



# 6th Grade Updates

September 22nd, 2017

## Exciting Events

9/22-9/23 Book Fair!

9/23 Fall Welcome 6:00 pm

10/5 Picture Day

10/4 Conscious Kitchen Family Dinner 6:00 pm

10/13, 10/16: No School, Staff Days

## Willow Creek Community

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If you've already donated to the SMART campaign...THANK YOU!

We rely on your contribution to fund classroom supplies, classroom field trips, the art program, music, reading and language, computers and new this year...the 5th grade week-long overnight and the Middle School Outward Bound program. So, please donate if you haven't already...

[www.WillowCreekAcademy.org/donate](http://www.WillowCreekAcademy.org/donate)

Every dollar makes a difference!





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## Successful Support

**A big THANK YOU! To all of those parents who drove our students to Outward Bound Community Building! We are already reaping the benefits of a community building exercise within the classroom.**

### Homework Policies:

#### Math:

Students have homework in math Monday-Thursday night, for a total of 4 nights of homework. Each day we cover a different section within our CPM curriculum. The homework for the students is under the "review and preview" at the bottom of each lesson. Students have an ability to utilize tools, have homework help, and view hints and answers if necessary. Each day the student is graded for completion, rather than correctness. They will then bring the homework grading sheet home to you to show you their homework effort for the week, and ask you to sign their grading sheet. If students miss an assignment, they lose 1 point each day for every day that it is late.

#### ELA:

Students should be reading 30 minutes per night. They will get reading logs starting next week.



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### Serious Concern which parents should address:

An alarming number of our 6th grade students have seen the movie IT. Some of them report going to the mall and getting an older person to buy their tickets for them. Some of them went with older relatives.

Please remind your child that inappropriate language and discussions about excessive violence and sexual acts are not allowed at school. This includes content from films, TV shows, video games and other media.

The [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\) recommends Common Sense Media](#) as a resource for parents to determine which films, TV shows and video games are appropriate for their own child. Parents can search for films, TV shows and video games to find age recommendations, reviews and specific information about content such as positive messages, sex, positive role models and representations, language, and violence.

This is an excerpt of a Common Sense review for It, a film currently playing in theaters:

*Parents need to know that It is based on [Stephen King's](#) 1986 novel, which was previously adapted into a [1990 TV miniseries](#). It's very scary, and not just in a typical gory slasher or jump scare way; it generates actual tingles. (And if you're scared of clowns, it's even worse.) Things get pretty gory; characters are stabbed, impaled, and beaten with rocks and blunt objects. A boy's arm is bitten off, teens shoot guns, and a sheep is killed with a bolt gun. Language is also very strong, with a lot of the swearing coming from young teens; you'll hear "f--k," "s--t," and more. There's lots of bullying, and an abusive father acts in a creepily sexual way toward his teen daughter. You can also expect to hear a fair bit of sex-related talk among the teen characters, though much of it is naïve and meant to be humorous. Teens will be eager to see this one, but it's not for sensitive viewers or the faint of heart.*

Parents are encouraged to visit Common Sense Media at:

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org>



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## Curriculum Corner

### Humanities

Hello Families!

We started exploring the geography of North Africa and Ancient Mesopotamia. We are asking why early peoples may have chosen to migrate from Africa to the Fertile Crescent rather than Europe. Why did people settle near rivers? What advantages and disadvantages were inherent in this area of the world?

We are doing a close reading of the novel Holes. Students are making observations and developing questions about the text. They are looking for clues which give insight into the characters in the novel and also looking out for examples of foreshadowing. As with most good literature, Holes reveals deeper meanings with each re-reading so even students who are familiar with the novel or movie are making new observations.

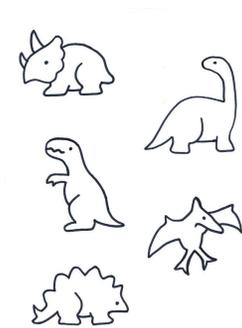
Thank You,

Ms. Rizzo

### Math/Science

Happy Friday families!

This week the students have started working in math looking at patterns, grouping items and creating numerical expressions to represent the groupings. For example, if I have 5 dinosaurs, I could group them into 1 group of 3, and 1 group of 2, and put them into two different rows. I could then write a numerical expression that states  $(3 \times 1) + (2 \times 1)$ . An expression does not have an equal sign.



In science, we've been working on learning about Earth's geological time periods. Students have been working on posters, and learning about a specific period in time, discussing landmasses, climate, earth events, and organisms that were around during that particular period.

Best,

Ms. Lindsey