

Crimson Team Newsletter

April 2012

Social Studies

Many students on the Crimson Team will have the opportunity to show their varied talents as they complete the different activities during social studies classes. As part of a unit on ancient Greece, students are reading an abridged version of Homer's epic poem, "The Iliad." Students will express their ideas as they interpret the many scenes from the story. They will also portray themselves as some of the major characters and answer questions from an audience. Both the Crimson and Navy teams are looking forward to a PTO-sponsored assembly called "Chariot Of the Sun." It is a great performance in which the students and staff are actively involved in Greek mythology.

Last quarter will be very busy for all as we move on to the study of ancient Rome and the Middle Ages. The students will take part in several collaborative activities and projects. Please ask your child to update you on the activities that will be offered this term.

Math

Mrs. Misiti's classes have concluded units on multiplying and dividing fractions, customary measurement, ratio, proportion, percents, and graphs. Students used statistics from the NCAA basketball tournament to create pie graphs. We are now covering geometry, measurement, area and perimeter. As a special geometry project, students will be completing geometry picture dictionaries. Our final units will cover probability and integers.

Science

Back in February, science students concluded their chemistry unit with the study of particle motion and thermal energy during the changes of state between a solid, liquid, and gas. Their culminating project was to complete an illustrated storyboard that exhibited a change of state such as melting, freezing, evaporating, boiling, condensation or sublimation. We are currently in the middle of our study of the weather, which includes topics such as the structure of Earth's atmosphere, chemical composition of the air, air pressure, heat transfer, local and global winds, precipitation and air quality. Our next and final unit of study will be environmental science and ecology, which will include energy flow through ecosystems, plant and animal habitats, environmental issues and relationships between living and non-living things.

Language Arts

Mr. Daley's language arts classes are about to begin their study of Tuck Everlasting. This classic novel provides the opportunity for students to wonder about some very big ideas: immortality and the meaning of life. Students are also working on research projects in which they will apply their nonfiction reading and note-making skills. The year will end with an introduction to persuasive writing; students will have a chance to write a persuasive essay related to topics meaningful to them such as school uniforms, homework, single-gender

classrooms, and recess.