**Middle School September Academic Update!**

**Mrs. Ghani’s September Update for Middle School Science:**

6th grade focused on how you can identify what an organism is based on 6 key characteristics and began an introduction to cells and Cell Theory.

7th grade focused on how organisms change over time.

8th grade began an introduction to heredity; genetic traits and characteristics.

**Mrs. Chiocca’s September Update for Middle School Social Studies:**

6th grade has been learning about Mesopotamia, the Fertile Crescent, and all about the Sumer civilization.

7th grade has been learning about Ancient Greece, what government in Athens was like, and Greek mythology / literature.

8th grade has been learning about what happened before the Americas were discovered by the Europeans. They have been learning about the MesoAmerican civilizations, Native Americans, West Africa, and what was going on in Europe pre-transatlantic travel.

**Mr. McMullen-Ruppert’s September Update for Middle School Math:**

6th grade has been working on adding, subtracting, and multiplying decimals.

7th grade has been working on adding and subtracting integers using number lines.

8th grade has been working on identifying rational and irrational numbers.

**Mrs. Jones’s September Update for Middle School English Language Arts:**

All middle school students are studying narrative writing. Students are reading several examples from Roald Dahl and Ji Li Jiang to help the students understand how to tell a story descriptively in their own personal writing.

**Mr. Smith September Update for Elementary & Middle School Music:**

Students started September off by learning about the legendary composer Beethoven. Next, we began connecting music to not only visual arts and natural sciences, but also with mathematics. Students also got to appreciate the many different electric guitars and violins.

**Sensei Ellis’s Update for Elementary & Middle School Martial Arts:**

For September, all students were instructed on safety in regard to proper warmup and stretching, as well as the Biomechanics of how the body moves.

**Mrs. Rausch’s September Update for Read-Aloud:**

In the month of September, we have been reading *The One and Only Ivan* and *Because of Winn Dixie.* Movie clips have been played to correspond with the chapter that we are reading.