

THE ROOST REPORTER

The Newsletter of Record for Sixth Grade

Feb. 1, 2019

Happy Half-Way Day!



This week we passed the half-way mark in our school year (and the half-way mark in your child's final year at GCCS!). In spite of the two cold days, we have been busy and productive. In expedition, students shared their digestive system games with peers as a way of reviewing their understanding of how this system supports health across all body systems. We're now moving into nutrition and examining diets and food choices. In book club, we are about half-way through The Crossover and will take some time next week to examine the poetry of protest. We are also continuing our spelling lessons and have introduced a new speaking and listening activity to get kids ready for podcasting and interview skills on our Eight Cities trip.

We are continuing along with algebra (reminder: math menus are due Monday!) and will look at solving equations and applying these skills to some real-world problems. In the arts, capoeira continues to be the focus in PE and our musicians are busy creating short compositions for the podcasts (read more below!). In visual arts we are wrapping up our work with paint and color and moving along to some balance activities involving found objects. Passage work continues and we are deep in the research to support our topics. Next week we turn to internet research and guiding students in this important skill.



Simon Says...

- ✓ **Student-Led Conferences** - Only two weeks away! If you have not signed up, please do so through this link: [Sixth Grade Sign-Up](#)
- ✓ **Pencils**- Usually we ask for snack, but we have just about exhausted our reserves of pencils. If you can pitch in with a box or two, we'd appreciate it!
- ✓ **Whose HW is it?** - As parents, you've completed sixth grade, so the homework isn't yours, it's your child's. This includes getting signed weekly reflections back into folders and backpacks. While some kids need a little nudge (or more scaffolding!), your 11 and 12-year-old is responsible for getting HW done. Yes, check in and ask about it, put eyes on it, help if you'd like, but ultimately, we want your big kids to do the heavy lifting. Your Sixth Grade Team

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Podcast Crews Are Ready!



Sixth-graders spent a few days this week digging into our podcast work and unpacking the word "privilege" which popped up a lot in the student questions. We are narrowing down crew focus questions and will begin the hard work of research and interviews next week. Tianna Mañon, a local journalist, will kick off next week by discussing what it means to be a digital storyteller and how we can tell others' stories respectfully and honestly. We also have a tech crew which will help us with recording and sound mixing when we are ready to put it all together. Don't forget, we will be sharing our podcasts for feedback at Winter Exhibition on Wednesday, March 6th at 6:30 p.m.