



## TECHNOLOGY



**ALL GRADES:** Continue to develop their typing skills on [www.typing.com](http://www.typing.com) and have been encouraged to practice at home 10-15 minutes every day if they have the time. Encourage your child to use the home row and good posture when practicing at home!



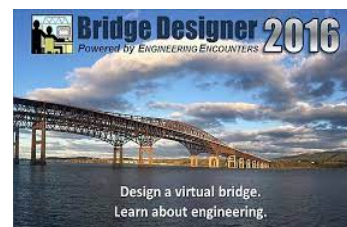
**5th Grade-** Students have been finalizing their robotics unit projects with Dash and Dot our two programmable robots. Students are challenged to move dash to and from a specific location in the room to another and program Dot to sing a song!

**6th Grade-** Students are finalizing their HTML greeting card project. Students have learned some of the basic elements of html that allow them to insert images and text.



**7th Grade** Students are in the process of completing their Final Scratch project. They will be presenting their finalized program to the class.

**8th Grade** Students will be finalizing their bridge designs using the West Point Bridge designer program.



Check out the Technology website for more information at:

<https://sites.google.com/canterburypublicschools.org/dhbmstechnologywebsite/home>

## MUSIC



**All Students** are finishing their final unit on Music Composition. Using a score-writing program called FLAT, they are composing their own pieces to show off to each other!

**Rock Band and Jazz Band** hit the ground running perfecting one song at a time for their Spring Concert TBA in May.

Both **Symphonic** and **Concert Band** strive for excellence as they receive their full repertoire for their concert in the spring!



**Heads Up:** We are re-making our official Music Program Website, to be up and running by NEXT newsletter. Stay frosty!

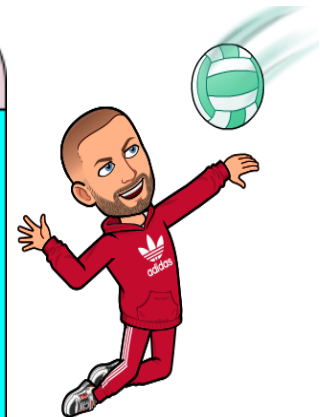


*What is happening?* VOLLEYBALL IS HAPPENING!

**Skills we are working on:**

- ☐ Bumping and Setting
- ☐ Serving
- ☐ Rotations
- ☐ Strategies

In addition, 7th and 8th graders are learning the Spike and Spike Block!

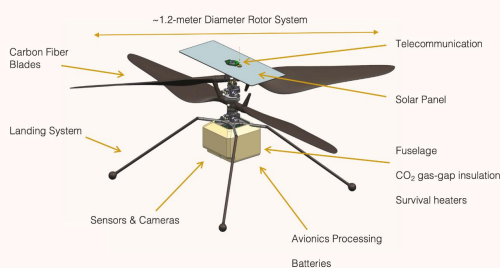


Don't forget! Your Unified Arts ("Specials") classes switch over next Wednesday!  
WOOOOOOHOOOOO!



**IN OTHER NEWS:** For the fourth time this year, students in Physical Education are peer teaching other students skills pertaining to the current unit of volleyball! Some things students are working on is providing other students with visual and verbal instructions, as well as peer-monitoring others to provide them with congruent and positive feedback!

**Anatomy of Mars Helicopter**



**Science with Mrs. Waters**

**5th Grade-** We are looking at why airplanes can not fly to space. Air pressure effects the way we fly. On Mars the atmosphere is thinner, so Jet Propulsion Labs worked with NASA to create the Ingenuity Helicopter in 2020. We tested our own paper helicopters in class.



[VIDEO LINK: MARS HELICOPTER ENGENUITY](#)

80 MERCURY



Mercury is a deadly liquid element that causes damage to the nervous system.

Hg

**6th Grade-** After researching atoms and molecules, students are researching an element of their choice. They are creating an artistically, informative poster starring a character who highlights the physical and chemical properties of their element. Here is a sample for Mercury-Hg.



[INTERACTIVE PERIODIC TABLE](#)

## Social Studies Grades 5 & 6



**Grade 5: Students are continuing to learn about the Revolutionary War. We are now approaching the writing and signing of The Declaration of Independence.**



**Grade 6: Students are learning about Central America and the island nations of the Caribbean. The western side of Central America is part of “The Ring of Fire”, with more than 70 active volcanoes. The lesser antilles of the Caribbean also have 21 active volcanoes.**

### **GRADE 5 READING AND WRITING**

#### **Simple strategies for creating strong readers (part 1)**

1. Let your child choose what to read.
2. Talk about what they are reading, what was their favorite part so far?
3. If your child is struggling or bored with a book, let them put it down and maybe pick another.
4. Subscribe to a magazine that interests them.

In reading class, students will continue to work in stations focusing on plot, text structure, and theme. In a few weeks, students will take the iready diagnostic test which will measure their progress from September. In writing class, students will finish the poetry unit and will be introduced to opinion writing focusing on the organizational structure of an opinion piece.



## Grade 6 Reading and Writing



Sixth grade writers are embarking on the study and writing of the literary essay. We are essentially writing about reading. This will lead to comparing and contrasting essays. We will be working on this for the next few weeks. Sixth grade readers are currently tackling the novels of Jerry Spinelli, Lois Lowry, and Margaret Peterson Haddix. Some students are reading Maniac Magee, others are reading Number the Stars, and others are reading Among the Hidden. Each book has different themes and issues. We've discussed myth, legend, and legacy and how they are different. We've discussed the Holocaust and we have discussed the population control in reference to the novels. Students are eager to continue reading. Please encourage your 6th grader reader to read!

$\frac{5}{6}$  Math

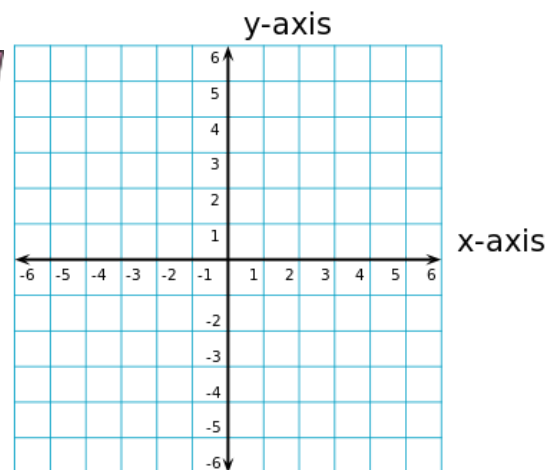


6th grade- We are finishing up Positive and Negative Numbers, Absolute Value, and Coordinate Plane.

Starting next round of stations soon....

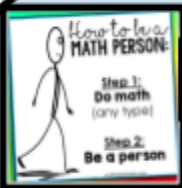
5th Grade- We are finishing up Coordinate Planes. Students are practicing their newly learned skills in Battleship.

Next round of stations coming soon....



# GO BULLDOGS!



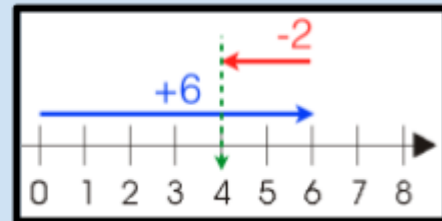


## ← Grades 7 & 8 Math



### Grade 7

To start the new year, seventh graders have been exploring addition and subtraction of positive and negative numbers using number lines, chip counters, and previous number sense. Using a tool such as a number line gives students an important visual representation of the outcome of integer addition or subtraction. Students also discovered that subtracting is the same as adding the opposite of a number!



### Grade 8

Eighth grade students have begun a study of solving equations using opposite operations. We began with simple one-step equations, and have built up our skills to include using Distributive property, combining like terms, and inverse operations to solve complex multi-step equations! We will continue to work with equations, before moving into Functions next month.

**Simplify and Solve**

Example:  $3x + 2(2x - 1) = 33$

1. Use Distributive Property  

$$3x + 4x - 2 = 33$$

$$7x - 2 = 33$$
2. Combine Like terms  

$$7x - 2 = 33$$

$$+2 \quad +2$$

$$7x = 35$$
3. Use Inverse Operations  

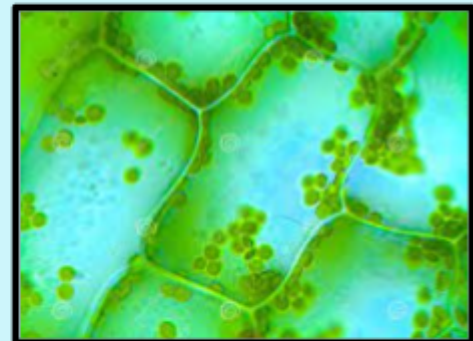
$$\frac{7x}{7} = \frac{35}{7}$$

$$x = 5$$



## Grade 7 & 8

Seventh and 8th grade students have finished the unit on Cell Parts and Functions. Students have looked at Elodea, a leaf of an aquarium plant, to watch chloroplasts tumble along the cell wall (pictured below on the right). They were able to see photosynthesis in action!! Additionally, Students observed cheek cells and onion cells, creating some amazing cell drawings. Students are now understanding how the cell membrane functions through observing bubbles. Ask your student about The Bubble Lab! This month we will be starting out unit on genetics!!



7th Grade: **7th graders are continuing our coverage of the continent of Africa. We have been focusing on precolonial Africa. Students created a climate map of Africa, learned some vocabulary and basic cultural concepts related to Africa, and then created and analyzed a slideshow on different pre colonial cultures. Next we will study the impact of the slave trade and imperialism on Africa.**



8th Grade: **8th graders finished our coverage of the US Constitution. We analyzed primary sources on the Federalist Papers, analyzed the Bill of Rights, and did a mock Supreme Court Debate. Students are currently completing a newspaper project on the Constitution and will then move on to the first presidents.**



## Spanish - 7 & 8

7th grade- We will continue our unit on school. Our projects on school schedules are due early this month. By mid month we will finish up our unit.

8th grade- We will continue our unit on school and review grammar points as well as verbs and subjects. We will learn about irregular verbs and end our unit by mid to late month.

All students should be consistently reviewing their vocabulary packet every day (as little as 5 min), even on days where we don't have assigned homework.

## Reading / Writing - 8th Grade



**Reading:** In reading, students finished their book clubs and are moving to exploring dystopian literature. Students will be investigating what flaws in society authors are trying to show.  
**Writing:** Students are exploring topics that can be argued in order to develop thesis statements and write a research paper.

**I am so proud to see how hard everyone is working!**

## Reading / Writing - 7th Grade



Seventh graders are doing a great job with their Independent Reading! Every time they finish a class book or an independent reading book, they add a link to our book chain. We are already a quarter of the way around the room. As a group, we are reading Linda Sue Park's novel, *A Long Walk to Water*, based on a true story about the water crisis in Sudan.

In Writing, students are completing their Independent Information pieces. Far-ranging and fascinating topics include squirrels, hedgehogs, dogs, hamsters, judo, dance, the inventor of electronic television, soccer controversies, how to build a motocross jump, how to build a tree fort, and how to buy a truck! For the upcoming Publication Celebration, we decided to create a digital document containing all 54 of the pieces.

# SECOND STEP®

## 8th grade

Eighth graders took a one-week break from Second Step classes to create amazing snowmen for our Door Decorating Competition. (Shout out to Mrs. McQuade's Homeroomers for winning in Grade 8!)

During the month of January, 8th graders will complete the Bullying and Harassment Unit by learning strategies to prevent and disrupt bullying and harassment.

By the end of January, students will begin Unit 3: Thoughts, Emotions, and Decisions. The first class examines how stress and anxiety impacts students' lives.



## Mrs. Zuckerman's Rectangle



*8th graders are on their way to high school registration!*

*Please complete and return the Permission to Register form as soon as possible. This is a very important first step to high school decisions and registration. Parents received several communications about this form. Please contact me if you need help accessing it.*

**NFA registration has begun. If you have not created an account to begin the process and need help, let me know.**

**Woodstock Academy will have a parent information night in person and virtually. If your student will be attending Woodstock, I encourage you to attend one of these sessions to learn about the registration process. Parents were sent communication on how to access these information sessions.**

#### **Student Success Planning**

STUDENTS IN ALL GRADES WORKED ON GOAL SETTING IN ACADEMIC, CAREER AND SOCIAL EMOTIONAL AREAS  
7TH AND 8TH GRADERS TOOK CAREER SURVEYS THAT LEAD THEM TO AREAS OF INTERESTS AND STRENGTHS  
ALL GRADES WILL CONTINUE TO WORK ON CAREER DEVELOPMENT IN THE COMING MONTHS



Boy, 2022 has already been a busy year! With our first snowstorm of the year, and our work to keep our students healthy and in school, 2022 is off and running.

Each year, January offers us a unique opportunity to reset ourselves, to set new personal goals, and to work to better ourselves. As we settle into a new year, think of ways in which you can work with your students to set resolutions for improvement around our school's core values: Respect, Responsibility, and Community.

**Respect-** Discuss a resolution with your student that focuses on how they can better respect themselves or their peers this year; maybe consider ways in which your student can help their peers feel calm and respectful during challenging situations.

**Responsibility-** Work with your student to identify an area of responsibility that they can improve upon. Can they set a goal for completing projects early? Can they commit to completing chores and homework before watching TV? What is a way in which they can increase their responsibility this year?

**Community-** Have your student set a resolution around how they can give back to their community. Consider setting a goal for increasing their service to organizations such as the library, the fire department, or your local church.

As always BMS families, thank you for your hard work and diligence. Let's all resolve to continue to work with our students in increasing their commitment to being respectful and responsible community-oriented students.

Have a great month!