



2023-2024 MS Term 2 Report Card

Xiangjin Jinjin Wang

Form I (Seventh Grade)

Address: 3032 Sylvan Terrace
 Cheswick, PA 15024-2444

Reporting Period: Nov 27 - Mar 01

Advisor: Mrs. Gorse

Attendance	MS T1	MS T2	MS T3	Y
Tardies	0.0	0.0		0.0
Absences	0.0	0.5		0.5

Grade Scale			
HH	90 - 100	P	60 - 69
H	80 - 89	Failing	0 - 59
S	70 - 79		

Course	Teacher	MS T1	MS T2	MS T3	Y
English 7	Mrs. Cannon	95	95		
Algebra 7	Mrs. Wood	96	98		
Latin 7	Mr. Jenkins	98	97		
Social Studies 7	Ms. Pease-Kerr	94	96		
Science 7	Mrs. Maxwell	97	97		
Tech and Design 7	Mr. McGuigan				
Art 7	Ms. Mason				
Band 7	Mr. Donato				
Fitness & Wellness 7	Mrs. Lloyd				
MS Advisory	Mrs. Gorse				
MS Fall Drama	Mrs. MacRae				
MS Swimming					

English 7 - Mrs. Cannon

Student Comment:

Jinjin had a wonderful second term in Form I English, impressing me with her maturity, insight, and intrinsic motivation. Though reserved by nature, Jinjin has recently emerged as a quiet leader during literary discussions. For example, during a Socratic seminar on *The Pearl*, Jinjin showcased her gift for close reading and synthesis by astutely unpacking the meaning and connection between two different symbols- eyes and animals. Her double-journal entries for *The Pearl* were similarly sophisticated in their analysis and will set her up for success with the final essay. During our persuasive unit, Jinjin excelled at rhetorical analysis of historical speeches. She also did beautifully with applying our learning to her own persuasive speech, where she asked her sister for quiet time to complete her homework. A central learning target for this assignment was the understanding that effective persuasion must be rooted in empathy for the audience; Jinjin hit a home run by tailoring her persuasive techniques so specifically to her sister and communicating with love and kindness. Jinjin should also be applauded for her intrinsic motivation to core read; she read a staggering seven books in February alone while maintaining the highest of standards with her coursework, noting that she “grew as a reader more this month than any other.” All in all, it has been a delight to watch Jinjin grow and thrive in Form I English. I am so proud of her and look forward to learning with her in the months ahead!

Effort: 4

Skills:

Algebra 7 - Mrs. Wood

Student Comment:

It is such a pleasure to teach Jinjin. She had another successful marking period in Algebra I and earned an amazing average for Term II. Jinjin performed extremely well in all aspects of the course. She possesses a very strong work ethic and determination to do well. In her quest to comprehend and master the material, Jinjin does not hesitate to ask questions for clarification when necessary. She has a talent for mathematics, and it is a joy to watch her flourish. It was great to see Jinjin voluntarily participate in the AMC8 Contest in January. I enjoy her pleasant nature and mature approach to her work in the classroom. Overall, I am very pleased with Jinjin’s effort and performance in this course. With continued hard work, I expect Jinjin to finish the year in very strong form.

Effort: 4

Skills:

Test Average: 97%

Quiz/Activities Average: 99%

Homework: 100%

Notebook: 100%

Latin 7 - Mr. Jenkins

Student Comment:

Jinjin has had an outstanding second term in Form I Latin. I am proud of her efforts in many ways. She earned averages well into the high honors range in all areas of assessment. Jinjin's 100% homework average positioned her to learn and grow as a Latinist each day. I am happy to say that she proved more ready to participate and share her work in the second marking period, as well. While I still wouldn't call Jinjin an eager volunteer, she is at least ready to jump up to the board when called upon. Jinjin's approach to learning is mature and pragmatic. She does not make a fuss about looming assignments, but she asks great questions when she needs explanation and takes the answer onboard in a constructive way. Jinjin's drama-free consistency is refreshing and commendable. Jinjin's Term 2 project was excellent, not only presenting the basic myth of Narcissus and Echo, but offering thematic analysis, variant endings, and etiology (origins of the narcissus flower). I have been very happy to teach Jinjin this year and expect her remarkable success to continue in the third marking period.

Effort: 4

Skills:

Social Studies 7 - Ms. Pease-Kerr

Student Comment:

Jinjin approaches her work and learning in Social Studies with curiosity, diligence, and care. Not the most vocal member of our class, she nevertheless consistently demonstrates knowledge, skill building, and understanding in her writing, project work, and small group collaborations. When she does raise her hand in whole class discussions, or better yet, when she just jumps right in, it's clear that she has something to say and that it's something that she cares about. Her Turtle Island one-pager wove together her learning in written and visual form, the prose equally as lovely as the thoughtfully rendered original illustrations. Her learning statement on the DAPL reflected mature consideration of multiple perspectives and complex politics, while her statement on the historic dehumanization of Native American people merged course readings of poetry and secondary sources. As well, she expressed a strong, clear claim when she drew points of connection between colonization and American culture. She's building on these big ideas in her Changemakers research project. She chose to dive into immigration rights activist Erika Andiola and has done terrific research on her subject's work that she will translate into visual design in ceramic art. Throughout the initial stages of the project process, Jinjin has demonstrated independence as a researcher and good critical thinking skills as she analyzes and interprets her findings.

Effort: 4

Skills:

Science 7 - Mrs. Maxwell

Student Comment:

Jinjin continued to do very well in science. She made every effort to maintain the level of dedication that she had established in the first term. Jinjin was able to consistently score well on the activities and turn in her assignments on time. Jinjin's test scores indicate her thorough understanding of the material we have covered this term. I applaud Jinjin's effort in science so far this year. I hope she continues to work hard throughout the remainder of the school year. For her science research project, Jinjin studied the effect of different liquids on the growth of lima bean plants. She scored 98% on the project. She closely followed the rubric and turned in a very fine report which was a pleasure to read. Great work, Jinjin!

Effort: 4 Skills:

Test average: 97
Homework average: 97
Lab/Project average: 96

Tech and Design 7 - Mr. McGuigan

Student Comment:

In the second term of Tech & Design 7, students began learning python, a text-based programming language. Using CMU's CS Academy platform, students learned how to draw shapes with python's canvas feature. Beginning with rectangles, students moved on to drawing circles, ovals, and polygons. In addition, they learned the basics of colors and gradients in order to create scenes and images with code. Python is an incredibly versatile language with applications in data science, AI, and embedded devices. We will continue to learn about the basics of functions, conditional statements, and loops in the third term.

Effort: 4 Skills: 4

Despite being new to the strict rules of python, Xinxin used the notes and examples effectively to improve throughout the term. She completed all the modules in our first lesson on drawing basics, and her solution to the pickaxe exercise was well done. She continued to improve her skills with the addition of colors and gradients to our coding palette. Her solution for the challenging 3D glasses exercise was really well done. To end the term, she completed the Target Practice and Olympic Rings exercises at the end of the shapes lesson. Programming in python can be difficult, but Xinxin made it look easy. Thanks for putting forth solid effort on the programming challenges this term.

Art 7 - Ms. Mason

Student Comment:

In the second term of 7th grade art, students continued to develop their skills with painting materials. After exploring contemporary architectural works of art, building structures, and observing architectural features in the school, students applied what they learned to create original artworks with architecture as a theme. Next, students reflected on their work as part of an ongoing portfolio that will showcase their artwork during their time at SSA. As the term closed, students were building a clay box to represent a changemaker whom they researched as part of Social Studies class.

Effort: 3 Skills: 3

Jinjin demonstrated originality by developing her own ideas and using references as a tool. Her architecture painting shows her commitment to working through challenges until she finds success. Jinjin's work is quite detailed, which can sometimes mean that she needs extra time to complete her work as she envisions it. She is always welcome to come to the art studio outside of class if she is feeling like she needs extra time on a project.

Band 7 - Mr. Donato

Student Comment:

Jinjin has shown remarkable progress in her musical skills since the start of the fall term. Her commitment shines through in rehearsals, reflecting her passion for music and strong drive to succeed. With excellent tone quality, range, and proficient music reading skills, Jinjin elevates the flute section of the Middle School band. To further enhance her abilities, I recommend focusing on improving rhythm reading and variation of articulation, especially as the musical complexity increases in her flute parts. As we look ahead to Term III and the eighth-grade band, I urge Jinjin to maintain her impressive growth.

Effort: 4 Skills: 4

The Spring Concert featuring the Middle School Concert Band, Jazz Band, and String Ensembles will take place on Thursday, May 16 at 7:00 PM. This event will be hosted at the Hillman Center Rauh Auditorium on the Senior School campus. It would be wonderful if your family could join us.

Fitness & Wellness 7 - Mrs. Lloyd, Mr. DiNardo

Student Comment:

Effort: 4 Skills: 3

In the fitness component of our course, we focus on developing positive lifelong habits essential to a healthy lifestyle. Class activities and challenges highlight areas from cardiovascular endurance and strength training to flexibility and joint mobility. Daily tasks can be individual or provide opportunities to strengthen team building skills in cooperative settings. Ultimately, we hope to unlock a passion for fitness and physical activity that students will carry long past their days at Shady Side.

It was a pleasure getting to know Jinjin this winter. She is a kind and considerate student who brings wonderful energy to our group. Jinjin is respectful of others, follows instructions, and is willing to learn new concepts. She willingly embraces and participates in all class activities but seemed to really excel at rock climbing. I appreciate her positive contributions to our class and look forward to working with her again in the spring term.

MS Swimming - Mrs. Gorse, Mrs. Warner

Student Comment:

Effort: 4 Skills:

Everyone on this year's swim team deserves a HUGE thank you for their strong effort and enthusiasm this swimming season. While we only had a few swim meets this season, the coaches appreciated that each swimmer came to practice every day willing to work hard and then see their tremendous improvement by the end of the season! We hope that everyone will continue to swim, possibly joining a summer team or year-round club to continue to work on what we started. Most importantly, we hope to see the 8th graders swimming at the Senior School next year and the 6th & 7th graders back on the team again next season. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

JinJin continues to be a solid quiet leader on the team. She is a leader in her lane and was up for the challenge when we moved her to a different lane for a short time. JinJin brings positive energy to every practice and her efforts paid off as she performed very well in our few meets. We look forward to having JinJin be a leader on the team next year!