

# January

Geraldine Claytor Magnet  
Academy  
2021

Snow is falling  
and books are  
calling...

## From the Principal's Desk

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a nice holiday break with their families and friends. We resume in-person learning on Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. Remote learners are still expected to attend their classes on the TEAMS platform on a daily basis. Claytor Academy will continue to adhere to the City of Bridgeport and State of CT safety procedures and protocols. Our main goals as we continue the school year are to implement every necessary measure to protect our students, staff and families while providing our students with a quality education.

Take care and be safe!

## Dates to Remember:

**Friday, January 1, 2021** – No School, New Year's Day

**Wednesday, January 6, 2021** – No School, Three King's Day

**Monday, January 11, 2021** – Tentative Return date for in person learning. (Please check <https://www.bridgeportedu.net/mybbsportals> for any changes.)

**Monday, January 18, 2021** – No School, Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday

**Wednesday, January 20, 2021** - Half Day, School Improvement Day

*Parents and students can access information about logging into Teams, as well as other information on the school website at <https://www.bridgeportedu.net/Claytor>*

## PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade News

**PreK** - Students in PreK will be learning all about Animals in Winter during the month of January. Our little ones will be reading stories and participating in math, science, gross motor and art activities that focus on animals that hibernate, migrate, or adapt to the environment during the cold winter months.

**Kindergarten** – In January 2021, we will be listening to stories about winter and how other countries celebrate the new year on Get Epic. We will be developing our bulletin board to reflect our written assignments related to text.

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade** - Our first graders have started a new unit in Literacy called "What Makes a Community?" They will begin to work on Teen Numbers and Making Ten to Add for Math. In Science, they will continue to learn about light and how light and sound help us communicate.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** – In Literature, students will be learning about poetry and its different features. In Math, students will be learning different methods to solve two digit subtraction problems. In Science, students will continue to learn about matter.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade** – Grade 3 will continue to focus on multiplication and division. Students must practice becoming fluent in the multiplication tables from 0 through 12. In addition, students will begin to learn about fractions, focusing on equal parts of a whole.

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade** –The fourth grade will be focusing on reading expository texts in reading. For writing, we will be working on comparing and contrasting essays. For Social Studies, we will continue working on our Martin Luther King Jr. research project. In science, class will continue learning about energy.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade**- Fifth Graders are learning how to analyze author's voice and identify and use literary elements. In Math, students are learning how to solve word problems using numbers and Operations. In Science, students are learning about Matter and its states and properties and in Social Studies, students are learning about the U.S. Constitution.

**Resource (PreK – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade)** - In January 2021 we will be listening to stories about winter and how other countries celebrate the New Year on Get Epic. We will be developing our bulletin board to reflect our written assignments related to text.

## 6th – 8th grade and Specialists News

**6th Grade** –ELA: Students are reading "The Hunger Games", focusing on character traits and using R.A.C.E. Writing: Students are working on written responses that demonstrate how well they can make connections between the text and life events.

### 7th Grade:

**Math** – Students will continue graphing proportional relationships.

**ELA** – 7th and 8th Grade students are continuing with their novels, Night and Catching Fire. Students are also writing 2020 reflections and coming up with goals and strategies to be better students.

**Science** –7th grade students will learn about elastic energy and the conservation/transfer of energy.

**Social Studies** - Students in both 7 & 8 grade will be learning about the Bill of Rights, the first 10 amendments to the Constitution.

### 8th Grade:

**Math** - Students will focus on recognizing congruent figures.

**Science** – 8th grade students will learn more about how traits are passed down.

**Art – Pre-K 3 and 4:** Color scavenger hunts, line and color games, pattern making, Piggie and Gerald stories with related directed drawings.

**Grades K and 1:** Robots with tin foil embellishments, Fairy Tale Castles, Happy Fish, Polar Bear Drawings with Landscape Backgrounds, Turtle and Elephant directed drawings.

**Grades 2 and 3:** Flashlight drawings with a focus on Contrast, Little Owls at Night, Dragons Love Tacos, 3D Barn Drawings, Turtle and Elephant directed drawings.

**Grades 4 and 5:** St. Basil's Cathedral, Windows at Night, Truffula Trees.

**Grades 6, 7, 8:** Wenzel Hablik Universe, Mindful Moment Watercolor with focus on Space, Value, and Texture.

**Coding** – For the entirety of the month, students will learn how to code using code.org. Code.org provides students off all ages with the skills they need to build a strong foundation in coding.

**Gym – PK-2** – Students will be working on compound locomotor movements such as skipping, galloping and leaping.

**Grades 3-5** – Students are working on expressing themselves through expressive exercise. They will be making choices and showing their emotions through exercise activities.

**Grades 6-8** – Students are working on written or orated assignments, which is allowing them to increase their Language Arts skills as well as reflect on their thoughts and actions.

**Music: Pre-K through 5:** Students are experiencing a variety of musical elements using the Quaver music platform. These elements include basic music theory ideas such as reading and writing melodies and rhythms, beginning composition, and music history.

**Grades 6/7/8:** Students are continuing to explore different musical genres, styles, and elements. Including brief biographies of important composers. We will be introducing composition, using technology, when we return to school.

**Resource (5th – 8th Grade)** - In reading, we will be working on identifying main ideas and supporting details for passages. In math, we will be solving word problems and analyzing graph data.

### Guidance:

In accordance with the district protocol for attendance, the school attendance team is reaching out to families to support student's attendance. We are continuing to collaborate with teachers and staff to improve student's attendance on a daily basis.

### ESL:

Beginning in January, our ESL students will begin taking the Las Links English proficiency annual state test. Students will be tested in the four areas of Speaking, Reading, Listening and Writing. The test will be administered in person and parents of the remote learners will be contacted to set up days and times for their children to come in to take the exam. I know our ESL students will try their best on the test!!

### School Psychologist:

The New Year is a good time to focus on mindfulness. It is important for children to learn these skills, which will allow them to become more aware of their thoughts and feelings. Here is a link that will provide useful strategies to help us become more mindful.

<https://childmind.org/article/how-mindfulness-can-help-during-covid-19/>

### Social Work:

Self-management is an important key to regulating emotions. Follow this link to read an article on growing self-management in our children through all their stages.

<https://apertureed.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Promoting-SEL-at-Home-SelfM.pdf>

