

BOONTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
WEEKLY UPDATE
December 2, 2011

Mr. O'Dell's History Class:

This week, in Mr. O'Dell's Social Studies class, the students covered the birth of the Radical Republican movement, including new policies, procedures, figures, and even more importantly, the impeachment of Andrew Johnson. New groups and organizations that were created, including the Ku Klux Klan, were also discussed in detail, as was the students recognition of primary source material; material which is written during a given time period, as being among the most reliable of sources. The students were quizzed on Thursday with regards to material covered over the last two weeks.

Ms. Comer's Social Studies Class:

Ms. Comer- This week the 7th grade social studies classes have been going over the human geography of the United States. Students reviewed the three branches of the U.S. government. They identified the members and roles of each branch and discussed the policy of checks and balances. The classes also just started the review for the United States unit test.

Ms. Jamiolkowski's Science Class:

Ms. Jamiolkowski: Students started Unit 5-Energy on Wednesday. They learned about various kinds of energies, identified energy transformations, and took an in depth look at the three ways thermal energy is transferred. On Friday, they completed their much anticipated lab...ice-cream making!

Mr. Nosal's Science Class:

Mr. Nosal's class is working on plate tectonics. The students are identifying the major plates that are located on the Earth's crust. The students conducted a lab where they constructed a map that shows how the plates fit like a puzzle. They then explained how this is connected to the plates moving on the surface of the Earth. The students also explained how plate tectonics leads to the formation of mountains and trenches. We also identified how earthquakes and volcanoes are directly related to plate movement.

Ms. Wood's LAL Class:

Students are progressing through their new novels. The SSR is approaching its 8th tenth. Students will have finished reading that book before Christmas Break. The SSR project is due January 9, 2012! Spelling and vocabulary are continuing with units to strengthen the targeted skills. Grammar components continue to be covered. Our new themes for are novels are making us think and make connections. Ask your students to compare characters from *The Outsiders* and the new novel!

Mr. Hansen's LAL Class:

This week has brought much progress in the areas of our class novel and in speculative writing abilities. Students spent Monday discussing the assigned pages of weekend homework. *The Kite Rider* is, at times, a difficult read due the time frame (ancient China during the Song Dynasty) and the concepts covered such as ancient Chinese philosophy and mythology. At the same time, it is hoped that couple with directed lessons and the interesting and applicable tale of the 12-year-old Haoyou, all students will gain much enjoyment from the read. After our discussion, students spent a large amount of Monday and Tuesday considering the 'character types' of many of the story's characters. Students did an excellent job applying last week's lessons to modern concepts. Wednesday the class went into a detailed discussion and a small lecture on proper ways to write a speculative story and the grammatically correct ways of writing dialogue. As all students recently completed a speculative prompt, we were able to directly apply the new lesson on dialogue writing to students' work from the previous week. It is hoped students will be able to not only understand the rules of writing, but notice how they, themselves, can improve their work. Thursday all classes completed a persuasive prompt. Classes have shown great improvement in their persuasive writing since the topic has been covered in many classroom lessons. The week will end with a reflection back to the book and some community-styled reading in order to ensure we are all moving at the same pace through our novel.

Mrs. Morley's LAL and Math Classes:

7 & 8 Language Arts

This week the students were introduced to the novels *Call of the Wild* by Jack London (grade 8) and *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli (grade 7). They also practiced their writing skills by prewriting, writing and revising a persuasive essay on random locker searches.

Math Grade 7

The class was introduced to reading and writing numbers using Scientific Notation.

Grade 8

Students learned how to identify and plot points on a coordinate plane.

Mr. Robinson's Math Class:

Algebra 1 students have been working on finding positive, negative, horizontal, and vertical slopes using the slope -intercept format.

Pre-Algebra students are learning how to find the Greatest Common Factor and Least Common Multiple of two or more numbers along with monomials.

Ms. Sohl's Math Class:

Pre-Algebra students are find the perimeter and area of triangles. Students are using formulas and given information to find an unknown value of a figure by solving a one- or two-step equations.

Algebra students are identifying the slope of a linear function as positive, negative, zero or undefined. Students are finding the slope of a line that passed through two points. Students are then able to use the formula for solving slope to find a missing x- or y-coordinate

Mr. Aquino's Physical Education Class:

The 7th, 8th and 9th grade P.E. classes have been working on basketball. In most cases we were able to divide the class up into a few teams and have had a great couple days of exercise, fun and competition. The 8th graders have not had a chance to compete in actual games yet but can work on shooting, drills and side games like knockout.

Mr. Engelberger's Physical Education/Health Classes:

This week in 7th and 8th grade Physical Education students have begun involvement in a two week long basketball unit. During class, students worked on drills and shooting and have participated in small sided games.

In health this week, classes have continued unit on Nutrition and discussed the need for proper nutrient intake, and a good calorie in/calorie out ratio. In groups, classes looked at and analyzed food commercials to see what kind of sales techniques and methods are used to get people to try certain products.

Ms. Jones' Physical Education/Health Classes:

Ms. Jones' 7th grade class began their Speedball unit. This sport is a combination of soccer, basketball, and football. This sport allows students who love at least one of the sports to be involved and to be competitive in the game. We spent this week going over the skills of each of the games that is included in Speedball and went over the rules of the game. Their quiz on Speedball will be on Friday, December 9th. Each student can find the study guide on Edline or my office.

Ms. Jones' 8th grade classes have begun their Basketball unit. This week they had a choice to play Knock-Out, compete in a small game, or just shoot around to improve their shot and rebounding skills. Their unit test will be on Friday, December 9th. The study guide can be found on Edline or in my office.

Mr. Diaz' Spanish Class:

This week the 8th graders have been learning how to refer to things already mentioned by replacing those items with direct object pronouns. The 7th graders have started Chapter 3 - Las compras para la escuela and are learning new vocabulary to talk about shopping for school supplies.

Ms. Acevedo's Spanish Class:

Students in Mrs. Acevedo's 7th grade Spanish class have learned to tell time in Spanish and will wrap-up Chapter 3 with a "Telling-Time Quiz".

Ms. vonEssen's French Class:

The 8th grade French students have been learning words and phrases associated with train travel. They have also been learning about the works of Claude Monet, a French impressionist.

Ms. Oliveri's Art Class:

The 7th and 8th grade classes are half way through their Pop Art and Pointillism projects. We are getting some amazing results.

Ms. Kraa's Art Class

The 7th Grade Art students worked on their "Your World" art project. Part I was using abstract shapes over the whole picture plane. Part II was adding design elements. And, the Part III objective is adding images to this "World". The images will be glued on.

The 8th Grade Art students worked on their "PoP Art" assignment using oil pastels. Some students completed the project and they will start a new artwork the next time we meet.



BOONTON HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC NEWS
December 2, 2011

WINTER SPORTS

WRESTLING

Our Wrestling Team, led by Coach Huguen, will participate in their first scrimmage on Wednesday, December 7 at Montville Twp. High School at 3:15PM.

BASKETBALL

Varsity & JV Girls and Boys Basketball will play in their first scrimmages on Wednesday, December 7. The Boys Team will be at Sussex County Vo-Tech at 4PM and the Girls Team will play at home at Boonton HS also at 4:00 PM.

Winter Season has begun! Good Luck to all of our teams!

Be sure to check the website listed below or dial 973-335-9700 x 5007 after 1:00 PM for the daily sports schedules and for changes to those schedules.

GO BOMBERS !!!

Highschoolsports.net under "High School" will have our schedule and all updates for the season. If the weather causes schedule changes they will be announced on the school sports line. You can call 973-335-9700x7 for updates. They are usually posted by 1:00 PM.

Upcoming Events

December 16 - Winter Dance

December 20 - Progress Reports Mailed Home

December 23 - Early Dismissal

December 26 - 30 - Closed for Winter Recess