

Sand Beach, Spring 2019 Photo By Dora Clark '24

Acadia Team Newsletter October 6, 2023

On the Horizon:

10/16 & 10/17 - NWEAs 10/19, 10/25 Parent-Teacher Conferences

Needs on-team:

 Pumpkin carving sets (for 6th grade Advisee Day Out)

In our classes:



been starting our classes with observations and filling out a weather log. The hope is students will notice patterns between high & low pressure and the weather conditions. Every student has a severe weather project. Whatever event they chose, they are expected to become deeply knowledgeable about it. They will present their expertise in a visual project on Tuesday the 17th.

Hero's Journey:

We've been composing our rough drafts of narratives SHOWING actions and characteristics of our heroes rather than saying what is happening. This is a challenge. Rather than saying, "he was sad," students are learning to show characters in situations where they are sad. For example, "He sat there, feeling the tears stream down his cheeks, and being aware of the emptiness that filled his chest." It's a challenge, and our students are up for it. Rough drafts were due on Thursday, and soon students will be asking for help with editing. They've been encouraged to not take feedback like, "It's perfect!" as every writing piece can be improved - even after it's been published.

Myths and Legends:

This week we used our time to make shields for the characters in the books we have been reading with our groups. Kids have been talking about what they have learned in their reading about the characters in their novels. They've been thinking about round and flat characters and finding evidence in their reading to support their reasoning. This week we also played "freeze and thaw" as part of



our BARR work, which involved hiding the llama in the room. Many students found this lively game engaging and we learned about group dynamics at the same time.

Rock On!:

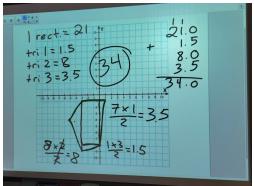


We dove into the seafloor spreading. Quality mapping of our ocean has provided answers to the mystery of how continents move. It's a good example of something in science that seemed impossible that later seems obvious once it comes together. Students had a plate tectonics lab

this week where they used whipped cream and graham crackers to demonstrate the different kinds of plate movement. It was fun and effective. Our students demonstrated real understanding!



Math 6: This week, we strengthened our graphing skills and continued to find the areas of different shapes. We then talked about the surface area of rectangular prisms, pyramids, and triangular prisms. We learned about nets of 3D shapes and how they can make it easier to find the surface area of a shape. We ended the week with a quiz.



Math 7: We took a deep dive into rational numbers aka fractions. We

learned how to simplify or reduce fractions and how to add and subtract positive and negative fractions. We learned how to change improper fractions into mixed numbers and visa versa and how to convert fractions to decimals, using long division. We ended the week with a quiz.

Math 8: We spent most of the week talking about slope and y-intercepts and how to find these values when given graphs, tables, or equations. We related these topics to real life scenarios such as NFL Draft Picks and finding the best deal for bowling prices. We ended the week with a quiz.



Note from Ms. Gerhart: With a heavy heart, I would like to inform everyone that I will be leaving MCMS mid November. It was a very hard decision, as I have enjoyed being the math teacher for Team Acadia, but I must do what is best for me and my family. I wish you all the best.