

SMS Grade 6 Newsletter September 9, 2022



Take a look to see what we've been working on so far!

Social Studies: Mr. Codair

Welcome to 6th grade! We are looking forward to opening up our geography unit soon with a detailed tour of NH! Stay on the lookout for our NH Great Escape paper coming up where students will detail a trip around NH based on local attractions, and roadways. Excited to get this year going!

Language Arts: Mrs. Dowe

We're off to a great start! Last week students worked on building their reading and writing routines. Students all received a reading log with the goal to read 20 minutes a day or 600 minutes a month. We explored the differences between a fixed and growth mindset and using positive self-talk to persevere through challenges. This week we learned about how students from different parts of the world (India, Morocco, Argentina, and Africa) travel to school and began watching the documentary *On the Way to School*. Next week, students will work on their first persuasive writing piece, persuading others to watch the documentary.

Math: Mr. Felch

During the first week of school students did a problem in math class that allowed me to guess their birthday, if they did the problem correctly. This was a great way to introduce algebraic thinking and let the students know that a lot of what we do in 6th grade helps prepare them to think algebraically. We also talked about how math can be frustrating sometimes. I let students know that frustration in math is natural and it means that our brain is making connections.

Library Media: Mrs. Harter

During the first week of school students spent time getting to know the makerspace room. They were asked to work in small groups to complete a task. The task was to build a model of something that flies out of the materials they were given. At the end of class, we discussed obstacles the group had to overcome, as well as design challenges. Ask your child to explain makerspace!

Science: Mrs. Hopkins

This year students will be using a science notebook. We are working on setting them up and jumping into reviewing common science and engineering practices. This week's focus is making observations and inferences.

Special Education Case Manager: Ms. Zammer

This school year is off to a great start! It has been nice getting to know your student. Please know that I am available to help all students and I regularly consult with the team of teachers. Feel free to contact me anytime.

Reminders:

- Ecology School forms and payment are due Sept. 23rd. Use the following website to fill out online registration and health forms.
- Please start turning in sold raffle calendars, so we may keep track of the number sold.
- Please return your computer use forms ASAP so that we may begin using Chromebooks in class.

At-Home Conversation Starters you can ask your kids:

- What book are you currently reading?
- What steps do you take to get ready in the morning for school?
- What is the difference between a growth mindset and a fixed mindset?
- What are some examples of positive self-talk?
- What is makerspace?
- What is a ratio?
- What is required each day for math class?
- Where have you been in NH?
- What geographic landforms do you know?
- What steps can you take to solve a problem?

Contact Information:

Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions, concerns, or if you need any help accessing PowerSchool.

Social Studies: Andrew Codair acodair@sau21.org

Language Arts: Alyssa Dowe adowe@sau21.org

Math: Joshua Felch jfelch@sau21.org

Library Media: Susan Harter sharter@sau21.org

Science: Lauren Hopkins lhopkins@sau21.org

Special Education Case Manager: Joanne Zammer jzammer@sau21.org