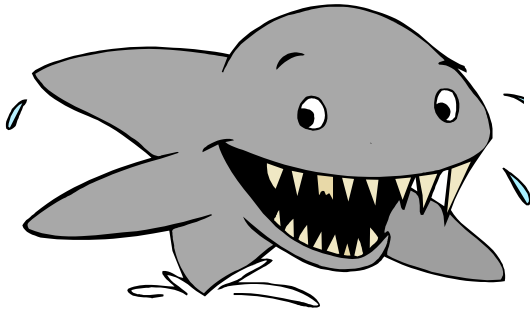


# Sharks Team Newsletter

## Winter Newsletter



### **Social Studies** **Mr. Beckett**

In Mr. Beckett's classes, we just finished a unit on the Constitution, and the students did an excellent job of preparing and presenting power point presentations on an Amendment. As we enter the third marking period, we will be taking a look at our young country as it develops and begins the process of expanding. Major topics for the third marking period will be The Louisiana Purchase, The War of 1812, The Jackson Era, and the concept of Manifest Destiny. It was an exciting time for our country, and we are excited to learn about these historic events. There will also be a unit on financial literacy.

### **Physical Education/Health** **Ms. Ibe**

The students have just finished their marking period of health. All in all, it was a great marking period. My hope is that your children shared some of our topics with you at home, and it brought about some much

needed family discussions. It seemed that most of the students enjoyed what can be a very intimidating and sometimes embarrassing topic. They all participated very well and seemed to have absorbed new information that they will use throughout their lifetime.

As we move into the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period, we return to the gym. After a few days of acclimating to being back, we will begin several new units. Volleyball and floor hockey are two of the activities that we will be focusing on including a continuation of their skills from 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Each week one day will be devoted to fitness. We will run our circuit training and introduce a new form of weight training using the Bulgarian weight bags, free weights, X-box as well as our weight room and fitness videos. Our hope is that the students will enjoy one of these activities and start incorporating it into their daily lives.



### **English** **Mr. Schulze**

With the new marking period underway, our classes are finishing up activities on the assigned novel reading: *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*. During the third marking period students will be tasked with completing activities in our on-line based Study Island program. Writing mechanics, usage, and grammar will continue to be an important part of class throughout the year. Students regularly complete work in their writer's notebooks in class, and this gives them an opportunity to write creatively. NJASK preparation activities will also be integrated throughout the remaining winter weeks as the important state assessment approaches in the spring.

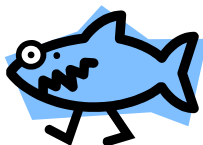
### **Math** **Mrs. Ackers**

We started this marking period with a unit on ratios, rates, unit rates and proportions. We learned

how to extract information from a word problem, set up a proportion and solve it. We then focused on converting between fractions, decimals and percents. This led us into a unit on solving percent word problems, including such topics as discounts, tax, tips, percent of increase or decrease etc. At the end of the marking period, we learned how to solve probability problems. During the third marking period, we will be concentrating on geometry.

In the Algebra 1 class, we started off the marking period learning how to solve algebraic word problems. They included types such as: motion, consecutive integer, coin, and mixture problems. The rest of the marking period we focused on equations of lines. We learned how to write them in three different forms and how to graph them.

In all classes, we continue weekly take home tests which are collected every Wednesday. This is a way to review all previously learned concepts.



## Science Mr. Saroka

During the second marking period, the Sharks explored space. We focused on the movements of the Earth and the moon and their integration into the Sun-Earth-Moon system. We looked at the consequences of those movements such as day/night, seasons, and tides. We then entered a lengthy lesson on the history, present, and future of human spaceflight and deep space exploration. The third marking period will see our team focusing back on planet Earth, the history, and the geology of the planet itself.