

# Team 7-1 News

find the slope from a graph and how to graph a line using the slope and the y-intercept. From there, we moved on to integer operations. We have learned how to add, subtract, multiply and divide with positive and negative numbers. We reviewed the order of operations and are currently working with solving one and two-step equation using inverse operations.

## **Science: Miss Lysobey**

We have just completed our cells unit, exploring the parts of cells and the movement of materials into and out of the cell.

The next major unit is titled “Survive”. This unit blends many life science concepts. Students will be creating models of dogs and bunnies based upon how traits are inherited. They will use their math skills as we determined the probability of certain traits being passed on. After studying genetics, we will be moving on to discussions of how certain traits can affect an organism’s chances of surviving different environmental conditions. Lab lessons on genetic shift and population changes will enable students to see these dynamic concepts in action. We will conclude the unit with an exploration of survival adaptations.

We will begin the forth quarter with a unit on human biology. We will be looking at the body as a system and exploring how the parts work together to support life. This unit is always popular with students as it contains many simulations activities, labs and of course interesting stories shared by students!

## **Math: Miss Heath**

In math, it has been a busy third quarter. We started with linear functions. We looked at sequences and patterns and used them to graph lines using sets of points. We also learned how to

find the slope from a graph and how to graph a line using the slope and the y-intercept. From there, we moved on to integer operations. We have learned how to add, subtract, multiply and divide with positive and negative numbers. We reviewed the order of operations and are currently working with solving one and two-step equation using inverse operations.

## **Social Studies: Miss Rodriguez**

In social studies we are just finishing up a unit on Maine in the Civil War. We’ve talked about how some Maine Regiments were important to the Union Army, focusing on the 20th Maine, led by Col. Joshua Chamberlain. We watched parts of the Battle of Little Round Top in the film, “Gettysburg” as well.

The students also had a writing project in social studies. They had to write a letter to someone at home as a soldier from the 20th Maine, who had been involved in the Battle of Little Round Top. Some of the student work was amazing! Letters were burned around the edges, had “bullet” holes and “blood” on them as well. They were very well done!

## **Language Arts: Mrs. Whalen**

Mrs. Whalen's ELA students are in the midst of their biography unit. Together we have read plays and short stories about Roald Dahl, Amelia Earhart, Muhammad Ali, Eleanor Roosevelt, Gary Paulsen, and others. Individually, each student chose a person to read a book about. Through a visual project and oral presentation, the students have shared significant details about that person with the members of their classes. We will continue to learn about people who have made positive differences in the world for the next several weeks.

Students will be starting their autobiographies....writing about their own lives. Their essays about various times and events in their lives will be printed and put together in a booklet that they will be bringing home in late spring. Please be prepared to answer questions such as "Where was I born?" and "What toys and songs were my favorites when I was a baby?"

Grammar is going to be an important part of the ELA curriculum from now on. Classes are currently working on sentence structure. Parts of speech will be next. Our work in vocabulary will be interspersed with the grammar units.

Most students are doing a good job of keeping up with their daily reading assignments. Homework will continue to be reading in a book of choice towards a goal of reading at least four books each quarter. The biography students recently finished counts towards that goal.

### **Outside Recess:**

Please note that we still go outside for recess everyday, so please make sure your 7th graders are dressed appropriately for outside weather. Coats, mittens, hats and scarves may be necessary for the final weeks of winter and into early spring.

Please be advised that the Spring Conference dates are here!

April 13 from 4 to 7 p.m.

April 15 from 3 to 6 p.m.

Please call 582-1326 for an appointment.

\*\* Depending on the number of parents signed up, it is possible you may not see all of the Team 7-1 teachers.