

## Lightning Cluster Update

09/13/24



We had a great first full week of the school year. Please read through the reminders below to stay up to date with what's happening in Grade 6 on Team Lightning!

### General Info:

- If you have not done so already, please check out our [Team Lightning Welcome Letter 2024-25](#) with important information about 6th grade routines.
- Don't forget to register your child's chromebook (use this [link](#)). Students who have not yet registered will have limited access to their Chromebooks. We had several students experience this today as they were working in classes. You will need your student's device number to register. This can be found on the cover of their school Chromebook. In addition to registering, you will have the option to purchase Chromebook insurance for this school year. We highly recommend purchasing the insurance for \$45 instead of paying the repair/replacement fee of \$250 for an uninsured, damaged device. Please reach out to the office with any questions.
- Thank you to everyone who has already **filled out the Parent/Family Survey**. It has given us some great information about our students to help us make meaningful connections and know how to best support them! **If you haven't filled it out yet, [here is the link](#) !**
- If you haven't already, feel free to add our **Lightning Cluster Homework Calendar** to your personal Google Calendar by clicking [this link](#), then selecting "add". Students have already added this calendar to their Franklin Google accounts. Homework assignments for all four academic classes will be posted here each night. If you are having trouble syncing the calendar to your phone, try [these steps](#).
- Some students have been struggling to carry all their belongings from class to class. If it would be helpful, we have suggested that they bring in a small tote bag to help them.
- Please remind students to charge their chromebooks everyday after school. They should be coming to school with a **fully charged chromebook**.
- There will be an **early release day on Tuesday, September 17** for teacher professional development. Students will be dismissed at **10:45 am**.



### **Upcoming Assessments and/or Due Dates:**

- **Tentative Unit 8 Math Assessment - September 27th**

## Curriculum Updates:

**ELA:** The students worked diligently on their "Where I'm From" poems this week, so we will read our first short story, "Eleven" by Sandra Cisneros next week and finish our first read aloud. While reading this story, we will focus on using active reading strategies, identifying character traits, and point of view. We will utilize a resource called **CommonLit** to read most of our short stories this year. Students will be prompted to answer guided reading questions as they read to help them get in the habit of pausing periodically to make sure they are comprehending what they are reading.

Next week, students will begin working on their **Summer Reading Presentations**. Students will be asked to present these to the small group they sit with in class. [Here is a copy of the slideshow](#) and a completed [teacher example](#) for your reference.



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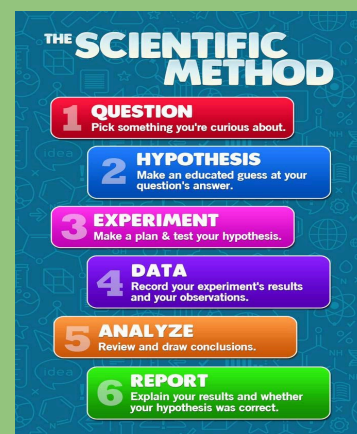
**Math:** This week in Math we continued our work with Data, Variability, and Statistical Questions. Students worked through understanding categorical data vs. numerical data, reading and creating dot plots (line plots) and bar graphs. Students learned about what characteristics make a statistical question and are also working on analyzing data sets. Next week, we will expand on this work by working with histograms (creating and interpreting) as well as working with measures of center and variability and learn how to calculate mean average.

We began Unit 8 Data & Statistics this week. Students received their purple workbook in class this past week and set up their notes for this unit. Students should bring their workbook and notebook to class every day. We began discussing the difference between numerical and categorical data, identifying and creating statistical questions, and began to graph data on dot plots. We will continue with these skills next week and learn how to make histograms and calculate mean average. Here is the family support link for [data, variability, and statistical questions](#) so that you can learn more about what your child will be learning in this unit.

**Science:** This week we continued to work our Inquiry Unit. This week we tested with pennies and water. We looked at how many drops they could have on each side of the penny. We are still working on identifying the independent variable, dependent variable, control, and constant variables in an experiment.

All students have a Virtual Notebook for Science, this is found on their Science Google Classroom. I also keep a virtual notebook for each class. Everyone is able to access my notebook in Google Classroom as well. We have found this to be helpful if a student is absent, misses class, or they want to double check their notes with mine.

**Important Vocab:** Hypothesis, Control Variable, Constant Variables, Independent Variable, Dependent Variable, Qualitative and Quantitative Observations



**Social Studies:** We quite enjoyed learning about each other this week from sharing our artifact bags. Next week, we'll dive into the five social scientist careers by analyzing and discussing



photographs, reading text, and designing a “Help Wanted” poster, web page or slide show for the career of their choice. After we build upon essential social studies skills, our first unit will be human origins.

**Special Education:** If your child is on an IEP, please check your email for Ms. Goode’s Introductory Letter if you have not already done so. Feel free to reach out to Ms. Goode [goodel@franklinps.net](mailto:goodel@franklinps.net) with any questions or concerns you may have. Starting this school year, IEPs are now formatted and written differently than in past years. Please be sure to review [this video](#) to become familiar with the additions and changes being made to the **New IEP Form**.

**Teacher Emails:**

- Joe Corey, Social Studies and ELA, [coreyj@franklinps.net](mailto:coreyj@franklinps.net)
- Erin Bouchard, Science and Math, [boucharde@franklinps.net](mailto:boucharde@franklinps.net)
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