



Newsletter

Outlook Academy

December 2023



Student Reminders:

Student ID Procedures:

students are required to wear their OA ID. Students are not allowed on campus without an ID. If you lose your ID, you must report to the main office to purchase a temporary ID. Students are not allowed in the hallway without a school ID.

Ventra Cards:

Lost, stolen, or damaged Ventra cards require new paperwork and a \$10 replacement fee. Please see Mr. Valant and/or Mrs. Verdin.

Attendance:

All student absences and/or early dismissals should be reported to the OA Main Office at 708-225-5875.

Our Truancy Department and Officer Owens conduct daily attendance checks. Questions about attendance should be directed to Officer Owens at 708-225-5871.



CONNECT WITH US

brower.loribeth@district205.net

708-225-5875 or 708-225-5879

Upcoming Events

For parent Information, comments, or concerns regarding attendance please contact Truancy Officer Owens at 708-225-5871.

- Remember to call the office when your student is going to be absent at 708-225-5875 or 5869.
- Please visit our webpage at www.district205.net/domain/315 to view pictures, download forms, get access to other links, and much more.

Parents/guardians of students may access attendance, grades, and assignments using one log-in at: <https://powerschool.ttdistrict205.net/public>

District 205 Credit Recovery 2023-2024

Mrs. Patricia Malopsy-Fortier
District Credit Recovery Program
Administrator

If you have any questions regarding Credit Recovery, please contact your Home School Counselor and/or credit Recovery Building Coordinator or visit the district website: www.district205.net/areasofinstruction/creditrecovery

Outlook Academy
Mr. Josh Folsom
OA Credit Recovery Coordinator
folsom.joshua@district205.net



ACCESS Testing for English Learners which assesses proficiency in the domains of reading, writing, listening, and speaking will be approaching quickly in January.

If you need assistance in your classes, please reach out to me in 3495 or email me at cwest@ttdistrict205.net

We will have another Honors and Attendance Awards Celebration in January and I hope students are aiming to be a part of it!

Look for information coming soon on a Girls' Group to meet for mentoring, discussion, and support.



From: Patricia A. Malopsy Fortier, Program Administrator

Wishing Everyone a Joyful Holiday Season!

As the holiday season approaches, I wanted to take a moment to extend my warmest wishes to every one of you. This time of year is not just about festivities and celebrations but also about reflection, gratitude, and spending time with loved ones.

To our District's dedicated teaching staff:

Your commitment to shaping young minds and fostering a positive learning environment does not go unnoticed. Your hard work, creativity, and passion for education make a significant impact on the lives of our students. As we pause to celebrate the holidays, I want to express our deepest appreciation for your unwavering dedication to the pursuit of knowledge and the betterment of our educational community.

To our exceptional students:

You are the heart and soul of our institution. Your enthusiasm, curiosity, and determination inspire us every day. As you take a well-deserved break during the holidays, we hope you find joy in the company of friends and family, recharge your spirits, and return in the new year with renewed energy and excitement for the opportunities that lie ahead.

May the holiday season bring you moments of joy, love, and laughter. May you find time for rest and reflection, surrounded by the warmth of those you hold dear. As we bid farewell to this year and welcome the next, let us continue to support and uplift one another in our shared journey of learning and growth.

Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and contributions to our educational community. Wishing you a peaceful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1		1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			Board of Education Meeting 6:30 pm			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Final Exams Week					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Christmas Eve	Christmas Day Winter Break					
31						
New Years Eve						



Outlook Academy

STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Academic Support

In other news...

SAT is an Illinois and District 205 graduation requirement. All OA SAT Testing Students must be in **ATTENDANCE AND TEST** during all school testing in the Spring 2024. **Your D205 Diploma Will Be Delayed if you do not test with us.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please see me in office 3481 or email me ASAP. pmartin@ttdistrict205.net



Mrs. Martin's Counselor's Corner

Students Who Have Not Taken The SAT, will test at Outlook Academy

- **Taking the SAT is a graduation requirement!**
- **The Digital Testing Window is March 18 - April 26, 2024.**

For more information, go to:

DIGITAL SAT SUITE OF ASSESSMENTS

Sign in: <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/>

- **Digital SAT Practice and Preparation**

From free practice tests to a checklist of what to bring on test day, College Board provides everything you need to prepare for the digital SAT.

- **SAT Studying and Practice**
- **Official SAT Practice**

SAT Practice on Khan Academy® is free, comprehensive, and available to all students. With personalized plans, practice tests, and more, Khan Academy is good preparation for any test in the SAT Suite.

[Go to Khan Academy](#)

- **Preparing for the SAT**

From free test prep to a checklist of what to bring on test day, College Board provides everything you need to prepare.

- **Get Ready for Test Day**

Martin's Motivation:

"Fear has two meanings:
Forget Everything And Run
or
Face Everything And Rise.
The choice is yours."
~Zig Zaglar
~ Dr. Ish Major

Announcements and Reminders

Students, remember to access your PowerSchool by:

- Username: your ID #
- Password: Hit the reset/forgot my password button to make your own password.

Your password can only be reset, using your Chromebook.



From the Desk of Ms. Cheryl West

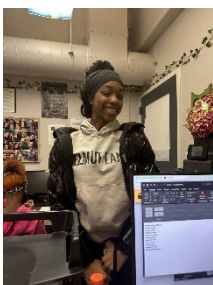


November flew by with students working hard to achieve their goals and we know that the end of the term will come quickly as well. We are encouraging students to finish out the term on a strong note before we move into our winter break. Good attendance, work completion, and active participation are critical to learning and seeing students evolve and grow in these areas is extremely rewarding. As an optional all school activity, students brought in their Thanksgiving break by writing thank you notes to staff members or students of their choice. The notes were heartfelt and appreciated by those who received them.

Our Outlook P.R.I.D.E. awards are becoming a highlight of each day for students. Being recognized for behaviors that exhibit the qualities of PROGRESS, RESPECT, INTEGRITY, DEDICATION, and/or EFFORT has made a positive impact on students. They are enjoying receiving the awards from their teachers and the additional reinforcement of being recognized again with a reward and their photo taken. Our Wall of Fame was created by our very own Mrs. Verdin and the students are noticing their photos while others want to be a part of it. Our November OA P.R.I.D.E. Award gift card raffle winner is Liz Alpizar-Morales!

Asking for help is of the utmost importance for academic success. Sometimes, we may find it difficult to ask for assistance, especially during class, but there are different ways to communicate with teachers and staff. OA teachers and staff are here to support students in any way possible. Students are encouraged to email teachers or stay for CP to get additional assistance outside of class time. Students can come to my office 3495 or email me at cwest@ttdistrict205.net if they are struggling and need academic support.

Looking ahead, we hope our students enjoy the holidays and have a restful break! Our English Learners will be taking the ACCESS assessment in January. This assessment measures the domains of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. If students obtain a 5.0 on a 6.0 scale, they can exit English as a Second Language services.



WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP?

Financial Aid Department

*From the Desk of Ms. Briana Holmes
College and Careers*

Students must use District Gmail to gain access to Google Classroom.

Completion and Confirmation of FAFSA and South Suburban College Application is REQUIRED for Graduation from Outlook.

COMPLETE FAFSA

BEGIN the 2023-2024 FAFSA TODAY!
Enrollment has opened! South Suburban College CODE: 001769

<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

FAFSA Instructions

<https://www.ssc.edu/admissions-registration/financial-aid/>

If you have any questions or concerns or call regarding your FAFSA please email at: 708-596-2000 ext. 3575 or email bholmes@ttddistrict205.net

Our students are working in a workshop to help prepare them for employment. Our students dressed the part as if they were going to an interview and practiced answering questions. The students had a lot of questions and enjoyed dressing up.

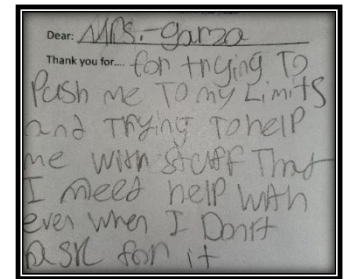
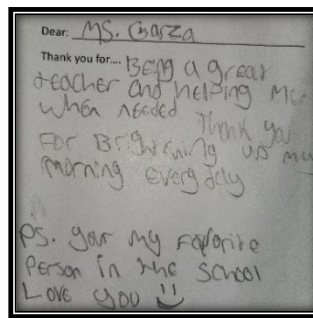
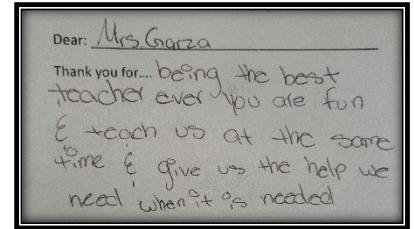
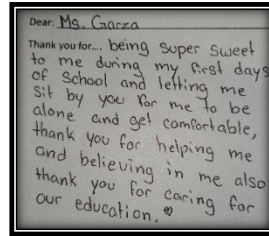




Math Department

From the Desk of Mrs. Garza

It is hard to believe December is here! During this time of year, we are reminded to be grateful for those around us, those that have impacted our lives, and have touched our hearts. Our students had the opportunity to show their gratitude with handwritten messages to any staff member they chose. I have chosen to share some of my notes with those of you reading this newsletter. From these letters, I am reminded why I do what I do. I do not teach for the kudos; I teach for the kiddos. I am thankful for every one of them. I am thankful they give me the chance to help them learn what they once thought was impossible. I am also thankful for you and the role you play in their lives as well as mine. Have a wonderful holiday.



From the Desk of Mr. Bailey

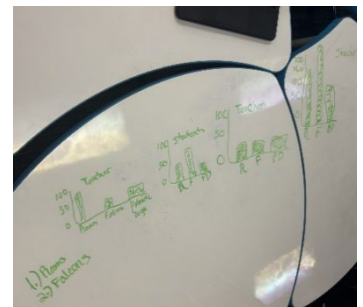
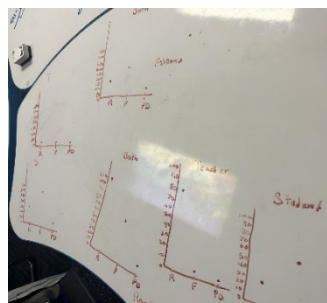
The second quarter of statistics is ending here in December. We have just completed our work on mean median and mode and their relationships with the normal distribution. The students will finish the quarter with frequency tables. During the next several weeks we will explore frequency tables. We will understand how frequency graphs can help display information in different forms.

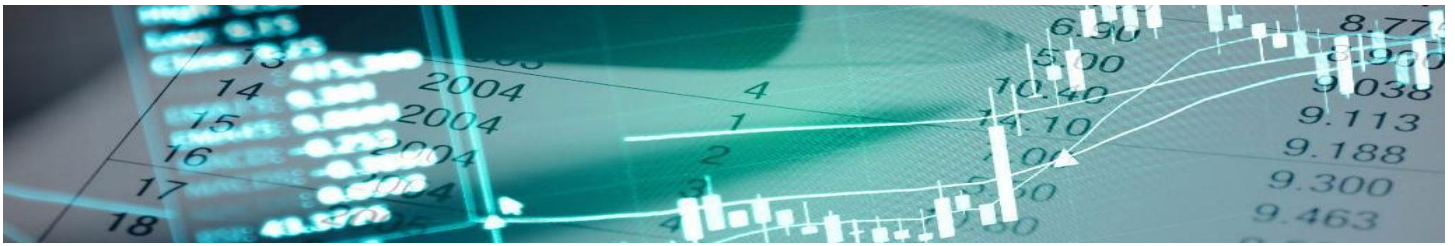
You should have received an email, at the email on record, with your student's current grade. If you have any questions concerning their grade, please email me at: (rbailey@ttdistrict205.net)

The pictures below are of students creating their graphs. Students will continue to create graphs in the next section. The students will continue to analyze their graphs and apply them to their lives.

Announcements and Reminders

Week 7 – 11/27 to 12/1 - Assessment and Project
 Week 8 – 12/4 to 12/8 - Frequency Tables
 Week 9 – 11/2/11 to 12/15 - Assessment and Project
 Week 10 – 12/22 to 12/22 - Finals



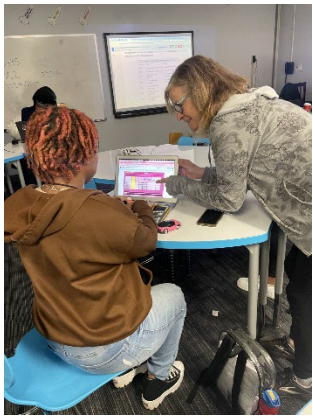


Business Department

From the Desk of Ms. Digiacomo

In Accounting the students are so excited to be learning about how to prepare payroll. They can calculate hourly wages, salaries, commissions, royalties, and piecework pay. They can differentiate between gross pay versus net pay.

For their final project, they will research a company that has experienced accounting fraud such as Enron, Mattel, Lehman Brothers, etc. In this project they will give information about the actual fraud, the key players, how it was discovered and what the outcome was. The student will present it to the class and answer questions from the other students.



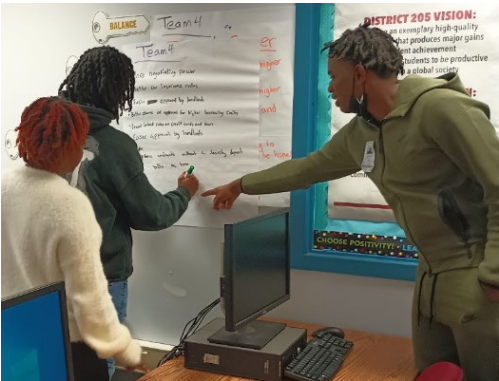
Introduction to Business:

In Introduction to Business, the students are currently working on a corporate research project. This includes many facets of the company such as background, founder, mission, and vision statements, products sold by the company and stock price. The students will present their slide show to the class and answer questions from other students.

For their final, they will be researching various business careers such as manager, human resources, social media manager, accountant, actuary, marketing, real estate agent, financial analyst, and public relations/communications. They will choose at least 3 careers to research.

From the Desk of Mr. Arrington

Advanced Computer Apps students continue making progress. Students are scheduled to take the Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) certification in MS Word, PowerPoint and Excel beginning the first week in December. Congratulations to the following students who have passed at least one MOS certification exam.

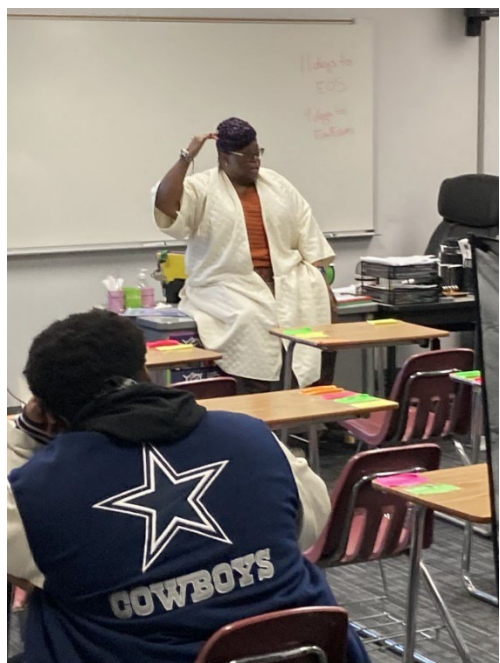


Jamaal Jamison <i>MS Word and PowerPoint</i>	Yamilet Carachure <i>Seven MOS Certifications</i>	Kayla Wright <i>MS Word 2016</i>
Jeremiah Jones <i>MS Word 2016</i>	Beyonca Graham <i>Five MOS Certifications</i>	Dontae Amos <i>MS Word 2016</i>
Andrea Salvador <i>MS Word 2016 & 2019</i>	Olana Weatherall <i>MS Word 2016 & 2019</i>	Destiny Hart <i>MS Word 2016</i>
Antione Pate <i>(MS Word 2016)</i>	Makayla Ortiz <i>MS Word 2016</i>	Andy Ruiz <i>MS Word 2016</i>
Jaylyn Cain <i>MS Word 2016</i>	Jerome Cross <i>MS Word and MS PowerPoint</i>	Daquan Biloche <i>MS Word 2016</i>
Leslie Dominguez <i>MS Word 2016</i>		Jaquan Carson <i>MS Word 2016</i>



Science Department

From the Desk of Ms. Anderson



Forensic Science (Sem.2) students are deep into case analysis. Students are analyzing what was once called the trial of the century – the OJ Simpson trial, to determine whether he was guilty or not guilty of

murders of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman. Case analyses are extremely important in the course as it gives the students the opportunity to tie everything, they've learned in Forensic Science together. During Semester 1, students learned about different types of evidence and how it was processed, such as fingerprints, footwear prints, blood spatter, blood typing, ballistics, etc. Students are working on a question analysis as well as a CER (Claim, Evidence and Reasoning) presentation.

Having finished the Earth Science Unit, Integrated Science (Sem.2) students are beginning the Forensic Science Unit where they will study Forensic Pathology and learn about criminal profiling. Below is one of the profile cases we're working on. From the information provided, what do you know about the Unsub (Unknown Suspect)? We'll have the answer in the next newsletter!

Directions

For each scenario, provide a profile for the unsub (unknown suspect). Your profile should include age, race, sex of unsub, trophy or souvenir taken, MO (motive), signature, and the cause of death for the victims, and commonalities between victims.

Case Study

According to police reports, 10 black women ranging in ages from 20-25, were found murdered in their homes with one bullet to the middle forehead. The women did not know each other, and the only commonality between them was that they had gone through, or were going through, a nasty divorce and/or custody situation. There were no signs of forced entry at any of the crime scenes. At each crime scene, a toy train car was left next to each of the victims.



Social Studies Department

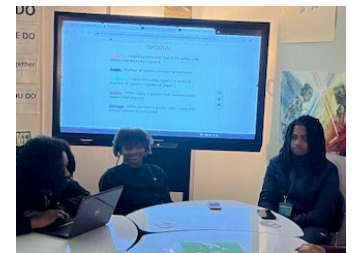
From the Desk of Mr. O'Leary



As we near the end of the 1st semester the Civics classes are preparing to take the Constitution Test and fulfill another one of their graduation requirements. We have also been analyzing the pros/cons of universal healthcare and the privatization of healthcare. We are examining the differences between health care in Canada and the US. As we move closer to May and graduation, please remember that passing the Constitution Test is a graduation requirement. If you have any concerns about fulfilling this requirement, please see me in room 3363.

In Economics, we are ending our unit on Supply and Demand. The students have also been applying the laws of Demand and Supply to real-life situations in the US Economy. The students are also analyzing natural resources, Diamonds, Water, and Meat.

As we move forward, we will apply the principles of supply and demand in different types of economies. As always if you have any questions about Civics, the Constitution test, or Economics stop by my room 3363.



From the Desk of Mr. Martin

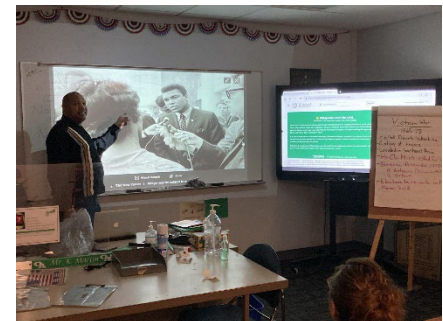
In US History we began the term by looking at World War II ended. The US helped to create the United Nations and became a leader in world affairs. This began a conflict with the Soviet Union over the spread of Communism. The US and the Soviets had a different mentality when it came to world affairs.

We are discussing how each historical event is linked to the next. For example, due to the Cold War, the US became involved in the Korean War and Vietnam War because they saw this as a threat to democracy worldwide. We use news articles as well to discuss these issues.

One of the mainstays of my class is the Daily Trivia Questions. Students can get extra credit points by answering them correctly. One of the things I'm trying to promote is that history is not just about wars and politics. History consists of sports, film, the arts, literature, and fashion.

Sample Trivia Questions

- Which politician was an actor before he entered politics?
- Who was the first NBA player to skip college and go pro?



The film "Founder" details how Ray Kroc turned a California hamburger stand into a billion-dollar franchise. The students got a chance to learn about entrepreneurship and how much work it takes for your dreams to come true.

Currently, we are moving a discussion about the 1960s and the election of John F. Kennedy signaled a change in this country as the younger generation began to speak up about the ills of society including equality and the Vietnam War.

Welcome to Visual Arts

Visual Arts Department

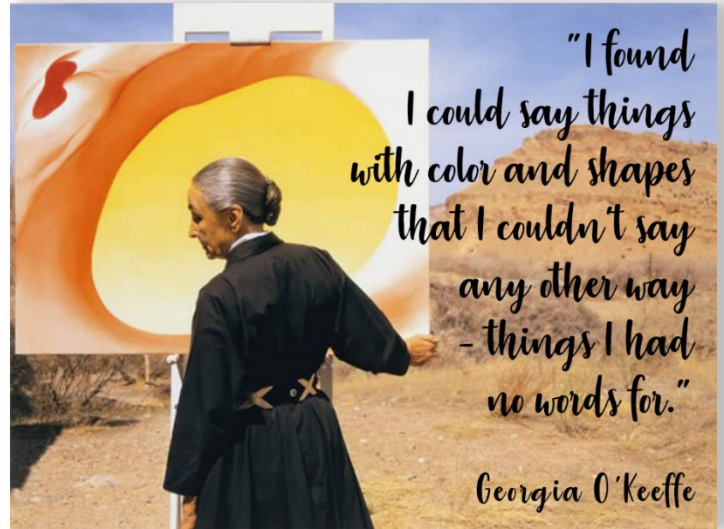
From the Desk of Mrs. Martinez

Welcome to the Visual Arts at Outlook Academy.

One of the wonderful things about the arts is its ability to provide oneself with freedom of self-expression. In art, one can find expressions that translate inner-feelings and thoughts that cannot be expressed in any other way. The arts are essential in the development of the whole child. My hope is to continue to challenge my students to overcome any fears about creating art and welcome self-expression.

One of the art projects the students completed was an optical illusion art project. Utilizing the Elements of Art: Line, Color, and Value, students created an optical illusion art project that demonstrated perceived depth and dimension with color harmony. The students took their time and did an excellent job analyzing and interpreting the Elements of Art: Line, Color, and Value.

Currently, students are learning how to use watercolor with layering and blending techniques to create an implied stained-glass artwork. I introduced the students to the amazing artist Marc Chagall who is best known for his stained-glass artworks. One of his pieces, "America" is a staple of the Art Institute of Chicago that expresses his love for America. With this inspiration, students will create an implied stained glass artwork using watercolor.

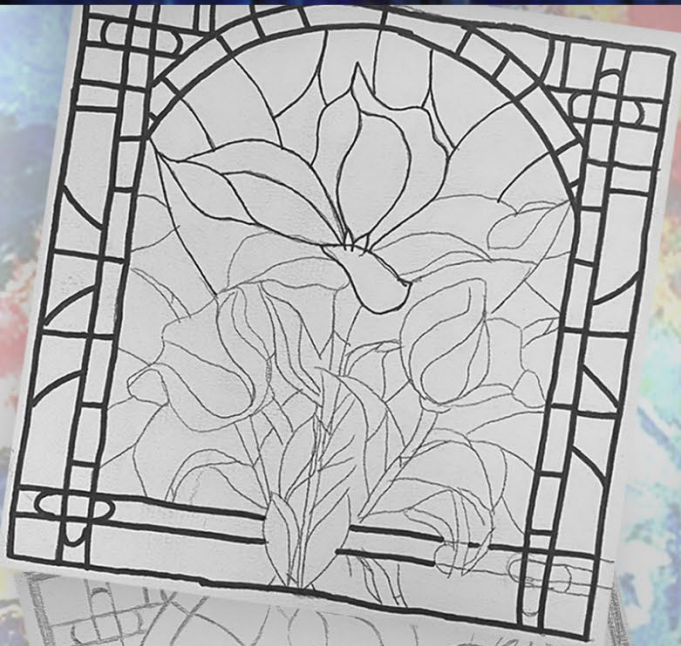
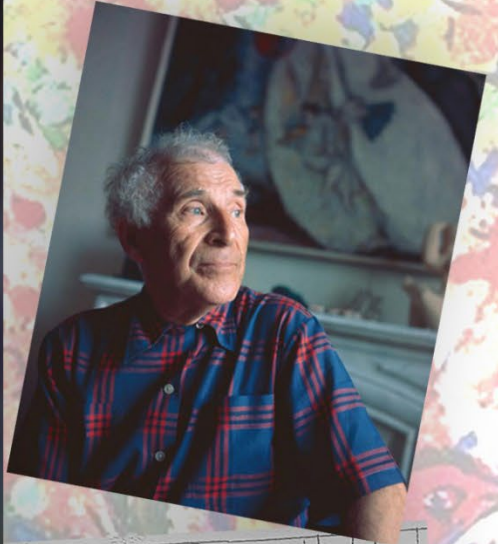


As always, it is a positive learning experience when students are willing to step out of their comfort zone and show their creativity.



Visual Arts

Student Class Work





From Our Social Worker

December is Universal Human Rights Month

From the Desk of Mr. Hill

Universal Human Rights Month is a moment for individuals, communities, and nations to reflect on the progress made in the pursuit of human rights and to address ongoing challenges. It encourages us to look beyond borders and recognize the interconnectedness of our global community, emphasizing that the protection of human rights is a shared responsibility.

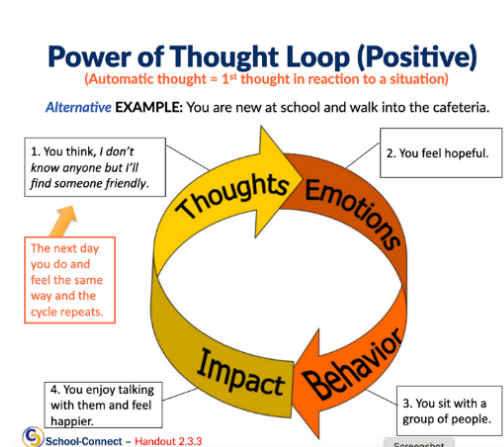
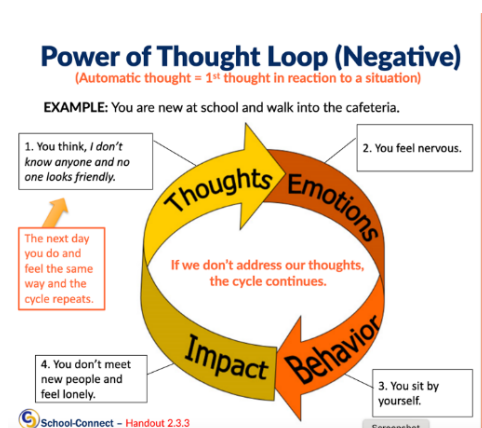


During this month, initiatives and events often take place to educate and empower people about their rights and responsibilities. This education is crucial in fostering a sense of accountability and encouraging advocacy for those whose rights may be at risk or violated. It's an opportunity to celebrate the strides made in advancing human rights while acknowledging that there is still work to be done.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted in 1948, remains a beacon of hope and a guide for nations striving to create societies based on justice, equality, and dignity. Its principles provide a framework for addressing contemporary challenges, such as discrimination, social injustice, and the denial of basic freedoms.

As we navigate the complexities of the modern world, Universal Human Rights Month serves as a reminder that the protection of human rights is an ongoing journey, one that requires continuous commitment, dialogue, and collaboration. By embracing these principles, we contribute to a more just and equitable world for current and future generations.

SEL Review: Recognizing the Power of Thought Lesson 2.3





Outlook Academy

Assistant Program Administrator

From the Desk of Mr. Valant

Welcome to December Outlook! It is hard to believe that in just a few weeks we will be wrapping up the end of the 2nd term. With just a few days of class left before finals, it is time for our students to make sure that they are ready to end the year on a high note. Our last day of class will be Friday, December 15th with final exams to follow on Monday December 18th and Tuesday, the 19th. Any students who miss a final exam will need to report to the school on Wednesday the 20th to meet with their teachers and complete their exams. We are hopeful that our students can take advantage of the last few weeks of this term to earn all their credits. Not only from their regular classes, but their credit recovery as well. If students have any questions or concerns, they are encouraged to see their teachers during C.P. after school to get the extra help they may need. Students will enjoy their holiday which will run through Monday, January 8th. They will return to Outlook on Tuesday, January 9th to begin what for many of our students will be the last semester of their high school career.

For all our seniors, it will be important to continue to check the senior information board outside of Office 3493. We post important information such as picture day, Cap and gown, and any senior class trip information on this board.

ADULT TRANSITION PROGRAM



Program Director

From the Desk of Mrs. Wayne

Hi there,

Young adults are busy training and wrapping up college classes for the fall semester. Several students are attending a six-week Financial Literacy Workshop with Uplift Harvey that is being held on Saturdays at Thornton Township High School. This is an interactive workshop where young adults learn the banking process, and how money works, and receive an introduction to the real world. They are preparing for the holiday break, and several have been looking for jobs for the holiday.



From the Desk of Ms. Neita

This semester we have been learning about employment skills. The students created resumes and did Mock Job Interviews to prepare for employment in the community. As a result of training one of our ATP students got hired as a hostess at Chili's Restaurant in Calumet City, Illinois.

This semester we did a unit on how to relieve stress. We did various stress-relieving activities such as a project on music therapy, growth mindset, and positive affirmations. The ATP students closed out the unit with a Paint & Sip Party.