



# SOUTHERN OAKS NEWSLETTER

November 14, 2014  
Volume 1, Issue 2

## Happy November

### Language Arts

#### Grade 6—

After reading nonfiction texts, students have been using flow maps to write summaries. Students are also learning how to determine an author's point of view. In addition, they are analyzing the structure of literature.

#### Grade 7—

At the beginning of October, students read "Song of the Trees." They were learning how to compare and contrast different informational articles related to this story, while also examining the point of view of each article. More recently, students were also busy incorporating the elements of plot into short graphic novels that they wrote and illustrated themselves. This week, students have been studying the poetry of EE Cummings and learning how he used sight and sound to create meaning.

#### Grade 8—

ELA students previewed the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA). Teachers and students' carefully analyzed reading test questions and answer choices. Students were shown an example of the writing test that included a sample prompt and four reading passages. To prepare for the FSA, students are continuing to practice citing evidence and paraphrasing. Additionally, students are studying the writing structure of an argumentative essay to include the "P.E.E.L." method used in history classes.

### Mathematics

#### Grade 6—

Operations with Multi-digit numbers and  
Division of fractions

#### Grade 7—

Percentage and proportions and operations  
with rational numbers

#### Grade 8—

Functions, equations, and inequalities

### Science

Grade 6- Earth Structure.

Grade 7 - Age of the Earth

8<sup>th</sup> grade

CHECK OUT SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

### Social Studies

#### Grade 6—

Students have just finished the DBQ called "Journey on the Silk Road" which examines primary source documentation and citing evidence from valid sources of information. They are now moving towards the start of civilization and the emergence of human populations around Central Africa and Asia. Students have also started the History Fair projects at home centering on Leadership and Legacy.

#### Grade 7—

Students are completing a DBQ on propaganda and the question they are trying to answer in the DBQ is "Campaign Propaganda: Which strategies would you use?". Students are finalizing public policy for the project citizen showcase that will be held at IRSC later in January. The reading strategy students are working on will be inference skills and using context clues to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words in a text.

#### Grade 8—

US History students are exploring colonial America and learning to differentiate between ways of life in the colonial regions. The experiences of slaves, indentured servants, Native Americans, and settlers are all included in this detailed portrait of life in early America.

November' Food for Families" can food drive our goal is 1500 nonperishables.  
November 7 thru 21st

Southern Oaks Toy Drive  
November 12th thru December 12th,  
Parents or students may drop a unwrap  
toy off to the front office.

Parent Workshops  
with Project SUCCESS will be starting  
November 18th at 5:00pm.  
They're free and last about an hour.

The first topic is "Helping your child  
achieve in school."  
More info call Ms. Lane

### Reminders to Students

- Wear belt and tuck shirt in.
- Bring materials needed for class.
- Be willing to learn.

### Reminders to Parents

1. Check to make sure your child is in dress code daily.
2. Check Skyward.
3. Check your child's planner.
4. Encourage your child to learn.
5. Support the teachers.

## Important Highlights

- Open gym is Tuesday and Thursday from 4:10 to 6:00
- Before school tutoring Monday and Wednesday from 7:30 to 9:15.
- After school tutoring Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 6.
- 2nd nine weeks ends on Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup>
- Early Release - Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>
- Progress Report for 2<sup>nd</sup> nine weeks, Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>
- Thanksgiving holiday - November 23 thru 25<sup>th</sup>

## TESTING INFORMATION

[www.fsassessments.org](http://www.fsassessments.org)

### LIBRARY NEWS

We have been bringing classes in every two weeks for book check out.

Mr. Clark's students spent two days with us recently working on writing a short story graphic novel style.

Next book fair will be the week of December 8th.

### SPORTS/ACTIVITIES



Volleyball

Color guard

Spelling Bee Team

Band

Basketball