



7th/8th Grade Newsletter

~ March 2010 ~



Saint: St. Joseph/St. Thomas Aquinas

Virtue: Fortitude

Proverb: When the going gets tough the tough get going.

Scripture: All God is charity; and he that abideth in charity abideth in God, and God in him (1 John 4:16)

I am pleased to introduce myself as your child's new religion teacher. I am a Lector, Catechist and Eucharistic Minister at Blessed Pope John XXIII. It gives me great pleasure to assist Dr. Noonan as she was kind enough to allow my beloved parish to begin in her gym eight years ago. I completed my undergraduate studies at Saint. Thomas Aquinas College and minored in secondary education. While living in New York I had my 7-12th certification to teach history. I also earned my graduate degree from Fordham University in Social Work. I look forward teaching my faith and to getting to know your children.

God Bless,

Mrs. Millan


7th Grade English

The students have just finished writing their first descriptive essay, and the published five-paragraph persuasive essays are now on the wall for you to view. They'll be learning about indirect objects and pater three in the next chapter, as well as object pronouns, changing mixed tenses, telling the difference between active and passive voice, and they'll soon be able to tell the difference between progressive and emphatic forms of verbs. Please encourage your student to recite the jingles as often as possible to reinforce the concepts taught in class.

Miss Troxler

8th Reading:

The students will continue to read stories from the Literature book. I will be adding a Comprehension skills worksheet that the students will do weekly. It will be counted as a quiz grade. Testing will continue as before unless I feel that it is in the best interest of the students to delay a day or two. Their book reports are due on March 10th!

Mrs. Ehler 

Vocabulary/Spelling:

The students will continue to rotate each week between spelling and vocabulary. Every other spelling test will be choosing the correctly spelled word from three different choices. This helps develop good test-taking skills for the SAT 10, the ACT, etc. The other spelling tests will be writing the dictated word out. The vocabulary tests continue to be writing the correct vocabulary word next to the definition.

Mrs. Millan

7th Grade Mathematics

We have begun work with Inequalities and will continue to do so as understanding how inequalities work and how they are worded is critical to success in an Algebra 1 class. No bonus question this month, however, if you can tell me a) What is the best thing you have learned this year in math class? and b) What other concept(s) would you like to learn? you can earn two homework passes just for emailing me those answers at shenderson@noonanacademy.com.

Mr. Henderson

7th Grade Science

Students will be studying "Cell Division and Mitosis" in Chapter 10. They will learn the differences between mitosis and meiosis. Then we will identify the parts of a DNA molecule and its structure, explain how DNA copies itself, and describe the structure and function of each kind of RNA. DNA helps determine nearly everything your body is and does. We will build DNA ladders and model DNA replication. We will also discover more about DNA with Bill Nye and Discovery Education pieces on the Smart Board.

Mrs. Gedra

8th Grade Science

In Chapter 11, students are studying the Sun-Earth-Moon system. Many common observations, such as seasons, eclipses, and lunar phases, are caused by interactions between the Sun, Earth, and the Moon. Students will differentiate between rotation and revolution and discuss what causes seasons to change. Students will identify phases of the moon and their cause and explain why solar and lunar eclipses occur. We will infer what the Moon's surface features may reveal about its history. Learning about the Moon can teach you about the Earth. We will not have to wait till evening to see the phases of the moon. A giant moon will be visiting our classroom and exhibit all it's phases. Tune in as we learn about recent discoveries about the Moon and examine facts that might influence future space travel. We will explore past and recent space missions through our Smart Board technology with the BBC and Discovery Education. Fasten your seatbelts. It's going to be a bumpy ride!

Mrs. Gedra

Spanish

We will continue to practice translating and conjugating. We will be learning about possessive adjectives and pronouns. The students will also review question words and negatives, prepositions, and expressions. They will practice translating simple sentences using what has been taught so far this year.

Mrs. Piper

Music

Everyone is getting revved up for the Spring Musical! We'll be practicing lines, dancing and singing in class this month. All students should be practicing their lines with parents at home.

Mrs. Schroeder

Reading

7th Reading:

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Mrs. Ehler 

8th Grade English

Congratulations to everyone in eighth grade!! Everyone passed the last chapter test with flying colors!! I'm so proud of these students for working diligently and asking the tough questions when they don't understand. They're doing a great job! With chapter fifteen comes their first comparison-contrast essay, and they'll be writing a speech as well. Soon they'll be learning pattern four which consists of a subject noun, linking verb, and a predicate noun. Keep up the excellent work, eighth!

Miss Troxler

Character Education

After our Family Crests we have had several group discussions on positive character traits and how to be the best we can be. We have just completed "My Hero/Heroine" Stars that will be hung up in the classroom.

Mr. Henderson

Art

Students are working on graphic design projects this month. We'll pay close attention to shape, line, balance, and organization.

Mrs. Schroeder

8th Grade Mathematics

Our geometry section is proving itself to be a lot of fun as we continue to work with our protractors and compasses. The end is almost here, keep working until the very last day!! No bonus question this month, however, if you can tell me a) What is the best thing you have learned this year in math class? and b) What other concept(s) would you like to learn? you can earn two homework passes just for emailing me those answers at shenderson@noonanacademy.com.

Mr. Henderson

Physical Education

We begin the dance unit for the month of March. Students will focus especially on coordination, rhythmic accuracy and the ability to repeat a group of motions in a sequence.

Mrs. Schroeder

7th Social Studies

The students continue to work together on Chapter 6, reading aloud, sharing ideas and discussing content information as a class. They are learning to think critically as they answer questions in class. I will continue to give a quiz at the end of each section. Of course, there will always be a chapter test.

Mrs. Ehler 

Creative Writing


I am pleased to introduce myself as your child's new creative writing teacher. I earned my undergraduate degree from St. Thomas Aquinas College where I minored in secondary education. I've earned my certification to teach 7-12 grade as well as my Masters Degree from Fordham University.

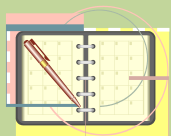
This month your child will be practicing the art of expressing their appreciation by writing cards. They will also be preparing an essay explaining how they would go about correcting a social ill. During the month of March look forward to getting to know your children.

Mrs. Millan

8th Social Studies

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Mrs. Ehler 

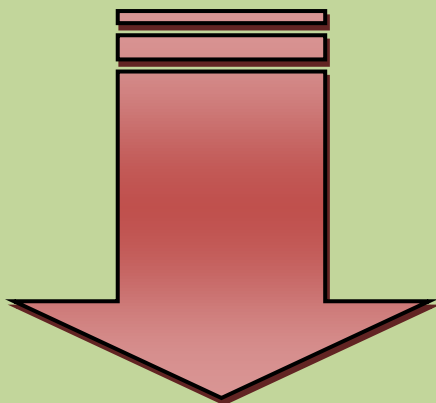


Notes



Science Fair: The students should be getting their science fair boards and putting them together. They have paperwork explaining how to place their materials on the board for proper placement. Students also should be finishing their research papers in computer lab. Boards are already coming in and are due at the end of the month along with their research paper. Please do not wait until the last minute. Three of our students won the Edison Regional Science Fair and two received Florida Gulf Coast Summer Research scholarships. Great first year!

Mrs. Gedra



Mark Your Calendars:

- Remember to turn in yearbook forms with money.
- If you get the News Press, please allow students to bring in and share a current event with their fellow classmates on Monday. There is a current event board in my classroom for display.
- March 5- Wear casual dress by helping to support Breast Cancer Awareness. Any donation is acceptable.
- March 9- Family Night Book Fair Snack and Shop (after school until 6:30 pm) and Open House (6-9:30 p.m.). Book fair will also be offered all this week at school.
- March 10- Spring Pictures- Casual Dress Optional
- March 17- St. Patrick's Day
- March 22-26 Stanford Testing
- March 31 5th-8th grade field trip to the Holocaust Museum- casual dress-bring money for lunch at Wendy's- gone 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- March 31 Science Fair boards and reports due.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

7th Grade Students of the Month

David

8th Grade Student of the Month

Gina
