

# \*7WEST

March 2012

<p><b>MATH</b> <b>Mr. Mesite</b></p> <p><b>Pre-Algebra:</b> We have just started on our new unit on percentages. Students will use skills in finding a percent of a number, and apply them to various real world scenarios and situations, including estimating tip, as well as calculating tax, discount, percent increase/decrease, and simple interest.</p> <p><b>Pre-Algebra Plus:</b> We are currently in the midst of our geometry unit. We'll soon be starting the second half of the unit, by classifying various 3-D shapes based on their sides, edges, vertices, and symmetry, before calculating surface area and volume of numerous solids. Students will also apply formulas and problem-solve to algebraically calculate missing dimensions.</p>	<p><b>English</b> <b>Mrs. Rolston</b></p> <p>7 West students are completing their study of the elements of the English language. Students developed a <i>PowerPoint</i> presentation where they selected specific information about verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and prepositions they feel are important elements to use in their writing.</p> <p>When we return from the April vacation, the class will read a novel and focus on how an author develops characters within a text.</p>
<p><b>SCIENCE</b> <b>Mrs. Plecan</b></p> <p>JW's 7th grade students excelled in spirit, baking, artwork and community involvement as they tackled the organization and running of this year's blood drive. Tuesday was a beautiful spring day, we had a great turnout and the students ran a very successful drive. A big "thank you" to family, staff, and friends who donated blood or otherwise assisted to make this drive a success.</p> <p>In science classes, students have started learning about our respiratory systems. As part of this unit we will be reading about the structure and function of the lungs, trachea and diaphragm as well as studying information on asthma, and other respiratory conditions. After April break students will participate in the design, execution and data collection of a lab exploring heart rates and the various factors which affect them.</p>	<p><b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b> <b>Mr. Bish</b></p> <p>Students in 7 West Social Studies have been digging deeper into our stereotypes of Africa. We started our unit by brainstorming a list of our collective mental picture of life in Africa. Some of our thoughts about the continent include the tribal/traditional lifestyle, widespread poverty, violence, and musical people. As we move throughout the unit we will take on seven case studies, all of which are intended to help us to gain a clearer picture of the truth about Africa!</p> <p>As always, students should be studying for the ongoing map quizzes. They can study with paper maps taken from the classroom or study online with Sheppard Software. The next quiz will cover Africa and it will occur after April break.</p>
<p><b>WRITING</b></p> <p>The students are completing the research component of their paper. They will draft and finish the research paper after vacation.</p>	<p><b>ACT Goal of the Month-Leadership</b> "Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other." --John F. Kennedy  "Example is leadership." --Albert Schweitzer</p>