



FORBES GT NEWS



Forbes Middle School

Georgetown, TX

Fall semester, 2014-15

GT NEWS

6th grade Pre-AP Language Arts

Thank you so much for a fantastic 1st 9 weeks! Students have revealed their amazing creativity in writing in the form of personal memoirs and family metaphor poems, in which they assigned incredible metaphors to describe each family member!

I want to thank students for the outstanding array of talent and effort that went into the science fiction/ fantasy novel projects they created. It was so much fun to see how many ways students could individually articulate/interpret not only their version of a project, but of the novel!

Students have already taken off with our class novel, Tuck Everlasting, and they will soon begin the process writing for the persuasive unit.

Keep encouraging students to read, write, and discuss all of it with you, as this perpetuates the creativity and understanding!

6th grade GT Math and Pre-AP Science

During the first nine weeks, students explored the world of rational numbers and navigated a problem solving model. During the second nine weeks, students will be learning about all things related to proportions including calculating the best deals on items for sale. We will begin our first major project at the end of October involving a 3-5 year plan to complete higher learning and what financial planning goes into this as well as the steps in life after higher education. Students will their knowledge of operations with rational numbers and problem solving skills to aide in their research.

During the first nine weeks, GT students were introduced to the Nature of Science. They constructed a Kleenex box with designs about science and themselves. They participated in labs, which focused on measuring accurately and the importance of collecting data accurately in experiments - and possible problems that could arise if measurements are not done accurately.

As we start the second nine weeks, GT students will be building balloon powered cars and calculating speed. Then during the second half of the nine weeks, GT students will be taking part in our annual energy resource debates, where they will research and prepare for a formal debate to defend the pros or cons of their given energy source.

6th grade Pre-AP Social Studies

Social Studies students just recently completed and presented their Island Survival Projects. For this project, students had to make connections between climate and the factors which affect climate, landforms, and renewable and non-renewable natural resources to envision how they would survive on a deserted island with no help from the outside world.

As a follow on to the Island Survival Project, during the Second Nine Weeks students will an economy and a government for their island.

7th grade Pre-AP Social Studies

In Ms. Deleon's Pre-AP/GT Social Studies had the opportunity to choose what type of test they would complete for the Native American unit. Students also wrote explorer interviews. Students will be completing mini DBQ's during the rest of the year. DBQ's are activities that use historical documents and students answer questions based on evidence in these documents.

In Ms. Madden's Pre-AP Texas History class students did research over an assigned Native American group in Texas. They researched the following information: Climate, geography, types of food they ate, how the tribe was impacted by the geographical conditions of their surroundings. They then created a fictional story using the facts from their research. They illustrated their story using pictograph symbols to tell the story. Students will also be completing DBQ's during the rest of the year.

7th grade Pre-AP Language Arts

This semester students will analyze literature for an author study, recognize persuasive techniques to analyze advertising, and investigate the Hero's Journey to begin to investigate heroes in our community.

7th grade GT Math

We have had a great start to our year. We just finished Chapter 3, focusing on the 4 corners of linear equations. The project for 1st quarter was fun to grade. They had the opportunity to renovate or add on to different parts of the school. Your children have some really awesome ideas for the school buildings. I am excited to see what quarter 2 brings.

7th grade Pre-AP Science

PreAP/GT students will be researching the relationship between bone growth and function in human beings. The project seeks to understand how bone growth occurs in humans, the impact of hormones and nutrition on growth during adolescence and the impact on function as an adult. This research is an advanced portion of study on human body systems. Research products will include written papers as well as powerpoint presentations to classmates.

8th grade Pre-AP Language Arts

In language arts, GT students are exposed to SAT vocabulary and a variety of writing assignments where they are applying higher level vocabulary to a self-selected genre (creative short story/narrative/expository). Also, students are using webquests to complete mini research activities related to the language arts-social studies curriculum and prominent authors within the literary world.

8th grade Pre-AP Social Studies

8th Grade SS is having PreAP & GT kids do a colony lab where they create a colony. They have to purchase materials, choose who to bring, select a location, etc. It requires teamwork and thought. Also, they were offered the Veteran's Day essay contest to win money.

8th grade GT Algebra

We have had a busy first 9 weeks! The students have been working hard and adjusting to their first high school class. We have solved equations, translated expressions and equations, learned all the different parts of functions and how they work, and started graphing in slope-intercept form. The students are doing awesome! Looking ahead to the next 9 weeks we will be intensively covering Slope-intercept, Point-Slope, and Standard form of Equations along with Variable Inequalities. GT students will work on a Slope Project in the second nine weeks.

8th grade Pre-AP science

GT science students will have an opportunity to be part of the Forbes MS SeaPerch underwater robotics team. See Ms. Lucas or www.seaperch.org for more information.

More News

Saturday Morning Math Group and Austin Math Circle Opportunity to hear Math guest lecturers at UT, presented at the middle school level, open to students and families, each once per month. Free, snacks provided.

<http://www.ma.utexas.edu/users/smmg/>

<http://txgifted.org/>

Creative Problem Solving

On March 7, 2015 our GT students in the Creative Problem Solving classes will be competing at the Destination Imagination Regional Competition at Hendrickson High School.