

December 2024 High School Newsletter

ENGLISH I/II/III/IV, AP LITERATURE & COMPOSITION

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English I/ AP Lit - English I: Students are working on a mini-PBL titled, "A Global Inquiry : Exploring Christmas Traditions." Students will be conducting effective research using steps in the research process to complete a variety of benchmarks to demonstrate mastery of our unit objectives. Additionally, students will be reviewing for Midterms during their DO Now's beginning 12/9. In AP Lit, we are wrapping up Unit 3 - Longer Fiction and will begin Unit 4 - Short Fiction II on 12/9. Students have completed their round of student teaching with our anchor text, The Joy Luck Club. They have been practicing writing commentary that will help them develop their line of reasoning. We have also been working on our AP terms and students will be completing knowledge checks, weekly.

English II - In December, **English II** classes will be using their novel study to aid them in their writing: on-level classes will be completing creative character analyses, and advanced classes will be completing analyses on thematic elements. We will wrap up the semester with a look at how texts can connect across genres.

English III/IV - ELAR IV is wrapping up a Midsummers Night's Dream and then will move to analyzing and composing an argumentative text. ELAR III is focusing on argumentative texts and recognizing themes and claims including the effects of bias on the audience.

Algebra I/II, Geometry, PreCalculus, Statistics:

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Algebra I / II - In Algebra 1 and 2, We are reviewing for the midterm.

Geometry / Algebraic Reasoning -Geometry: In Geometry, we are continuing our exploration of Relationships of Triangles, with congruency or similar triangles. We will take our Unit 4 Test at the end of the quarter. Algebraic Reasoning: In Algebraic Reasoning, we continue with Linear Functions. We will be using the key attributes of Linear Functions to solve real-world problems. Our Unit test will be at the end of the quarter.

Precalculus/ Stats/ Algebra II - Algebra II: finish Unit 5 about quadratic functions,

equations, and inequalities **Pre-Calculus:** Finish Unit 4 Rational Function and Rational Inequalities **Statistics:** Finish Unit 5 Probability and discrete probability models.

World Geography, World History, AP World History:

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World History -World History students are currently exploring Medieval Europe and examining how Africa, Asia, and the Muslim World influenced history. In addition, students are working on writing a children's historical fiction book based on Medieval history. I am very excited to see their creativity and look forward to the imaginative stories they will create!

US History / Economics and Govt - US History Classes will be finishing up their Comic Book Project, and taking a test on the Great Depression. APUSH will be finishing up covering the Civil War and the Guilded Age, and testing accordingly.

World Geography /AP World History - W. Geo is finishing up Unit 4 Latin America with 4 more Purpose Games over the next two weeks and their Mental Maps project. Start Unit 5/6 before the Winter Break, Midterms on Dec. 18 & 19.

Chemistry, Physics, Forensics, Biology, AP Bio

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Chemistry/Physics -We have started Nuclear Chemistry and ill focus on the following topics: 1. The radiation emitted by an element can be characterized as alpha, beta, or gamma radiation. 2. A balanced nuclear equation may be used to describe the process of radioactive decay. 3. There are various applications of atomic, nuclear, and quantum phenomena. **Physics :** We are continuing with our study of Motion - Equations, Graphing , and studying speed, velocity and acceleration.

Physics/ Forensics - Physics : We will continue working on graphing. They will have 2 projects.1) A Novel; 2) PSA A and P: They will be working on the BONES unit with 2 projects. 1) Identify and make a PP presentation about one bone. 2 A table project with the large paper skeleton. FORENSICS: They are beginning the Unit on handwriting Analysis.

Biology/ AP Bio -. **On-level and Advanced 9th grade Bio**: We are finishing up the transport of molecules and starting Photosynthesis and Cellular Respiration. Mid-term reviews will be going out soon.

AP Bio: Testing on Unit 4 this week and starting Unit 5: Heredity. We will complete half before the break and test and then finish the 2nd half after the break. AP Biology exam is on May 5th so we are right on track to finish and have time to review the exam.



Art, Spanish, Computer Science, Leadership, Family & Community Service, Practicum of Entrepreneurship, Theatre, PE, ASL:

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Art I/II/III -Art I: Art II/III : Art I - For the 2 weeks of December, we will wrap up our observation drawings and move on to their Passion Projects. As their final project, students get to select any project they have done this year, and create a new version of it, using any appropriate subject or content of their choosing. Art II : To begin our transition from 2D to 3D art, students will be creating a "painting with paper" mosaic project. Using paper, we will make small tiles and create faux stained glass art.

Computer Science -AP Computer Science : For the month of December we will be on unit 6 focusing on data structures, which are used to represent collections of related data using a single variable rather than multiple variables. Using a data structure along with iterative statements with appropriate bounds will allow for similar treatment to be applied more easily to all values in the collection. Just as there are useful standard algorithms when dealing with primitive data, there are standard algorithms to use with data structures. In this unit, we apply standard algorithms to arrays; however, these same algorithms are used with ArrayLists and 2D arrays as well. Additional standard algorithms, such as standard searching and sorting algorithms, will be overed in the part unit. Cemputer Science 1 : In CS1 for the menth of December we will work on a unit forward on creating.

will be covered in the next unit. **Computer Science 1**: In CS1 for the month of December we will work on a unit focusing on creating and altering data structures. This unit will cover, touples, lists, for loops in list, and various list methods.

Computer Science 2 : In the month of December we will work on the Unit focusing on classes and object-oriented programming that teaches students the basics of Object Oriented Programming in Java, which is a powerful programming paradigm. Students will learn how objects store data and interact with each other in Java programs. Students will design and implement classes and extend classes using inheritance

Leadership - In 9th-grade leadership, we will focus on preparing for mock interviews, which are scheduled for February 19, 2025. Students will complete resumes and cover letters on Xello, practice professional communication, and learn interview expectations. Participation is a graduation requirement, and professional attire will be required for the interviews. This is the first round of preparation, more to come after winter break.

Family and Community Service/ Practicum of Entrepreneurship

Family and Community Service - As a class we will be walking through different conflict resolution strategies. Once that is complete, we will be focusing on their Defense of Learning rough drafts. **Practicum of Entrepreneurship** - We will be covering the components of a traditional business plan for a small business. The students will then complete their own business plan for a major grade.

ASL - ASL students are learning Christmas songs and have already mastered the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge. Now, they're ready to entertain you with some holiday cheer by performing two classic holiday songs!

PE - We are doing the Fitness Gram this week. Students will participate in the pacer, push ups and curl ups. Each task will have a number the student is trying to reach for a 100. We will finish off the year with soccer. Learning skills and rules to the game.

Theatre - As a class, we'll come together to select a play and embark on an in-depth study of its themes, characters, and significance. This exciting journey will give us a deeper appreciation of theater and its many layers.

Spanish - Students are doing well in class and will continue to practice their Spanish skills.

Reminders/Important Info

- Exams reviews will go out next week for both Physics and Chemistry, and we will start at the end of next week. - Mrs. Ansari
- Midterm review packet for English I is available in Google classroom for students to begin their review.
- Tutoring will be available to all students, in all subject areas. Please reach out to your individual teachers for assistance.
- Midterm Dates : 12/18 (Wed) & 12/19 (Thurs)
- Please be sure to follow dress code guidelines.
 Dress code requirements will be strictly enforced.

Figh School Snapshots

MERRY CHRISTMAS

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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