



Biweekly Update 5

Our first term is coming to an end. We have done so much in and out of the classroom so far this year. Class trips, community service, guest speakers, and now coffee house preparations. All this week, the students will whip up scripts that tell the story of their learning. Please plan to attend the Coffee House on the evening of Thursday, November 13th.

The science of the brain unit concluded with student presentations including a research report and PowerPoint on the disorder/disease of the brain they had chosen to research. I'm very pleased with the overall execution of their projects from the creative PowerPoint presentations to the stories they were able to share with their classmates about the topics researched. We also received a visit of Dr. Kenneth Master, Emmett Lobanov's uncle, a psychiatrist who gladly offered to speak about the development of the brain during adolescence.

Following the recent math assessment, every student had a one-on-one meeting with me to discuss their performance. During this meeting, they received a rubric score card indicating the development of the math skills as well as what skills need more work. All students created a plan to achieve the mathematical skills goals they have set for themselves. Next term the students will be introduced to the following concepts: polynomials, trinomials, point - slope formulas, distance and rate formulas and word problems.

In Spanish, The students have learned how to conjugate the verbs: to go (ir), to be (ser), to give (dar) and to arrive (llegar), they also learned how to utilize the masculine and feminine articles "el, la, los, las." Students will start our second term by reading short stories, in Spanish, in order to continue to improve their reading and comprehension skills. They will also receive their first project for this course, which will engage the history and culture of the Spanish speaking countries.

Every other Wednesday, the class attends a yoga session with Ms. Kim. They are exploring meditation and yoga for flexibility, stress reduction and clarity of mind. So far they have practiced many poses including downward dog, happy baby, crow, tree, Indian push-up, and bird-of-paradise. It is a useful tool for bringing balance to anyone's life and particularly good for adolescents.

On Wednesday, November 12th, we will be visiting the Moorestown Library to see a private collector's exhibit of original Warhol art. Ms. Tracey gave a preliminary presentation last week and will be on hand to contextualize the work.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at Coffee House. Students are welcome to stay after school and have pizza for dinner. We ask that any student staying bring \$5 for the pizza order. Any student not staying is due back at school by 6pm. Coffee and refreshments: 6:30, Show: 7

All the best,

Will and Erika