

Dear Families,

Can you believe that we are starting the third six weeks? This year is flying by, but we have already seen our students growing as readers and writers. We cannot wait to see what other creations and insights they have in store for us.

This unit places a great deal of emphasis on developing stamina and building comprehension during independent reading as a part of a book club. Through collaborative discussion and community with their book club, students will experience a form of discourse that encourages autonomy, group-directed pacing, and deep cognition. In this unit, students will analyze the effect of point of view, characterization, and setting on theme among a variety of texts, focusing specifically on a novel, fairytales/fables, short stories, and thematically-linked poetry. Students will develop their understanding of how authors use specific literary devices to create meaning and develop theme in creative writing pieces.

During the second half of this unit, students will develop a deeper understanding of author's craft as they write their own creative writing piece and complete a creative writing project piece. This task will support students in building their creative writing skills while also developing a greater appreciation for the texts they read. They will also evaluate how the author uses specific literary devices to develop the meaning of the work as a whole.

Students will have two writing assessments that will be given during the writing unit. The assessments will be graded using a standard-based rubric. Additionally, semester exams will be taken the final week of the six weeks. Pre-AP students will also take a "Learning Checkpoint" formative assessment and complete a performance task as part of the College Board Pre-AP course. Teachers will use these assessments to drive instructional decisions and evaluate progress over the course of the year.

Please continue to review your student's performance via Skyward Access and contact his or her teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

EMS-ISD 10th Grade ELA Teachers