



7th & 8th Grade Friday Letter - January 11th, 2019

Dear Willow Creek families,

We hope you had a good week! Here's the news from our middle school team:

- ★ Outward Bound forms will be going home next week for the March 4, 2019 camping trip for the 8th grade! Please see the link on the Friday Post webpage for an electronic version.
 - These forms need to be completed and filled out by February 15, 2019.

Congratulations to our Middle School All-Stars: Gabrielle Myers and Maeyana Vogt!

English Language Arts with Ms. Powers

Welcome back families, and a Happy New Year to all!

Seventh Grade:

This week marked the end of our Social Issue Reading Unit. Our final lessons concentrated on book clubs creating posters to bring their message of the novel's social issue(s) to light. The purpose of this project was to encourage others to read their book, and learn about the social issues in it. Students demonstrated their understanding of the text using the strategies learned in class.

Next Week: *The Art of Argument: Research-Based Essay*.

Eighth Grade: We began the new year with a new unit: *Position Papers: Research and Argument*.

In this unit students will enter the tricky intersection of critical literacy and argument writing. Students will learn to channel their emotional response, and compose arguments that are fair and principled.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions: jpowers@willowcreekacademy.org

Mathematics with Mr. St. Denny

7th and 8th Grade Announcements:

Welcome back families! I was out for a couple of days this week, but the students have picked things back up very well coming off of a long break.

7th graders are working on finding and using unit rates to solve real world problems, and are on the cusp of finishing the unit. 8th graders are finishing their unit on transformations by learning about scale factors and similarity.

sst.denny@willowcreekacademy.org

SCIENCE with Mr. MacDonald

7th Grade:

Starting out the new year we are focusing on an engineering challenge where students are designing and building a functioning mini arcade game. Students are combining together many of their skills they have learned this year from CAD design to wiring up a circuit for their game. This project will extend through next week.

8th Grade:

The 8th graders have started out the year exploring gear ratios by designing a race car and a car that can drive up an incline. They are using Circuit Cubes to power their cars as they explore the difference between a high velocity car and a high torque car while using the same materials.

Social Studies with Mr. Baker

WHAT WE DID THIS WEEK

7th Grade: Our return in this New Year brought our studies to Imperial China! We have explored what a dynasty is and what that may have meant for Medieval China. Next week we will study the various Chinese Inventions that have changed the world.

8th Grade: This year begins with a look at what led to the American Revolution and a deep dive into the Declaration of Independence. Next week, we will spend some time understanding why and how the New Americans won the Revolutionary War...a war only Washington couldn't win faster and that General Cornwallis could lose.

As always, if you need to reach a teacher for any reason, email is best.

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