

CAMERON MIDDLE SCHOOL

6th Grade News

BRD QUARTER, MID-TERM

February 6, 2014

Cameron

Middle School

Principal: Mr. Jay Albright

Assist – Principal: Mr. Dave Brown

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IMPORTANT DATES

- Acuity Testing: March
 3rd –7th
- No School: February 17th-18th
- End of 3rd Quarter: March 12th
- Spring Break: March21st
- Spring Break: April 18th– 21st
- MAP Testing: April
 29th– May 9th
- 6th Grade Field Trip:
- Last Day of School:
 May 18th (tentative)

Tutoring/ RTI

The sixth grade has started tutoring sessions before and after school to help students. Sessions run Monday— Tuesday for ELA and Thursday— Friday

for Math from 7:30-8:00am.

Reading rooms have also been developed for students who are struggling to reach classroom free— reading goals. The current classroom reading goals are 8 passed book, but will soon rise

to 10.

After school tutoring groups are being created and have room for more students to be involved. Please contact your child's teachers to setup times and dates for your child.

RTI (Response to Intervention) is 8th hour for 6th grade students. This time is divided into groups based upon MAP and Acuity test scores and focuses on skill work and "filling in the gaps" in our students education. In math work on basic skills such as fractions, decimals and stand-

ard algorithms for multiplying and dividing multi-digit numbers are being addressed through the use of peer tutors and small group instruction. In ELA reading skills are being addressed in small groups.

For students who have not shown the need for more instruction, enrichment sessions are developed to foster peer interaction and creative writing as well as investigative/research skills.

All of these projects and groups change on a 3-4 week rotation as we try to address all of our students individual needs.

ELA (English & Language Arts)

Currently the sixth grade is working on a research project where we are focusing on students learning to paraphrase, directly quote, and cite their resources. As we progress through the research project, we are assessing the individual steps of the writing process.

In reading, we are focusing on students comprehending their own text through daily reading response. The students are being given different methods of responding so they can choose which works best for them.

At the same time, we are working on re-teaching skills the Acuity assessment showed were areas of concern. For example, students struggled with paraphrasing and directly quoting their texts. We embedded these skills in our research project. Coming up, we are going to look again at determining the meaning of un-

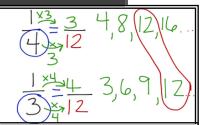
known words through context clues, as well as writing a persuasive essay.



BEST CONTACT TIMES:

Plan Periods: 9:40— 10:25am, 12:30— 1:15pm Before/After School: 7:30-8:00am, 2:54-3:24pm

Math



3 ways to find common denominators- reducing or multiply one, multiplying by denominators, finding common factors (shown above).

In Math, we've just wrapped up Chapter 3 (adding, subtract, multiplying & dividing decimals) and are in the process of retesting for those students who needed more time to master the concept. We are moving on to adding, subtracting, multiplying & dividing fractions. We will

be review finding common denominators and then move on to a quick review of adding and subtracting before spending most of our class time over the next couple of week son multiplying and dividing fractions. It is a great idea to practice finding common denominators or just practice basic multiplication facts with your

student.

As always, if your child needs homework help please send them to Mr, Robinson's room (rm 307) before school for help. He is available by 7:30am most mornings to help answer or just provide a quiet place to complete the work.

"Learning for Life...

Every Student,

Every Teacher,

Every Day!"

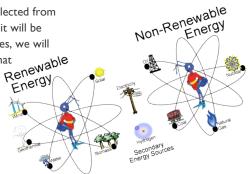


Science

Science class has been finishing up our unit on non-renewable and renewable resources. The students have also been working on test-taking strategies to help them with the MAP test. We have been reviewing line and bar graphs and how to use

the information collected from them. Our new unit will be from the life sciences, we will start by learning what makes us a living Renewal organism and

organism and how the cells work.



Special Education

In Math, we just finished Chapter 2 Lesson 2, which the students worked on converting percent to fractions and fractions to percent. We now are moving into Lesson 3, in which the students will be converting

decimals to percent and percent to decimals. In Reading, the students are currently reading the book The

Cay. The book

is about Phillip, a boy living on the island of Curacao off the island of Venezuela during World War II. As he and his mother are trying to escape the war and head back to their home in Virginia. The ship they are riding on sinks. Phillip survives the boat accident only to be trapped on an island with a black man and a cat. The accident leaves Phillip blind. Not only does he have to learn adjust to his blindness, but he must learn to survive on the barren island in the Caribbean Sea. Phillip is also faced with

other challenges including a hurricane. This book gives the reader a better understanding of how to survive.

In Writing, the students are going to begin writing a personal narrative paper. They will write about a past experience that has affected them in some way. The students will follow the correct steps of the writing process. As a class, we have looked at examples of personal narratives and read other narrative nonfiction stories to help guide them with this paper.

Social Studies

In Social Studies, the students are currently learning about archaeologist, artifacts, and about how early people came to America.

We will the be studying about early civilizations: Mesopotamia (Sumer and Akkad), Babylonia, Hebrews, Phoenicians, and Lydians. Why they formed where they are and how they relied on other civilizations for their survival.

