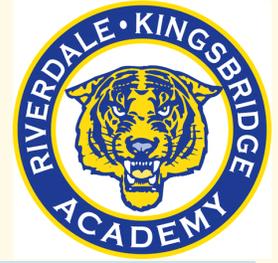


October 2015



## 7th Grade Family Newsletter

### Curriculum News from our Classes

#### 7th Grade ELA

This year we will be using Code X, which is aligned to the Common Core Learning Standards. Our first unit is Mapping Your Life, where students will be analyzing decisions and how they impact their own lives. We will be reading Call Me, Maria by Judith Ortiz Cofer, "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost, and My Beloved World by Sonia Sotomayor. At the end of the unit, students will write a real or imagined story of an important event or decision. In the narrative, students must make it clear what lesson was learned from the narrator's decision. Throughout the unit we will be discussing key skills such as new vocabulary, narrative point of view, figurative language and characterization.

#### 7th Grade Literature

We begin our year with a study of William Shakespeare's Julius Caesar. The book we will be using has the original text opposite a modern paraphrase to make it more accessible. We will look into his life, time, and dramatic works. We will study the theater as it developed in the Elizabethan period and relate that development to our study of his play. For evaluation, the students will have class discussion along with short answer questions and tests on both Shakespeare's theater and the play we studied. So far we have practiced note taking and looked into what Shakespeare's London and theatre were like. There are several good film versions of the play which we will be using in class, but feel free to make a movie night of watching one with your child.

#### 7th Grade Math

Students will begin the school year by expanding their knowledge of rational numbers. The acquiring of these new skills will be facilitated through the use of number lines and other math manipulatives such as integer chips. After working to develop number sense, students will derive algorithms and be able to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers -- such as integers, fractions, and decimals. At the end of the opening unit, students will move towards understanding similarity before applying to proportional reasoning.

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#### 7th Grade Spanish

7th Grade Spanish In our 7th

### IMPORTANT DATES

7th Grade Field Trip to the Top of the Rock takes place on October 14

Honors Policy Receipts Due to HR Teachers Now

End of Marking Period 1 October 16



# TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

Hello, I'm Ms. Guagenti!

I teach 7th grade science in Room 207. I am very happy to be a new member of the RKA staff. However, being the new teacher (or student) at a school can create some scary feelings because you don't know what to expect. Fortunately, my colleagues have been kind and welcoming. I look forward to an exciting year with a new set of students to explore the world of science.



Ms. Guagenti (in the black V-neck) collaborates with her colleagues on the Marshmallow Challenge during Professional Development.

## Curriculum News (continued)

grade Spanish, we have begun Unidad Preliminar in ¡Avancemos 1! program. In it students will study:

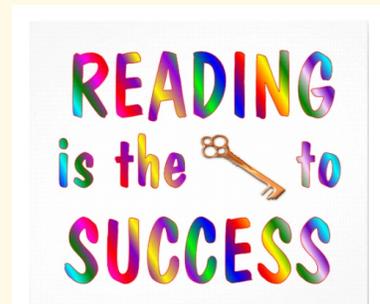
- Greet people and say goodbye
- Introduce yourself and others
- Ask and say how to spell names
- Say where you are from
- Exchange phone numbers
- Say what day of the week it is
- Describe the weather
- Respond to classroom Instructions.

So far students have learned how to

greet people and say goodbye and introduce themselves and others. After our baseline assessment we will be grouping our students according to their level. The culminating performance task for this unit is Students will be creating comic strips

One way in which you can support your child at home is by encourage him/her to review vocabulary frequently (a few minutes each day), to

complete his/her assignments, and to use Spanish whenever possible. Read labels that comes in Spanish. Try listening to some Spanish TV and appropriate music. If you go to a restaurant where Spanish is spoken, encourage him/her to try speaking some Spanish! People will not laugh; they will appreciate the effort!



Reach us any time via Jupiter Grades or via the email addresses posted @RKA141.org

## STUDENT CELEBRATION

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Edward Sosa -  
Edward is a new student to the school and new student to the country. Edward is motivated to learn English and become a star student. He is forging positive relationships with peers and teachers on a regular basis. He is a model student and consistently exhibits a positive attitude!



## Recommended Reads

### Recommended Reads for 7th Graders:

The Wanderer by Sharon Creech

Trino's Choice by Diane Gonzales

Flush by Carl Hiassen

Wonder by R.J. Palacio

Jacob Have I Loved by Katherine Paterson

### Recommended Reads for Parents:

A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving

The Heart is A Lonely Hunter by Carson McCullers

Nine Stories by J.D. Salinger

Just Kids by Patti Smith

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak (also great for teens!)

## Events Outside of RKA

The New York Section of the American Chemical Society invites children K-12 and their parents to our annual National Chemistry Week Event at the New York Hall of Science in Queens, NY.

This year's event will take place on Sunday, October 18, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Over 20 exhibitors from universities and the chemical industry will present hands-on chemistry demonstrations on the theme "Chemistry Colors Our World." Last year over 1000 children and their parents attended the event.

The event is free with Museum admission (Museum admission is free 10-11 a.m.). For more information, see: [newyorkacs.org](http://newyorkacs.org) or [nysci.org](http://nysci.org)