



8TH GRADE 1st QUARTER NEWSLETTER

MATH

The beginning of our year has been mathmagical. In all levels of math we have been focusing on becoming mathematical thinkers and understanding the why behind our processes for problem solving! On level 8th grade math classes are wrapping up our transformations unit while the coordinate algebra classes are wrapping up our unit on modeling functions and moving on to reasoning with equations and inequalities.

*Just a few reminders for this grading period:

- Students will have homework most nights and should be completing these assignments before returning to class - if no actual assignment is given then students are encouraged to review notes on a nightly basis
- 8th Grade Math Students are encouraged to have a Ti-30xs Multiview Calculator with them in class and during most assessments; Coordinate Algebra Students are encouraged to have a Ti-84 Graphing calculator but a Ti_30xx Multiview Calculator will also be efficient for this course.

SOCIAL STUDIES

We are currently working on the Civics and Government of Georgia. Topics include Georgia's Constitution, 3 Branches of Govt., Juvenile Justice, and local govts. in Georgia

Cherokee Bluff will be attending Junior Achievement Finance Park on September 23 & 24 at the Cumming JA facility. Be looking for permission slips coming home next week, there

ELA

Language Arts started with our students proclaiming they will be "Masters of their fates, and captains of their souls" this year. After studying "Invictus" and "Whatever it Takes," we have moved into grade specific work.

In 8th grade, we are working on how authors use dialogue and incidents to move the plot forward. We are accomplishing this through short stories, as well as the novel *Long Way Down*, by Jason Reynolds.

In 9th grade, we are working on the hero's journey and applying it to *The Odyssey* by Homer. Students are also reading a novel of their choice. They are also doing comparison/contrasts between their independent novel, the hero's journey, and *The Odyssey*.

Independent reading is essential to all of our classes, so please talk with your student and help them find books they enjoy reading. Take them to the library or the bookstore if you can. We appreciate any support you can give us in this endeavor. We want our students to find joy in reading, and the best way to do that is to let them read what they like.

SCIENCE

In 8th grade science we are focusing on learning more about how things move and why they move - forces and motion. Students have been learning about speed, velocity, acceleration, and net forces. In addition, we're also focusing on learning how to read and interpret graphs. Take a look at your students notebooks to see some of the great hands-on

is no charge to attend the trip. More info on the program can be found at <http://www.georgia.ja.org/ja-discovery-center-northga>



We need parent volunteers to accompany us to JA! Mr. Kinsey's class will be attending on the 24th, and Mr. Cantrell's classes on the 23rd. Consider volunteering, more information is available at the following links.

Cantrell - Sept 23

<https://jageorgia.volunteerhub.com/lp/cherokeebluffms/event/index/9770138>

Kinsey - Sept 24

<https://jageorgia.volunteerhub.com/lp/cherokeebluffms/event/index/9770139>

activities that we are completing.



GRADE LEVEL INFORMATION

OneBearNation,

Washington, DC packets have gone home and we have filled our 90 slots. A waiting list has been compiled and the first 90 to turn in paperwork with their \$200 non-refundable deposits will be secured on September 13th. We are trying to procure an additional bus to expand our ability to take more students. However, deposits must all be paid on time and all payments made prior to 12-15-19 are non-refundable.

Additionally, remind students to charge their computers nightly before coming to school.

LEARNING COMMONS

- **OUR STAFF:** We would love to introduce you to our Learning Commons' Team... We couldn't be more excited about working with and supporting your student this year!
 - Ms. Jessica Mueller (Media Specialist) jessica.mueller@hallco.org
 - Ms. Krista Acton (Media Clerk) krista.acton@hallco.org
 - Ms. Monica Jackson (MS Lab Manager) monica.jackson@hallco.org

- **CHROMEBOOKS:** We are excited that our Chromebook “one-to-one” initiative is going so well already this year! Here is a link to our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for students and parents. If you don't see what you need here, don't hesitate to contact us!
- **TECH SUPPORT:** If you need any tech support, Ms. Monica Jackson is our amazing Lab Manager for CBMS! She is doing a wonderful job of helping our students already!
- **LITERACY:** We are already seeing many of your children for checking out books, and we are excited to help build or continue in them a life-long love for reading!

Connections

Band:

8th Grade Band:

Have been working on warm-up exercises and scales

Fall Band Concert Oct. 21st

Engineering & Technology:

Students have learned about the Engineering Design Process (EDP) by creating catapults and paper towers. We are currently learning about 3D printing. Students will work through the EDP to design/print a 3D solution to an identified problem.



Healthcare Science:

Students in Mrs. Guevara's Healthcare Science class have been learning about infection control and safety practices. Most recently they completed a project about biosafety levels and we are currently learning about immunizations.

Literacy:

It's been a great start to the new year! We have been working on reading for meaning, theme, story plot, and current events! Please encourage your student to read books, magazines and online articles, etc... Today a Reader, Tomorrow a LEADER!

Marketing:

Order Yearbooks at cbmsyearbook.com

Science Enrichment:

We have been observing natural phenomenon, testing the surface tension of water, designing the perfect paper airplane and building the strongest towers.

**Spanish:**

Students in Spanish learned about the 21 Spanish speaking countries in the world and where they are located. We are planning a small fiesta (party) in each class to mark the beginning of Hispanic Heritage month on September 16th. I would like to thank you all in advance for contributing to our celebration.

Visual Arts:

8th graders are loving journaling in their sketchbooks. Please make sure your student has one. We are learning how to shade using color as well.