



Maple Avenue English

Department Update

December 2023

6th Grade English

In 6th grade, we are continuing the Inspirational People unit while learning about Gandhi and Malala. As this unit comes to a close, students will be reading our first novel, A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park. A Long Walk To Water teaches about water conditions in South Sudan, Africa. The story is told from two perspectives, a girl named Nya and a boy named Salva. The reader follows the story of Salva and Nya's journey through Sudan with little water, and little family.

Focus Skills:

- Text Dependent Analysis
- Author's Point of View

Links for Reference:

[Text Dependent Analysis Video](#)

[Author's Point of View Video](#)

7th Grade English

In Mrs. Liberty's class, the students will be going back in time to Victorian England to visit with Ebenzer Scrooge and Dickinson's classic, A Christmas Carol.

Students are reminded the IXLs are still due on Thursdays and their reading logs should continue.

In Ms. Wittle's class, students are learning the fate of Ponyboy, Dally, Johnny and the rest of the Greasers in The Outsiders.

When we return in January, all of the 7th graders will be walking into the mythical world of Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief.

We will continue with IXI and our interactive notebooks and with the book, we will continue our close reading skills of learning to read like a writer and analyze the text.

8th Grade English

As students move into December, writing becomes the primary focus in ELA class. Students are now improving 2 different facets of their writing, through practicing how to cite evidence in short (ACE paragraphs) and how to create long (compositions) responses. However, more importantly, students will be working on explaining how their evidence supports opinions. We continue to work on improving our reading skills as well as improving the grammar in our writing.