



## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade NBFA Newsletter

Team Members: Laura O'Shaughnessy, Kim Gibbs, Joseph Brigante, Jason Feeney, Lisa O'Marra, Taylor Tema, and Andrew Spears

**ELA:** Happy New Year! In seventh grade English-Language Arts, the students have completed their novel, A Christmas Carol, and are working on their Interdisciplinary Project (combining Social Studies and Language Arts). The project is due January 23rd and will be the final grade for the marking period which ends on the 27th. Students will also be working on other reading and vocabulary, as well as practicing I-Ready. I encourage all students to read an independent book at home. The library is always a fun place to visit!

**Math:** 7th grade math is on multiplying and dividing integers, including fractions. In addition, by the end of the month, they will start algebraic expressions and equations. Their interdisciplinary project is their timeline of events focusing on negatives and positives integers.

**Science:** 7th grade students have just finished a mini-unit on living things. They explored the characteristics of living things and applied their learning to a popcorn kernel they grew in class. Next, the students will learn about the components of the cell and how a cell functions as a living thing. After this unit, 7th grade will begin a unit on human body systems.

**Social Studies:** The seventh graders are continuing their work on the Age of Exploration and have started researching three specific explorers; Christopher Columbus, Bartolome de las Casas and Hernan Cortes. Through their research they will determine if each explorer made positive or negative impacts on the Age of Exploration. Then the students will create either a "wanted poster" or "commemorative plaque" for each explorer. On the posters, the students will include a picture of the explorer, and a paragraph that includes why people should either watch out for the explorer or celebrate him and positive or negative impacts of their journeys. These posters will be hung in the classroom and the students will conduct a gallery walk to learn more about each explorer.

**Health:** The seventh graders are currently learning about chronic stress, common stressors for teenagers, and how to manage it. We just finished up concepts such as Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, and students are going to be taking an assessment soon with regards to these topics. Our next topic of discussion will be mental disorders, treatment, and ways in which one can find support.