





**7th Grade-** Will be starting our Photo editing unit using Adobe Photoshop. Students will be challenged to edit and combine photos using a variety of tools and methods in order to create unique images and enhance others.





8th Grade- Are learning how to cite online sources using the MLA format and beginning the research phase of a major project of their choosing. Students could be 3d printing a customized object for the school, Creating a 3d game using Alice 3, or designing and constructing a robot, or creating an app.

Check out the Technology website for more information at: <u>https://sites.google.com/canterburypublicschools.org/dhbmstechnologywebsite/home</u>



**5th + 6th Grade** - Are reinforcing their fundamentals in music with piano, music history, and music journals. **7th + 8th Grade** - Are expanding on their self-efficacy through guitar studies, music history, and popular music.

**Concert Band** - members of this beginning band are elevating their self-discipline and responsibility through student leadership, organization, and consistent practicing. They are studying their method books hard as

they embark on new journeys with new instruments.



**Choir** - members of the Choir are forging a positive relationship with music and singing as they build skills in their warm-ups, song games, and winter repertoire.

**Symphonic Band** - members of the advanced band are rocking it! Building on the momentum of last year, the band has already powered through their beginning methods and is on track to perform at least 2 pieces for our Winter Preview.







Both 5th and 6th grades have learned how to use SUPER SCIENCE, an online magazine published by Scholastic. They have explored the site, and now they are using it for assignments. The students love the current science articles, fascinating photos, short videos to introduce topics, speech to text options, options for leveled text, and even interactive learning games. Link to Super Science

I have also introduced students to my PBIS classroom store. Our first raffle is going on now. Ask your child about it. In my room students can shop at my store on Day 6 (5C is Day 5). On the same day, we will also have a circle group reward decisions and timely topics.

### Social Studies Grades 5 & 6



Grade 5 social studies students are learning about the Age of Exploration. Europeans begin to sail around the world looking to establish trading partnerships as well as spreading Christianity around the globe.



Grade 6 social studies students are now learning about Japan and the Koreas. From Shoguns and Samurai to high tech industries, Japan and South Korea are two small nations that are both a power house in the world of manufacturing.



Reading Class! - Grade 5

Students are working in reading stations covering concepts in vocabulary, fiction, and nonfiction texts. In writing, students continue to improve their writing skills by composing personal narratives. They are very excited to start writing a spooky tale!

## Grade 6 Reading and Writing

Grade 6 students are continuing to write and revise their personal narratives. We have worked on writing interesting hooks to get our readers into our stories, setting the scenes with descriptive and sensory details. We have learned how to write an ending that wraps up the story and the main character makes a realization or learns something. Work is progressing. We will be taking a short break from personal narratives, and write some scary not gory tales. In Reading classes, students are reading *The Egypt Game*, *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*, and *Bridge to Terabithia*. We are working our way through the books looking for actions, dialogue, relationships, choices, and problems that the main characters may experience. Using that information to write about the characters.



The "math daily riddle" has been a big hit with the students. They earn a Bulldog Buck if they answer correctly!

Grade 5 has transitioned into Fractions. Starting with equivalent fractions and working our way into adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions. They really enjoyed using the fraction rods and solving the riddles.

Grade 6 is still working on Decimals. For the past couple of weeks, we have been multiplying decimals. It has proven to be challenging, but they are getting there! The next step will be dividing decimals.

Mrs. Farland is due to return to the classroom on Oct. 25th. I will remain in the classroom during the transition for a few days.



Eighth grade students jumped right into geometry at the start of this year, first reviewing points in a coordinate plane, and moving right into rigid transformations such as reflections, translations, and rotations. They most recently discovered how doctors use computer software AND a series of transformations to map MRI images onto a replacement kneecap. Next up in 8th grade math are non-rigid transformations such as dilations and scale factor.



#### The first <u>Second Step</u> unit in 7th grade is all about Mindsets and Goals:

Students learn how to develop a growth mindset and apply research-based goal-setting strategies to their social and academic lives. This unit helps students set and achieve collective and personal goals, learn from challenges, recognize their personal strengths, and explore the unique aspects of their identities.

The goals of this unit include students being able to:

- Recognize that social challenges are common during adolescence and often get better in time with support from others
- Try new things and take on difficult tasks
- Determine how to adjust, persist, or change course after making a mistake
- Identify roadblocks to achieving goals and generate If–Then Plans that include appropriate strategies for responding to them



#### Second Step Grade 8

This month, 8th graders will complete the unit on developing growth mindsets and setting goals. They interviewed each other to discuss a current interest. Students identified past roadblocks in the way of achieving success in that interest. They then discussed how they used their individual strengths to overcome those roadblocks. Next, 8th graders identified future interests they would like to pursue in high school. Based on past experiences, they considered possible roadblocks, and planned how to use their strengths to achieve success.



It is hard to believe that we are halfway through October. Our focus on positive student behavior has gotten off to a huge success-- I have loved having pizza with students for lunch and have had a good number of students sign up for lunch with me as a reward for their hard work and efforts. My favorite part of my job is when I have a chance to spend time with our students outside of their classroom- having lunch with them, joining them for a game of Gagaball, or even chatting with them in the hallways.

As our school year continues, please know that my priority as principal of Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School is that every student feels a connection to our school and knows that they have someone who has their back through thick and thin. If there is anything I can do to better support your student or family, please reach out to me! Go Bulldogs!

# GO BULLDOGS!

