



Sixth Grade Scoop

Free Publication

Barry School, Cortland, NY

Current Topics

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Math



In mathematics, we are currently working on:

- Using Formulas
- Volume of a Rectangular Prism
- Customary and Metric Units of Measure

***All students have been offered the opportunity for extra credit, though there were some students who did not take advantage of this valuable opportunity to review for the state exams. We will work hard in class to prepare for them, and everyone will be required to complete a practice test booklet that will be sent home over spring break. The booklet is the actual state test that was administered two years ago. Sixth-grade testing dates are set for May 6th and May 7th.

Science/Health

We are learning about the Human Body



We are in the process of learning about:

- Joints
- Muscular system



Important Dates



Social Studies

We have begun our unit on ancient Rome. Students are learning about:

- Geography of Italy and the ancient Roman empire
- Key developments in the expansion of Rome from city to republic to empire.
- Life in ancient Rome
- Roman gods and goddesses
- Famous buildings of ancient Rome
- Famous Romans



4/7- 4/16	Planetarium visits Barry School
4/9	3rd Quarter Ends
4/16	6th Grade Trip to Lime Hollow with SUNY Students, Report Cards Distributed
4/26- 4/28	6th Grade State ELA Exams
5/6- 5/7	6th Grade State Math Exams
5/12	Open House at Barry School
5/17- 5/20	Book Fair RM 275
5/20	Spring Concert
6/3	Talent Show
6/17	Barry School Field Days, 6th Grade Olympics
6/18	NO SCHOOL, Staff Rating Day
6/23	6th Grade Recognition (There was an error in last newsletter, which stated it was on the 22nd.)
6/24	Last Day of Classes (12:30 Dismissal)

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Reading and Writing News



Mrs. Snyder

We have been looking at how writers use literary devices to make their writing more interesting. We have identified these elements in our AR books, and have been incorporating them in our own writing.

- Similes
- Metaphors
- Onomatopoeia
- Symbolism
- Alliteration
- Foreshadowing
- Personification

Thanks to all the students' hard work, we were able to have a publishing party last week.

~Please keep reading. The new AR quarter has begun. Mrs. Snyder and Mrs. Hutchinson will finish 4th quarter AR conferences next week.~

We are enjoying the prequel/sequel to The Cay. It is called, Timothy of the Cay. The novel contains a number of flashbacks and we are creating a timeline as a class to keep track of the events as the story approaches its climax.

Mrs. Rhyde

This week, we continued to practice for the state test. We learned that when we are listening and taking notes, our methods may vary depending on our purpose for listening. Next week, we will compare passages and compose an essay comparing two reading selections.

We have been looking at how writers use literary devices to make their writing more interesting. We have also identified these elements in our AR books: similes, metaphors, onomatopoeia, symbolism, alliteration, foreshadowing, and personification.

We have published our personal narratives. We will celebrate our writing next week and share our stories with the class. Great work!!

~Please keep reading. The new AR quarter has begun. Mrs. Rhyde will finish 4th quarter AR conferences next week.~

Mr. Caravella

We are excited to begin working towards our fourth quarter reading goal of reading at least 7 new chapter books at our reading level. We have also begun familiarizing ourselves with the format of the state tests and how we will be expected to demonstrate our reading and writing skills.

In guided reading groups we have reviewed and practiced strategies for identifying main idea and theme, as well as strategies to determine the meaning of unknown words.

We continue to emphasize the importance of using evidence to support our thinking in all of our writing. In addition, we have explored different literary devices that authors use to make their writing more descriptive and interesting, such as similes, metaphors, onomatopoeia, alliteration and personification. We have been on the look out for these devices in books and poetry that we have read and shared.

We are also excited to have published our personal narrative stories and look forward to a publishing party next week!

Announcements



Sixth-Grade Recognition Night will take place on Wednesday, June 23rd at 7pm. Thank you to parents that have attended the first planning meeting! The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 5th in the library.



If you have not already, please send \$3 in to help pay a portion of the cost for your son/daughter's t-shirt for the district wide "Sixth-Grade Olympic Games."



STATE ELA EXAMS take place on **4/26 through 4/28**. STATE MATH EXAMS will be given the following week, **5/6 and 5/7**. Please make every effort to avoid pulling students out of school during the tests. Thank you!

NYS Education Department Tips for State Exams

- © **Present a positive attitude toward the tests.** Let your child know that you have confidence in his or her abilities. Explain that some of the test questions may be difficult and that it does not matter if other students finish earlier. Let your child know it is okay to proceed at his or her own pace.
- © **Be sure your child is physically prepared on the day of the test.** Taking a test requires a student's full attention, so your child should have a good night's sleep before the test. Make sure your child has a healthy breakfast and a nutritious lunch.

(From *The Grades 3-8 Testing Program in English Language Arts and Mathematics - A Parent's Guide*, available at www.emsc.nysed.gov/3-8/parentguide/home.htm)

Garden Club

Volunteers needed! The Garden Club consists of eight students in the sixth grade, Mrs. Freeze, Mrs. Bieber, and Ms. Rosero. We meet every Tuesday and Thursday at 12:15 - 1:00. Recently, we went to the Board of Education and gave a speech. We gave each member a seed and hopefully they will soon be a part of this.

We need all the help we can get. Whether it be garden supplies or just your help. If you would like to help out in any way contact Ms. Rosero, Barry school principal. Thank you!

Thank you to all who helped the sixth-grade earn free issues of Time For Kids. Last year we were able to earn 100 student subscriptions (a \$600 value!!!)

