

## BOONTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

### WEEKLY UPDATE

January 20, 2012

#### Ms. Comer's Social Studies Class:

This week the 7th grade social studies classes reviewed for the second marking period assessment. On Friday periods one and three took the exam and periods two and five will take it on Monday of next week.

#### Mr. O'Dell's Class

This week in Mr. O'Dell's Social Studies classes, the students began their week with a pre-assessment on the Industrial Revolution that came simply in the form of a crossword puzzle. The items included on the puzzle were several figures, incidents, and innovations that will be discussed throughout this Unit. The students were quizzed in Vocabulary on Wednesday, as well as began work on reviewing for their End of Marking Period #2 exam, the second half of what would make up their midterm grade for Social Studies this year. The students worked on a web quest in the computer lab on Thursday, and Periods 1 and 3 took their end of marking period test on Friday

#### Ms. Jamiolkowski's Science Class:

Ms. Jamiolkowski: The 7th graders did a nice job preparing for their Marking Period 2 Assessment this week. On Friday, the first part of their Science Fair project was due. They were given 2.5 weeks to research possible topics that interest them. After narrowing it down to one, they submitted the question they wish to answer. Their next step is to complete background research so they can formulate an educated hypothesis. It will be exciting to see their finished projects in April!

#### Ms. Wood's LAL Class:

The SSR program is continuing and the second project has been introduced. Students have been given ALL necessary handouts and explanations. The tenth assignments will start immediately with the first assignment due on Monday January 23, 2012. The final project is due April 13, 2012. The Quarterly Assessment is also coming! The class completed a review carousel to compliment the study lists that were distributed last week. Standard Solutions prompt writing continues and we start to add those advanced-proficient elements into our writing.

#### Mr. Hansen's LAL Class:

It has been another busy, yet shortened week for Language Arts. After the Monday Holiday in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr., the class quickly got to work with our novel. The novel is posing a challenge to readers in its complex plot and details, but students are up to the challenge and are finding great success in their rigorous work. We put large emphasis into our standardized writing this week, as well. Students furthered their exploration into open-ended writing using the 'RSSE' format. Again, the concept of extending, or connecting to a text, and finding text support are often difficult processes to master, but with repeated practice students are showing improvement. A Thursday test review led the class to a Marking Period exams over Friday and Monday. I wish all the students the best of luck in our cumulative assessment. As a final note, a huge congratulations goes out to all the contestants of the 2011-2012 Scripps Spelling Bee. The Bee, which took place on Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup>, was a huge success. Congratulations to all contestants, especially our first place finisher Kaveesha Kodituwakku, as well as the two runners-up, Rainer Frickanisce and Zanib Ahmed. BMS has some great spellers!

#### Mr. Robinson's Math Class:

Seventh grade math students have been reviewing for their second marking period exam which involves adding, subtracting, multiplying, dividing fractions and mixed numbers.

#### Ms. Sohl's Math Class:

Students are writing numbers from standard form into scientific notation and from scientific notation into standard form. Students are able to multiply numbers in scientific notation by using previous learned properties/rules: The Commutative Property of Multiplication and The Product of Powers Property.

#### MS. Morley's Class

Language Arts: Both grades 7 and 8 have spent part of the week reviewing for their upcoming marking period 2 exam. They also complete a persuasive essay based on the use of water bottles in school.

Grade 7

The class has completed reading the novel Stargirl. They have begun working on their newspaper book project based on Stargirl.

Grade 8

Newspaper book projects for the book Call of the Wild were presented by all students this week.

Math

Grade 7

The students continued learning how to use and chart data using Box and Whiskers. They also reviewed all concepts taught in the second marking period in order to prepare for their exam.

Grade 8

This week focused on applying geometric formulas for perimeter and area. The students also reviewed for their upcoming marking period exam.

### **Mr. Engelberger's Physical Education/Health Classes:**

Heading into exam week, Mr. Engelberger's 7th and 8th grade health classes have been finishing up their Eating Disorder Project and preparing for their oral presentation and setting up their informative poster. Students have used a mix of time in the library/computer lab and classroom to collaborate with their group members and share their findings on the topic. The objective of this assignment is to get kid's to know and understand the seriousness and dangers of having such a disorder. Research on the most common disorders will show students what causes a mental disorder such as anorexia and then lay out the possible health problems on the body, both mental and physical. As groups present their findings, the rest of the class will record and take note of important facts, stats and numbers. All information presented through this assignment will be used as the base of what they will be tested on the following week.

### **Ms. Jones' Physical Education/Health Classes:**

Ms. Jones' 7th and 8th grade classes are continuing their volleyball unit. The students are continuing to improve their skills in the regular game of volleyball and really enjoy the spin on the normal game aka: Jungle volleyball. This is a very fast paced game which allows more students to be involved. It also gives those students who struggle with the basic skills more time to react and more chances to work on their skills.

Both floor hockey and volleyball unit tests were completed this week. We will be entering our new units on Monday, January 23rd.

### **Ms. Reich's Spanish Class:**

8<sup>th</sup> GRADE: Students have been learning about geography and tourist attractions in Ecuador

7<sup>th</sup> GRADE: Students have been learning how to make a clothing purchase

### **Mr. Diaz' Spanish Class:**

This week all students participated in group reviews. The 7th and 8th grade students did amazingly well demonstrating that they retained prior knowledge. I feel by their responses that they are well prepared for the marking period exam that they will be taking this Tuesday.

### **Ms. Acevedo's Spanish Class:**

Students in Mrs. Acevedo's 7th grade Spanish class have been working on reviewing Chapters 1-3 in anticipation to the marking period 2 exam.

### **Ms. Kraa's Art Class:**

The 7th Grade Art class worked on their white charcoal artwork. They were encouraged to add color to this work, and most of the students liked that idea. The work is being created on black drawing paper.

The 8th Grade art class completed their "Playbill" design. Some students worked on a new project: "Something You Are Thankful for That Your Parents have Given You." The students had some interesting ideas.



## **WINTER SPORTS**

Today, January 20, the Boys team will play at Lincoln Park MS at 4:00PM. The Girls Basketball game has been cancelled.

As we proceed into our last week of regular season games before the tournament games begin, we will have the boys team at home on Tuesday, January 24 vs. Harding Twp MS and the Girls team at Harding Twp. Both games begin at 4PM.

The BMS Girls Basketball team will play their first game in the GMCJSCA Tournament on Thursday, January 26 at 5:00 PM at Mendham Boro. MS.

The BMS Boys Basketball team will play their first game in the GMCJSCA Tournament on Monday, January 30 at Morris Plains MS. The game will begin at 6:30PM

We wish both teams the best of luck as they complete their seasons.

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 schedules 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.