

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Newsletter

Quarter 1 2018

Miguel Juarez Middle School  
201 N. Butrick Street  
Waukegan, IL 60085  
Phone: 224-303-2660



October 8 - Columbus Day (No School)  
October 9 - District Institute Day  
October 26- ENd of Quarter 1

## Message from the 8th Grade Team

As we welcome fall, the 8th grade team is excited for the upcoming month. Please be sure to note the important dates to the left as we have a lot coming up in the next few weeks, including our first round of field trips.

We would also like to remind you to sign up for the 8th grade Remind. Remind is a service that sends text messages about different 8th grade activities directly to your phone. It is one of the best ways to keep in touch with everything going on at school. To sign up, simply text @mjmscl to 81010. You can also download the Remind app from the app store.

Finally, as the weather changes, we would also like to remind families that Juarez does have a dress code. Khaki, black or navy blue bottoms and tops (including sweatshirts) must be navy or white. IDs must be worn at all times. Students that are out of dress code are subject to discipline for each occurrence. Spirit wear sweatshirts are a great way to stay warm and in dress code! Please visit the MJMS website to order.

## Teachers

### ELA

Mrs. Fuentes

Mrs. Gibbs

Mr. January

Mrs. Pinta

Mr. Rohlwing

Mrs. Seligman

Mrs. Vargas

### Mathematics

Ms. Anthony

Mr. Frantz

Mrs. Lara

Mrs. Mahachek

Mrs. Mantuano

### Science

Mrs. Lin

Ms. Tucker

Mr. Alvarado

### Social Studies

Mr. Cozzi

Mr. Bernardi

## Curriculum Corner

### English Language Arts (ELA)

**In Core**, we are beginning the year with a study of short stories. Students will use the stories to focus on various standards before we get to our first book, *Inside Out & Back Again*, which we will begin reading in October. This is the author's personal story of her life in Vietnam during the war. Students will be expected to read at home so that they are prepared for activities in class. **In Flex**, students are being introduced to Achieve3000, No Red Ink & other online platforms that will be used every week in class. We are also working on goal-setting based on MAP data.

### Math

This year, students will have two math classes: Core & Flex. The Core will use EngageNY and teach the students at the 8th grade level. Flex will use a variety of resources and meet the students at their level.

Core: EngageNY - Module 1 Exponential Notation & Scientific Notation. Assignments will include Problem Sets (from EngageNY) and Khan Academy.

Flex: Supporting the Core with Exponents, Rules of Exponents, Scientific Notation & Operations with Scientific Notation. The majority of the notes and assignments are in Google Classroom. For daily practice, students should log onto ALEKS or Khan Academy MAPpers.

### Science

This month we are focusing on how earthquakes and volcanoes impact the surface of the Earth. We will be developing models of volcanoes and earthquakes to explain how the different layers of the Earth are in constant motion and how the transfer of energy on a large scale impacts human life. Additionally, we will be working on finding the main idea of scientific text and supporting details.

### Social Studies

Students are reading, writing, and thinking critically about history through investigation of the Civil War, Reconstruction, Westward Migration, and the Industrial Age. Instruction also focuses on relating the lessons of the past to the current events of today. Students are asked to develop logical opinions of their own and share them in academic discourse.