

QHIA Weekly Update: December 16, 2016

[QHIA Website](#)

Classroom Phone # (831) 336-5168

December 23-January 8: Winter Break

Hello families,

This update is JAM PACKED with very important info for our final week of classes and our return week. Please take the time to read it...to the bottom :) All info is on the google calendar that you can access through our website.

Next Week, Dec. 19-22:

Monday/Tuesday: our last "regular" days, with Monday being the culminating day for Line Dance, when they will teach each other original dances that they began working on last week. **Students will also be taking a mid-year math benchmark either in class or at home.** The link and password will be sent to their student email accounts.

Wednesday: 10-11 Part 2 of our workshop on cyber bullying with Jen Sims. Last week was incredible (see below in updates for more details). This portion will focus on being an ally and how to take that brave step. **Please arrive prior to 10am.**

12:30-2:30 Our QHIA Family Holiday Potluck. Please join us! Students have drawn names for a Secret Santa gift exchange. Please stay within the \$10-\$15 agreed upon price range. Click on this link to a googledoc to sign up for the potluck.

[QHIA Holiday Potluck Sign Up](#)

Paperwork Attendance Sheets Due! I need to turn in final paperwork for the first semester on Thursday. Please have all attendance sheets signed and turned in to me on Wednesday. Thank you!

Thursday: Independent Study/Homeschool or Classroom Day. This is our final classroom opportunity before the break. It will be structured as Independent Study. Your student is welcome to come to all or part of the day between 9-2:30, you may also use this day to Homeschool your student.

Return Week, Jan. 9-13 *Very Important Structure. Please take note!:

Monday-Thursday: Independent Study/Homeschool or Classroom Day option.

Students have the option to homeschool for the week, or come to the classroom **between 9-1 for Independent Study.** I will be frontloading their CK12 Math and Science, and can also provide activities for ELA and Social Studies to choose from. Many families take this time for traveling (*email me for details on how to document educational activities if this pertains to you), or focused field trips, projects, science fair focus, etc. Feel free to email me if you have questions regarding this format.

Between 1-4pm, I will be scheduling individual midyear meetings with parents. These will continue between 2:45-3:45 throughout the month of January. Please click on the googledoc below to choose a meeting time.

[Amber's Winter Family Conference Schedule](#)

Friday, Jan. 13: Capture the Flag at Quail Hollow Ranch between 10:30-12:30.

Homework Assignments

Physical Science: Chemical Chemical Reactions 3.17, 3.23, and 3.24.

Students need to complete this before Monday. They complete the review questions either typed into a googledoc that they share with me, or write in their science notebooks. They also take the online practice for each unit. **3.12 and 3.16 are past due.**

CK12 Math

Please check your student's account. If they have past due assignments, these need to be completed prior to Monday morning.

Charter Science Fair Applications

Our Charter Science Fair is on Friday, Feb. 3. The students filled out preliminary applications and I turned them in to Katie. Students can either conduct an experiment, or conduct a research paper/project. Please email Katie directly with the following info if you can volunteer to help out. This is a wonderful event, I highly recommend you coming and interviewing some students :)

****In next week's update, I will provide guidelines for helping your student write a research paper.***

kparmenter@slvusd.org

___ Set up tables Thursday, Feb. 2 at 2pm in rooms 14, 16, and perhaps 17.

___ Interview students Friday, Feb. 3 from 9:30-11:30 (approximately)

___ Take down tables Monday, Feb. 6 at 10am.

___ provide Katie with your cell # and email address please.

UPDATE from 12/12-12/15:

Math and Physical Science:

Students dove into learning how to Balance Chemical Equations, draw Bohr Models, and draw Lewis Dot Structures. Balancing chemical equations is a lot like Sudoku! We did many on the board together. This can be a very daunting task, yet the students persevered and mastered how to do it. I was very proud of their accomplishments.

Link to a fun video I couldn't play because of buffering issues:

[Is Santa Real?](#)

History and English

Integrated American History and ELA: The students dissected the text of the Declaration of Independence! This is another daunting task, yet we approached it as a scavenger hunt; looking for key words and concepts, and had an incredible discussion regarding whether or not the ideals on which this Declaration was conceived are being practiced today. It really is an outstanding piece of writing. Click on the link below to a cool website to see a rough draft of the original document in Benjamin Franklin's handwriting, the actual document, and the text itself.
<http://www.ushistory.org/declaration/document/>

Focused ELA/Theater: We compared and contrasted an excerpt from Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" with a script of the same story. Students discussed imagery, meaning, and how to cite text evidence to support their opinions. We also read from our novel, "The Wednesday Wars".

Art

Line Dance: We broke down movement patterns into 8 counts, and rearranged them; creating original line dance patterns. Students worked in groups to choreograph their own original Line

Dances with a 4- 8 Count structure. They also have the option to choreograph a performance piece. We will share these on Monday.

Mad Lib Theater: Using a Madlib script structure, I had the students call out various words like a traditional madlib. Then I plugged it into a Cinderella script provided. Students had to act out the scene improvisationally according to the Madlib script that was created. This was hilarious! They want to do one each week :)

Cyber Bullying Workshop: Jen and I were so impressed with the student's honesty, respectfulness, and participation. The discussions could have gone on for another hour. They revealed that they are fully aware of and are, in many cases, subjected to bullying via social media on a daily basis. Some students showed us screenshots of Instagram comments that they receive from people who are not in their circle of friends. This is such an important topic to discuss with your kids at home, as these experiences are happening outside of school hours, into the late hours of the night. I will be sending a survey out to see if you would like Jen to have a parent workshop. The kids were so grateful to Jen, and are looking forward to her coming back next week.

Here is a link to the video that the kids watched, which was our jumping off point for guided discussion:

<https://youtu.be/hWdjwI9rgcE>

Thank you for sharing your students with me! Have a wonderful weekend.

~Amber

All important info, including All Student Assignments and our calendar of events, will be accessible at any time here. Just click on this link:

[QHIA Website](#)