



Quarter Three News From 7th Grade

Team Two: Allin, Kuehl, Dunkelberger, Hovden,
Bollum

Welcome to Quarter three! The year is flying by. Below you will find a short blurb for each of your student's core academic classes as well as teacher contact information. Please reach out with any questions you might have for us. In addition, there are some "feature articles" towards the end. These will cover STAR testing and how to access that data, information about free, bilingual homework help at the public library, and an upcoming spring field trip.

We are looking forward to an excellent second half of the year with our 7th graders!

Core Class Information

Science: Mrs. Allin

[\(aallin@northfieldschools.org\)](mailto:aallin@northfieldschools.org)

In quarter two we learned about how we heal and discovered what was causing M’Kenna’s symptoms as we studied cells and the human body. We appreciate all the students who are willing to contribute to discussions and collaborate with classmates.

Our first quarter three unit is Genetics. We figure out how living things look so different from each other using cattle with extra big muscles as our anchoring phenomenon.

Student notes continue to be a key resource for recording what we have learned. We do phase one note-taking together, with students processing, connecting, and summarizing more independently, but with guidance. We grade selected pages of notes, and tests are open-note. Other key resources posted in Schoology include teacher slideshows and assignments. The slideshows are important to look at when a student is absent.

After genetics we plan to do a reading project. All students will read a book that connects to life science in some way. Many books are fiction and some are non-fiction. Most books are written for upper elementary to middle school readers and a few are written for adults. Students will read the whole book and discuss it with a group weekly. There will be a significant amount of reading time during class. Some students may need to read outside of class as well. As part of the project, we will be doing activities during class that relate to the books.

Please contact me with any questions. I look forward to a great quarter three!

Social Studies: Mrs. Hovden

[\(lhovden@northfieldschools.org\)](mailto:lhovden@northfieldschools.org)

In the first week of Quarter 3, students will wrap up their World War I historical fiction novel assignment. I’m so proud of their hard work and effort with these books! Book Check #3 (the last comprehension check) is due Wednesday, January 24. After we wrap up our books, we will close the unit by watching the movie adaptation of “*All Quiet on the Western Front*” (the 1979 version made for television), considered to be the greatest (anti)war novel of all time. Here is a review of the film: [Film Review](#)

After the World War I unit, we will study United States history from the 1920s to the Vietnam era in the late '60s and '70s. During the third quarter we will be studying what many historians call "hard history." Topics include:

- the Boom and Bust of the 1920s
- the Stock Market Crash and the Great Depression
- World War II
- the post-war era of the 1950s and Cold War
- the Civil Rights movement of the 1950s-1970s
- the Vietnam Era

Our studies will include a mix of resources including interactive activities, readings from the History of US book series (Joy Hakim), authentic video and audio clips, and other primary sources. Please discuss aspects of these challenging topics with your student as they arise in discussions at home. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Math: Mr. Dunkelberger

[\(bdunkelberger@northfieldschools.org\)](mailto:bdunkelberger@northfieldschools.org)

In quarter 2, we learned a lot about parts of expressions to comprehend the process of solving equations for my A classes. In AA we have been working through proportional relationships using proportions to solve real world problems. My Algebra class has been learning about different types of linear equations and how to apply them to different real world examples.

As we move into quarter 3, my A classes will be moving into our unit 6 on proportional reasoning. This includes analyzing graphs, tables and relationships to determine unit rates. In

Unit 7 we will be utilizing ratios within proportions to solve real world problems. Within this

unit will be a strong emphasis on finding percent of a number to calculate tax, tip, discounts

and markups that are very applicable in everyday life.

In AA math, we will be finishing up our unit 8 on geometric proportionality. In this unit we have been using proportions to find scale factors used in figures/scale

drawings. We are going to be shifting gears in this unit to move into finding area and circumference of circles and parts of circles. To finish up unit 8, we will be finding surface area and volume of cylindrical objects. In unit 9, we will move into our graphing unit which focuses on graphing linear equations and understanding general graphing concepts.

In Algebra we will continue to build on our understanding of different types of linear equations in our unit 7 on Systems of Equations. We will be learning three different methods of solving these equations including: elimination, substitution and graphing. We will move away from equations for unit 8 and shift gears to learning about exponents and scientific notation.

I thought I would highlight some important things to keep in mind as we move into this third quarter. I have been giving students multiple opportunities to better their quiz scores within each daily homework assignment. If a student does not receive at least a 70%, I would like them to retake the quiz. If a student receives a 0 on the quiz, I am treating that like an incomplete assignment. If they have attempted the quiz twice and still have a 0, then they need to come check in with me. After giving a test, I have given students opportunities to correct tests and get points back.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Looking forward to a fresh start in this new quarter.

Health--Ms. Bollum

(lbollum@northfieldschools.org)

Health class is finishing up in unit 2 taking care of our Mental and Emotional Health. In Quarter 3 we will be moving into Unit 3 Nutrition and Physical Activity .

Unit 3 :Nutrition and Physical Activity:

Chapter 7 Nutrition

- Lesson 7.1 Getting Enough Nutrients
- Lesson 7.2 Following Health Eating Habits
- Lesson 7.3 Managing Your Weight

- Lesson 7.4 Having A Healthy Body Image
- Chapter 8 Physical Activity
- Lesson 8.1 Understanding Physical Activity And Fitness
 - Lesson 8.2 Knowing About Types Of Physical Fitness
 - Lesson 8.3 Staying Safe During Physical Activity
 - Lesson 8.4 Developing A Personal Physical Activity Plan

SEL Unit: Managing Relationships and Social Conflict:

- Having a Positive Body Image
- Perspective taking
- Taking responsibility for your actions

Ramp-UP lessons include:

- Habits of success
- Matching interests to careers
- Knowledge and skills that build belief

It is amazing to watch teens internalize good student behaviors as they learn what is needed to help them succeed in school. Good habits of health can enhance all areas of their lives now and in the future. It is such a privilege to partner with you during these exciting teen years.

English 7: Mrs. Kuehl

[\(hkuehl@northfieldschools.org\)](mailto:hkuehl@northfieldschools.org)

It is difficult to believe, but we have reached the mid-point of the school year already.

During quarter 2 we wrapped up our grammar unit and then had a chance to practice those

skills in our 5-paragraph Gratitude Essay. Next, we studied the author Charles Dickens and read a dramatic adaptation of his ghostly classic *A Christmas Carol*. We studied how Dickens was influenced by his environment, and how he, in turn, made an impact on his environment. We still study that impact more than 150 years later. In addition, students completed 6 weeks of Reading Plus assignments.

As we begin quarter three in English 7, we will be wrapping up our unit on “Transformations” by analyzing poems and a human interest article as well as a chance for students to show their understanding by writing an original poem.

We are looking forward to using the skills we learned in our poetry unit as we write our third quarter essay. This essay will look a little different from the last two since it will be a narrative essay. This is often students' favorite writing assignment of the year.

Next, we will read a whole class novel called *Refugee*. In this unit, we will review the elements of fiction from our short story unit on a larger scale while focusing on cause and effect, inferences, conflict and themes of fiction. We will end the quarter beginning our writing project for quarter 4 -- persuasive writing.

We will also continue our work to improve our comprehension and reading fluency using our individualized, online reading program called Reading Plus. Please remind your student to practice their reading each week that there is an assignment. If your student's Skyward account shows missing work in this area, you can easily check how they are doing by asking to see their Reading Plus Dashboard.

Please let me know if you have any questions about your student's progress or coursework. I am looking forward to a fabulous fourth quarter!

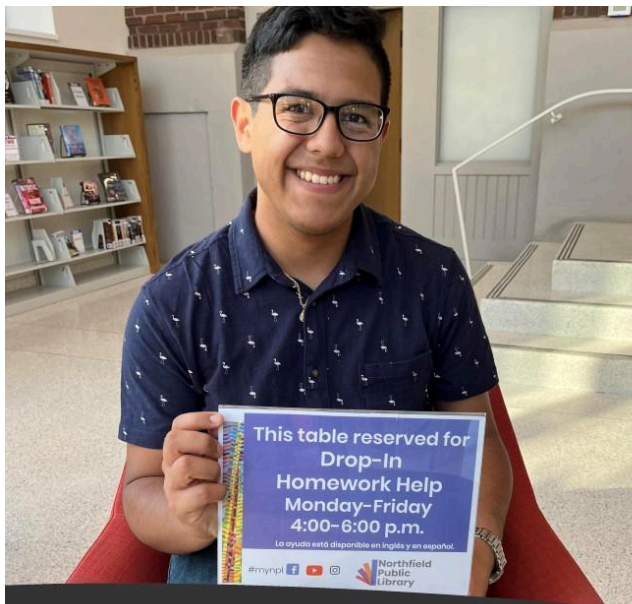
Other Helpful Information

STAR Testing

During the first weeks of January, students completed a mid-year, standardized STAR assessment in their math and English classes. STAR is a customized test that students take on their iPads. The test is designed for students in grades 1 through 12. This computer-adaptive test chooses each question from a large pool of test items, making subsequent questions more or less difficult than the prior question depending on whether the student answered the prior question correctly. This is a short assessment that is completed during a single class period and helps us track your student's progress in several areas. If you would like to view the results, they will be available in Family

Access by the end of January. Please contact your child's English or math teacher if you have any questions.

Homework Help at Northfield Public Library



Bilingual Drop-in Homework Help

Library Atrium
Monday-
Friday
4:00-6:00 p.m.

Drop in at the library for free homework help!

For K-12 youth: get help from experienced Carleton student tutors on weekdays from 4:00-6:00 p.m. No appointment needed--just drop in. All subjects welcome. Tutoring available in English and Spanish.

210 Washington St • 507-645-6606 • mynpl.org  



Coming in March: Field trip to History Theatre!



A Unique Assignment

by Harrison David Rivers

Directed by Richard D. Thompson

March 16–April 7, 2024

Two men – Henry Gallagher, white, and James Meredith, Black – are thrust into each other's lives in the aftermath of the Ole Miss Riot. Meredith was the first African American admitted to the University of Mississippi in 1962. Gallagher, a young second lieutenant in the army who was born and raised in Minnesota, is placed in charge of Meredith's on-campus security detail. As they navigate the political and social rollercoaster of desegregation, a tenuous relationship is forged – one that, for Gallagher, leads to eventual revelation. Explore this milestone moment in Civil Rights history through Gallagher and Meredith's own words and perspectives on their shared experience.

Discover this significant turning point in the history of the Civil Rights movement.

Special Thanks to the Frechette Family Foundation for their support of this project.

“Who would’ve guessed that a white man from Minnesota played a key role in the integration of the University of Mississippi in 1962?

Certainly not me. It just goes to show how little of the whole story we actually know. And OH what a story!”



Harrison David Rivers

All NMS 7th graders are scheduled to see the production of “A Unique Assignment” at the History Theatre in St. Paul on **Thursday, March 21st**. Details will be provided as the date gets closer. We would love to entertain ideas to reduce our transportation costs for students to make this opportunity more equitable for all students, such as grant programs that you may have heard of, etc. Please drop a line to Mrs. Hovden (lhovden@northfieldschools.org) or any other 7th-grade teacher.

