

Earth Science Newsletter – February, 2019

(Mr. Williams ~ Rm. C-423)

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Dear Parents/Families:

Hello, I hope everyone is staying warm! Just a quick update to let you know how things are going in our Earth Science classroom this month. We are wrapping up with Earth History, and the unit exam will take place just prior to winter recess on February 15th. In other exam news, students now have had their midterm exams scored and passed back to them. Those exams should be kept with their earth science materials, and used for studying purposes as we move toward the end of the year.

Students will be starting the Meteorology unit as soon as we return from winter break. After that, if you can believe it, we only have two units remaining: Climate and Astronomy. Once the Astronomy unit is complete we will enter full Regents review mode!

Report cards for the second quarter are going out tomorrow. If you notice a comment that says your child is at risk of Regents ineligibility that means they have not been completing and submitting lab reports. Those students will need to start coming in soon during advisement or after school to complete back lab work and stay up-to-date as we move forward in class with additional lab activities. Many students will see room for improvement in their grades, and it is critical that they use my homework calendar to keep track of due dates: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Gn_sjw44lGNsw7Eprxz2f9eXnMP3OsUdAzFnB9leQa8/edit. Also, I am always available during Academic Advisement or after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays for additional support.

In extracurricular news, the “walking on water” polar science expedition is taking place this Saturday at Camp Talooli. Your child will have brought home paperwork yesterday if they intend to participate. In addition, I have invited engineers from Barton and Loguidice to visit my classroom after school on

Tuesday, February 5th. They will be discussing the engineering profession as well as facilitating a design/build challenge (with prizes for the students!). It will be a great opportunity for any students interested in engineering, and it is open to all students.

Honors Only: Just a reminder that the Earth Science Symposium is coming up on Saturday, March 23rd (8:30-1:30). Here are the upcoming due dates for students:

Friday, February 8th: Final Draft of Symposium Article due for publication.

Monday, March 4th: Google Slides Presentation is due.

Wednesday, March 13th: PDF file of poster is due (directions/options on Google Classroom).

The remainder of the symposium process is based on the students' two-page articles. Although some of the deadlines might appear to be "far" in the future, it is important that students implement time management strategies and avoid procrastination regarding these last important steps of the symposium process. Students must make time to see me when they are having difficulty with something.

Regards,

Mr. Williams