

# 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE NEWS & INFORMATION

11/13/17 – 11/17/17

## Key Weekly Objectives



*Here we will highlight key objectives that we are targeting in seventh grade during the week.*

**ELA:** Objective: To identify the characteristics of the various genres to inform reading and literary interpretation for the various genres.

Objective: To discuss the characteristics of dystopian literature in preparation for literature circle discussions.

**Science:** Objective: To describe Mendel's genetics experiments; to identify the factors that control the inheritance of traits in organisms; to explain how geneticists use symbols to represent alleles

**Social Studies:** Objective: Discuss the expansion of Muslim rule through military conquests and treaties, emphasizing the cultural blending within Muslim civilization and the spread and acceptance of Islam and the Arabic language; focus on the development of the caliphate and the divisions that occurred within it

## CLASS UPDATES

**SUCSESSES:** The class took the STAR testing very seriously and worked very hard to do their best, and we saw some real growth represented on these tests. The students had a great first meeting in their literature circles on Friday. The job assignments were well done, and all the groups were actively engaged in their discussions. The class as a whole also performed very well on their nouns chapter test this week. There were quite a few perfect school and many As.

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH:** On Wednesday, when we were experiencing some technical difficulty with a power point presentation, the class got so loud that I had have them put their heads down on the desks and be silent. They should be able to monitor themselves when a teacher is not directly speaking to them. This is the time to pull out that SSR book and read silently or do some other work silently until the teacher is ready.

**SLE:** Our School wide Learning Expectation (SLE) for November is Neighbors. We discussed how we can be good neighbors here at school and in our community.

**Service Opportunity:** Sister Kathleen needs families to paint ornaments for the giving tree this Sunday after the 10:00 A.M. mass.

**Talent Show:** Come witness all the great talent in our school on Thursday November 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 in the hall.

**Thanksgiving Food Drive:** Please bring canned and non-perishable food items next week for the Thanksgiving food drive to support the ministry of Catholic Charities to help the poor in our community.

**Father on the Hot Seat:** Father Lawrence came in to talk to all of the middle school boys on Tuesday and took their questions. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to interact more with the pastor.

**Speakers Wanted:** Mrs. Simolon is looking for guest speakers to come in and speak to the girls and boys in their separate groups and as a whole middle school. If you know of anyone who would be a good speaker, please contact Mrs. Simolon.

**Literature Circles:** This week we started literature circles. We have five literature circle book groups. The genre we are exploring for this session is dystopian literature. They will meet with their literature circle group on Mondays and Thursdays. Every student is responsible for the assigned reading and his or her job assignment for each literature circle meeting group. No late assignments will be accepted for these assignments because they are letting their group down if they are not doing their part. The only exception to this is an absence, and then the assignment is due upon the student's return.

**Knights of Columbus Poster Contest:** The Knights of Columbus is having a Christmas Poster Contest. I will accept this as a **religion extra credit assignment**. The deadline for turning the poster in is December 1<sup>st</sup>. To receive extra credit for the first trimester, the poster must be turned in by Monday, November 27. See the attached pdf for the rules and contest entry form.

**Community Service –** The first trimester community service is due Monday, November 20th; that means completing the five hours and the write up. It can be turned in any time before that. The form can be down loaded from the class website.

#### Book Club!

We had a great start to our middle school book club last month. Our book for November/December book is *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins. This action-packed book has become something of a middle school dystopian classic and cultural phenomenon since its release in 2008. Students have been reading it this year in all of our middle school classes. There is a **date change**, since the parish's Santa's Workshop was on the same day. Book club will be at the Simolons' house on **Monday November 27 from 7:00-8:00**. See the attached flyer for the address.

Please contact Miss Lee or Miss Kim if your family would be interested in hosting a book club meeting this year.

#### **Weekend Homework & Up Coming Tests & Projects:**

- Reader's Notebook - The first Reader's Notebook Response will be due on **Thursday** and **every Thursday** after that.

MONDAY –

TUESDAY – P.E.

WEDNESDAY – Mass

THURSDAY – No P.E. - Talent Show

FRIDAY –

Have a great weekend!