7th grade course registration. Please mark your calendars! This will help explain the paperwork that your child and you are to complete to get ready for 7th grade.



A special thank-you goes out to the students in Mrs. Snyder's class who elected to make homemade Valentines for the party on the 12th of February. Cheyenne, Taylor and Justin won special prizes for their efforts. Tremendous creativity was shown by all who participated!



League 56 MVPs

Congratulations to our League 56 MVP sixth-graders this quarter. They are Hannah Sidebottom (6S), Madison Wasley (6R) and Sarah Jensen (6C).

Fossil Presentation