

Second Quarter
December 2009



WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Crusader Team News



In reading class this quarter we have begun reading

novels together as a class. My morning classes are reading When a Hero Dies, and my afternoon classes are reading My Brother Sam is Dead. This is a great way to have some class discussions on a book that we are all reading, and it helps to pull reading strategies from them as well. Reminder that students still need to be doing reading every week for their reading sheets, and these novels can count on these sheets as well. As the time is flying by until our winter break, please reinforce the importance of nightly homework to finish the quarter strong.

Mrs. Armstrong
Mrs. Lawson
-Reading



We have been very busy this quarter in English!

The morning classes have been reading *An American Plague*, a book about the yellow fever of 1793 in Philadelphia. We will be writing our next essay on a topic from this book. The afternoon classes have been doing career research. We are currently writing our essays about the careers we are interested in. Grammar also continues to be part of our daily routine. The rest of the quarter will be packed as we prepare for first semester exams. Please continue to stress the importance of completing work on time.

Ashley Stone
Sarah Alf
-English



Mr. Young and Mrs. Hensley's science classes are currently

studying heredity and genetics. Students will be creating bugs using marshmallows, gumdrops, toothpicks, and pipe cleaners. In science, students are using Punnett squares to determine the probability of certain traits, such as a widow's peak or detached earlobes. Students are looking forward to studying about evolution, which is coming up next!

Sam Young
Virginia Hensley
-Science



In Mr. Barger and Ms. Randolph's history class we are still

keeping a strong focus on new vocabulary. Students are currently working through the events of the Revolutionary War and gaining an understanding of how America became an independent nation. To conclude the war and evaluate what students have learned, they will be taking a chapter test. Students will then begin to explore the process that our Founding Fathers went through to create a new government and write the Constitution. Although the Constitution was written over two hundred years ago, students will discover that the Constitution still applies to today's world. At the end of second quarter students will be given exams over material from first and second quarter. Students will be given three days to complete a review packet and study for the exam. We thank you for all of your efforts and feel free to contact us

with any questions.
Matt Barger and
Carolyn Randolph
-U.S. History



Ms. Beyer's reading class is currently reading a class novel, Freak the

Mighty. The students are really enjoying the book and learning a ton of new vocabulary! We are focusing on understanding characterization (types of characters, character traits, etc.) and building comprehension skills. The students are really doing a great job of working hard and staying focused; I am very proud of them! I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday season!

Jen Beyer
-Reading Specialist



This quarter we have been working on equations includ-

ing Pythagorean Thm. and linear equations! Students have also completed a unit with inequalities and will continue to work on word/story problems. **ALL** students need their own supply of graph paper as we work our way through the remaining part of the quarter. First semester exams will be in January. Please look for your child to bring home a large review packet, most of which will be completed in class! We are looking forward to our geometry unit at the beginning of third quarter.

Kristin Kwiat
Kim Wagle
-Math



In Art class the students have been

working hard on their Two-point Perspective City project. We are now working on the final version of the city. We've had a problem lately with students not bringing pencils to class; please make sure that students have pencils in order to work. All of the clay "Mugheads" have been bisque fired in the kiln and are now ready for the glaze. Both the Tapestry weaving and the Mugheads should be making their way home for the holidays soon!

Lisa Walle
-Art



The Holiday Concert is around the corner! Monday, December

14th the Wilson Choirs, featuring *Concert Choir*, *Chorale*, and *Cutting Edge*, will present their Holiday Concert at 6:30 & 7:30p.m. in the Garfield Auditorium. Call time for all groups is 6:00p.m., and the students must be dressed in their concert attire (please refer to the Choir Handbook for complete concert attire). Please plan on attending only one of the performances and please plan on transportation home at the end of the evening (8:10p.m.). Due to the overwhelming support the past few years we had to add another performance because there was not enough room in the auditorium for everyone. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mr. Anderson.

David Anderson
-Chorale