Parent / Teacher Communication

Communication between Parents and Teachers is highly encouraged at BCMA. In order to facilitate this process, I am providing the e-mail address of the faculty who work with the 6th Graders here at BCMA:

Math Department
1. Ms. Jaggi ajaggi@houstonisd.org
2. Mr. Dabas sdabas@houstonisd.org
3. Mr. Elegarle relegarl@houstonisd.org

ELA Department
1. Mr. Lee sle14@houstonisd.org
2. Mr. Giasson rgiasson@houstonisd.org
3. Ms. Harris jharri31@houstonisd.org

Reading Department
1. Mr. Hayner hhayner@houstonisd.org
2. Mr. Walker ewalker5@houstonisd.org
3. Mr. Martinez mmarti20@houstonisd.org

Social Studies Department
1. Mrs. Scott pscott7@houstonisd.org
2. Ms. Tonry atonry@houstonisd.org
3. Mr. Palmitier jpalmiti@houstonisd.org

Science Department
1. Mrs. Means-Gary cmeans@houstonisd.org
2. Ms. Odom kodom@houstonisd.org
3. Ms. Sudhakaran asudhaka@houstonisd.org

Neuroscience Department
1. Dr. Williams twilli71@houstonisd.org
2. Mr. Jacob Gage jgage@houstonisd.org

Latin
1. Ms. Kirk mkirk2@houstonisd.org
2. Mr. Tolliver ktollive@houstonisd.org

Gym
1. Mrs. Strong kstrong@houstonisd.org
2. Mrs. Johnson ajohns26@houstonisd.org

Math Lab
1. Ms. Bonno frestivo@houstonisd.org
2. Ms. Taplett rtaplett@houstonisd.org

6th Grade Announcements

6th Grade Award Ceremony
- Thursday, May 19, 2016 from 2:30PM – 4:00PM

GT (Vanguard) Testing Window #3
Students with applications in by the April 14th deadline will be tested on Tuesday, May 17th. Scores will not be in by the end of the year and those who Qualify will be notified over the summer.

Algebra I Testing for 6th Graders & 7th Graders
Math 6th & 7th (Non-Algebra I) will finish testing this week. Upon completion, scores will be calculated and applied to the Modified Matrix.

Students who are in 6th Grade and will be taking Algebra I in the 7th Grade will be notified immediately to begin to make plans to attend the Pre-Algebra Summer Bridge Program.

7th Grade students who will be taking Algebra I in the 8th Grade will be notified for a parent meeting in August/Sept.

Summer School 2016-2017 Overview

1st Day for Students: June 1, 2016
Final Day for Students: June 28, 2016
Student Report Time: 7:45AM – 3:15PM Monday through Thursday

Information has been distributed to all students

Important Dates in May
See Final Page of IA

Detention Dates in May
Monday May 9th & May 16th 4:15PM-6:15PM
Thursday May 12th & May 19th 4:15PM-6:15PM

Dress Code

Monday - Thursday
- Gray Polo Shirt w/BCMA Logo (Tucked Into) Khaki Pants or Knee Length Skirt w/Belt
- Gray BCMA Sweater or Solid Gray Sweater
- BCMA I.D. Badge worn on Neck (All Times)

Friday
- Solid Blue Jeans (No Cuts, Holes or Tears) with BCMA Spirit Shirt or College Shirt

Students who daily abuse Dress Code will have items (Jackets, Sweaters & Hats Confiscated by Dean)
This week in Ms. Tonry’s class we will...

This Week w/ Mrs. Jaggi, Mr. Dabas and Mr. Elegarle

Monday
  o Class Work: Mathematician Research Project

Tuesday & Wednesday
  o Presentation: Mathematician Research Project

Thursday & Friday
  o New Math Project: Fraction Monster & Percent

6th Grade ELA Agenda
J. Harris

6th Grade ELA Agenda – J. Harris

Monday – Friday
  • Grammar Warm-Up
  • Sacred Writing
  • Craft Mini-Lesson
  • Independent Genre Practice

HW: Continue Independent Practice/Vocabulary/Study for Quiz

*subject to change
**6th Grade Science Pre-AP Instructional Agenda**

“What’s Happening This Week in Science?”
Mrs. Gary-Means

**Monday/Tuesday:** Students will begin last unit on ecosystems and biomes and prepare for their final project assessment activity.

**Wednesday-Friday:** Students will engage in a study session review for their final assessment grade of the entire life science unit and all materials covered during previous grading cycles.

**This Week in Latin with Mr. Tolliver**

- Self-Directed Projects
  - Due May 16th to 20th
- Employ logic and counting in Latin to play **Vestigia** a Latin board game

**This Week in Social studies with Mr. Palmiter**

Visit [http://palmitierbcma.weebly.com](http://palmitierbcma.weebly.com)
This Week in Neuroscience with Dr. Williams

Monday - Friday
- Students learn about the brain's role in vision by experiencing well-known optical illusions.
- Bovine (cow) eye dissection

This Week in Science with Ms. Odom

Monday
Cells: Students will Describe Components of a Cell

Tuesday & Wednesday
Classifying Organisms: Students will Classify Organisms

Thursday & Friday
Ecosystems: Students describe parts of ecosystems

Homework
- Create your own Organism Activity
- Textbook Assignment: Cells

This Week in Latin w/Ms. Kirk

Cambridge Latin Course Website Access:
www.cambridgescp.com
Username: rgiasson@houstonisd.org
Password: bcmalatin

Online Translation Tool:
Whitaker's Words
Archives.nd.edu/words.html

Extra-credit:
Replenish class candy supply with one packaged and unopened bag of candy and replace your lowest homework and/or classwork grade

Tutorials – Wednesdays and by Appointment
Email: mkirk2@houstonisd.org
This Week in Science w/Mr. Gage

05/16/16 – Monday
B7: Eye Dissection Lab
Disclaimer: We will be dissecting either a sheep or cow’s eye. It will have a mild stench due to the preservative. Students are encouraged to participate although they do not have to should the smell nauseate or make them feel uncomfortable.
Final Exam. Students must turn in final exams which were given to them 05/12 and 05/13. If they have not turned them in, they must take them during class.
All grades are due 05/13 by 4:00 p.m.

05/17/16 – Tuesday
A1 / A5: Eye Dissection Lab
Disclaimer: We will be dissecting either a sheep or cow’s eye. It will have a mild stench due to the preservative. Students are encouraged to participate although they do not have to should the smell nauseate or make them feel uncomfortable.
Final Exam. Students must turn in final exams which were given to them 05/12 and 05/13. If they have not turned them in, they must take them during class.
All grades are due 05/13 by 4:00 p.m.

05/18/16 – Wednesday
B7
TBD, Scientific Documentary / Movie

05/19/16 – Thursday
A1, A5
A1: TBD, Science Fair Students will be going to the Museum of Natural Science
A5. Scientific documentary / movie

05/20/16 – Friday
B7
TBD, Scientific Documentary / Movie

Concerns w/Lab Safety: Crafted by Mr. Gage

***Note for parents: I have had a few concerns from students. Let me address some concerns and precautions.

Safety. This is imperative. At the beginning of each class I have explained the following:

A) We will be working with dissection instruments. These are surgical grade and are very sharp. Keep them in the dissection tray at all times unless given instruction. They are not toys. They are tools. These tools require supervision. For this reason, I want to keep talking and moving at a minimal during this lab to make sure no student gets hurt.

B) Smells. The sheep eye will have an odor. This is from the preservative. This smell will not hurt you but if it makes you uncomfortable, you may raise your hand and ask to leave the room but please do not roam the halls. You are still responsible for knowing the information in the lab even if you are not participating. Not being a participant will not count against you.

C) Sights. The sheep eye may make you feel uncomfortable. You do not have to handle, touch, insert pins, cut, dissect or manipulate the brain at all if you do not wish too. If the student is not bothered by the smell but does not want to be an active participant, I do encourage observation.

D) Overall. No student is under any obligation to participate or remain in the room if they are bothered by the smell or sight of the sheep brain. Mr. Gage does encourage students to participate but participation is not a requirement for this lab. If you have any questions or comments you may contact me at jgage@houstonisd.org.
This Week in the Math Lab w/Ms. Bonno and Ms. Taplett

Lab: Students will continue to enrich and strengthen their math skill with Think Through Math and their reading skills with Achieve 3000.

Although students work at their own pace all should be able to complete and pass at least 3 lessons per week and each lesson should take at least 30 minutes to thoroughly read and work completely.

Please remember that quiz and test grades come from lessons passed not completed.

Grading criteria is based on the program TTM.

Classwork (30%): Will be given daily based on work accomplished in class and recorded as follows:

Quizzes (15%): Quiz average for the week (Mon-Sun) will come from the post quiz average at the end of each lesson.

Project (15%): A grade will be given for completing the “Getting Ready for STAAR” pathway. All 18 “On Level” lessons (and any review lessons assigned) are due May 6.

Tests (20%): Test grades for the week (Mon-Sun) will come from Lessons passed:

1-3 lessons: 25 points each, 4th and 5th lesson 10 points each, 6th lesson: 5 points, 7th and beyond: 1 point each.

This grade will be recorded weekly.
Currently, students are using the Think Through Math (TTM) program to enrich and strengthen their Mathematics skills online in their Math GradLab classes and at home. The grading criteria for the class is based on the Think Through Math program and reports from the program are recorded weekly (Saturday - Friday) in the gradebook.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classwork</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>20%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Grades based on a Weighted Average Scale, and do not total 100%.

Please see below for more information in regard to the breakdown of the grading criteria mentioned above:

Quizzes: Quiz average for the week (Saturday – Friday) will come from the post quiz average at the end of each lesson from the Think Through Math program.

Tests: Test average of the “On Grade Level” or “Below Grade Level” pass rate (2 separate grades) for the week (Saturday – Friday) recorded from each lesson from the Think Through Math program.

Classwork: A minimum of 50 minutes per class (100 minutes per week) and maintaining a Math Journal is expected. Student are graded on the number of minutes spent in class working on Think Through Math. A weekly (Saturday – Friday) report is provided from the Think Through Math program with number of minutes completed for each lesson. Classwork for Ms. Kerawala’s classes will be graded at the 200 Minute Per Week requirement, this is no change to prior grading.

Project: Students are expected to complete and pass one lesson per day, or seven (7) lessons per week, either in class or at home.

I highly recommend each parent to monitor their child’s activities on Think Through Math (TTM) by setting up and registering with TTM at the following website and using their child’s username and password to link their account with their child:

[https://lms.thinkthroughmath.com/customers/1564/registrations/new](https://lms.thinkthroughmath.com/customers/1564/registrations/new)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, May 2 - Friday, May 6</td>
<td>Teacher Appreciation Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, May 4 - 11:00am</td>
<td>Teacher Appreciation Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, May 5 - 4:15pm</td>
<td>After School Dance Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, May 6</td>
<td>Pep Rally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, May 6 - 4:30pm-6:15pm</td>
<td>6th Grade Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, May 6 - 7pm-9pm</td>
<td>8th Grade Formal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday - May 8</td>
<td>MOTHER'S DAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, May 12 - 4:15pm</td>
<td>After School Dance Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, May 13 - 4:30pm-6:15pm</td>
<td>7th Grade Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, May 16 - Thursday, May 19\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>8th Grade Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 17 - 4:30pm</td>
<td>Talent Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, May 19 - 4:15pm</td>
<td>After School Dance Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, May 21</td>
<td>8th Grade Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 24</td>
<td>Field Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, May 25\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Fine Arts Showcase &amp; LAST DAY OF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>