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Coordinator's Message

It seems like it was just yesterday that we were welcoming students back from summer vacation, but marking period one has come to an end. We have done a lot this marking period. Students have settled in and adjusted to Hoboken Middle School. Report cards will be posted in Genesis next week.

Congratulations to Arianna Santiago, one of the winners of the Veterans Day

Essay Contest. Her essay about her uncle is included in this issue. It is quite a tribute.

Our first Town Hall Meeting was held last week. Students were honored for a variety of achievements such as, Random Act of Kindness and Personal Growth. It was very successful and we are excited about holding these meetings once a month. The teachers worked very hard to put

this together; I thank them all for their dedication to our program and most importantly to the students.

We are looking forward to an even more challenging 2nd marking period, and continuing to build on the rigor, relevance and relationships started in the first marking period.

Thank you for your continued support of our program.

—Tara Donnelly

Upcoming Events

- November 16th**—End of first marking period
- November 23rd**—Report cards available through the Parent Portal in Genesis
- November 23rd**—1:00 pm dismissal
- November 24th, 25th**—School closed for Thanksgiving

Veterans Day Essay Contest

Congratulations to Arianna Santiago, 8th grader, for winning Hoboken's Veterans Day Essay Contest, sponsored by the city and Mayor Dawn Zimmer! Way to go, Arianna! You make us very proud! Read her essay on page 4.



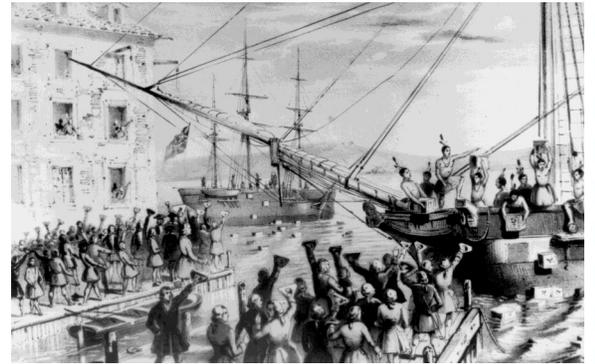
“May our land be a land of liberty, the seat of virtue, the asylum of the oppressed, a name and a praise in the whole Earth, until the last shock of time shall bury the empires of the whole world in one common undistinguished ruin!”

— Joseph Warren

The Shot Heard 'Round the World

In Mr. Taglieri’s Grade 7 social studies classes, students are exploring the origins of the American Revolution. They learned about the Battle of Bunker Hill, and of the early fighting at Concord and Lexington. They also learned of the steps taken by colonists prior to the revolution, in hopes of avoiding armed conflict.

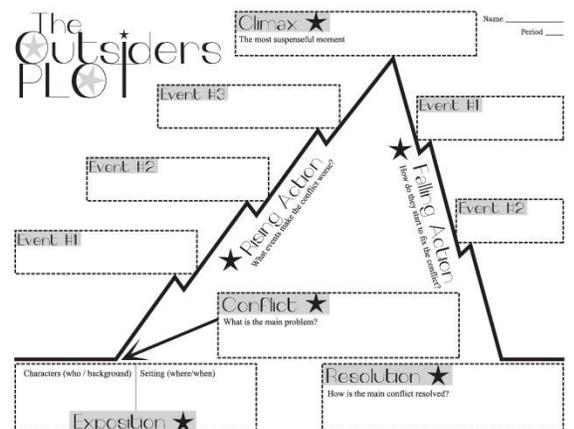
In order to really understand what the colonists endured, students wrote letters to King George III of England, to state their view that they should be entitled to the same rights as British citizens, but were not getting treated that way. They asked him to stop the undue oppression by Great Britain, and tried to persuade him to avoid armed conflict.



Discovering the Theme through Plot

This week in Ms. Geleailen’s classes, students are working to understand one of the major themes of *The Outsiders*. They are using this plot diagram to uncover the fact that the violence between these two social groups leaves no winners. Their lives are separated by money, and neighborhoods, but they find that they have more in common than they would have originally thought.

Through sequencing events, cause and effect, and inference techniques the students are discovering theme.



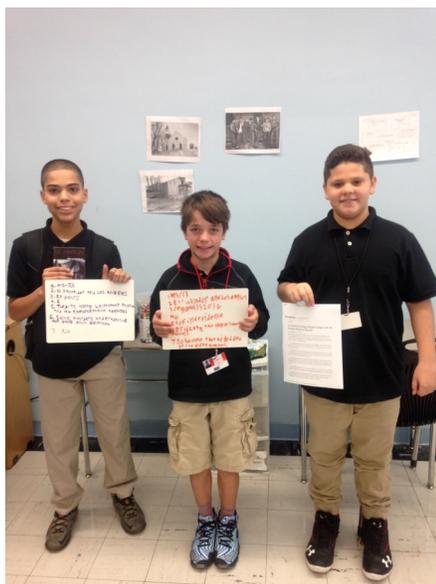
Announcing: Town Hall Meetings!!!!

Hoboken Middle School has implemented a program where teachers hold a “Town Hall Meeting” once a month to highlight student excellence. The objective here is to reinforce positive behavior and work ethic in and out of the classroom. Our 7th and 8th graders will receive certificates on a monthly basis for the following recognitions:

- Overall Student of the Month
- Exceptional Student in Project Lead the Way
- Exceptional Student in Social Studies
- Exceptional Student in Science
- Exceptional Student in Math
- Exceptional Student in English
- Night Write Award
- Random Acts of Kindness Award
- Personal Growth Award



Real Life Connections

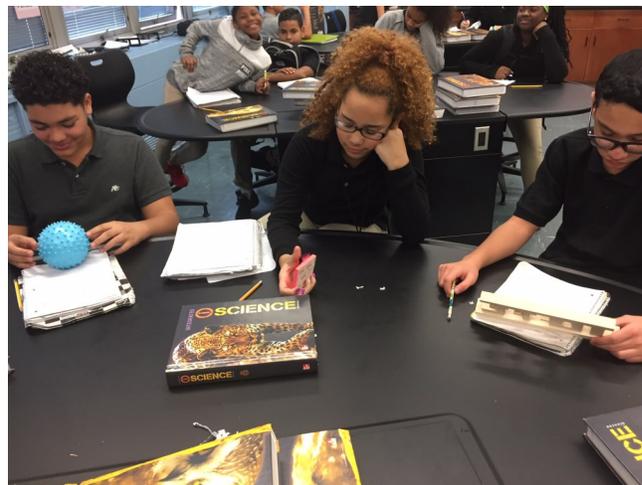


This week, 7th grade students in English class discussed the differences between individual and group identity. They also read an article and watched a news clip about recent gang violence in Suffolk County, Long Island and made connections to the violence exemplified in *The Outsiders*.

Students in Mr. Joffe's science class are using physical properties and chemical properties to describe random classroom items. Some examples of physical properties are texture, color, shape, hardness, and luster. Chemical properties are reactivity and flammability.

Physical Properties

Students in Mr. Joffe's science class are using physical properties and chemical properties to describe random classroom items. Some examples of physical properties are texture, color, shape, hardness, and luster. Chemical properties are reactivity and flammability.



Veterans Day

by Arianna Santiago

Veterans Day. What is it? Why do we celebrate? Why does it matter? To many, the answers to these questions have been forgotten. To others, it's just a day off from school. But to me, it means something more. Veterans are more than just forgotten battle heroes or someone to think of sympathetically for a moment, only to return to your daily lives a second later. They're mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters, sons, daughters, husbands, and wives. They are people; ordinary people doing something extraordinary for the sake of people they don't know. And I happen to be lucky enough to personally know one. My uncle, Felix Santiago, is a Vietnam veteran. And he is one of the best people I know.

My uncle Felix is simply and truly amazing. He fought in the Vietnam war, which lasted from 1954 to April 30, 1975. He fought bravely and tirelessly for his country, so we can have the freedom to do and say as we please. Not only did he fight in the war, but he was also worked for the fire department for most of his adult life. He has spent almost all his life protecting people, selflessly and bravely. But I didn't know him as a war vet, and I didn't know him as a fire chief. He was my uncle, my Tio Felix. I know him for his war stories and how he would act out every part, making me laugh and stand on the edge of seat. I know him as someone who never failed to give me mac' and cheese when I was little, every time I went over. I know him for telling me embarrassing stories about my dad when he was little, and how all of them would ride four wheelers down the shore. I know him for making the best breakfast for the whole family when we're down the shore, and always saving me some because I hate waking up early. He's the man that welcomes everyone into his home and never complains when they stay late. He's the one who makes the best hot dogs, and always makes sure I had some. And he's the man who never failed to make me laugh with his absolutely spot-on Donald Duck impression, complete with a signature catch phrase. And that's what makes him and so many others like him amazing. It's the fact that someone can risk their life, one of, if not the most, selfless acts known to man, and still manage to continue to give, even if it's just making one little girl happy.

So that's what Veterans day is to me. It's honoring those amazing people who lived an even more amazing life. It's taking time to give credit to the thousands of men just like my uncle, who live boldly and bravely. He's a veteran, and is the reason I have the freedom to write this very essay, sharing his and my story. Which, in its most condensed form, is that he spends all of his life making other people's better. Which, in my opinion, is the most extraordinary thing someone can do. And that's exactly what my uncle, and other veterans are: extraordinary.

Contact Us

We are happy to communicate with you to help your children achieve. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our staff at the email addresses listed below. You can also email teachers from within the Genesis Parent Portal. If you need to call the school, our number is (201) 356-3750.

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