

# Sixth Grade

## Important Dates

5/1-5/15: CAASPP TESTING

5/16: Middle School Art Show

5/31: Open House

6/1: 2:00 PM Middle School Music Extravaganza

6/8: Crossing the Bridge

## Willow Creek Community

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Happy Spring!

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## Successful Support

**CAASPP state testing continued this week. Please ensure that students get a full 8 hours of sleep, and have a healthy breakfast to start their day! We appreciate all that you parents do on your end to prepare your students for their day at school. :)**

**Standardized tests such as the CAASPP will play a large role in your child's future education and employability. Even if you do not see value in the CAASPP itself, the skill of test taking is something they will need in their future, whether it be the SAT or simply an online application for summer employment. These tests have become a filter and knowing how to take them is necessary in the 21st century. We spent some time this week on the importance of simply following directions in order to do our best.**

**We are making this state mandated testing experience as anxiety free and comfortable as possible.**

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## Curriculum Corner

### Humanities

Hello Families!

Students are completing a self-study of ancient China. They will not be tested on this unit as it is self-paced and for their own edification.

We continued watching The Odyssey and exploring some of the literary themes in Homer's epic poem. We are also reading related Greek myths and exploring how they were tied to daily life in ancient Greece.

On Friday we "wrapped up" our mummies. This included stuffing the body cavities with herbs and flowers, wrapping them in strips of linen and coating them in myhr. The final step will be building the pyramids and holding the funeral.

<http://www.youthpostercontest.org/index.html>

Ms. Rizzo

### Math/Science

Hello!

This week we've continued to monitor progress on our bean growth lab, as well as explore various ecosystems in the classroom. Students are manipulating variables in their experiments by adding tea, or salt, or placing beans in artificial light instead of natural light. We're monitoring the beans and making observations daily.

Students are creating posters that discuss the geography, climate, as well as organisms that survive and thrive in that ecosystem. Students showed food web examples from ecosystems like cold deserts, temperate rainforest, mangroves, mountainous systems.

Have a fantastic weekend, get out and look at the ecosystems we have locally and enjoy this fantastic weather!

Ms. Lindsey