

VOORHEESVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL  
PURPLE NEWSLETTER



Volume 16

Issue #33

May 14-18, 2012

Announcements

Tickets are now on sale for Ski Club Six Flags trip on Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The price is \$50 for members and \$60 for guests. Sign up in the Middle School office A.S.A.P.

Grade Level Updates

Grade 6

In Math 6, we will continue our unit on data displays. In Math 6X, we will have a quiz Tuesday and begin a unit on Patterns and Rules. In Social Studies 6, we begin a new unit of study on revolutions. Students will be exposed to examples of political, social, cultural, and economic revolutions both historic and contemporary. Later on in the unit, students will gather information on a revolution of their choosing and display what they've learned on a Google Doodle! In English 6, we will be making connections between social issues and the media. We will examine commercials, the news, movies, and ads to identify social issues that are present. The students will then make connections between media and our touchstone text, *Because of Mr. Terupt*, as well as their book club books. We will also examine our books for pivotal moments that highlight the main social issues and identify how the characters deal with their problems. The students will have their second book club meeting on Friday, as well as a "No Excuse Word" quiz. In science, we will transition from learning about minerals to learning about rocks. Students will mimic the different steps of the rock cycle using crayons in place of minerals. We will also begin our 4th group project of the year. Home & Career Skills 6 students will start their food preparation unit this week.

Grade 7

In English 7, students will continue working on their Sea of Monsters demigod myth or their Maximum Ride second generation human/animal hybrid fan-fiction. Also, this week students will learn how to effectively incorporate dialogue into their writing. The writing assignment's first draft is due Tuesday, May 15. The final copy will be due Thursday, May 17. We will also continue our study of vocabulary this week with Unit 18. Students will have a Vocabulary Units 16-18 test on Tuesday, May 22. Advanced vocabulary students should be continuing on unit 14. Due to the Boston field trip, the quiz for unit 14 will be given on Tuesday, May 22 during Access. Math 7 students will be starting out ratio, rate, percents and proportion unit with changing percents, decimals and fractions. We will then move on to solving percents with proportions and equations. Math 7/8 will be doing a unit on The Pythagorean Theorem and its applications. Science students are starting the Mission to Mars Project. We will create comics online that will detail what we would need to work out biologically before we could colonize Mars. In social studies, the students will begin the final unit for the year which focuses on the Civil War. The week will begin with an overview of the first Industrial Revolution and how it transformed economies and societies of both the north and the south. Students will also examine the many social problems the nation faced as well as how the Second Great Awakening inspired numerous social reform efforts that sought to cure the ills of the nation. Special attention will be given to the Abolitionist Movement and how it was a contributing factor to southern secession. Home & Career Skills 7 students will start their food preparation unit this week.

### **Grade 8**

In Social Studies 8, we will begin our study of the Cold War era. Students have chosen their groups and decades for the magazine project and will be in the library on Monday and Tuesday doing preliminary research. Math 8 students will begin their study of probability. Algebra 1 students will complete their study of quadratics and other non-linear functions. In Science 8, we'll be watching our Rube Goldberg videos and then will learn more about mechanical waves and sound energy (Chapters 15 and 16). In English, students will be drafting and revising their commentary article. Home & Career Skills 8 students will be working on their human development research projects in class this week. Projects should be finished by the end of the period on Thursday. Interview reports are due on Tuesday, May 22.