

Clipper News

Lois Bowden
Principal



Meaghan Murphy
Dean of Students

Quarter 2 2018-2019

Where in the World is China, Maine?

Students in Mrs. Maroon's Social Studies classes have been studying the locations and cultures of places around the world. They have been reading and creating maps, researching continents and oceans, and sharing information on different countries and their traditions.

The world is a huge and exciting place to explore with many climates, physical features, and different types of people!



Physical Education Students Of The Months:

November- Lillian Herard and Beck Jorgensen

December- Elijah Pelkey and Abigail McDonough

January- Lilly Fredette and Joe Wing

News from the Health and Physical Education Department

During the third quarter students will begin health classes. Grades 5-8 will be studying Tobacco Products, Opioid Epidemic, Basic First Aid and Hands Only CPR respectively. Physical Education classes have been enjoying Basketball, Ultimate Four-Square, Giant Volleyball and Badminton. In addition, the end of the second quarter Fitness Testing will begin.

ELA News From Mrs. Larrabee

Students have enjoyed reading The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe this quarter in 5th grade ELA, and even got to eat Turkish Delight. As we begin the 3rd quarter we will be working on argument writing. This topic will be explored through a variety of fun activities including investigating information to determine "would you rather" positions and gathering information to develop arguments.

The 5th graders recently participated in their class spelling bee and the top 2 finishers were able to complete in the school bee. Congratulations to the following classroom winners: Mackenzie Chase, Willow Haschalk, Landon Larson, Desirae Proctor, Christian Salvadori, and Elijah Pelkey. A special congratulations goes out to Elijah Pelkey for placing 2nd overall in the school bee!

Clipper News

Lois Bowden
Principal

Meaghan Murphy
Dean of Students

Mr. Maxwell's Science News

The end of the semester is here. Current science students in 7 & 8 (and some 6th, but you know who you are (:) will be finished with science for the year and will switch to social studies for 3rd & 4th quarters.

I am thankful for the effort the science students have put into this semester, impressed with the progress made and grateful for the work of the classes. Good work everyone!

I also wish to congratulate the science students on their behavior and work ethic during the time of the long term substitute. Your efforts made the time easier on all of us!

As the time winds down we are stressing concepts to be certain of the proficiency of the last few learning targets that the classes have worked on. There will be a volume of work that should come home in the next week, as I am catching up on the backlog of correcting, so please look for your students to share their efforts with you.

Thank you all for an excellent semester and I look forward to next year.

News from Mrs. Salvadori's ELA Classes

In our classroom, the 7th & 8th graders started off the year in ELA by studying the various elements of literature through the reading and analysis of short stories. In addition, every student chose their own novel to explore and created their own unique, end of the quarter project to showcase their knowledge of their independent reading choice. The final products were amazing.



6th & 7th Grade Social Studies with Mr. Reed

The start of semester two means the end of social studies for our 8th graders and beginning for all 7th graders and many of our 6th graders. 8th graders ended their time in class learning about how the economy works with a number of connections to current events. Both 6th and 7th grade students will start the semester learning about what it means to be an historian. How do historians investigate situations? How do they analyze different perspectives? 6th graders will do this as we start with a look at ancient cultures of the Americas and European exploration. 7th graders will do a short review of early US history up to the Civil War before starting on more focused units of study.

Clipper News

Lois Bowden
Principal

Meaghan Murphy
Dean of Students

News from Mrs. Sevey's Class

This quarter in Mrs. Sevey's room, each student worked on his or her own research & writing project with varying goals as they competed in a paragraphathon! Three winners from each were judged on mechanics, sentence structure, and organization. Fifth and sixth graders read three nonfiction passages and summarized each one with a perfect paragraph. They read about the lava under Earth's crust, wildfires, the history of rocks, and much more!

Seventh and eighth graders worked on an endangered animal project, researching an animal of their choice and taking notes on predators, prey, habitat, and diet. From this research, students created a five paragraph informational essay.

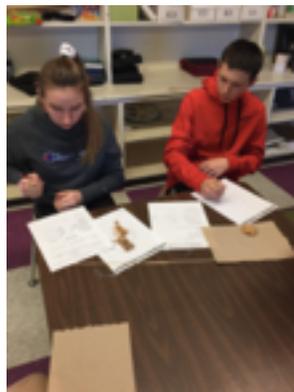
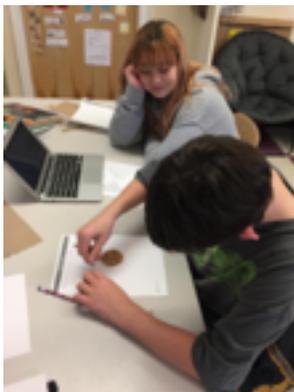
We are now entering a figurative language unit, starting with similes and metaphors, and students will be creating an interactive notebook in which to log their progress, vocabulary, and classwork.

In math this quarter, students worked on a variety of things depending on their grade--multiplying decimals, long division, practicing place values, and we have started a fraction unit.

Math News from Mr. Schmidt

Over the last nine weeks, Mr. Schmidt's math classes have covered a wide variety of topics. Algebra I has covered solving linear equations, slope, and graphing functions in different ways. 8th Grade Math has finished scientific notation and rational numbers while moving on to solving linear equations and inequalities. Mixed Math finished up integers while now moving toward statistics, charts, and graphs.

While each group has done a few projects this quarter, the most popular was Cookie Mining. Each classes' version was slightly different but every group sought to connect the equations and problem solving from class into real world applications. This also taught us why mines frequently go inactive, even in our surrounding area!



Clipper News

Lois Bowden
Principal

Meaghan Murphy
Dean of Students

Workforce Experience at Kennebec Technologies

By: Galen Neal

I took advantage of the opportunity to visit Kennebec Technologies (KT) in Augusta, a precision machine shop, and I definitely enjoyed my experience. I learned that KT is very detailed oriented in all aspects of their business. Customers expect perfection and KT does everything to provide that. For example, they have quality engineers and labs that inspect and ensure that all precision parts and products will meet their customers satisfaction. When a customer is not satisfied KT works as a team to create a solution that will improve the quality of the product. Through my experience, I was reminded of the importance of having a positive mindset, which helps maximize efficiency and production. Paying close attention to the details is important in my everyday life and will help me be a better and more successful person.



Tree Decorating in Math Class with Mrs. Duncklee

Students in this grade 5 math classroom put some holiday spirit and creativity into their mathematics work by designing Christmas trees whose ornaments were brightly colored and contained a prime factorization. Numbers 2-99 were displayed in “factor trees”, by students, to arrive at the prime factorization. Students went on to use exponents for these special factorizations. It was an enjoyable activity for all!



Clipper News

Lois Bowden
Principal

Meaghan Murphy
Dean of Students

Math Updates from Mr. Hauptman

Mr. Hauptman's classes have been incredibly busy this quarter! The Period 1/2 6th grade class has been working through algebraic equations and expressions for a long time, probably longer than many of them wanted to work on it. Everyone worked incredibly hard, though, to get to the point where they could solve two-step algebraic equations and simplify expressions using the Distributive Property. Abstract mathematics is incredibly difficult, especially if you haven't worked with it much in the past, but these guys handled it like champs and are going to do great things in algebra someday! They are moving on to some geometry - we'll be graphing polygons and then working with triangles soon.

The Period 4/6 7th grade class finished up their algebra work a while ago and have been reviewing area and perimeter of all sorts of shapes. Many formulas were familiar, but some, like those for regular polygons and circles, were not quite as familiar. Even so, they have managed to learn how to use them all and even apply those formulas to shapes made out of a variety of different shapes. They are concluding this quarter with a project in which they draw a picture and find the area and perimeter of each shape in their picture. We'll be moving on to volume and surface area soon.

The Period 7/8 6th grade class has been exploring the world of rational numbers, comparing and ordering all sorts of decimals and fractions. These types of numbers can be intimidating, but they have managed to figure out exactly what these numbers represent and how to figure out how they compare to each other. We've been graphing these on number lines lately and will continue our exploration of rational numbers by going over all of the operations we can do on fractions.

Congratulations to our 2019 CMS Spelling Bee Champion, Max Sanborn, and runner-up Eli Pelkey! Max will be competing in the Kennebec County Spelling Bee at Mount Merici School on February 7.



Art News from Mr. Tompkins

The first semester art classes are finishing up for the year this week. Beginning painting classes finished making a still life in the style of artist Paul Cezanne. This concludes their focus on different genres of art. Advanced paints also completed their work of a self designed painting inspired by the art style of an artist of their choice. The work also needed to somehow communicate something about them. Drawing classes are working with two point perspective while Multi Media II classes have finished a collage that also deals with perspective. The semester went by quickly. Best wishes on your second have of the school year!

Clipper News

Lois Bowden
Principal

Meaghan Murphy
Dean of Students

ELA News from Mrs. Wedge

6th Grade ELA

Over the course of Quarter 2, students worked on their final project for the novel, “The Tiger Rising”, which focused on Character Development. We are now working on a Lucy Calkins Writing Unit. Students are learning to write a “Literary Essay”, focusing on reading different short stories, analyzing the short story, and creating a thesis statement based on their analysis. Through this process, they are learning the structure of an argumentative essay. They will be writing a final paper during Quarter 3.

7th Grade ELA

During this quarter, students worked on finishing up the Novel Unit, “Tuck Everlasting” and completed a final project, which focused on Narrative Perspective. We then shifted gears and focused on Narrative Poetry and Figurative Language. Students worked with two poems: “The Highwayman” and “Annabel Lee”. Their final project was to compare and contrast the two. As the quarter has come to a close, we have done some vocabulary work using Greek and Latin Root Words. The emphasis is to have students use the skill of being able to break unknown words apart to figure out its meaning.

8th Grade News

The 8th Grade Class and parents have been working to fundraise for the end of year events. Our biggest fundraiser of the year, the “March Madness Raffle Calendar”, will be sent home with 8th Grade students Friday, February 1st. The goal is for each 8th Grade student to sell a minimum of 5 calendars. The raffle will begin March 1st.

We are looking for Baby Pictures for the Yearbook and End of the Year Slideshow, as well as Ads for the Yearbook. **The deadline for this is Friday, February 15th.** Please email your pictures to either Mrs. Wedge at mwedge@rsu18.org or Ms. Armour at darmour@rsu18.org or send a hard copy in with your child. If you would also like to place an ad, please email Ms. Armour and include a note with what you would like to say.

Like the 8th Grade Facebook Page to get the latest information about 8th Grade News (CMS 8th Grade Parent Group). Also, please be sure that the school has your updated email address, as information is sent out regularly. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to email Mrs. Wedge, the 8th Grade Advisor, at mwedge@rsu18.org.