

14 February 2019

Dear Upper School family and friends,

Another brief update for the next two short weeks to let you know what is happening over the next few days at the school and the class. There will be no vocabulary next week as we focus on MLA format, using Google Docs, and making sure everyone remembers all our rules and routines. I have attached the timeline and guidelines for the upcoming research project to be presented at the open house.

More kids were out sick this week and several who have been here have been coughing and sneezing a lot. Hopefully the bug will die out over our long weekend.

Thanks so much to families for donating lined notebook paper and poster board. It is greatly appreciated.

On Tuesday, February 19, we will have an Upper School 2.0 Reboot to help students remember the rules, procedures, and requirements. Other basic items reviewed at this time will be telling time, reading the schedule, writing down assignments, how to check out a book correctly, how to fill out a bullet journal, and the requirements for *Reading, Writing, and Research*.

**Repeated from last week:** CCHS-bound eighth graders will be visiting the high school on Wednesday, February 20. Annie will be accompanying them as I will be getting lesson plans ready since I will be gone on February 21 and 22 dealing with out-of-town medical appointments with my husband.

As soon as the Valentine's Dance is over, we will be putting up our sign-up sheets for the annual CNS Talent Show. This is always a super exciting and enlightening event and I look forward to it every year. I hope you will be able to join us.

Best wishes,

Carla

## **Dates to Remember**

February 14: Country Reports; Noon Dismissal with Childcare

February 14: Valentine Dance

February 15: No School and No Childcare; End of the Grading Period

February 18: Holiday with No School and No Childcare

February 19: Research Project Topic Due

February 20: Freshman Orientation for CCHS

February 21-22: Carla will be out of town and students should arrive after 7:45 for playground staff.

February 25: Last day to change research topic

February 28: School Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

March 4-8: Spirit Week

March 8: Talent Show at 1:30 p.m.

March 9-17: Spring Break

March 20: All School Assembly & Green Day

March 21: List of Sources for Research Project Due

March 28: First Draft of Research Paper due for peer editing

## Requirements for the Upcoming 2019 Research Project with Due Dates

As a class, we discussed the requirements for our research project that we are presenting at the May Open House. We have set individual deadlines to help the students meet these requirements. Deadlines will be listed at the end of this.

First, all students will complete a research project. The research project includes a typed research paper in MLA format, a project display and board, an electronic presentation, and an oral presentation.

Students will determine what topic they wish to write about. It is recommended that students pick a topic that they are really interested in, as they will be spending most of their homework time over the next three months working on this project. Students are to turn in a written notice of their topic by Tuesday, February 19.

During the rest of February and March we will be having classes on word processing, MLA format, outlines, taking notes, paraphrasing, plagiarism, types of sources, and preparing a Works Cited page. By the middle of March, we will be working on editing and revising our work. In April we will work more on types of electronic presentations, oral presentations and preparing a visually appealing and attention-grabbing display. In May, students will further polish their projects and presentations and present their research to their classmates.

The minimum page requirements for the typed paper are:

- 4<sup>th</sup> grade: Two pages
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade: Three pages
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade: Five pages
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade: Ten pages
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade: Fifteen pages

There is not maximum page limit for any grade. The font should be Times New Roman or a similar font in 12. The paper must also be double spaced and meet all other MLA requirements.

The students have decided on the following due dates for each graded aspect of their project:

- February 13-18: Brainstorm and Find Topic
- February 19: Submit Topic Choice
- February 19-25: Explore Topic for Sources of Information
- February 26: Last Day to Change Topic

March 7: Note/Progress Check

March 21: List of Sources Due

March 28: Peer Editing of First Draft

March 29: Peer Editing of First Draft

April 4: First Draft Turned in to Carla

April 9: Second Draft Due & Peer Editing

April 10-15: Peer Editing of Second Draft

April 18: Second Draft to Carla

April 23: Carla returns Second Draft

April 30: Final Draft of Paper is Due

May 7: Final Board, Electronic Presentation, and Oral Report will be ready to present to the class.

May 9: Open House: All students must attend to present their research project to the public.

Topics Selected by Students So Far:

Unicorns

Bengal Tigers

Water Pollution

Fluorite

Lightning

Dolly Parton

Cats

The Great Barrier Reef and Coral

WWI Christmas Truce