

St. Eugene School Middle School News

From Mrs. Webster

Algebra One

We are spending the last several weeks doing what I consider the most important lesson of the year. We are working hard to review and connect all of the ideas we learned this year and make sure they are well cemented in our brains. This review will be cleverly disguised as games – playground problem solving, poster making, and more. Our Algebra Reference cards which are a two page summary of important ideas also helped us review main ideas. Our final exam is Wednesday, May 24.

Business Fair

The eighth graders presented their projects to Mrs. P., their classmates and myself this week. Now we are looking forward to the Business Fair next week, Thursday. Students will spend the entire afternoon selling their product or service to younger students and adult visitors. They are welcome to bring small treats to share with their visitors but they should not go overboard. The focus should be on selling their product based on its merits - not bribing students for Business Fair dollars. Be sure to join us and bring the whole family.

Credit Cards

Seventh graders are creating presentations to show what they have learned about credit and debit cards. They began by using an app called Celebrity Calamity in which they had to manage a celebrity and make financial decisions. Along the way, they gathered some good advice on paying bills with plastic. These tips served as a launching pad for their presentations.

Sixth Graders - By the Numbers

The sixth graders are working on a little statistics project. They began by creating a Google survey in which each of them asked one question. After all of them completed the survey, each student analyzed their own question by calculating the mean, median and mode and graphing the results. We found out some very interesting things about our sixth grade class.

From Ms. Luangrath

Math Joke: Which king really liked fractions? Henry the 1/8!

6th Grade Math

The 6th graders wrapped up their chapter on area and circumference last week with mixed results. Some of us hadn't quite mastered the material, so we've been reviewing and re-quizzing. For the students that have already mastered area and circumference, they've been working through some lessons to earn their first green belt! They are covering concepts such as solid figures, volume, and surface area. Before the end of the year, all students will hopefully have earned this green belt with a chance to earn another on probability and statistics.

7th Grade Math

The 7th graders did a great job on their real numbers and right triangles test last week! Now, they are working with a partner to make a presentation on our next chapter. Every group

was given a section on area, volume, or surface area, and they've been making a lesson about the topic to teach to the class. We'll see if there are any future math teachers in the bunch! 😊

Intro to Algebra

The 8th graders are currently putting finishing touches on their review presentation. They've picked a topic and have spent the week creating a Notebook lesson that they'll use to teach the class, starting next week Monday. This will be good review and a good chance for the students to use their math language to teach a topic. Additionally, we've been doing a cumulative review in Power Hour, where we'll be able to see which math domains we are strong in and which ones we need to focus on for next year in high school.

Science Pun: I love the way the Earth rotates... it really makes my day!

6th Grade Science (Earth Science)

Yesterday, the 6th graders put a wrap on their final volcano chapter by testing on the Effects and Types of Volcanoes. Now, with the short amount of time left in the school year, we will be looking at plate tectonics and fossils. To help us model plate tectonics, we'll be doing a delicious activity with frosting, fruit roll ups, and graham crackers—yum!

7th Grade Science (Life Science)

The 7th graders wrapped up their chapters on mitosis and meiosis and have started their last chapter this year on the digestive system (we were going to do the skeletal & muscular system, but due to time constraints, the digestive system was the only chapter we could fit in). We've already learned the process of the alimentary canal (another name for the digestive tract), and now we are making life-size models of a human digestive tract! This chapter will lead up to our annual frog dissection after Memorial Day—a student favorite!

8th Grade Science (Physical Science)

This past Monday, the 8th graders went outside to test their wooden bridges! We had spent the previous week making bridges that needed to fit certain dimensions, yet hold the most sand

in a bucket. Half of our bridges weren't quite able to hold up the bucket, but there were two bridges that were able to hold up 12 beakers of sand! Perhaps we have some future engineers on our hands! Now, we are testing our engineering skills by making water rockets. Students have to design a rocket out of a 2-liter bottle that will stay up in the air the longest. Stay tuned for the results!

From Mrs. Prendergast

6th Graders

Are starting *The Giver* and have reading buddies to write to and share their ideas, questions, and predictions. There is a fun project of creating their own utopias at the end of this book, which is about what appears to be the perfect society. Don't forget to sign the reading logs this month!

In LA we are working on the character essay, which will be done by next Monday. We have many units in the LA text to finish, so we will start moving as fast as we can!

7th Graders

Are in the middle of giving speeches based on the persuasive paper they wrote last week. We are also finishing up agreement of subject and verbs and will move into gerunds, participles, and infinitives. Sounds fun to me!

8th Graders

Are busy with Business Fair, making a Memory book, and enjoying a "Truth and Beauty" class on morality with Fr. Andrew and Meaghan Turner. There's not much time left to work on Language Arts or Literature. We may have to use the "Macbeth in 30 Seconds" video, as there is not time to read it! The end is near!!!

From Mrs. Tulley

6th Grade Social Studies

We are continuing our study of Rome. We have looked at how Rome grew from a republic to an empire with the death of Caesar; we are now focusing on the growth of the empire and why it lasted for 500 years. Next we'll look at Christianity and the Roman Empire and the fall of Rome.

6th Grade Religion

We are finishing the Moses story and the Exodus from Egypt. We then will take a quick look at the 10 commandments and discuss how they are God's instructions for how to live in relation to God and other people. Next we'll discuss the stories of David and Ruth and how their choices helped to prepare the way for Jesus.

7th Grade Social Studies

We are finishing up our look at European history. Next we'll take a quick look at the contemporary European cultures and see if unity or division characterizes European culture. The class will look at the population density of Europe, the history of its languages and its religions.

7th Grade Literature

We are continuing to work on the chapter book My Brother Sam is Dead. We have focused on the main character, Tim, and are look at the conflict he is suffering. The class is doing a wonderful job of discussing the story and have wonderful insights into the characters. The final written book report is due Friday, May 26th.

8th Grade Social Studies

The class continues to study World War II and we are now looking at the United States entering the war. We'll also look at the campaigns in North Africa, D-day, and the Allies win in Europe. Next we'll take a quick look at the war in the Pacific.