



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



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

#### Genre Studies:

The students finished their biographies and now have instructions for their research projects (presentations for grades 6 & 7, and a paper for grade 8). The projects will be due mid-month. Their final book is free choice for all grades. They may choose any book they like and have until May 31 to finish it.

#### Grade 6:

The students are currently editing their short stories and will share them with their little friends after Easter. We will be moving into our last book of the year: The Giver by Lois Lowry. We will continue working on our writing skills while also analyzing the novel's themes and language. The students are now in Level 5 for grammar and will ideally test out of it by the end of the year.

#### Grade 7:

We have finished our unit on the Holocaust and are moving quickly into reading George Orwell's Animal Farm. This short novella is packed with dense language and important themes about propaganda, power, and corruption. As it is short, we will be practicing close reading by annotating and analyzing longer passages. The students will continue working on essay writing, and will be testing into Level 6 grammar by May.

#### Grade 8:

Like last month, the 8th graders will be balancing a writing unit and a reading unit. They've completed their argumentative essay about college and will be applying those skills to their last essay, a research paper on how their historical figure affected the Civil Rights Movement. At the same time, we will also be starting our last unit on Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird. We will be practicing close reading of certain chapters, watching the film, and acting out the courtroom scene. Our reading will focus on the theme of coming of age, point of view, and narrative techniques like flashback, irony, and suspense. The culminating project will involve creative writing. The students have moved onto Level 6 in grammar, which includes a lot of additions and changes.



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

Greetings Middle School Parents:

Hard to believe it is already Spring. I hope that your Lenten experience has been full of the many graces God provides in is ever abundant generosity and mercy.

Please see below for a run-down of where we are headed in math:

### 6th Grade:

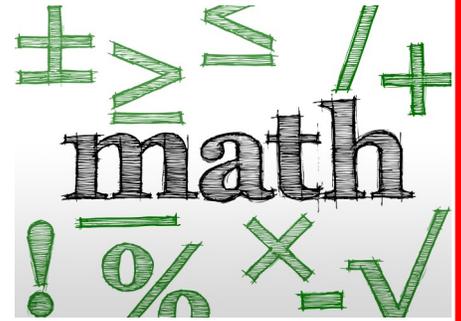
We have just finished our unit exploring probability and fractions. Next, we will explore data and statistics.

### 7th Grade:

We have finished our unit on data analysis and statistics. Next we will focus on two-dimensional geometry.

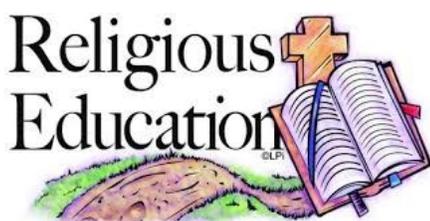
### 8th Grade:

We are finishing our unit on patterns and nonlinear functions. Next we will begin looking at geometry.



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

**Advanced Math:** We've just completed our chapter on linear equations and have begun learning about/how to solve systems of linear equations and inequalities. From there, we will be learning about different operations with polynomials.



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

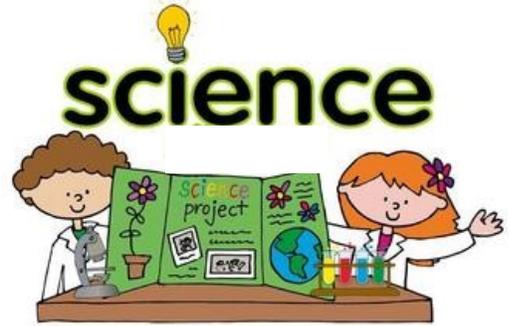
"Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song." - Pope John Paul II

Throughout Lent, we have been preparing ourselves in each class for the Resurrection. During the month of April, the Jr. High classes will be diving more deeply into the mystery of the passion, death and resurrection of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.



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

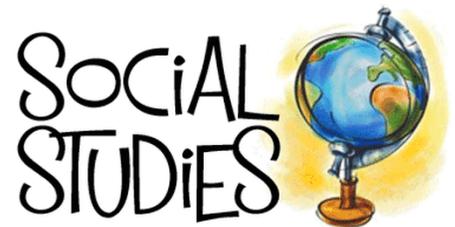
**8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** We've moved on from chemistry and have begun our astronomy unit with studying the moon and its specific features and characteristics. We will be continuing our exploration of our solar system, neighboring galaxies and universe. We will be taking some time to focus on the stars, comets and planets. Upon finishing astronomy, we'll be going into our final unit – Physics.



**7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** We've been spending some time studying the history of the Earth, focusing specifically on the geologic time scale. From there, we will begin our discussion of different forms of life by looking at viruses, bacteria and vertebrates. We will briefly look into plants before jumping into the much-anticipated human body!

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** We have just finished our volcano unit with the students researching a volcano found on Earth and creating a 3-D model of it. From there, we will begin our discussion on climate change, the atmosphere and how the weather changes. We will be focusing on cloud formation and the different types of precipitation experienced on the planet along with how air moves.

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



Dear Parents of 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Students in Social Studies:

We have just over 2 months of class time to incorporate several lessons remaining in their books. I am proposing a way to review the majority of the chapters, by learning key words -- People and Places. This information will go into their notebooks.

Quizzes/tests on the Vocabulary and Main Topics, (approximately) every two weeks.

We will incorporate projects -- the projects will increase with difficulty in the upper grades.

Please have your student(s) bring in a spiral notebook for their information. You will be able to check on their progress often.

The Notebook will account for 40% of their grade-accuracy, neatness and timeliness counts

The Quizzes/tests will be 40% - Tests will be closed book

And 20% on the projects - Class participation and quality of work

I am looking forward to an information rich and "fun" two months. You will be notified when the tests will be given.

Thank you for your support.