



Jan/Feb **2015**

Upcoming Dates:

January 12: First Day of Second Semester

January 19: MLK Jr. Holiday (no school)

January 20: First meeting for P8

January 21: First meeting for P7

February 6: Staff Development day (no school for students)

February 16: Presidents' Day

Holiday (no school)

February 23-27: National Engineering Week

team ten parent newsletter

Welcome Back!

(left to right)

- D'yann Crosby .:sign language:.
- Julie Ichiroku .: world history:.
- Frank Divinagracia .: algebra 2:.
- Erika Magaña .:spanish:.
- Wendy Cha .:english:.
- Lila Kalaf .: resource:.
- Kat Ramos .: principles of engineering:.
- Josh Thomson .:chemistry:.

The Importance of Accountability

As we start this semester, we'd like to remind families that for all classes, Accountability encompasses 10% of every class grade. We have seen students struggle significantly with Accountability on daily assignments, which limits students' ability to regularly practice the content, ultimately leading to poor performances on quizzes, test, presentations, and projects. Although Mastery-Based Grading allows students to demonstrate mastery over time, most of the struggles we have seen with Accountability have occurred when students wait until the *revision* due date to put in their full effort. This is problematic for a few reasons: 1. It becomes even more challenging for students to demonstrate mastery on previous content while trying to tackle new content. 2. Most of these revisions are clearly not products of additional time and effort, but rather products of rushed, last-minute work. 3. Many students do not use the revision time to ask for feedback. Although we emphasize these points in our classes, it would be worth having a discussion with your student about them as well!

What we're working on in...

English.

For our next unit, we will lift the words off the page and give them life through SPOKEN WORD -- poetry! In Unit 4, we will further explore the year-long theme of communication. As we learn to read and analyze poetry through literary and poetic devices, students will be reminded once again the importance and power of specific, purposeful words when communicating. After classroom discussions about the difference between sympathy (simplified: "I feel for you") and empathy (simplified: "I feel with you"), students will respond to the driving question, "How can I move sympathy to empathy?" when working on their deliverables.

After learning how to analyze and empathize with a poet's experience, students will be asked to create an original poem carefully choosing words that *move* their audience to empathize with them. Our project for the poetry unit will have two parts: 1) Students will create an original poem, applying what they learned by reading and analyzing poetry in class. They will each memorize and present their poems in class. 2) In groups, students will create poetry journal that include the original poems written by their peers. Each group member will write an analysis of a peer's original poem. We will also have graduate students from the prestigious UC Irvine's MFA program to speak to students about how to workshop their poems and what it takes to produce a professional literary journal. In addition, for our Spring Exhibition, students will perform their original poems during an open mike session at Exhibition Night. We look forward sharing an evening full of SNAPS with you!

Wendy Cha

Principles of Engineering.

Every machine that is controlled by a computer bases every operation on data and instructions that were designed by an engineer, technician, or end user. Designers must think through every contingency and all that can go wrong. In addition safeguards must be in place so that people and equipment are not damaged. During the months of January and February students continue working on programming. They will work in teams to create a solution to one of seven real life problems.

Kat Ramos



wish list

ALGEBRA 2: rulers, pencil sharpeners, scotch tape, masking tape, rubber bands

SPANISH 2: staples, paper clips, scotch tape, duct tape, Kleenex

CHEMISTRY: metal rulers, shovel, meter sticks, and duct tape WORLD HISTORY:

colored card stock, Kleenex, paper towels, 12-pack colored pencils

ENGLISH: paper towels, boxes of tissues

POE: white note cards, wood glue, rulers

ASL: black pens, hard candies, Bath & Body Works 1.5 oz. room perfume



Take on the Challenge!

Students should be aware that the content in this semester will be more challenging than the content at the beginning of the year. This will require continued effort from those students who have demonstrated a strong work ethic. It will require of other students, particularly those who struggled with Accountability, to improve their work ethics both inside and outside the classroom.

We want to remind students that mastery comes from deliberate and reflective thought and actions. It takes a lot of hard work and effort in order to meet goals and along this path will come the many successes and failures that are all part of the learning process.

Spanish 2.

¡Feliz año nuevo a todos! ¡Bienvenidos nuevamente! Second semester of Spanish 2 will continue to challenge student's ability to: speak, read, collaborate, communicate and write in Spanish. The culture essential skill will also be assed this semester. This semester students will begin reading short novels in Spanish. These novels will help students reinforce the vocabulary development and speaking skills.

Here are some tips for being a successful reader:

- Underline / highlight vocabulary words that you don't know
- As you read, find words that are cognates and try to make sense of what is being said
- Paraphrase in English on the margins
- Review the vocabulary words at home every night

The first project for Spanish 2 students will focus on the student's ability to write a short story using the preterit and imperfect verb tense.

Español 1 honores:

¡Feliz año nuevo a todos! ¡Bienvenidos nuevamente! Este semestre continuaremos trabajando en una serie de presentaciones en las cuales los alumnos demostraran su entendimiento del idioma. Es importante mencionar que para muchos de los alumnos fue difícil dominar (algunos o todos) los conceptos gramaticales y por lo tanto continuaremos desarrollándolos aún más.

En la siguiente unidad leeremos "La Casa en Mango Street" por Sandra Cisneros. La novela se trata de una joven latina que vive en un barrio en Chicago. Atreves de esta lectura, los alumnos estarán desarrollando el análisis de la lectura y la escritura.

Erika Magaña

American Sign Language.

THUMBS UP!! and a big welcome back to all ASL students. Last semester we learned about important events and people who made great contributions to American society, we developed core language competencies such as fingerspelling, signing, facial expression and grammar in American Sign Language and learned to sign songs and frozen texts. This spring, expect to learn even more about communication, cultures, comparisons and communities.

First Project

American Sign Language plays a central role-as all spoken languages do-in the context of understanding the culture of the people who use it to communicate. As with spoken languages where words are often pronounced differently by speakers with different backgrounds, American Sign Language have similar variation factors. Students will explore several types of sign formation and variations and evaluate their influence on American Sign Language and Deaf culture. ASL II and ASL III students will observe and interview Deaf persons to learn about their background and investigate how the signs they use are influenced by age, gender, racial/ethnicity and region. Students will produce a 3-5 minute video of their experience applying related sign vocabulary, descriptive verbs and appropriate grammar structure.

Announcements: Washington D.C. Gallaudet Field trip interest forms will be distributed by Feb 1, 2015 to poll student interest for travel April 2016.

D'yann Crosby



TEACHER CONTACT INFO:

We are an email-friendly school, so this will be our primary mode of parent communication. Please make sure the front office has your correct parent email information on file.

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As an added measure of student support, teachers hold office hours Monday-Thursday, from 8-9am. In order to be admitted, students must be inside the main building by 8:10am. (Please see last page for the schedule)

Remember, attending office hours is not a "magic solution" to helping students improve mastery of the content – they will only be helpful if students are willing to use them effectively. As we start second semester, here are two tips to utilize office hours fully:

- Students should come to Office Hours with at least two specific questions or problems prepared. These questions/problems should have been at least attempted. Students do not necessarily have to write them down, but they should be able to verbalize them when asked to enter/stay in Office Hours.
- Family members can chat with their students on the way to school to help them begin to formulate questions and answers to bring to Office Hours and to assist them in focusing on what they need to study and review.

Chemistry.

The first semester was a blast and I cannot wait to begin the projects of the second semester. I know that every student can be successful this semester, which is why I will be communicating the expectation to students that <u>ALL students will be expected</u> to demonstrate at least a basic understanding, a grade of a "C", in ALL EKS, Habits of Mind, and 21st Century Skills.

Our first project of the semester will be looking at the properties of various materials and advances that have been made in these properties. With our needs as a society growing and new ideas for technological advancements continuing to be generated, scientists and engineers feel a pressure to improve upon the materials that are currently available. Students will select a recent advancement in material properties, compare it to the current/past technologies, and explain these properties with references to the forces that hold together atoms and molecules. Moving on from this unit, we will cover the topics of atomic structure, nuclear power, and thermochemistry.

Josh Thomson

World History.

We are just beginning our unit on Imperialism as we explore the driving question, "How should we balance issues of economics and morality when making decisions?" Students will investigate the historical causes of Imperialism and its effect on the colonizers and colonized populations. We will then explore the current consequences of these events and apply the Imperialism model to a modern day look at neocolonialism and its global intended and unintended effects.

We will also look more closely look at global sweatshops and then hold a group discussion determining who is responsible for them.

This semester, we will also have an increased focus on primary resource analysis. The ability to create meaning from analyzing documents and data is an important skill that students will need throughout their high school and college careers. We will practice these skills in this first unit and build upon them throughout the semester.

Julie Ichiroku

Algebra 2.

Happy New Year everyone!! We are in for a challenging but meaningful second semester of Algebra. We will be tackling many new topics such as exponential functions, logarithmic functions, inverses, higher level probability & statistics, and multivariable algebra. It is work ethic that will be the telltale sign of your child's success, so please check up on them daily to see how their progress is going.

"Math with a Message"

We will be starting with a project on exponential functions and how they show up in the real world, such as in population, technology, health, music, and other areas that are still to be discovered. Your children will work in teams to build a stopmotion animation that details a certain exponential real world function and how it is either dangerous or beautiful. They will be posting the work on different social media sites to illicit responses from the community at large. It will be approximately six weeks long and will test their strengths in functions, exponential functions, collaboration, technology, and presentation. It possibly could be the project for Exhibition Night.

Frank Divinagracia



Remember, you can view your student's grades online!

https://davincischools.powerschool.com

Please contact the school if you need your login information.

team ten office hours

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS
ENGLISH Wendy Cha	•			
ALGEBRA 2 Frank Divinagracia			•	•
SPANISH Erika Magaña		•		•
CHEMISTRY Josh Thomson	•	•		
WORLD HISTORY Julie Ichiroku	•		•	
POE Kat Ramos		•	•	
SIGN LANGUAGE D'yann Crosby		•		•
RESOURCE Lila Kalaf	•	•	•	•