



## Sneak Peek of Ms. Tromp & Ms. Simone's Sixth Grade Class Newsletter

Look for our newsletter at the beginning of every month with your child's homework. This newsletter is a great way to keep you informed about what we're doing in our classroom. This newsletter is written for parents *and* for students. By reading the newsletter, students will be able to keep track of upcoming projects, test dates, or special activities. As always, please email me if you have any questions; [tromp@rsufsd.org](mailto:tromp@rsufsd.org)

### Guided Reading

Over the next month, students will participate in guided reading. Guided reading is an instructional approach that involves a teacher working with a small group of students who demonstrate similar reading behaviors and can all read similar levels of texts. The text is easy enough for students to read with the teacher's skillful support. The text offers challenges and opportunities for problem solving, but is easy enough for students to read with some fluency.

- The teacher works with a small group of students with similar needs.
- The teacher provides introductions to the text that support children's later attempts at problem solving.
- Each student reads the whole text or a unified part of the text.
- Readers figure out new words while reading for meaning.
- The teacher prompts, encourages, and confirms students' attempts at problem solving.
- The teacher and student engage in meaningful conversations about what they are reading.
- The teacher and student revisit the text to demonstrate and use a range of comprehension strategies.

### Independent Reading

Over the next month, you will be reading at least two independent reading books within the classroom. You will be able to choose books from the classroom library, your home, the public library, or the bookstore.

We will be continuing to learn about literary devices and reading strategies to help us when reading fictional text. Therefore, your books may be chosen from the following categories:

- historical fiction
- science fiction
- fantasy
- realistic fiction

For the first book that you read, you will be completing a Comparing Characters Essay. This is a long-term project that will be drafted and completed during our Literacy Block.

*The criteria for the requirement above will be distributed and reviewed.*

In addition, you will be writing a reading response journal to record your thoughts as well as your application of the reading strategies/literary devices learned. This December we will be focusing on theme, character development, and resolution.

### Social Studies

This month, we will continue our unit on Ancient Civilizations. Based on textual evidence, students will be able to answer the following essential questions: Was it better to be an Athenian or a Spartan? Ancient Roman Government: Whose Voice Counts?

**Egyptian Market Research Project:** As part of our study of Ancient Egypt, students will research an aspect of the culture that is of most interest to them and present the information in a Google Slide presentation.

Students will be creating and trading their goods, while others will travel to stations set up around the gym during our Egyptian Market event. This event will take place on **Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**.

\*Volunteers Needed- We will be sending out requests for the various stations at our market

### Science

This month, students will be learning about Chemical Reactions, the Nature of Force, and Friction & Gravity. Students will be able to:

- Apply scientific principles to describe what affects the rate of a chemical reaction.
- Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence to describe acceleration, forces, and how forces affect motion.
- Develop and use models to explain what factors affect friction and gravity.

Students will continuously engage in hands-on learning through center-based activities in our STREAM Lab. Through various centers, students will be able to apply prior knowledge and newly acquired knowledge to unlock the units' key questions, as well as further progress in their scientific studies.

### Math

With the concept of ratio equivalence formally defined, students explore collections of equivalent ratios in real world contexts. They build ratio tables and study their additive and multiplicative structure. Students continue to apply reasoning to solve ratio problems while they explore representations of collections of equivalent ratios and relate those representations to the ratio

table. Building on their experience with number lines, students represent collections of equivalent ratios with a double number line model. They relate ratio tables to equations using the value of a ratio defined in Topic A. Finally, students expand their experience with the coordinate plane as they represent collections of equivalent ratios by plotting the pairs of values on the coordinate plane. The Mid-Module Assessment follows Topic B.

### Due Dates for Long Term Assignments

The **Comparing Characters Essay** must be completed by **Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**.  
**Egyptian Market Research Project** must be completed by **December 11<sup>th</sup>**.  
**Reading Responses** (Journal Prompts)- One/week

### Important Dates

- ❖ **Egyptian Market Place**- Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> **Time:** 9:30-10:30 **Location:** Gym
- ❖ **Parent Teacher Conferences**- Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> - No School for students
- ❖ **Sixth Grade Fundraiser**- Adults only- **Holiday Pallet Painting at Buoy 1 @ 6 P.M.**
- ❖ **Grades 4-6 Winter Concert**- Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6 P.M.
- ❖ **Holiday Recess:** December 25<sup>th</sup>-January 1<sup>st</sup> No School

### Reminders

\*Articles of the Week are due every Wednesday  
**(Pacing guide posted on Google Classroom)**

\*Every Friday, students receive a graded packet of assignments. This must be signed and returned to class by the following Monday. Corrections are recommended, but not mandatory unless otherwise specified on the packet.

\*For additional information, please visit our class website below, also accessible through Remsenburg-Speonk Elementary School's homepage

<http://caliendo6.weebly.com/>

**Announcement:** We welcome Ms. Trapani to our sixth grade classroom as an additional support for our wonderful students.

