

RED TOP MEADOWS

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER WINTER 2 SESSION 2018



Life Skills: In the life skills elective students learned about how the brain works and explored the concept of neuroplasticity, or, the brain's ability to grow and change. Students explored the different parts of the brain through readings, multimedia representation and discussion. Students created models of neurons and wrote about their learning on how the brain can grow, including information they researched as well as personal experiences of learning something new.

Social Studies: Students compared and contrasted the different parts of Greek history including the most influential city-states in ancient Greece: Athens and Sparta. Students enthusiastically played games, read, and analyzed myths to learn about Greek mythology and the 12 Olympian gods.

Science: In physical science students created a sales brochure for an element of their choosing to showcase their understanding about the forms of matter. Then, they investigated and prepared a student-led lab on the molecules within a chemical reaction of their choice as evidence of their learning on interactions between molecules.

In life science, middle school students worked together to create a poster that maps out the connections between the structures and functions of the organelles within cells. The high school life science students modeled the structure of DNA using a K'nex modelling lab. They created flip-books to demonstrate how DNA replicates.

PE: Students learned and practiced telemark skiing around campus to increase their skills and proficiency in preparation for the upcoming winter wilderness.

Reading: Students read The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton in reading class this quarter. The Outsiders is a book about a group of boys dealing with the pressures of society, stereotypes, and coming of age. Students read together as well as independently. They answered questions and participated in discussions to support their comprehension.

Language Arts: Students continued to increase vocabulary awareness through the daily use of the Mrs. Wordsmith illustrated vocabulary curriculum. Students read short stories to determine themes and analyzed in detail their development through the text. Students investigated characters' development over the course of a story and how it affected the development of the plot.

Math: Students in pre-algebra and algebra 1 solved inequalities, graphed equations, practiced working with slope intercept form, and learned direct variation. Geometry students drew different shapes to evidence their learning about patterns and lines. Middle school students learned and practiced computing and moving between fractions and decimals.

Personal Finance: Using the "Dave Ramsey Personal Finance Curriculum" students discovered the value of implementing a zero based budget in their personal lives. Students created a functioning budget for a hypothetical family situation and the imaginary family's set monthly income. Included in the imaginary family situation were surprise expenses, just like real life.

VISION: All students will acquire the academic, social, and behavioral skills necessary for success in school and in life.

MISSION: To increase students' confidence as learners by providing multiple opportunities for academic, social, and behavioral success; to cultivate students' capacity to generalize the process of learning in the classroom to learning in life; and to empower students' ability to make and sustain positive change.

