

October 2024 High School Newsletter

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

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English I/AP Lit -We kicked off Unit 2 on 9/26 and English I students are focused on types of literary text, analysis and composition. We are working on identifying genre characteristics for various literature (fiction and nonfiction) selections. Students recently completed reading, "The Most Dangerous Game" but we will be exploring other teacher selected text as well. In AP Lit, we are almost done with our Unit 2 poetry unit. Students have reviewed and analyzed various pieces of poetry to focus on structure, characterization and literary elements. We will begin Unit 3 - Longer Fiction and Drama 1 in about 2 weeks.

English II - In October, English II classes will be exploring literary elements, reading & analyzing literary fiction and nonfiction both in short texts and a class novel study of *Lord of the Flies*, and applying their analyses and knowledge to their own writing. Assignments will vary, including projects and essays.

English III/IV - We are finishing the last two weeks strong. We are working on finding point of view with an in depth character analysis called the Body Biography Project. Using the main character from their personal choice novels students are analyzing the main character of their novels. Hopefully everyone is hitting their reading goals. After fall break we will be analyzing Literary Texts and Composing an essay and Juniors will be composing an original literary text.

Algebra I/II, Geometry, PreCalculus, Statistics:

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Algebra I / II -. **Algebra I:** We will be taking a linear equation written in slope intercept for and writing it in standard form. We will also be writing the equation of lines parallel and perpendicular. **Algebra II:** We will be writing reduced row eschelon form. We will also be finding the value of variables.

Geometry / Algebraic Reasoning -We are finishing up of Unit 2 on Coordinate Geometry and Transformations. The test will be Oct. 9th. Our next unit will be covering Relationships of Lines and Transversals. Algebraic Reasoning is still taking a step back to Algebra basics.

Precalculus/ Stats/ Algebra II - Algebra II wrapping Absolute Value functions, equations, and inequalities. Precalculus is starting Unit 3 Polynomial and Rational Functions

World Geography, World History, AP World History:

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World History - Students will be learning about Ancient Greece and Rome. They will be finishing with a Unit 2 test. We will recap River Valley, Mesopotamia, Ancient China and Egypt. Afterwards we will begin our studies of World Religion.

US History / Economics and Govt. - Mr. Merrill's US History Classes are working on their Reporter Projects where each group is creating an audio recording, where the students are on the ground reporters for major historical events from 1915 to 1945. The students in Government finished their political party posters, and are currently working on their radio advertisements for their team representatives who are running for Texas Governor The students in Economics are currently working on their Island Civilization, where each group must show how they would survive if marooned on a desert island, to include how they would ensure 1500 calories per person per day, form of government they would create, what shelter they would live in, and how they would ensure they didn't destroy their natural resources.

World Geography /AP World History - W. Geo is doing their Project Slides/Brochure on a country's Human Development Index and Population Pyramid, building on last week's Economic Indicators Activity. They are continuing to take notes and define vocabulary, which they keep in their binders. Unit 2 Test is October 9th. **AP WH** is continuing Unit 2 readings in AMSCO text, taking notes with increased annotations, completing their Unit 2 Project Slides/Brochure on Differences Among Networks of Exchange. Unit 2 Quiz is on 10/2 and Unit 2 Test is on 10/8

Chemistry, Physics, Forensics, Biology, AP Bio

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Chemistry/Physics -Chemistry: We will start studying atomic structure and will construct models to show the development of the modern nuclear theory over time and describe the structure of atoms and ions. Students will then investigate the mathematical relationship between energy, frequency, and the wavelength of light and relate it to the quantization of energy in the emissions

spectrum. Physics: We are continuing with our study of Motion - Equations, Graphing, and studying speed, velocity and acceleration.

Physics/ Forensics - FORENSICS WILL BEGIN THE UNIT ON FINGERPRINTING. PHYSICS WILL BEGIN A UNIT ON GRAPHING AND A AND P WILL COMPLETE THEIR UNIT ON HISTOLOGY BY TEACHING A CLASS OF 7TH GRADERS ABOUT SELECTED TISSUES.

Biology/ AP Bio - We are in our 1st official PBL group project over cells. Students are working in groups to understand what happens when a bacteria or virus attacks our cells and how our bodies recover. They will be creating 3D models and PSAs to complete their projects. We will also host a student teacher this semester. She will be observing this month and teaching lessons towards the end of the month. After cells, we will be covering DNA replication, cell division, and protein synthesis. **AP BIO**: AP Bio is heading into Unit 3: Cellular Energetics. This unit covers enzymes, photosynthesis, and cellular respiration. Students should be taking notes on the daily videos and completing the questions in AP Classroom. This is a college level class and will be conducted as one. Students will be expected to be responsible for their own learning and coming to class with clarifying questions for the teacher.

Electives

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

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Art I/II/III -Art I: Students will be introduced to the Principles of Art. We will continue to be incorporating perspective and also include cross curricular activities, like Tessellations! Art II/III: To fit the theme of the month of October, students will learn about the Goosebumps illustrator, Jim Theson. Students will be using all of what they learned about drawing animation to create their own interpretations of Goosebumps covers!

Computer Science -AP Computer Science: We are finishing unit 3, Boolean Expressions and if statements. This unit has taught us all about how to use if statements, if-else statements, and else if statements. We have also talked about compound boolean expressions, equivalent boolean expressions, and comparing objects.

We will then move on to unit 4, Iteration. This unit focuses on interaction using while and for loops, We will introduce several standard algorithms that use iteration.

Computer Science 1 : We are finishing up Unit 3, on basic python and console interaction. We have learned how to take user input and use mathematical operations with strings.

We will be moving on to Unit 4, on conditions. In this unit we will learn about boolean values and logical operators. We will learn about comparison operators. **Computer Science 2**: This month we will start by finishing out unit on Introduction to programming. In this unit we have learned how to program in java. The students have taken what they learned last year in python and applied it to java, we have learned loops; for and while, as well as if statements and if else statements.

We will move on the unit 4, Basic Java. We will learn the basics of the Java programming language. We will cover printing, variables, types and basic control structures.

Leadership -This month in Leadership we will be creating our WIG's (Wildly Important Goals). Each student is required to have TWO GOALS, a personal goal, and an academic goal. Also, we will start to identify career interest for our Job Shadowing

Family and Community Service/ Practicum of Entrepreneurship -we finished

up our WIGS (Wildly Important Goals) this week, so ask your students about them! Our classes will be starting a new project this Thursday that incorporates public speaking (presenting) in professional dress. We will also be covering habits 2 & 3, and taking quizzes over them. **POE**: We finished up our WIGS (Wildly Important Goals) this week, so ask your students about them! Our classes will be starting a new project this Thursday that incorporates public speaking (presenting) in professional dress about a product they will be creating to sell. We will also be covering habits 2 & 3, and taking quizzes over them.

Spanish I/II -High school Spanish classes will be working in developing their writing skills and then, prepare their speech presentation, describing people, things and places. At this time, students will perform individually.

PE - We are bringing back Mile run Mondays and Workout Wednesdays each week. In health, Students will be learning about how to break bad habits and toxic foods.

Theatre - Students will continue their work of monologues by analyzing their character, memorizing their monologue and performing it. We will then begin working on collaboration through scene work.

Reminders/Important Info

- Reminder that the Art fee was due October 4th. Please have this paid through your student's My School Bucks. This is how we are about to get all of the supplies for the entire school year! From pencils and paper to clay and sewing materials.
- Varsity Boys and JV girls have earned a guaranteed spot in the volleyball playoffs. Varsity girls are still in the hunt. We are still accepting donations on the behalf of the Ocampo family to help Celeste and her family with medical expenses due to her Hodgkins Lymphoma diagnosis. #Purple4Celeste
- HOCO Dance is Oct. 5th
- Spanish Speech presentation is happening soon! Please be prepared.

