

Bursley Sixth Grade News:

Notes from Mr. Huck and Mrs. Steele

Friday, August 15, 2014

Reading Groups:

Sixth grade readers will spend the first half of the school year analyzing the many literary elements of fiction, and the second half investigating the aspects of nonfiction. Various instructional strategies will be used throughout the year including read alouds, teacher demonstrations, book clubs, and independent practice.

Writing:

Sixth grade writers will focus on three types of writing throughout the year. First up will be personal narratives followed by informational texts. Finally, students will compose argumentative essays. Students will learn about the intricacies of each genre and have multiple opportunities to create and present personal pieces.

Science:

Sixth grade scientists will begin the year by studying physical science, specifically states of matter and types of energy. Students will then investigate topics in earth science including types of rocks, the rock cycle, and plate tectonics. Students will end the year by studying ecosystems during our life science unit. Throughout the year, students will participate in many hands-on activities and virtual labs.

Mr. Brent Huck: bhuck@jpsonline.org
(616) 457-8488 x2638

Morning Math Groups:

Topics covered in sixth grade ability-level math groups are (in order of study): ratios and unit rates, arithmetic operations, rational numbers, expressions and equations, area and volume, & statistics.

Math Lab:

All sixth graders participate in Math Lab throughout the week. We will use this time to review material taught previously, to complete Hands On Equations lessons, and to investigate math concepts that are essential for students to master before Junior High but are not part of our sixth grade core curriculum. This will be taught through a blended learning model.

Word Study/Vocabulary:

We will spend the first nine weeks of the school year studying Greek & Latin roots, with a quiz each Friday. We will begin Sept. 8 with roots graph, scrib, and script.

Social Studies:

Sixth grade Social Studies is a study of the geography of each continent. We will start our year studying the geography of the United States, so that we may use this as a point of comparison moving forward.

Mrs. Becky Steele: bsteele@jpsonline.org
(616) 457-8488 x2637

Next Week's Good Manner to Master:

For Open House

Learn to make proper introductions. Include names in introductions, paying attention to what the people you are introducing would likely call each other. Introduce yourself to new people you encounter at school or at home by saying hello and telling the stranger your name.

For the First Week of School

Learn the names of the adults in your life, including teachers in our school and your neighbors at home. Greet them by saying things like, "Good morning, Mrs. Garcia," or "Have a great afternoon, Mrs. VanDyken."

Upcoming Events:

Aug. 26	Bursley Open House, 6:30-7:30 pm
Sept. 2	First Day of School! (8:45-3:45)
Sept. 19	Camp Fundraiser Money and Orders Due to Mrs. Steele
Oct. 1	Camp Fundraiser Product Pick-Up, 3:00-6:00 pm (6th Grade Hallway)
Oct. 23, 27	Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences
Nov. 11-14	Bursley Sixth Grade Camp!

Other Important Reminders:

Welcome to Sixth Grade! We are looking forward to a memorable year together. Please join us for **Bursley's Open House** on Tuesday evening, August 26th, between 6:30 and 7:30 pm.

Bursley students need **gym shoes** for their PE special. Mrs. Steele's class is scheduled for PE on Tuesday afternoons, and Mr. Huck's class will see Mr. Bosch on Friday afternoons.

A Typical Week in Bursley Sixth Grade (2014-2015 School Year)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:45-9:15 am	Green: Writing White: Math Lab/Vocab Fusion Reading	Green/White: XtraMath (in homerooms) Fusion Reading	Green: Writing White: Math Lab/Vocab Fusion Reading	Green: Writing White: Math Lab/Vocab Fusion Reading	Green/White: XtraMath (in homerooms) Fusion Reading
9:15-10:15 am	Green Team: Math Groups (or Accelerated Math @ JJHS) White Team: Reading Groups Fusion Reading				
10:15-11:15 am	Green Team: Reading Groups White Team: Math Groups				
11:15-11:30 am	H6 Homeroom: Social Skills and/or Reading Fluency Practice with Mrs. Steele S6 Homeroom: Read Aloud with Mr. Huck				
11:30 am – 12:20 pm	H6: Spanish S6: Music	H6: Music S6: Science	H6: Social Studies S6: Science	H6: Art S6: Spanish	H6: Social Studies S6: Art
12:20-1:00 pm	Recess (12:20-12:40) and Lunch (12:40-1:00)				
1:00-1:15 pm	H6 Homeroom: Read Aloud with Mr. Huck S6 Homeroom: Social Skills and/or Reading Fluency with Mrs. Steele				
1:15-2:05 pm	H6: Science S6: Social Studies	H6: Science S6: PE	H6: Science S6: Social Studies	H6: Science S6: Social Studies	H6: PE S6: Social Studies
2:05-2:55 pm	H6: Social Studies S6: Science	Green: Writing White: Math Lab/Vocab	BOTL Special (Band, Orchestra, or Tech Literacy)	H6: Social Studies S6: Science	Green: Writing White: Math Lab/Vocab
2:55-3:45 pm	Green Team: Math Lab/Vocab White Team: Writing				