# MIDDLE MEMO

### **Principal's Message**

Dear Families,

We are off to a great start of the new school year and are very excited to see you at our Curriculum Night on October 1, 2015 at 6:00pm. Families will have an opportunity to follow their child's schedule, meet the teachers and see what our scholars are learning. Research has shown that a strong connection between school and home has a positive impact on student performance. We hope that you are available to come for an hour to this important event.

As a reminder school begins at 8:00am and all scholars are expected to be on time, in full uniform ready to learn.

As always if you have a question please call me at 718-636-3904.

In Partnership,

Rose Anne Gonzalez

Principal



#### 5th Grade

In Writing this week we have worked on writing strategies. Students are enjoying learning new ways to write so that they can get all their thoughts and ideas in their Notebook. We will begin writing our first writing piece!

In Reading this week we continued to work on reading strategies and looking at text features to help us understand what we're reading. Reading responses are still challenging for us, but we find that as we use the strategies we are able to get our thoughts on paper.

In Social Studies, we have kicked our geography skills into gear! On Tuesday, we used oranges to learn important words like Equator, Prime Meridian and Hemispheres. When you see us, quiz us on which way latitude and longitude go.

#### **6th Grade**

In writing, students are learning new writing strategies to make their writing better. Their writing is truly coming alive! They will be drafting, revising, editing, and publishing their first writing piece next week.

## **Upcoming Events**

- 10/1/15 Curriculum Night 6:00PM
- 10/6/15 No School for Students- Staff
  Professional Development
  Day
- 10/12 No School in observance of Columbus Day
- 10/14 CPEC Board Meeting at 241 Emerson Place, Brooklyn
- 10/27 to 10/29 Book Fair
- 10/30 Book Character Day
- 10/30 No After School Program

In reading, students are learning reading strategies and skills like predicting and questioning to make meaning as they read. Students should be reading 30 minutes every night and recording their reading in their reading log!

In math this past week students completed their first chapter test on positive numbers and the number line. This week we will be starting chapter 2 on negative numbers. Students will be working on a variety of problems investigating the many ways that they will encounter negative numbers in the real world.

## 7th Grade

In Math we started off in the Number Sense unit and we will continue this unit during October. In this unit, we are learning about the Real Number System and how to solve problems involving operations with integers and rational numbers.

In Science students have started using microscopes to examine the mysterious world we cannot see unaided. This exciting study will lead us to visualizing how cells work together in different ways to help our bodies function properly.

## 8th Grade

ELA - This upcoming month, we will be focusing on learning reading strategies such as annotation, double-

column notes, reading with a question in mind, written dialogue, inferences, metaphors, and theme/central idea. In writing class, we will continue to work on our informational essays, and then move into Realistic Narrative Story Writing. Should be fun!

Social Studies: To kick off our 8th grade year, we're revisiting what we learned at the end of last year in the



Reconstruction unit. Our big question is how can a society

fight for equality for all citizens (both from the perspective of the government and the individual person). When you see us, quiz us about why Jim Crow laws, poll taxes were such a big deal. Then ask us why the Freedmen's Bureau was established.

In Math, we started in the Number Sense unit and are beginning the Expressions and Equations unit as we get ready for October. Students will be learning how to evaluate and simplify numerical and algebraic expressions using exponential notation.

Science - Students have completed their first lab, measuring and comparing different earth materials to examine how size affects density. Soon we will be examining different types of maps and how to interpret topographic maps.

High School Application Information:

A calendar of High School open houses and tours was sent home with 8th grade scholars on Monday, September 28th. We will be going as a group to the trips that are in a yellow box. Permission slips will be sent out for each of the trips the week before. Please return all signed slips to Ms. Cabrera. If any parents or guardians are interested in attending, please mail me at egcabrera@cpcsschool.org.

On Saturday, October 17th, we are attending the Borough High School Fair at Sunset Park High School. We will depart CPCS at 9:30 AM and return by 3 PM. All 8th grade scholars and their families are welcome to attend. Email egcabrera@cpcsschool.org for more information.