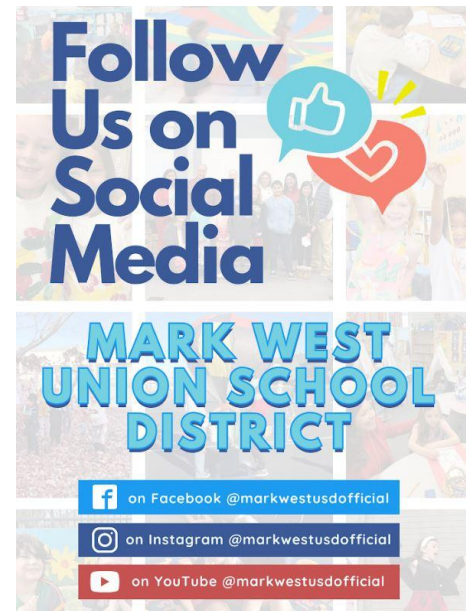


Mark West Charter School Newsletter 9/29/2023



From the District: "Would you like to stay informed about school and district wide events/activities/programs; or view the school day through the eyes of your child? The Mark West Union School District encourages all of our parents/guardians to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#)! Feel free to "like" the posts, comment on posts you find engaging, and share posts of all the wonderful things happening in our district with family and friends!"

From Ms. Franci: Ms. Chapman went into all the homerooms and did a "what if" in Jupiter. She showed the students the effects of scores on their overall grade. She created a mock student and assignments then showed the change in their grade when an assignment was not turned in equaling a 0, when an assignment was half done equaling a 50%, a complete assignment equaling 100% and varying percentages in between. Students were amazed how turning in something is better than nothing!

Parents: On Friday, September 29 our PTA hosted our first movie night. To say it was a success might be an understatement. We parked 50 cars on the blacktop and had over 100 people on the grass. The charter students hosted a snack bar and sold out of sno-cones 3 times! It was so fun and a great community building event. Thank you Mark West families and PTA!



Staff:

As a staff we have been working on SEL for students. Today they did a group blanket challenge where they had to try to flip the blanket over while standing on it. This took a lot of teamwork and all were successful. We debriefed about the frustrations and difficulty and how eventually they all overcame it to be successful.

At our District Day training staff were led by Nikarre Redcoff from SCOE on PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports). They were given time to plan uses for this on site.

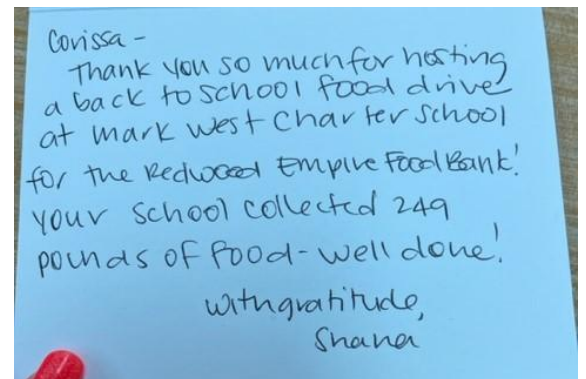
Students:

Ms. Kaufman: The strings music elective ended the quarter with two short assembly performances for elementary and charter students on Tuesday, October 17. The performances featured music fit for a funeral (the theme from Mahler's Symphony No. 1 - 3rd movement) and a wedding (an excerpt from Pachelbel's Canon in D). We also created an original piece of music on the spot by improvising a short pattern using the D major pentatonic scale with a lively backing track to help us keep the steady beat. This musical improv activity is called "The Infinity Loop." Our performance featured five violins, one viola, two cellos, one guitar, one trombone, a piano, and an electronic keyboard. Stay tuned for our next performance in December!



From Ms. Sunde:

MWCS leadership promoted a food drive for the month of September. Thanks to all the families that donated to the food drive!!

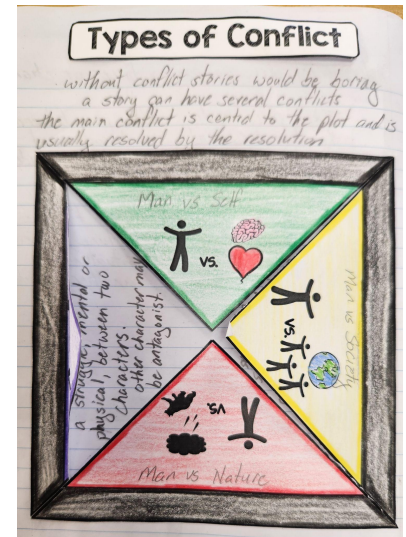
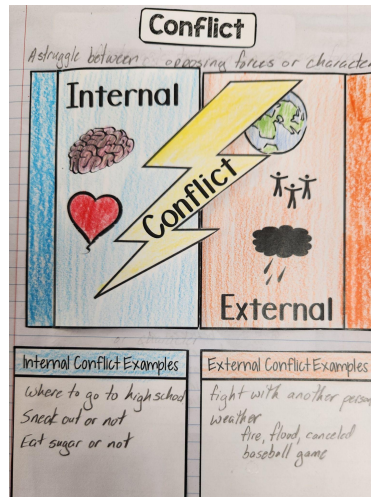
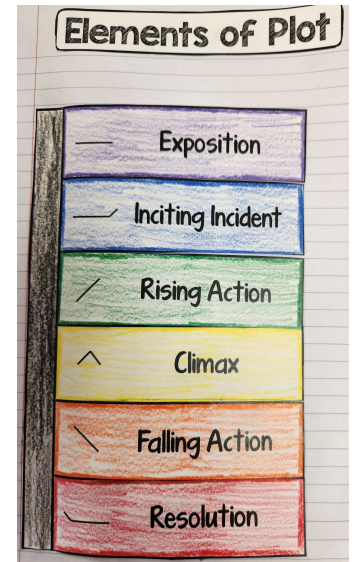
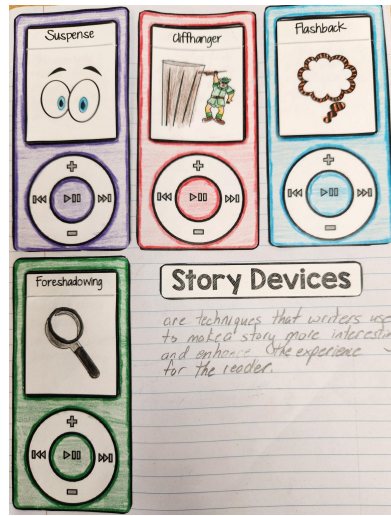


In 7th grade science we have been learning about levers in the body! We are also constructing catapults for Halloween, to shoot marshmallows at zombies!!

Ms. Woods:

MWCS 8th Grade ELA/History -

In ELA we have been learning about narrative stories, elements of a plot, types of conflict, story devices, types of characters, and figurative language. We did this first through interactive notebooks, then by reading the novel Lord of the Flies, by William Golding, and will be completing the Unit with each student writing their own narrative. Classroom discussions have been rich while reading this allegory novel. Students will also be completing a final novel project that they can choose from a list of twelve options.



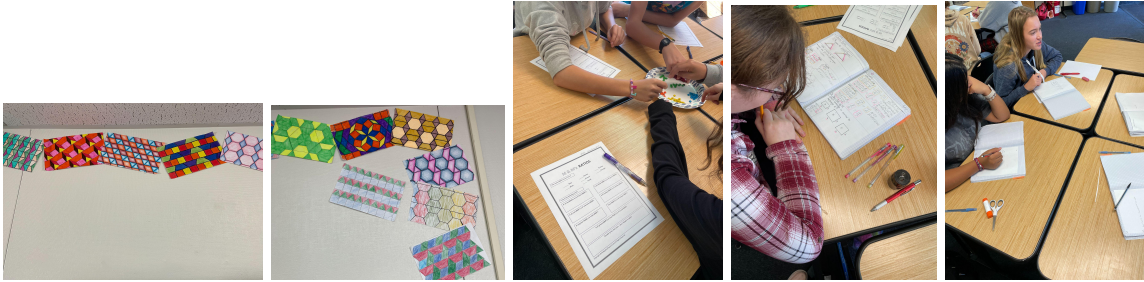
In History students just finished learning about the Declaration of Independence. A simulation of taxation without representation was done in class so that students could empathize with the colonists. Students just finished creating comic strips of the events leading up to the American Revolution and will now begin learning about the various battles and events of the Revolution. Then we will begin learning about the formation of this great country, our constitution, the preamble, and our branches of government.



From Ms. Dickey:

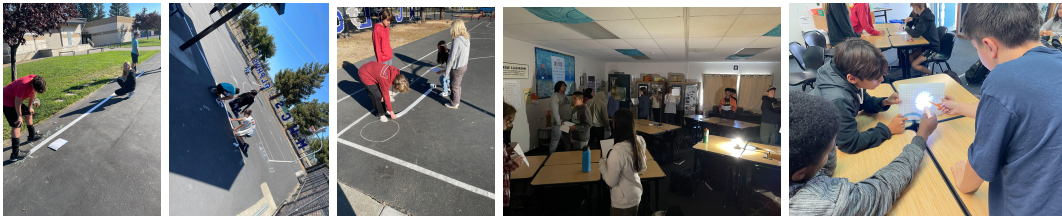
8th Grade Math

We wrapped up our geometry unit (always a favorite of the students!). As part of the unit, students completed tessellation (tiling) art. They are also so creative and came out wonderfully! We reviewed ratios with a fun, hands-on activity, to prepare for using ratios and proportions. In preparation for their test, students prepared a study guide together as a class. We will move on to angles in our next unit.



8th Grade Science

We have continued our exploration of space. We created our own scale models of the solar system. It was extra exciting to learn about a space phenomenon and then witness it in real-life (sort of, of course it was cloudy!) when we had an annular solar eclipse on the 14th! Students completed their month-long observations of the Moon. The students have been extremely open-minded about the science curriculum pilot we are testing and have enjoyed the hands-on activities.

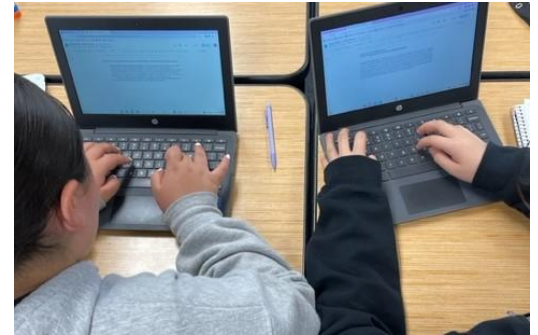
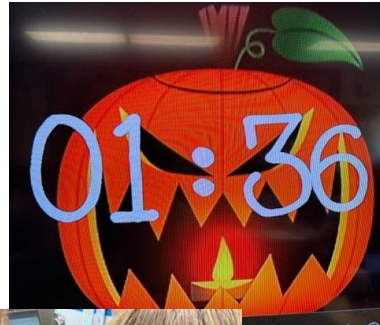
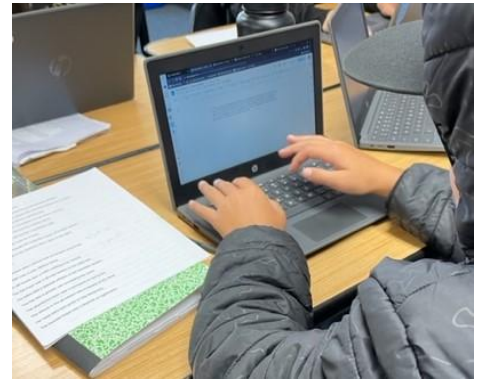
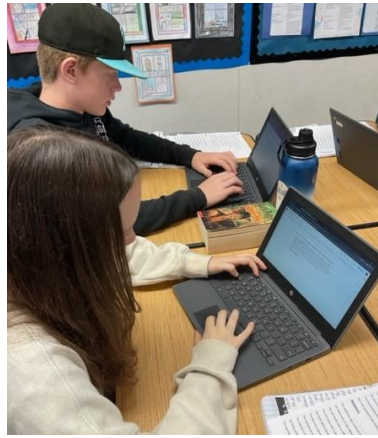


Forensics

We wrapped up the quarter with learning about DNA. We extracted DNA from strawberries! We also learned a little about what a forensic anthropologist does. Our final unit of study was on arson. We completed the course with a fun and competitive game of Jeopardy.

From Mr. Carusone:

The students have been creating scary stories. For this activity students picked their own partner or triad. They were given 3 story starters to choose from. They were to write the exposition of the story (setting, character introduction and conflict). Each partner picked their own and were given 5 minutes to start. Then they switched chromebooks and were given 5 minutes to continue their partner's story. This went back and forth each time the writer was to add imagery or figurative language. Each time a switch was made a new color or font was used to denote who was typing.



1. You feel yourself slowly becoming a monster. As each day passed, Uerckl felt a growing sense of unease that he couldn't quite explain. It started with small, subtle changes - an unrelenting anger that simmered just beneath the surface, and an insatiable hunger for something he couldn't quite identify. At first, he brushed it off as stress, attributing these odd sensations to the pressures of his busy life. The fog rolled in like a shroud, concealing all in its eerie embrace. He knew he was changing. With blood coming down from his eyes, Bumpy, rough sharp teeth, and oily muscles.
2. Uerckl decided to run into the woods and came across an old graveyard, the graveyard was covered in a darkness that looked like a shroud and covered everything Uercks was veery hungry and before he could stop himself he ate all the corpses in the graveyard, but he was still hungry so he tried to eat bark. But the bark tasted really bad so he spit it at a bunny and then ate the bunny, yum yum yum, he was still hungry so he went and dug up a gravestone and ate a body in there, he did that fo about 69 more gravestones, he heard a noise so he ran deeper into the dark scary woods and climbed a tree, he decided he was going to play minecraft i rl he tried to punch a tree but instead broke his hands, then all of a sudden the tank of nick basa came i

The Mark West USD is looking to add more support to our personnel staff. We are hiring paraeducators, yard supervisors, office support, lunch heaters and crossing guards. These positions are flexible; you can choose how much you'd like to work. If you've thought about working at your child's school, this is the perfect opportunity.

To apply, visit <https://mwusd.org/employment> to fill out an application.

For more information, please contact Marcia Noxon at (707)524-2970 or mnoxon@mwusd.org.

We look forward to adding you to the Mark West District family!

Mark West Union School District

SUBSTITUTES NEEDED!

BE A PART OF THE MARK WEST DISTRICT FAMILY!

We are looking for Classified Personnel:

- Paraeducators
- Yard Supervisors
- Office Support
- Lunch Heaters
- Crossing Guards

.....
Please contact Marcia Noxon at
(707) 524-2970 or
mnoxon@mwusd.org for more
information

Visit the District website to complete
a Classified application
<https://mwusd.org/employment/>
.....



Important dates:

October 31: Halloween - Students bring costumes and change at lunch. Carnival in the afternoon!

November 3: MWCS 1st Quarter Report cards sent home

November 7: Election Day

November 10: Veterans Day Observed - No School

November 14: Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day

District Board Meeting - 5:00pm

November 18: MW PTA Night at the Warriors

November 20-24: Thanksgiving Week - No School

November 29: DELAC Meeting - 5:30pm

December 6: Walk and Roll to School

December 12: District Board Meeting - 5:00pm

December 21: MWCS End of 2nd Quarter

December 22 - January 8: Winter Break - No School

January 9: School resumes after Winter Break

January 15: Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School

January 18: Kindergarten Information Night

January 19: MWCS 2nd Quarter Report cards sent home

January 25: PTA General Meeting - 5:30pm