TIGER QUARTERLY Grade 7

January 2024

Principal's Message

As we enter the mid-year point, our focus remains on social emotional learning and quality instruction. Please enjoy this issue to highlight all we are doing to sustain our focus.

Academic Achievement

It is highly recommended that you and your child log into Schoology weekly to monitor your child's grades and assignment completion. Please feel free to email teachers with any questions you may have so we are truly fostering our shared partnership and commitment to your child's success.

Behavioral Achievement

The grade level team leaders and assistant principals will continue to reward the students who consistently followed our P.O.U.N.C.E. Code of Conduct. Our goal is to have 100% participation in these special events. We will continue to recognize and celebrate the students who are coming to school each and every day on time and for consistently displaying positive behavior; as well as provide consequences for students who are not making positive choices.

Health and Safety

Students' and staff's health and safety remain a top priority, please consistently ensure that you are not sending your children to school when they are sick, and reiterating the importance of social distancing and mask wearing. Please contact the school if your child tests positive for COVID-19 or is exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Stakeholder Climate Survey

It's almost time! The annual BCPS Stakeholder Climate Survey begins Monday, January 30, 2023, and will be available through Friday, March 3, 2023. Open to students in Grades 3-12, all parents and caregivers, staff, and community members, the survey will be available in multiple languages. Each year, this comprehensive survey provides valuable feedback and helps to steer decision-making about the budget, staff, and programs. It will be available on the BCPS website; be sure to participate and let us know your views.

https://southwestms.bcps.org/

Community Spotlight

Happy New Year SWA Community!

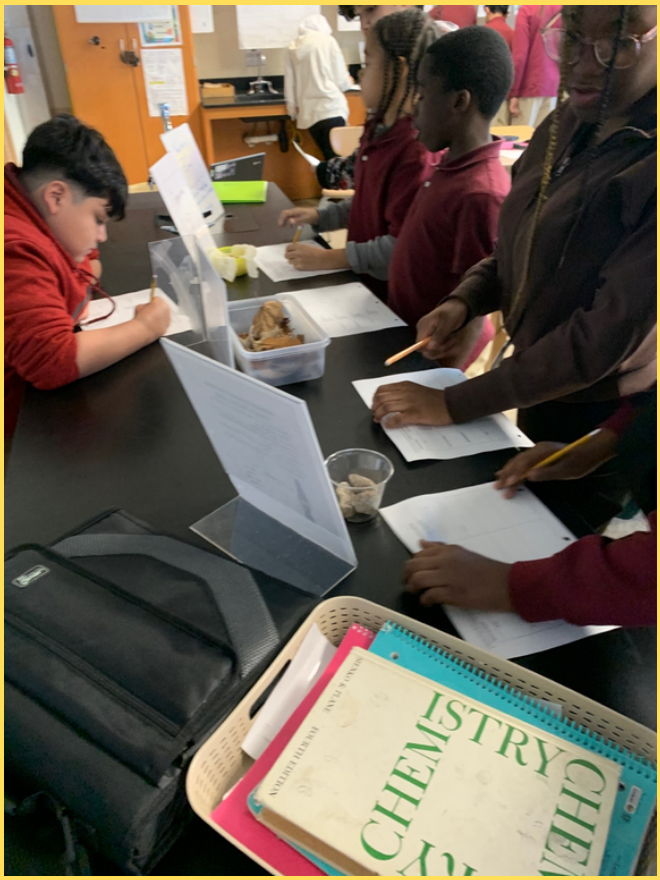
SWA ended the year off right with a Toy Drive in partnership with Morningstar Baptist Church! We were able to help 40+ families for the holidays thanks to our MSBC partner, staff and family donations. Being a new community school means building meaningful partnerships with our community, community partners and families. We are continuing to build SWA to be a hub that the entire community can benefit from.

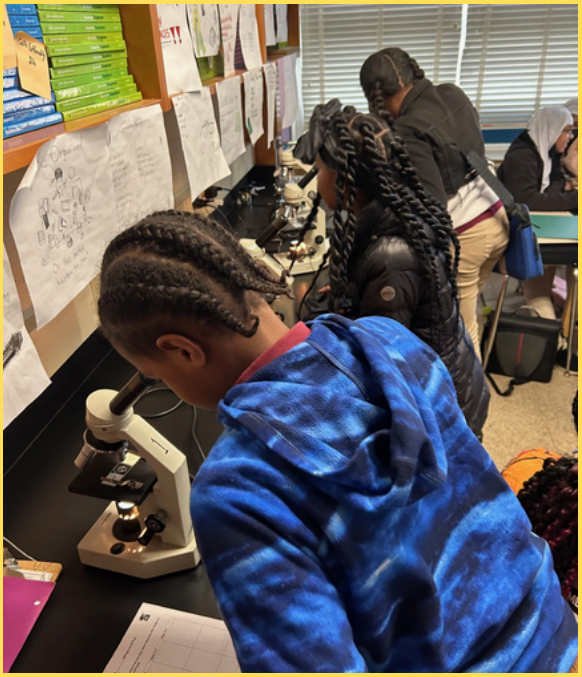
Please feel free to contact the Community School Facilitator Mrs. Ravenel with any questions, ideas or any connections at dstevenson2@bcps.org.

Academic Highlights

Spotlight in 7th Grade Science classes:

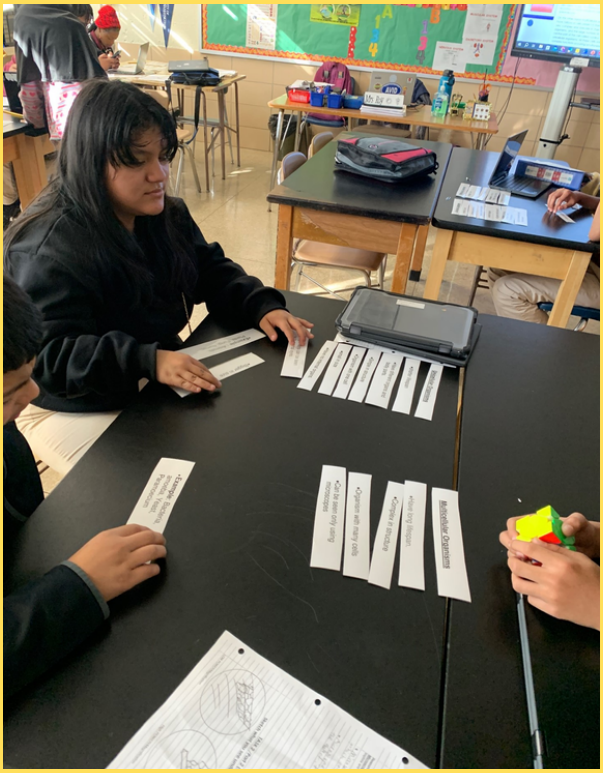
Mrs. Roy's and Dr. Gade's science classes have been filled with discussions and activities on living systems. While going through unit 2, students got the opportunity to use tools of magnification (Microscopes), observe special cells of animals and plants and differentiate between living and non-living things through station rotation. By the end of the second unit, students are able to successfully complete project by answering the essential question "How does our body work?" through their collaborative presentations. We will be soon beginning Unit 3, Chemical Magic, where students will pair up to do hands on chemical reactions, gathered evidence to justify whether changes were physical or chemical changes.





Spotlight in Dr. Gade's Magnet 7 classes:

Dr. Gade's Magnet classes created Apps on Organ systems to let us know how these organ systems actually help us in our growth and maintenance .Students presented power packed multimedia presentations and graciously took peer feedback.

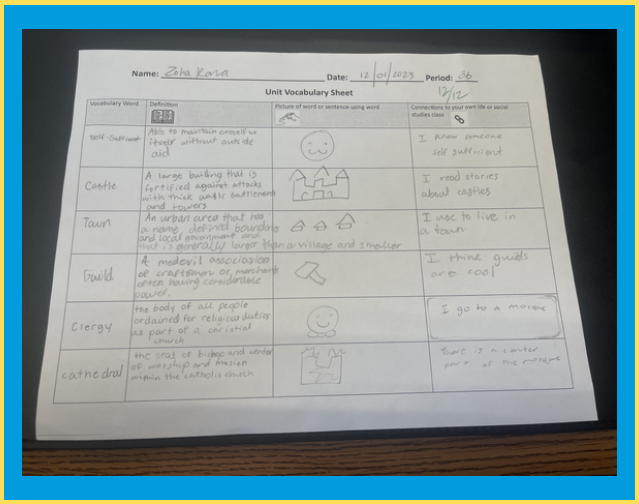


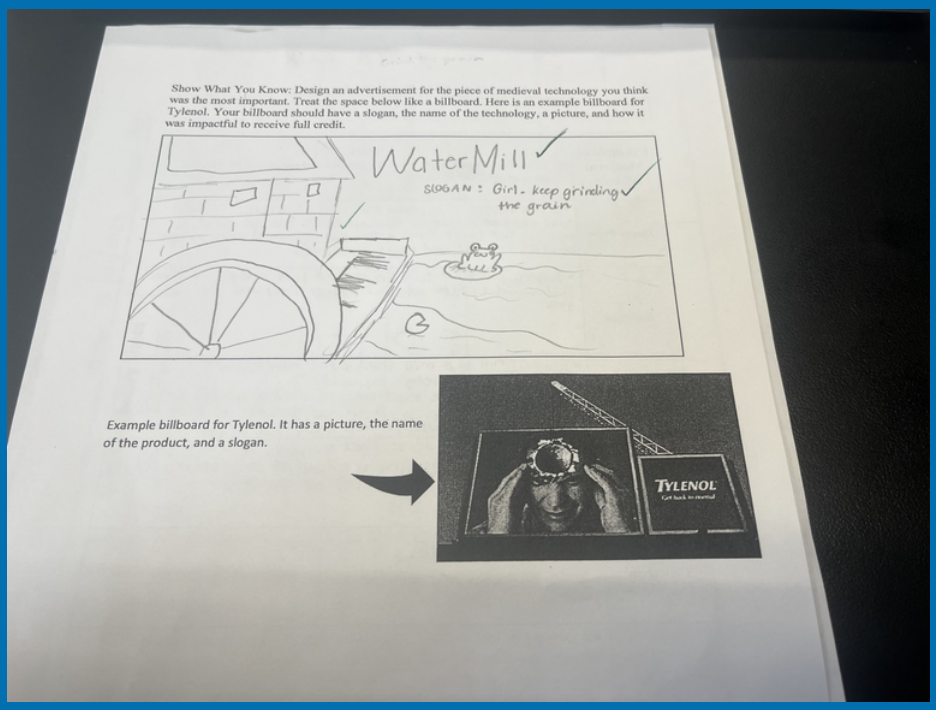
Academic Highlights

Ms. Gross' and Mr. Fleming's 7th Grade World History Class Highlights:

The 7th Grade World History classes have begun the study of Medieval Europe. They have examined and analyzed Feudalism and the Manor system so far. They will determine whether Feudalism was able to provide political stability to Europe after the fall of the Roman Empire.

The pictures are from our most recent vocabulary sheet from Mr. Fleming's class, completed to practice content vocabulary, and a lesson on medieval inventions.





Student Council

SWA's Student Council (hosted by Ms. Gross) members started off the year by participating in a Presenters Workshop sponsored by the Baltimore County Student Council/Baltimore County Junior Council (BCSC/BCJC) and the Maryland Association of Student Council (MASC). Those students who were involved are now certified presenters for the school year. They will be able to present workshops at future BCSC/BCJC meetings. Student Council members just recently participated in the first General Assembly Meeting for BCSC/BCJC. They are also gearing up for the Basketball Season by selling concessions at all home games.

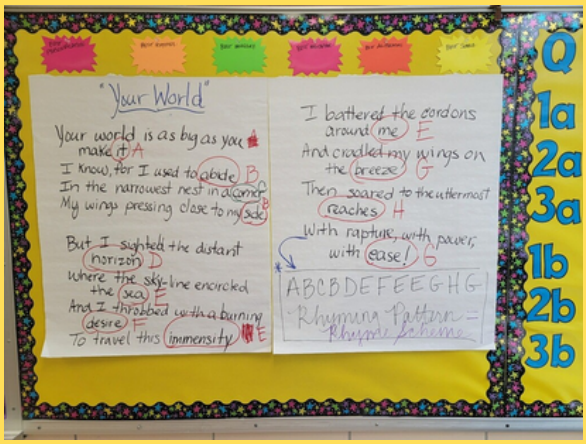
From Ms. Ortiz Spanish Novice B Class:

In Unit 2 “Vivir Sano – Living Well”. Students learned to identify and describe the benefits and consequences of a healthy diet. Students used four language dominions (writing, speaking, reading, and listening) in the present tense to describe what they eat and drink for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Along with this they learned express their own opinion about if their eating habits are healthy or unhealthy using the target language “Spanish.”

From Mr. Johnson‘s 7th Grade ELA Classes:

Rhyming patterns (also known as rhyming schemes) in poetry involve using rhyming words at the end of poetry lines to follow a pattern of ending sounds throughout the poem. Rhyming words are words that sound alike at the end, like dog and hog, or love and dove.

Mr. Johnson’s Grade 7 students were able to determine/describe the Rhyming Scheme/Rhyming Pattern of any given poem and determine the effect that the Rhyming Scheme/Pattern has on the meaning of the poet's message.



Highlights from Ms. Donelson‘s 7th Business Computer Science Classes:

Business computer science learned various skills to prepare them for not only high school but life in a business world. Students can successfully create engaging presentations with interactive hyperlinks and videos. This week we are wrapping up their Google Slides unit and will be looking to leap into the new year with marketing a business.

Highlights from Ms. Humphries' 7th Grade Math Classes:

In Math 7, students are working in Unit 4: Proportional Relationships and Percentages. In this unit, students will continue to work with ratios, rates, and unit rates that they learned about in grade 6, representing them with expressions, tape diagrams, double number line diagrams, and tables. They used these to reason about situations involving color mixtures, recipes, unit price, discounts, constant speed, and measurement conversions.

They extended their understanding of rates to include percentages as rates per 100, reasoning about situations involving whole-number percentages. However, they did not use the terms "proportion" and "proportional relationship" in grade 6. During 7th grade, in this unit, students deepen their understanding of ratios, scale factors, unit rates (also called constants of proportionality), and proportional relationships, using them to solve multi-step problems that are set in a wide variety of contexts that involve fractions and percentages.

Students began their work with ratios, rates, and unit rates in grade 6, representing them with expressions, tape diagrams, double number line diagrams, and tables. They used these to reason about situations involving color mixtures, recipes, unit price, discounts, constant speed, and measurement conversions. They extended their understanding of rates to include percentages as rates per 100, reasoning about situations involving whole-number percentages. They did not use the terms "proportion" and "proportional relationship" in grade 6.

Important Dates:

February 14th
Grade 6 Award Ceremony

February 20th
Grade 6 Dance Incentive

February 15th
Grade 7 Award Ceremony

February 21st
Grade 7 Dance Incentive

February 16th
Grade 8 Award Ceremony

February 22nd
Grade 8 Dance Incentive

Tiger Talk's Door Decorating Contest

In the Southwest Academy Advisory, Tiger Talk, students engaged in a class project. Classes decorated their doors in an effort share the importance of attendance and academic achievement.

The winner of the door decorating contest was Ms. Howard's Tiger Talk class!