

News from Mrs. P's class

March 8, 2013

- ❖ The sun is out, I think I heard birds chirping, and there are drifts of snow five feet high outside. One of these things doesn't quite belong. We've had a productive week in language arts. My 8th graders finished up their research papers on Monday and my 7th graders are close to being finished with theirs.

What we've been up to . . .

- ❖ **In 7th grade**—As of yesterday, many of my students have officially finished their Keynote presentation on their research topic. We will have one more day for those students who are not yet done with their presentation to work in class and then we'll begin sharing projects next week Monday. We'll also be spending some time today and early next week discussing test-taking strategies as they will be taking the EXPLORE test next week.
- ❖ **In 8th grade**—This week, we spent two days discussing the upcoming EXPLORE test (see below) and went over some practice tests. Next week, we'll be starting a unit on the Holocaust which will take us through the end of the quarter. Historically, this has been a unit that students really enjoy and we'll be reading several different articles, stories, and first-hand accounts including The Diary of Anne Frank.

**It was great seeing many of you last week at parent-teacher conferences. Next week, students have a noon dismissal on Wednesday (3/13) and will be taking the EXPLORE test. This test is an ACT product and will give us as a school a better idea of our students' strengths and will also help your sons and daughters begin making some decisions about high school and college planning. More information about this test can be found at the following site:

<http://www.act.org/path/parent/tests/explore.html>

Have a great weekend and thanks again for all you do,
Jen Peterson