



JR. HIGH ENGLISH, MATH, RELIGION, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES



From the desk of Mrs. Baine, Jr. High English Teacher

Genre Studies Program:

All grades are well into reading their biographies. 8th graders are reading about African Americans who contributed to Civil Rights, 7th graders are reading about women, and the 6th graders have the luxury of choosing either. All of the biographies will act as the foundation for a research project specific to each grade. In order to begin the project in enough time, the students must finish their book by Mar. 22 for 6th grade and Mar. 29 for 7th and 8th grade.

6th Grade:

The 6th graders have finished reading Fish in a Tree and are completing the last activities for that novel --an essay and a Socratic Seminar. We will not be starting another novel right away but will instead begin reading Esperanza Rising together during SSR. Class time will be devoted to short story, poetry, research, and writing. The students' next major writing assignment will be a short story. They will soon be graduating to the next grade sentences in our grammar program.

7th Grade:

The 7th graders will be finishing their Holocaust novel literature circles this month. We've spent a lot of time learning the Church's position on the Holocaust as well as its historical implications. Much of our upcoming activities will include reading more historical documents, connecting the novels to genuine photographs of the Holocaust, and watching video clips. Writing activities will include reflection as well as short essay assignments for practice. The students will also participate in mini-Socratic Seminars in their groups about their novel. They also graduated to the next level of grammar sentences and are working their way forward.

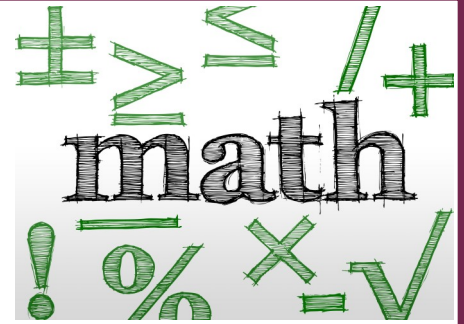
8th Grade:

The 8th graders are working on two levels this month. First, they are working through challenging novels in their literature circles. We're discussing reading strategies as well as creating supplemental documents to support the reading. The students are also working on proper discussion etiquette and speaking skills. Second, they are working towards writing a research paper. In February they started a practice research paper with already analyzed and determined sources about whether or not college is worth the investment. They will continue editing this essay for the next few weeks, and then they will use these skills and other research methods to begin writing their research paper for their historical figure. They have also graduated to the next level of grammar sentences and are quickly working their way forward.

From the desk of Mr. Jimenez, Jr. High Math Teacher

Greetings Parents:

This second part of our school year is moving right along. The season of Lent is fast approaching. I pray that your Lenten experience is full of many graces. Below is a brief summary of where we are headed in math:



6th Grade

We have been discussing adding and subtracting mixed numbers and ended the chapter by applying these concepts to equations. Now we begin a new chapter discussing fractions: multiplication, division, and probability.

7th Grade:

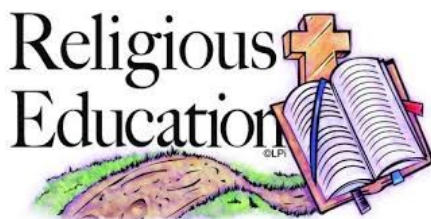
For the past two weeks we have been discussing percents and consumer applications. Specifically, we have learned about percent increase and decrease and calculating profit and loss. We will finish up the chapter by discussing discount, markup and commission before diving into the next chapter which focuses on data analysis and statistics.

8th Grade:

We have been discussing functions and graphing the slope of a line. In the coming few weeks we will continue our discussion on linear functions and inequalities. After this we will begin learning about ratios and proportions.

From the desk of Ms. Arabo, Jr. High Advanced Math Teacher

We've already gone through solving and graphing inequalities and have been introduced to functions! In March, we will be diving into identifying, solving and graphing linear functions and looking into systems of linear equations and inequalities.



From the desk of Ms. Raban, Jr. High Religion Teacher

"No act of virtue can be great if it is not followed by advantage for others. So, no matter how much time you spend fasting, no matter how much you sleep on a hard floor and eat ashes and sigh continually, if you do no good to others, you do nothing great." - John Chrysostom

Throughout the Lenten season, all of the classes will be having at least one lesson a week focusing on Lent. We will be delving into the passion and death of Christ in order to more perfectly prepare ourselves for Easter. All of Junior High will be completing Lenten Contracts so that they can hold themselves accountable to what they are giving up. I encourage families to choose something that they will do together during Lent, whether it be an extra prayer together or daily Scripture.

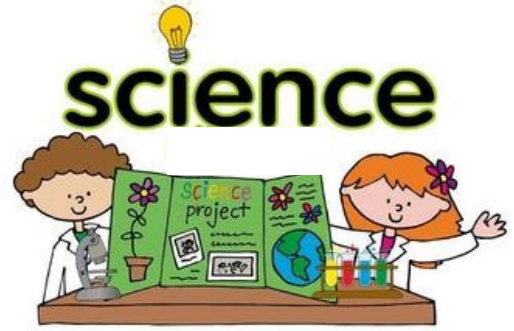
6th Grade - We have just finished learning about Moses and the Ark of the Covenant. We will now be focusing on the years Israel wandered in the desert leading up to them entering the Promised Land.

7th & 8th - After completing our lessons on the 10 Commandments, we learned about some of the major characters in the Old Testament. We will now be focusing on the New Testament and Jesus establishing the Church.

From the desk of Ms. Arabo, Jr. High Science Teacher

It's somewhat crazy to believe that March is upon us! We've covered so much and there is still so much to do!

8th Grade: We have begun our last portion of chemistry as we dive into the world of organic carbon – based chemistry! Upon finishing this unit, the students will have completed our Chemistry portion of physical science! Upon completion, we'll be shifting gears in studying astronomy as we begin learning about the Earth, the Sun and the Moon as we continue to explore space.



7th Grade: We have spent a good amount of time studying the history of evolution, the evidences seen throughout science, and what it means for a species to go into extinction. From there, we will touch base on how organisms are classified as we begin looking at the different domains and how organisms are organized via branching tree diagrams. Upon completion, we will then begin looking at the structure and function of living systems in different organisms ranging from viruses, protists and bacteria to plants, invertebrates and finally vertebrates as we study the human body.

6th Grade: We've completed our exploration of Earthquakes and have begun studying and learning about volcanos! We've seen how volcanos tend to form along spreading and colliding boundaries and will be taking a deeper look into volcanic eruptions! We will be studying the different kinds of volcanic eruptions, along with the different stages of volcanic activity as we begin looking at volcanic landforms.

**From the desk of Ms. Ashley,
Jr. High Social Studies Teacher**

Sixth Grade - Chapter 10 - Ancient Rome
The Beginnings, Republic, the Empire, the Rise of Christianity,
the Rise and Fall of Rome. Five lessons with assessment
quizzes (open book) and a Chapter Exam (closed book).



Seventh Grade - Chapter 12 - The Reformation of Christianity
Three sections, Republic, the Protestant, the Catholic, the Effects of Reformation. Three lessons
with assessment quizzes (open book) and a Chapter Exam (closed book).

Eighth Grade - Chapter 8 - A New National Identity
Three sections, American Foreign Policy, Nationalism and Sectionalism, and American Culture.
Three lessons with assessment quizzes (open book) and a Chapter Exam (closed book).