

23 September 2018

Good morning parents, students, and friends,

We have been doing a lot of computer work in class this past couple of weeks and this week's newsletter is brought to you by the students. I hope you enjoy their work.

## **Vocabulary**

Vocabulary is a very interesting subject at Carbondale New School. Instead of a set of vocabulary words chosen out of a book, each student gets to choose their own vocabulary word. The vocabulary words we have each week range from sandwich to ellipse to necromancy. The wide range of vocabulary words lets the class learn a variety of different things at the same time. If there aren't enough vocabulary words, we get words from the science book, or the math book. With the different amount of vocabulary words, we always have to study, because we can't just guess what word it will be. At Carbondale New School, learning is done in a different manner than it is in other schools. All you need to do to see that is to look at the vocabulary list at our school. ----- Clare, grade 8

### **Here is another view of vocabulary:**

Every day of the week on Monday we turn in a word of our choice with a definition. For example, if the word alphabetical was chosen you would have to write the word alphabetical on a piece of paper along with the definition of the word and the part of speech of the word. After that next week we get a colored piece of paper with our vocabulary words on it. We do at least twenty

vocabulary words. We have fifteen students in are class so fifteen of the vocabulary words are the ones chosen by the students. The other five are from are social studies textbooks or science textbooks or they are chosen by Carla are teacher. On Monday we study the first words one through five and have a test on them on Tuesday. Then then on Tuesday we study the next five words one through ten and get tested on the on Wednesday. When we are getting tested on are words the teacher says the definition and we spell the word. We head are paper by putting our name, date, and subject in the top right corner of are paper. We then also on the left side of the paper put numbers one through five or however many numbers we are doing and write the words down.

Vocabulary words are really fun and they teach us how to use different words to expand are class's vocabulary. -----Kloey, grade 8

This week's vocabulary list will be sent separately as this newsletter will be pretty long. Another English/Language Arts (ELA) topic is Friday Journals which Nolan talks about here:

In Friday journals we have to write about a certain subject. There are a lot of subjects to choose from. Math, Fire, Bujos and more to choose from. You have to write for 10 minutes in the journal. Of course we write in them on Friday. The journal has new and old paragraphs from other people. There's around twenty Friday journals in total. -----Nolan, grade 6 (Note: they actually have to write for 25 minutes.)

**More ELA:**

RWR stands for reading, writing, and research. For fourth, fifth, and sixth grades, we are supposed to read 20 minutes and complete 20 minutes of writing and last but not least 20 minutes of research. It can be really fun but you have to turn it in every day

except Friday. I get to school around 7:00 o'clock so I can do my RWR and then I turn it in. For seventh and eighth graders, they have to do 30 minutes of each. Some people don't turn in their RWR or they don't write for the amount that they are supposed to. Now you know what RWR means, and I .hope you will want to do RWR now if you are in fourth through eighth grade:.) We do this stuff at Carbondale New School which is a tiny school but awesome. Now everyone knows how to do RWR and they know how much fun it is. Oh and you can write anything you want to write about and you read anything you want and you can research anything you want,. Well you get the idea:)  
----Gavyn, grade 6

### **Bullet Journals help the students organize their work.**

Bullet journals are very helpful. You can write down all sorts of things. You can write down reminders or steps to cleaning. I write down my assignments for the day and check them off one by one, so I know what I've got done and what still needs to be complete. I also like to write down the weather so that way I won't have to go on my phone. You can write down your class schedule or work schedule. Or if you work out, you can write down what exercises you are going to do and for how long you will do it for. Bullet journals are very useful for so much more than what I've written down. I suggest you make one, it will make your life lot easier.

### **Social Studies & Science**

Social studies is a really awesome subject I really like it. You can know all about the world. You can learn about "The Byzantine Empire," "The Revolutionary War,"and "The Fall of the Roman Empire." You can learn about a lot of cool stuff in social studies. You can learn about the history of the world in books, the internet,

and even by looking at stuff. Social studies is one of my favorite subjects in school.

I love social studies and I recommend it to everyone. -----Anna, Grade 5

In science we are learning how to find density. How you do it is mass divided by volume. We did an experiment with a cube, a base hundred block, and a pair of scissors. The cube was 0.1625 grams, the base hundred block was 0.654 grams, and the scissors were 0.27 grams. It was very fun. But that's not all, we are also working on physical changes and chemical changes. We did a quiz about them. There was only one question and it was: if a candle was lit with a match what changes went where? The first change would be a chemical change with the chemical on top of a match turning into fire. The lighting of the wick would be a chemical change because it burns. The candle melting would be a physical change because it is the same substance. That is what we are doing in science. -----Gabriella, Grade 4

### **Now on to math:**

In math we do math. Right now in math we are focusing on rounding. Things we are going to be doing is multiplication. I enjoy math because I like addition and rounding and math journals. I also like the fact that we use math books that we get to write in. Math is my third favorite subject, so never stop liking math. -----Grayson, Grade 4

In fifth grade math we are learning about place value and properties. We use Go Math to learn about them. In our Go Math books we will draw examples to represent place value. We also write about which property is which. We are learning the properties of addition, multiplication and division. Meanwhile in place value we are learning about tens, ones and above using orange blocks. We will soon be moving on to multiplication and expressions. We are also working a little on powers. That is what we are learning in math. -----Keira, Grade 5

Sixth Grade Math is the best! We write about number lines in sixth grade math and reducing numbers. I love reducing a lot. Number lines are good, too, and I love them because they are helpful. Also, in sixth grade math we divide and add decimals. Adding decimals is challenging and I don't like that as much as dividing them. Dividing decimals is harder, but I like the challenge. Sixth grade math is extraordinary. -----Max, Grade 6

Math is a great subject. It helps people add up what they have made at work and it helps us read guitar tabs. Math isn't limited to that though. You can calculate the size of the earth like Eratosthenes before modern science. When lahaina noon in Egypt happened, he measured the shadow in a city a few miles away to calculate the circumference of the earth roughly. People have made the best equations like "e=mc<sup>2</sup>" "d<sub>2</sub>=d<sub>1</sub>-s-t" and most importantly "2+2=4-1 that's three quick maths" \_Big shaq.

That's some of many reasons I love math. Math is easily the most important subject in school. I believe that, because you don't need to know how to spell, but it is nice to look smart. But with math it is essential because if you're paying for something, you should know how much to pay. **That's why I love math.**

-----Bo, Grade 7

This week in math we finished up lesson 1.2, 1.3, and started on 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3. Lesson one was about classifying real numbers and comparing real numbers. This lesson was very confusing to many of the 8th grade students. Lesson 2.1 is mainly about exponents, and the students had less of a problem on this than lesson 1. Then lesson 2.2 is about scientific notation with positive powers of ten, but there is also a extra page that shows how you can compare very large numbers with scientific notation. I also think that the eighth graders might start lesson 2.3, which is about negative scientific notation, there is also a going further that is about comparing very small numbers. Overall, we're learning about integers and exponents. -----Jasper, Grade 8

A couple of our students were absent when we did this or they would have contributed more information about what we do in class every day. As you can see, the students are all learning about writing basic paragraphs as well as formatting and using Google Drive and Docs. Writing is a great way for the students to think about what they are learning as well as practicing it. In the upcoming week, they will be writing about special classes.

Tomorrow in cooking, we will be making smoothies first thing in the morning. We will be making a variety of types and each student will get to taste them and compare and vote on the ones they like the best. Since all we need is a blender, we will be doing this in the classroom so things won't be as crowded as in the kitchen. Thank you all so much for the donations. Even with just tasting the different types we are making, students should be pretty full (or as full as tweens and teens ever get.)

We will be making Fall cards for our buddies this week and working more on our computers for writing. In social studies we will finish our study of African kingdoms and will start jumping into Europe so we can be ready to make our castle model in time for the Thanksgiving Feast. We will go back and study the feudal government in Japan after that and also throw in some study of modern Japan since the students are smitten with that country.

In math we are covering a variety of topics and are just starting to be comfortable with the new texts. Students like that they don't have to copy the problems, but some of the wording is a bit confusing. This week's problem of the week concerns money and I will recommend to students that they make a table or chart. They *still* need to write more of an explanation of what they did for these problems. Students will also continue to do math starters (sometimes called "bellringers") daily and need to update their math journals including the table of contents.

I hope you all have a wonderful week.

Carla

Special thanks to Annie for taking over for part of Friday. Also, to Heather for getting crickets for Quags, doing laundry, and helping kids organize their desks and helping with sixth grade math.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Monday, September 24: Graded Work Folders go home

Tuesday, September 25: Vocabulary Word, Definition, and Part of Speech is due by 8 a.m.

Thursday, September 27: School Board Meeting

Friday, September 28: Graded Work Folders and POWs are due  
CNS Spirit Wear

Wednesday, October 2: Future Career Day and Buddy Reading with PreK/K  
Friday, October 5: Noon Dismissal  
Monday, October 8: No School for Indigenous People's Day  
Wednesday, October 17: Paducah Field Trip



## VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24-28, 2018

1. **astromancy:** divination by means of the stars (noun) (Clare)
2. **cryomancy:** the power of ice and cold or divination through ice (noun) (Clare)
3. **disappear:** to be lost or impossible to find; not visible (verb) (Kloey)
4. **epilepsy:** a neurological disorder marked by sudden recurrent episodes of sensory disturbance, loss of consciousness, or convulsions, associated with abnormal electrical activity in the brain (noun) (Avree)
5. **exterminate:** destroy completely (verb) (Ellie)
6. **glitter:** to shine by reflection; sparkle (verb) (Anna)
7. **intelligence:** the ability to acquire and apply knowledge and skills (noun) (Avree)
8. **lightless:** receiving no light (adjective) (Liam)
9. **physical:** relating to the body as opposed to the mind (adjective) (Max)
10. **pickle:** a small cucumber preserved in vinegar, brine, or a similar solution (noun) (Grayson)
11. **raccoon:** a medium-size omnivorous, nocturnal mammal native to North America. They have salt-and-pepper gray fur with a black mask and ringed tail (noun) (Nolan)
12. **sociopath:** a person with a personality disorder manifesting itself in extreme antisocial attitudes and behavior (noun) (Keira)

13. **tardis**: a fictional time machine and spacecraft; a building or container that is larger inside than it appears on the outside. The word is an acronym for time and relative dimension in space. (noun) (Wiley)

14. **theorbo**: a stringed instrument of the 17<sup>th</sup> century resembling a large lute but having an extra set of long bass strings (noun) (Bo)

15. **trophy**: a tangible, durable reminder of a specific achievement and serves as recognition or evidence of merit or winning (noun) (Gabriella)

16. **unspeakable**: not able to be expressed in words (adjective) (Gavyn)

17. **windborne**: carried by the wind (adjective) (Jasper)

18. **mabon**: a pagan harvest festival celebrated at the autumn equinox to honor the changing (noun) (social studies)

19. **equinox**: the time or date (twice a year) at which the sun crosses the celestial equator, when day and night are of equal length (noun) (science)

20. **scientific notation**: the way scientists easily handle very large or very small numbers. It has two parts including the digits with the decimal point placed after the first digit, followed by a power of ten (noun) (math)