

## 7th and 8th Grade

# PCCS Newsletter

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Good Afternoon,

We cannot believe it is already October! I hope everyone is able to get outside and do some fun fall activities this weekend. Be sure to continue checking with your kids to see how they are doing with e-learning and please let us know if there are any concerns.

Materials Pick Up will be tomorrow! Students in 8th grade do have items to return to school. Unless you hear otherwise, there are no items to pick up from school.

Students will have an early release day on Thursday, October 8th. This will be an asynchronous day. Students are expected to attend his or her morning special and come to Flextime at 8:30. From there, students will be pushed out assignments that they are to work on during the day. Teachers will also use this time to check in on students via zoom meetings. The expectation is that students are using the day to complete the assignments given to them.

No school Friday, October 9th & Monday, October 12th.

Please continue to check the homework doc for announcements and information regarding your child's assignments!

## Math with Mr. Hershiser:

Every week in Mr. Hershiser's math class, each student is expected to complete 60 questions on IXL. Students are given time in class throughout the week to complete this task but sometimes they may need to spend extra time in study hall to make sure they get all 60 questions done. Any math-related questions students may have, they can come to office hours in Mr. Hershiser's Zoom room from 2-2:30, daily.

**Math 8 A**

If your student is in Math 8 A, make sure that they have turned in their most recent test through Google Classroom, sent it to Mr. Hershiser through the mail OR have plans to drop it off at the next designated drop-off time.

## Science with Mrs. Jackson:

### 7th Grade Science:

7th Grade students have been working hard determining how weather forms and moves throughout the US. At this point, your child should be able to identify fronts, the type of weather that it brings, and explain weather using weather station models. Moving into this week, your child will be exploring a type of severe weather (tornado, hurricane, thunderstorm, or blizzard) and will create an informational pamphlet or booklet to explain what causes this type of weather, conditions during the storm, and more. We will be working to complete this research project in class. Directions, rubrics, and a copy of the research sheet are posted on google classroom. Projects are due next Thursday.

### 8th Grade Science:

8th-grade students have been exploring the world of sound and light. We started with a base in waves, understanding how a wave moves, the types of waves, and the parts of a wave. We have explored how sound waves, a type of compressional wave, can be manipulated to increase pitch. This week we moved in to light and optics. Your child will be looking at how light moves as a wave and can be reflected and refracted. We will take a look at concave and convex mirrors and lenses before moving into a virtual eye dissection next week!

## ELA with Ms. Stewart:

### 7th Grade ELA:

Students are about halfway through *The Graveyard Book* and continue to study how the elements of plot, character, and setting interact. They will continue to look at characterization and theme in depth over the next two weeks, and they will start to apply those ideas to their map or short story project.

### 8th Grade ELA:

We will be finishing *The Outsiders* next week and holding our first graded discussion on Tuesday. As we reach the end of the book, we will be looking at how different themes are woven throughout the story, and also

making some connections between violence in high schools in the novel and the issues some students face in schools today. We will end the novel study with an essay, which we will start the week of Oct. 12. Finally, we will wrap up the unit with an in-class viewing of the movie.

## Social Studies with Mr. Flood

### 7th Grade Social Studies:

Students have wrapped up their "Who wants to be a medieval Vassal" project and have created very unique manors! As we wrap up the middle ages this week, we are going to take a bit of a jump forward in time to start learning about the US Constitution and government to go along with the 2020 elections! We will start discussing the branches of the federal government and the constitution in the coming weeks, so be ready to have conversations with your kiddos about how our nation is governed!

### 8th Grade Social Studies:

We are getting ready to write our first "CER" writing assessment on the effects of the Industrial Revolution. In class, we went through each of the necessary historical artifacts to learn about the positives and negatives people experienced from Industrialization. This week, students are writing their first drafts before we get the written assessment next week. This is a great early benchmark to assess student writing! This is a metric we use all year long as students prepare for high school level social studies courses!

We hope everyone is ready to finish off the second half of this first trimester strong!

-7/8 Team