

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL
Middle School News
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2009

MRS. JOANN OTTE

8th Grade American History

We've finished our brief look at the American Revolutionary War and took an in depth look at the Declaration of Independence, which we will see while in Washington, D.C. We are about to delve into the development of our government. It's a great unit and so very important to our trip to the nation's capital. We begin each day with Current Events.

7th Grade Geography

We are continuing our general study of geography skills and ideas. We will begin studying the United States, our first country, in about a week. We begin each day with Daily Geography, which consists of two questions about the world's geography. It's a good way to spark conversation and get them using an atlas.

6th Grade World Cultures

We've just begun our lengthy unit on Ancient Egypt. It will take us approximately three weeks to finish. I have lots of material to add to what the textbook already offers to the unit. As an introduction to the rest of the year's study of ancient civilizations, the students are working on the USA Project. Students will make their presentations to the class on Tuesday, November 3. It's a fun project and allows them to opportunity to be very creative.

MRS. CHRISTINE ROMPS

6th Grade Science

In 6th grade science, we are studying cells, their structure and function, and some of their processes. That's some complex stuff! They are doing great, and their cell projects were very interesting, too. Nice work! We will cover one more chapter in this unit of cell study, and then we will proceed to a study of animals starting with very simple and moving to more and more complex. Ready to dissect☺

7th Grade Science

In 7th grade science, we are finishing up our study of ecosystems and biomes. They did a great job on their biome projects☺ We will then begin our study of the body systems, starting with the skeletal and muscular systems. Do you know what an owl pellet is? The 7th grade will soon be able to give you an answer. We will also dissect chicken wings in the coming weeks. What systems will that cover?

8th Grade Science

In 8th grade science, we are finishing our study of genetics with one last chapter on fossils and evolution of species. We will then move into the area of physical science with a study of motion, laws of motion, etc. Students usually enjoy this unit because there are a lot of labs and activities. Be prepared for measuring and timing motion☺

MRS. O'CONNOR

6th Religion: Unit 2 God Saves and Delivers Us

7th Religion: Unit 2 The Meaning of the Kingdom

8th Religion: Unit 2 The Growth of Christendom

6th English: Unit 3 Nouns and Unit 9 Capitalization and Punctuation

7th English: Unit 3 Nouns and Unit 9 Capitalization and Punctuation

8th English: Unit 3 Nouns Unit 9 Capitalization and Punctuation

All About Me October Project “The Early Years”~~ Due Date Monday November 2nd

Hawklane 1st Quarter Publication

6th, 7th, 8th Spelling: Sporadic Lessons and Tests

MRS. KAY MILLER

24 of the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students have been working on Math problems after school the last few weeks. They are all working on teams to solve problems. This is all in preparation for the Lakeland Math Contest, which will be held Thursday, November 12th at Lakeland College. We may be working more evenings as we get closer to that date. The students really seem to enjoy it especially when they are getting the right answers. Then on Nov. 17th, they will all be competing in the American Mathematics Competitions nationwide. They will be taking a written exam during class time and these will be sent in to be scored to find our top Math student and maybe even some national honor roll students. So keep us in your prayers, they always help.

Algebra: Graphing the union and intersection of solution sets of linear inequalities will be done. Students will work on situations that always or never happen. They will solve absolute value equations and inequalities. Multiplying and dividing algebraic fractions will be accomplished.

Transitions 7: Ideas from logic will be looked at such as if-then statements. Union and intersection of sets; points, figures, planes, lines, line segments, and rays will all be defined. Students will measure angles of various types of polygons. They will be able to tell the hierarchy of quadrilaterals as well as classifying numbers.

Math 6: Students will use variables to describe number patterns. Writing and evaluating algebraic expressions will be worked on. They will learn the difference between general pattern and specific cases. Formulas will be discussed. They will understand what a unit price is and be able to find it. The use of spreadsheets will be worked on in the computer lab.

MRS. SHERRI PLOECKELMAN

Spanish

6th grade – The sixth graders are learning adjectives that they can use to describe themselves and friends. They are also working on definite and indefinite articles in addition to noun-adjective agreement.

7th grade – The seventh graders are talking about what clothes to buy and wear in different seasons. They are reviewing *tener* expressions and learning about stem changing verbs and direct objects.

8th grade – The eighth graders just finished talking about sports and will be starting body and health related vocabulary. This next unit will also introduce them to the past tense.

Literature

6th grade – The sixth graders have just begun literature circles. Each student has selected a book of their own choosing to read in small groups and has daily worksheets to help them have meaningful book discussions.

7th grade – The seventh graders just finished literature circles and will be returning to the textbook to read short stories that focus on setting.

8th grade – The eighth graders are close to finishing literature circles and will be returning to the book to read short stories that focus on character.

MRS. ANN HITTMAN

Six grade is starting their Egyptian unit and studying King Tut and his tomb.

Seventh grade is doing dimensional letters. They have to use the first letter of their first and last name doing a dimensional art project.

Eighth is finishing up with their block prints and doing their silhouettes.

MR. NEIL FRIEDENBERG

Middle school health will begin to discuss the process of aging and how the different stages affect decision making. Once we finish that short chapter, we will move on to communicable, chronic diseases, and cancer discussing how certain diseases spread and infect the body.

MRS. JULIE ENGMAN

6th Grade and 7th Grade each have only a few music classes in the next month due to in-service days, so we are launched “full-steam-ahead” into our Christmas music preparations. Both classes are learning to sing 2 songs. Sixth is practicing 2 additional songs on the recorders, and Seventh is learning 2 pieces on the tone chimes. In addition, 6th graders are still studying the Elements of Music and 7th grade is continuing a study of early music history.

8th Grade is nearing the end of their unit on the Classical Period. In the next few weeks we will wrap it up with a look at the 3 major composers of that time. They are also preparing 2 vocal songs and 2 tone chime songs for the Christmas Concert.