



**The Storm Team
Spring Newsletter
Teachers, parents, and children working together**



English
Mrs. Nancy Patterson

The Storm Team students had a busy and productive third marking period. We worked intensively on refining writing, independent and whole-class reading, and a host of other necessary communication skills.

The marking period began with the reading and analysis of Rodman Philbrick's novel *Freak the Mighty*. This novel is always a team favorite! *Freak the Mighty* was used to illustrate our writing traits of the marking period which were voice and word choice.

In addition, we focused on how to answer open-ended questions utilizing the RUNWAYA strategy which will be helpful on the NJASK7 test which was given the week of April 26th. Moreover, another area of emphasis during the marking period was fine-tuning paragraph writing skills and branching out into a multi-paragraph answers and essays. This writing structure was applied to several writing assignments thus far, and will continue to develop throughout the year.

Keep reading and have a great summer!



Social Studies
Mrs. Mary Ann Fleck

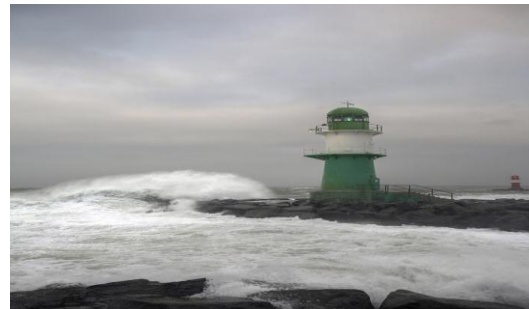
During the third marking period, the Storm Team focused much its attention in social studies on government. We learned how governments differ throughout the world. We focused on democracy in the U.S. In addition we discussed how the Greeks were the first people to experiment with democracy and how some of the principle ideas we use in our government today came from the Romans, such as the three branches of government. Students discussed the importance of human rights and we connected this to countries today, who are struggling to secure their human rights. The fourth quarter of the school year is going to be spent examining life in third world nations. We will focus on child labor in these nations, we will also read *Iqbal*. Students should bring this book to class each day. We will continue handing in current event summaries until June. In June we will review for our final exam.

Attention Parents:

We are in need of some boxes of tissues for our team. We would greatly appreciate any and all contributions!

Allergy season is upon us!!!!

Thanks to those of you who have already sent supplies in!





Math
Mr. Karl Eiker

Our 4th marking period will begin with the exploration of perimeter and area. A strong emphasis will deal with visualizing, describing, and manipulating structures to measure volume and area of different geometric solids.

Homework will still be checked daily and as spring fever is approaching soon, your help will be needed to make sure they are completing assignments. **Homework** is still a **crucial** component of their grade.

The school year is coming to an end and hopefully your child has had a positive experience and has enjoyed the 7th grade. Continue to use math as often as possible in everyday situations so that it becomes relevant to them. Thank you for all your support and cooperation throughout the year. I have enjoyed teaching your child.



Mrs. Sarah Line
Science

This marking period the students have completed numerous experiments on diffusion and osmosis. Our scientist in training wrote lab reports consistent with the formal scientific method format. Another core standard that we have been concentrating on is Genetics. This can be a controversial topic with recent strides in genetic therapy, cloning and stem cell research. The students have been learning about the technological advancements being made and will make their own moral judgments about the validity of this type of experimentation.

We also completed an exciting genetic activity, which focused on the human face. Students were able to examine their own genetic characteristics and create a fictional spouse. Then with their combined genetic information they created a visual projection of what one of their children could possibly look like. From this activity they drew conclusions about dominant and recessive genes and how they are passed on to offspring.

Overall, 3rd marking period has been a successfully marking period and the students have showed improved skills in making predictions and drawing conclusions.



Mrs. Carney
Physical Education

Health has been completed after exploring the different levels of wellness and how important it is to be physically, mentally, emotionally and socially balanced in order to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Topics we covered included; Growth and Development, Nutrition, Medicines, Drugs, First-aid and Personal Safety. Students realize that to reach **their best** personal wellness goals they must use responsible decision-making at all times.

As Health class ends, 4th marking period sees us return to Physical Education where we will carry over all of our learned knowledge and look to improve our personal fitness level by challenging those levels in the SRMS work-out room, Fitnessgram Testing and with the Southern Fitness 500 Challenge.

In addition, we welcome Mr. James LaMarco from Kean College. Mr. LaMarco is currently involved as a Professional Intern and he will be instructing the classes in individualized fitness activities and large group activities.