

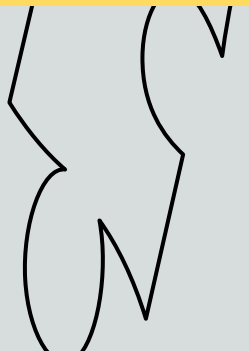
# 8th Grade Teams Newsletter




# English

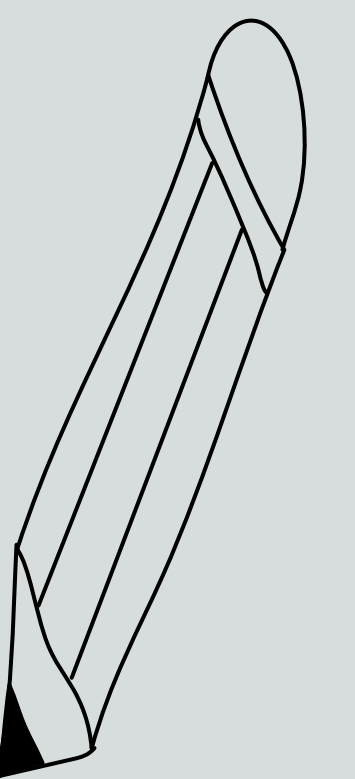
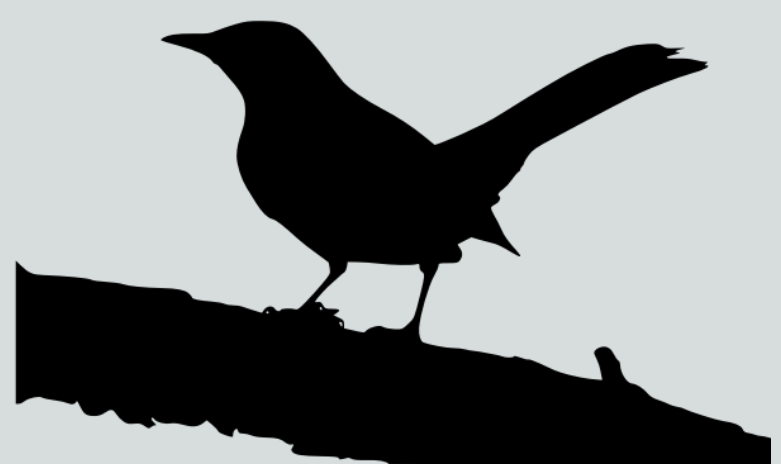
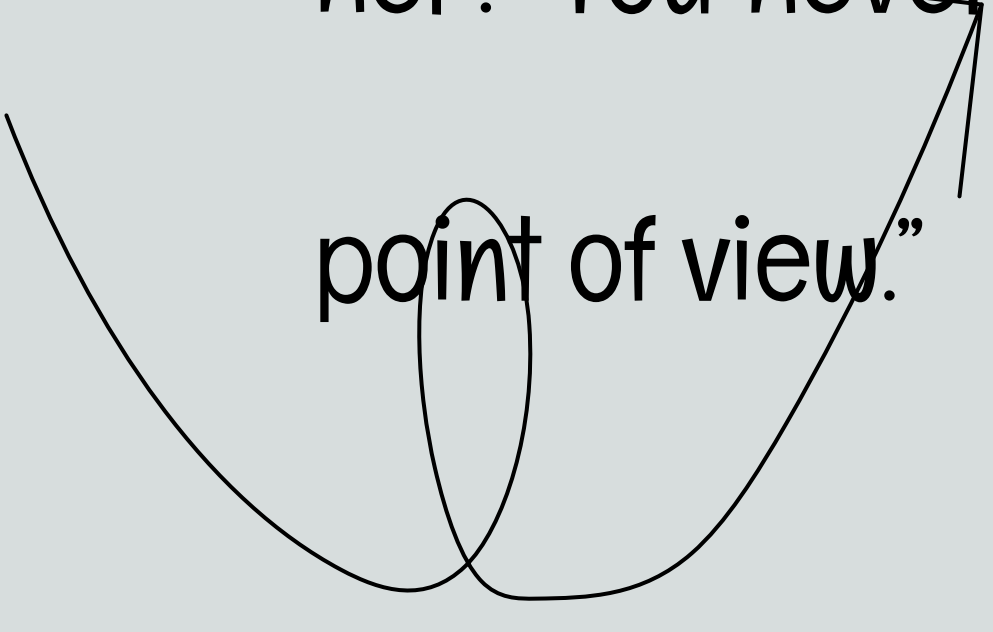
## with Mrs. Jerdee and Mrs. Weiland




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- We just completed a **Poetry Unit** that included poetry analysis, poetry writing and a Poetry Slam. Ask your student to share a poem that they wrote with you!
  - We are currently in a **Short Story Unit** and are reading stories by Gary Soto, Amy Tan, Edgar Allan Poe, Judith Ortiz Cofer, Shirley Jackson, David Sedaris, and Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve. The unit concludes with a five-paragraph essay about three of the stories we read. We will write this essay in class.
  - Our upcoming **Novel Unit** is “To Kill a Mockingbird.”



This timeless classic set during the Great Depression includes several themes that students continue to find both relatable and relevant in today’s world. The story is told through the eyes of Scout who is six when the story begins. Scout and her brother Jem are fascinated by a mysterious neighbor, Boo Radley, while Atticus, their father, a lawyer, is appointed a controversial case that involves Tom Robinson. These two storylines converge by the end of the novel revealing themes of loss of innocence, racial prejudice, justice, courage, and gender stereotypes. It isn’t until the end of the story that Scout realizes what Atticus is trying to teach her: “You never really understand a person until you consider things from their point of view.”









# HELLO! Welcome to math...

Algebra is often a big shift for students, so we encourage students to keep up with daily assignments and make sure to study for tests. You and your students will find everything you need posted on Schoology. It is your student's responsibility to check Schoology daily.

We know this time of year can be hard with winter blahs, and we are moving into really new mathematical territory for these students so it's still important to keep up with daily work so you don't fall behind.

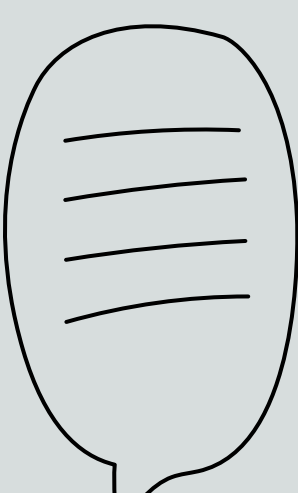
There are lots of opportunities in place for homework help and assistance. Talk to us or your student's counselor!!



We are Mrs. Talbot Peterson and Ms. Hebzynski and together we are the 8th grade math team here at NMS! We are having a great time working with our 8th graders this year and look forward to a terrific 2nd semester.

In Algebra A, we are in the beginning of our Linear Functions Unit and then will be moving in to Systems and finally, Polynomials.

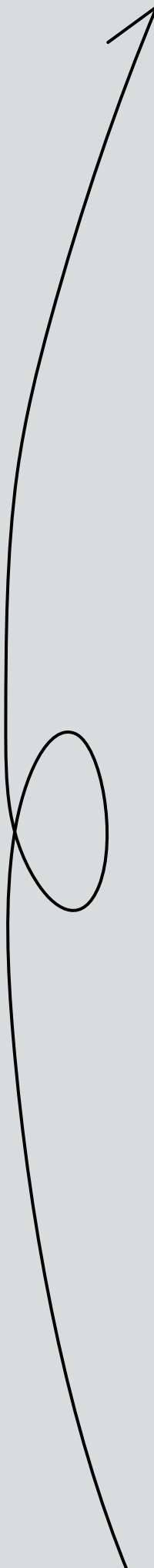
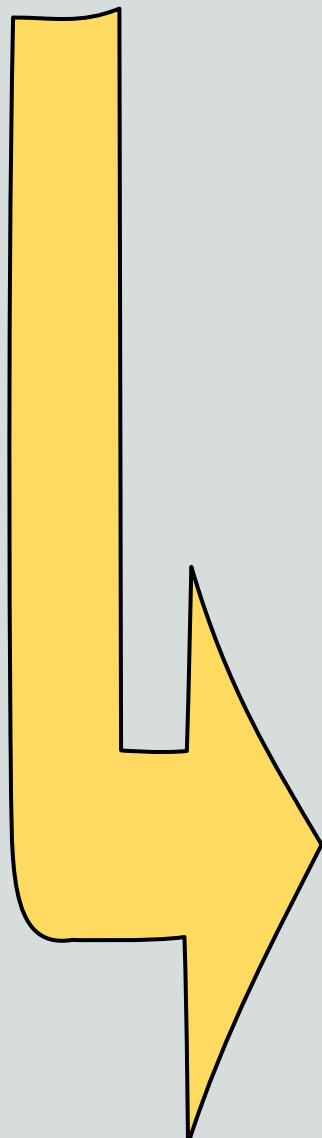
In Algebra AA, we are starting to wrap up on Linear Relations unit and will be moving into Systems, then Polynomial, and finally, Quadratics.



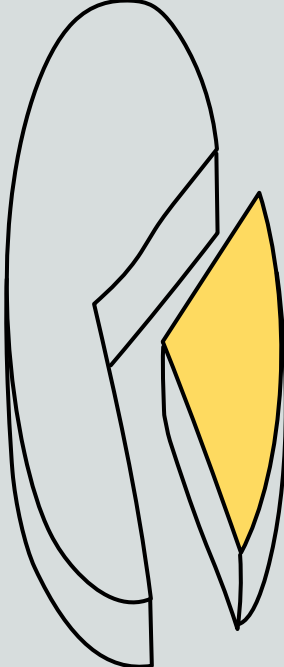


# **EXPLORING SCIENCE**

## 8th Grade Science-2nd Semester



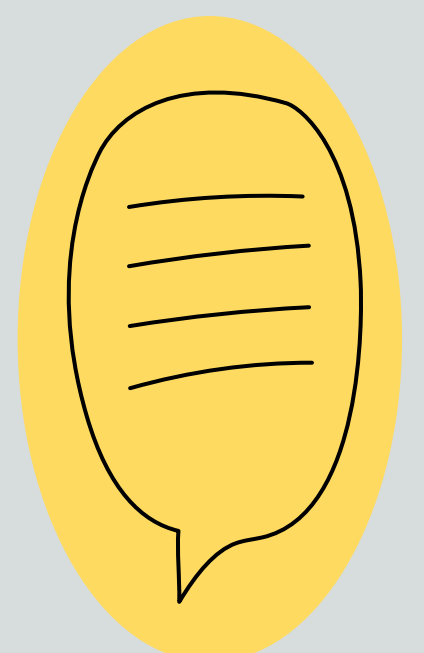
Eighth grade science continues with a focus on Earth and Space Science. We have completed our unit on the scientific method and our two units on chemistry. We should wrap up our astronomy unit some time in February and from there we will take a closer look at Earth. Our first unit in Geology will explore the interior of Earth and plate tectonics. Then we will study other forces, like weathering and erosion, that shape Earth. We will take a closer look at minerals and the three types of rock that make up Earth. And finally, as part of our Geology segment of this course, we will learn about Earth's ancient history. The last few weeks of science will be dedicated to meteorology where we will better understand the difference between weather and climate, learn about factors that affect both weather and climate and take a close look at how our actions are causing our planet to warm.



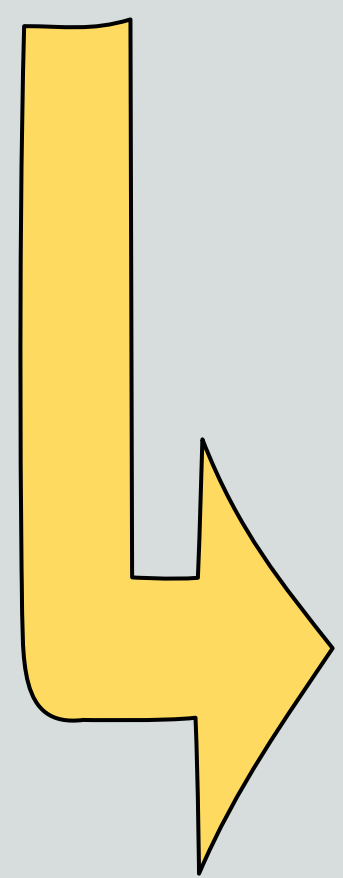
It's been a great year thus far, and we look forward to continuing to work with you! We welcome your questions and feedback at any point.

Cara Holland [cholland@northfieldschools.org](mailto:cholland@northfieldschools.org)

Ed Muniak [emuniak@northfieldschools.org](mailto:emuniak@northfieldschools.org)







# **GEOGRAPHY**

Welcome to Semester 2 in Geography! This semester will include the following topics:

-Human Geography   -Population   -Economics   -Asia  
-Africa   -Europe   -Australia   -Global Issues

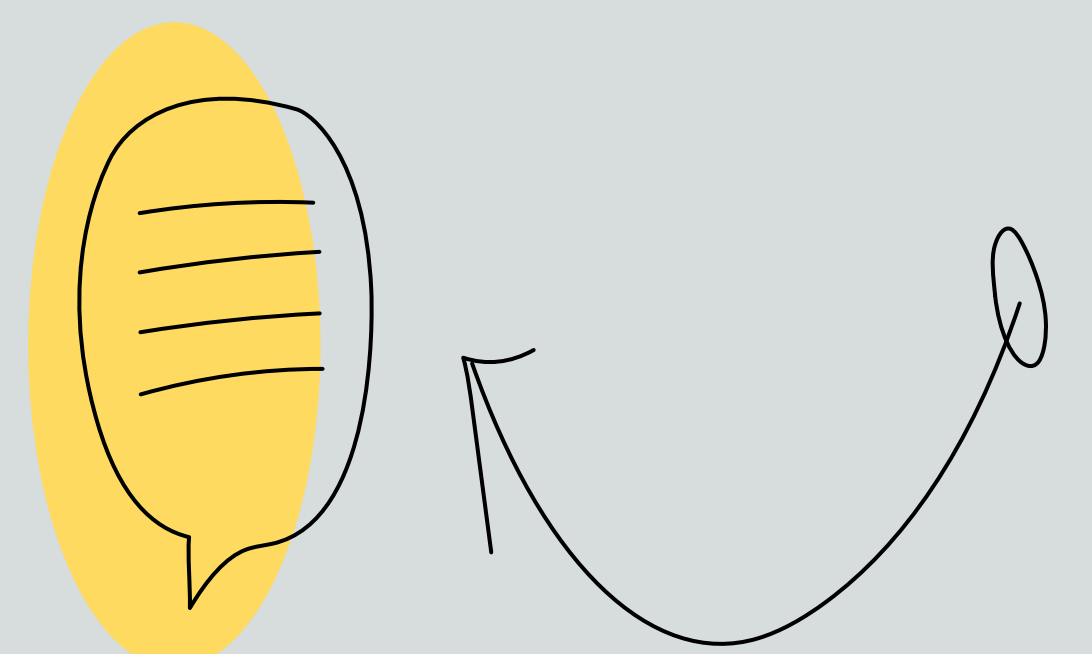
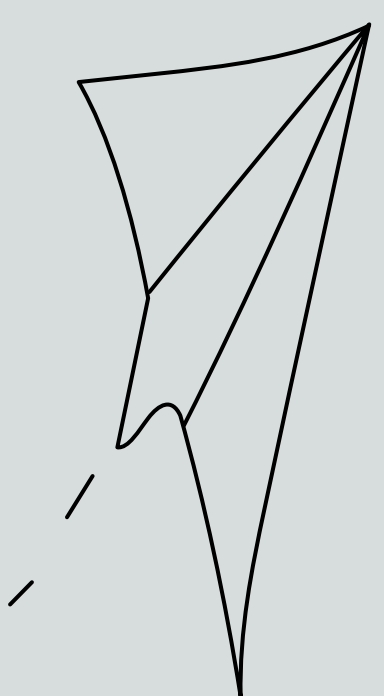
Our 8th graders will also be participating in a European Travel Project. This will provide our students with the experience of planning all aspects of a trip including flights, hotels, activities, meals, etc, all while staying within a budget. Students will also gain valuable insight about the city and country that they are traveling to.

Another highlight of Semester 2 is the World Place Location Final Exam. This exam will consist of 100 countries from every region of the world. This typically takes place during the last week of school. Students have many ways to study for this exam, but most prefer using online practice quizzes that we will link up in Schoology.

If you have any questions about Semester 2, please contact us!

Mr. Mikkelson

Mr. Sawyer





# Health



For health in Quarter 3 and 4 we will be going over a variety of subjects. At the beginning of the quarter as you probably know we started training for the baby project and students will be starting to take the babies home for a week night or weekend for the next few months. This is a part of our Human sexuality unit but we start it a little earlier so all students have a chance for this eye opening, fun, and exciting project. Mental health will be the vocal point of quarter 3 with going over overall mental health, depression, suicide, stress management, anxiety, and different mental health disorders. We will then transition to our Alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs unit to finish the quarter. Alcohol and Vaping will be the main topics along with classifications of drugs and how they affect the body. Lastly, we will be starting and finishing quarter 4 with our Human sexuality unit. I will be sending out a letter before we start that unit to go over all that is included and expectations with students and family participation. As always, we will also continue our "Ramp-up" Wednesdays which will focus on career and secondary school options.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks!

Mr. Fearing  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Health Teacher  
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