

Seventh and Eighth Grade News

Friday, September 14, 201

Academics

The second week of our cycle has been chock full of science and science activities. We've learned about all of Newton's Laws, about centripetal force, and the gravitational force. Students were also introduced to the electromagnetic force and some of the laws governing it. We learned about Coulomb's Law, and we recreated Oersted's experiment, which shows that an electric current always produces a magnetic field. We also explored Faraday's experiments, which demonstrate that moving magnetic fields will generate electric currents.

Two popular science activities students engaged in this week are the Leyden Jar and the Wimshurst Generator. The Leyden Jar is a simple capacitor that allows the storage of high voltage electric charges. The Wimshurst Generator is an electromechanical device which creates build-up and discharge of electricity (as in a dramatic electrical spark between two electrodes). Pictures of students using these items are posted below.

One of our writing activities in language this cycle is crafting a memoir. This week students took notes on a lesson about memoir writing techniques. Students learned about focusing and narrowing in on a portion of one's life, rather than telling your life's story, as you would in an autobiography. Students were encouraged to use fiction writing techniques, but with added information explaining about the writer's feelings, hopes, expectations. In other language work, students should be completed, by today, with three of their five literature responses for their choice novel. Next week, students will be choosing the thematic novel they would like to read for the last three weeks of the cycle.

Our Personal World activities this week included writing about how some people can be both allies and ogres in our lives. Students are also learning to use a scroll saw, and have made a variety of items, including sharks, dolphins, seahorses, regular horses, bears, goats, hippos, and an electric guitar. The scroll saw activities will continue for the next several weeks.

Hot Lunch

Hot lunch, a 7th and 8th grade business, is starting up again next week. All proceeds from hot lunch are used to offset the cost of our big trip. Seventh and eighth grade students prepare and deliver hot lunch to other classrooms on Tuesdays and Fridays. A student will be in the hot lunch prep group once every three weeks. When students are in the hot lunch prep group, they spend about one hour a week working on assembling and delivering hot lunch orders. In addition, each student is expected to spend approximately 30 minutes each cycle learning the EXCEL software and working with Erica to enter hot lunch order information into EXCEL.

Questions?

PARENTS AND STUDENTS: We encourage you to contact us with any questions and concerns. The best time to call us is in the evening; alternatively, you can email or text us any time:

Robin	redidin@gmail.com	Beronica	charvero.14@gmail.com
	941-544-5617 (cell)		941-586-9024 (cell)
Deana	dreemelin@yahoo.com	Erica	eandre100@gmail.com
	941-932-7662 (cell)		941-266-7636 (cell)

Thank You to...

•Kris Fledderman for shopping for our store and lunch business..

Level 3 Families, we are always grateful for all that you do!

Mark Your Calendars

Level 3 Potluck and Presentation on Early Adolescence.....Tuesday, October 2

Teacher Work Day: No School.....Friday, October 12

Conference Day: No School.....Monday, October 15

Camping Trip to Ginnie Springs.....October 16-18

Haunted House Set-up: 2 PM-7 PM.....Monday, October 30

Regularly Scheduled: Tuesday Tutorials.....3:15 - 4:30 PM

MATHCOUNTS: Wednesdays ..3:15 - 4 PM

**The Level 3 Team (Robin, Deana, Erica,
and Beronica)**

Please send any email address changes and updates to redidin@gmail.com