

Katahdin Team Newsletter May 9, 2022



Upcoming Important Dates:

- *May 9th-11th: NWEA Testing!
- *May 11th: Early Release Day for Students
- *June 2nd (11:30-2:00) 8th Grade Celebration at Readfield Beach
- *June 3rd: 5th Grade "Virtual" Middle School Team Visits with incoming 5th Graders.
- *June 8- Katahdin Team Field Trip to Monkey C Monkey Do (8:15-1pm)
- *June 10: Step Up Day for 5th(to MS) and 8th Graders(to HS)
- *June 13: Advisee Day Out- Spend the day with your Advisee Group
- *June 15: Last Student Day - 11:30 Dismissal



END OF YEAR FIELD TRIP.....

**On Wednesday, June 8th
We are taking the
KATAHDIN TEAM
to "Monkey C Monkey Do"
in Wiscasset, Me for some
"Astronaut Training"...
An Awesome day of
"Challenge by Choice".**

Monkey C Monkey Do is Maine's Premier Aerial Adventure Park which features over 50 climbing elements, 6 Zip Lines and a 35 ft Giant Swing. It's unique design makes it suitable for children as young as four with higher elements challenging enough for the most adventurous teen or college student. Please keep an eye out for permission slips which will be sent home next week.

Note: We will be paying the \$15 per person admission fee for every student (paid with Katahdin Fundraising profits). Please plan to send your child with a lunch from home or state on the permission slip if you would like your child to order a bag lunch from school. Kids should bring a water bottle, snacks,

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and wear comfortable clothes, sneakers, etc. We are looking forward to this awesome field trip to end the school year- We've brought kids here many times- and they always have a blast!

****We are planning to bring 4-5 chaperones. If parents would like to attend please reach out to sherri_pelletier@maranacook.org (Reminder all chaperones must complete the volunteer form through the Central Office (Contact Phyllis Cote in the MS Office).**

News from Mr. A's Classes!

In our "Colonization of Space" class students recently completed a slideshow timeline of space exploration, starting with the Soviet Union's launch of Sputnik I, in October of 1957, to current space exploration news to include Elon Musk and the SpaceX Program. A lot of ground to cover, but each student was required to prepare a short presentation that illustrated and explained a particular date on that time line. A lot of good research was done by the students and the presentations were really interesting!

In the "Earth's Place in the Universe" class, we are currently studying the 8 phases of our Moon. Students are understanding why the Moon has phases, what they are, and what they look like in the night sky. Next week we will begin studying the planets and all that makes up our solar system. Comets, asteroids, meteoroids, the Sun, etc... Exciting stuff ahead....

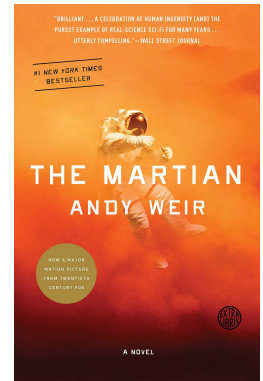


Katahdin ELA classes with Ms. Jewett

As the school year starts to wind down, Katahdin students in Space Stories are practicing fun ways to use their Argumentative Vocabulary words– online Jeopardy proved to be very engaging, as teams wagered points to see who could get the most questions correct. We are reading “The Martian (Classroom Edition)” together in

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class, discussing which side of the argument *Should We Colonize Mars* students are on. Students have been practicing stating their claims and supporting their claims with evidence with a variety of *Would you Rather* prompts. Some of these discussions get quite deep! Students continue to choose their own books for Independent Reading with the expectation that they read at least 2 hours per week. Next month students will be presenting their Book Projects to their class, highlighting a book they read this trimester.



In our Space Exploration/writing workshop, students have been putting the finishing touches on their argumentative essays. Students chose from a wide variety of topics, developed their argument, thesis, and supporting evidence. This produced some really interesting essays- from how important pets are, free healthcare to all US citizens, the benefits of playing sports, to whether Mars is worth exploring or not. In this class we are also practicing letter writing, drafting Buddy Letters for our incoming 6th graders. We brainstormed the important topics to write about, imagining being a 6th grader (again!), walking into MCMS for the very first time. Students are excited for these letters to be mailed to new Katahdin students over the summer!

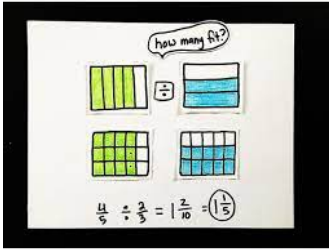
Math with Mrs. Pelletier

In 8th Grade we recently did Science MEA testing, took a field trip during ADO to UMA(for college readiness goals) and in 8th grade Math we are working in the Transformations Unit of Geometry(how shapes change position on the Coordinate plane)- We are currently working to write translation and rotation rules and identifying the rules which have occurred by analyzing the change from original shape to translated image.

Transformation Rules	
Translation:	$(x, y) \rightarrow (x + \underline{a}, y + \underline{b})$
Reflection:	over the x-axis $(x, y) \rightarrow (x, -y)$ over the y-axis $(x, y) \rightarrow (-x, y)$ over the $y = x$ line $(x, y) \rightarrow (y, x)$ over the $y = -x$ line $(x, y) \rightarrow (-y, -x)$
Rotation:	90 degrees CCW $(x, y) \rightarrow (-y, x)$ *Same as 270 degrees CW 180 degrees CCW $(x, y) \rightarrow (-x, -y)$ *Same as 180 degrees CW 270 degrees CCW $(x, y) \rightarrow (y, -x)$ *Same as 90 degrees CW
Dilation:	$(x, y) \rightarrow (kx, ky)$ *k = scale factor

In 7th Grade we've been working with unit rate/unit price and how we can solve real world problems with this understanding. We are now also using proportions to find unknown amounts in scenarios (\$ exchange, unknown distance in scale models, etc.)

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In 6th grade we are working at modeling division of fractions by fractions as part of our Number Systems unit- This week we will be doing our Spring NWEA testing and then end the week working through operations with decimals.

******* If your child needs extra time to complete school work- I run a Katahdin Team Study Hall during Activity period- where many students choose to get help and finish work.**

***As part of our 8th Grade Celebration on June 2nd, We are holding a Corn Hole Tournament**

40+ 8th graders currently plan to compete- So I am in search of 8-10 sets of Corn Hole Boards and Bags. If you are willing to let us borrow your boards- Please reach out to Mrs. Pelletier by Thursday May 19th. We would need them dropped off at school by Tuesday May 31st.

Thanks for considering!

