

8 Red Newsletter

November/December Issue



Important Dates

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December
Trimester 1 ends

6

Early Release Day

14

T1 Report Cards
go home

Contact:

8Red@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Email the above to reach all of the Team Teachers at once.

Team Announcements

Deadlines for High School forms:

Assabet Applications Due Friday: This is a reminder that students applying to Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School need to submit their applications to Mrs. Lencioni no later than next Friday, December 2nd to assure a timely submission to Assabet. Applications can be picked up in the OMS front desk or downloaded from www.assabet.org

Please contact Jennifer Lencioni, Grade 8 Adjustment Counselor with any questions. jlencioni@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Retake and Rewriting:

To be eligible for a retake, students need to have a signature from parent/ guardian, complete corrections, and approach teachers for extra help. The teacher will post extra help sessions and date for a retake on Schoology.

After that date, a retake or rewrite for that assignment is no longer available as we are moving on to new concepts and assignments.



"Gratitude bestows reverence, allowing us to encounter everyday epiphanies, those transcendent moments of awe that change forever how we experience life and the world" –John Milton

Class Updates

Social Studies: Mr. Kewriga

We are studying our 3rd unit/empire of the year: the Islamic Empire. This unit is based on a simulation that myself and another 8th grade teacher created. The simulation follows a boy from Africa and his travels to Arabia, Mecca, and the Middle East. The boy "experiences" all the historical events and logs them in his journal. The students seem to be enjoying the unit and are very excited to gain rewards for their upcoming unit assessment. At this point in the year, students are starting to make connections between past units and topics and see how all of our historical topics connect.

Science: Ms. Dillon

There will be a test on the standard "Relates Atoms and Molecules to Elements and Compounds" on Thursday, December 1st. Graded tests will go home by Monday. Our study of chemistry will continue in our next unit, "Differentiates between physical and chemical change." Scientists will learn about the conservation of mass, signs of physical and chemical change, and basic balancing of chemical equations.

Math: Ms. Mulcahy

We have been reviewing linear equations (slope & y-intercept) for our "Thinking With Mathematical Models" unit which compares linear and non linear relationships. The unit test will be on Wednesday, December 7. Remember to keep up with your ASSISTments!

Essential Math: Mr. Shaw

"Say it With Symbols" began by exploring equivalent expressions using physical representations to help students visualize its meaning. Next, we will begin segueing to equations and how we could represent different scenarios like tiles around the pool or the profit, income, or expenses for a business. We are also working on mathematical self-confidence and vocabulary. We discuss if an answer is correct and how do we prove it rather than just moving on to the next problem. We use specific vocabulary to help explain our actions with the end goal being that it improves both our ability and self-confidence.

ELA: Ms. LaValley

We finished reading *Under the Persimmon Tree* by Suzanne Fisher Staples. Students are received graded final essays and should show you their work; the scores on the rubric are weighted heavily for the report card standards for Trimester 1. Before we begin our Science Fiction novels (*The Giver* and *Fahrenheit 451*) we kicked off a Blogging Assignment that we will revisit all year. To see a few sample featured blogs, see page 3!

Essential ELA: Ms. Wallach

We are continuing to read *I Am Malala* and every student is invested and has had a lot to offer in terms of opinions, solutions to the problem and understanding why Education is so important. The level of involvement and the enthusiasm to participate has been wonderful so far. I hope my students keep up the great work.

Team Time: balancing fun and learning

A big thank you and congratulations to our Team Families for your generosity in the food drive! 8 Red brought a total of 797 items!

On Tuesday before Thanksgiving we took a little time as a reward. We had a friendly homeroom competition with Minute-to-Win-it tasks! We had a blast!

Scores:

Dillon: 7

Kewriga: 10

LaValley: 7

Mulcahy: 6



Conference Day- Thank You!

Thank you for making conferences positive and productive conversations. We had a great time seeing many of you at the open house. Thank you also for taking the time at home to review the Keynote portfolio of work your student brought home. If you have questions regarding the work you saw, please do not hesitate to email.

ELA Blog Project Highlights:

Holly H. with great DIY project ideas just in time for Christmas:

<https://keepinitrealhere.wordpress.com/>

Owen A. with easy-to-follow tips for Basketball: <http://livingandthrilling.blogspot.com/>

Aaron J. with helpful tips and reviews for planning a Disney Trip: <http://how-to-disney.blogspot.com/>

Olivia R. with soothing activities to relieve stress (these would also make good gift ideas!): <http://keepthestressaway.blogspot.com/>