

**Classroom Page**

**Please feel free to [e-mail me](mailto:gaynor@aaps.k12.mi.us) (gaynor@aaps.k12.mi.us) if you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or words of praise.**

<a href="#">Social Studies</a> <a href="#">Travel Journal</a> * <a href="#">Taiwan &amp; Art</a>	<a href="#">Weekly Planner</a> <a href="#">Previous Announcements</a>	<a href="#">Clague School</a> CURRICULUM LINKS:	<a href="#">Class Guidelines</a> <a href="#">Citizenship Rubric</a>
<a href="#">Language Arts</a> <a href="#">BWL Lists</a>	<a href="#">Power School Log-In</a> (grades)	<a href="#">Math</a> * <a href="#">Social Studies</a> <a href="#">General</a> * <a href="#">Science</a>	<a href="#">Mr. Gaynor's staff page</a>
<b>Persuasive Essay Links:</b>	<a href="http://procon.org">procon.org</a> * <a href="#">juggle</a>	<a href="#">opposingviews</a> (use search box)	<a href="#">speakout</a> * <a href="#">MS Debate</a>

**April 29, 2011:** I do believe I am noticing that most students are taking themselves - and their work load - seriously. In fact, this morning I updated many class web pages (see links above) while the students were working industriously and quietly. (I daren't say that too loud.)

**3rd quarter report cards** came home with students today. Please discuss the marks, and goals for the 4th quarter, and sign and return the envelope. Students in my advisory will also have a slip with "**Advisory Citizenship Guidelines**" - please initial this slip as well, if you would. For the curious:

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|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Know the purpose for that day.        | 6. Moderate voice level.            |
| 2. Listen respectfully to others.        | 7. Stay relatively on task.         |
| 3. Contribute to discussions.            | 8. Encourage, support, help others. |
| 4. Be nice, be social, include everyone. | 9. Clean up before leaving.         |
| 5. Everyone participates.                | 10. The four classroom rules apply. |

**Social Studies: Travel Journal:** The 2nd Progress Check was due today. Students filled out the checklist showing their progress, and gave themselves a score out of 10. I discussed this with each student and collaborated on a score, but I did not look carefully at all of their work. I would strongly suggest you ask to take a look and if you have questions or would like me to take a closer, please let me know. Students who scored a 6 or less are to do more and show me their progress soon. The final project is due the week of May 16-20. We will be working on this in class on Tuesdays the next two weeks, but this work will require extensive time at home. I will give sufficient time in class for most other work I assign.

The Monsoon Asia **Mapping Lab** Challenges 3, 4 and 5 should be completed by the start of class on Monday. This week we will be working on Chapter 27, about **Monsoons**. We will also start spending 10-15 minutes each Friday discussing **Current Events**. While there is not written work involved, I would like students to be able to contribute to discussions. While the Royal Wedding was the talk of the day today, there was concern shown for the families and communities in Alabama and across the South that

**Language Arts:** We have been doing research for **Persuasive Essays** this week, using individual note cards to gather supportive evidence (examples, logical arguments, quotes, etc - students have a reference sheet with many kinds). They will be using footnotes and include a bibliography, but I am not having students use a standard format for either, as I want them to focus more on the process. I do expect the essays to be well organized, and well written. Students should have their research done, and will have time in class to work on their final draft. They should keep an eye on the scoring rubric. The final copy may be neatly written or typed. The notes and final essays are due this coming Friday.

For **BWL IX** students should be working on memorizing the **Invictus** poem. It is quite a powerful one. You might like to hear your child read it - though they are still working on a slow and solemn delivery. We'll be working more on vocabulary in this poem.

We'll spend a couple more weeks reading, **Mythology** from around the world as well, also the focus of reading journals currently.

Additional links:

	<a href="#">Current Event Summary Guide</a> * <a href="#">Bibliography Formats</a> * <a href="#">Political Issues Survey</a> * <a href="#">Belize</a> * <a href="#">country data video</a>	<a href="#">Previous Announcements</a> * <a href="#">09-10</a> * <a href="#">Top</a>
	<a href="#">Introductory letter</a> * <a href="#">Mid Year Review</a> * <a href="#">Family Geography Project</a>	<a href="#">Safe Routes 2 School</a> * <a href="#">Healthy Schools</a>