



## **Welcome Back to a New Year!**

### **7th & 8th Grade Friday Letter - Jan. 12th , 2018**

#### **Announcements**

- ★ Congratulations to our **ACADEMIC ALL STARS** of the week for their leadership both academically and in our WCA community! Your all stars this week are:
  - 6th Grade - Charlie
  - 6th Grade - Magnus

#### **English Language Arts with Ms. Powers**

**7th Grade:** Happy New Year! This week we continued our study of William Shakespeare, focusing on one of his more popular works *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. We will be exploring themes, characters, connections, plots, and conclusions.

**8th Grade:** Happy New Year! For the next few weeks, we will be reading great poetry, learning about important themes and the use of literary devices, as well as exploring and deepening our understanding of the world around us. We will be studying different genres of poetry. We began our journey this week by concentrating on narrative poetry.

\*\*\* I wanted to thank you all for the wonderful cards and beautiful gifts. Your generosity was over-the-top, and very much appreciated.

#### **Mathematics**

**7th Grade** - Seventh graders started a new unit that would focus on compound probability. We began the week by examining discounts and comparing probabilities and their complements. By the end of the week students learned how to solve for original prices, computer discounts, and find missing parts of proportions.

**8th Grade** - 8th graders are finishing out a unit on graphing transformations. They are adept at translations, reflections and dilations, and are able to do some rigid rotations as well.

**Algebra 1**- We finished graphing linear inequalities this week and concluded with a chapter test. We were also able to evaluate and discuss scoring for the algebra portion of the

practice high school entry exam, and or students are progressing very well, with several students earning points on items that we haven't yet converted in the algebra class.

As always, don't hesitate to email me at  
[sst.denny@willowcreekacademy.org](mailto:ssst.denny@willowcreekacademy.org)

## SCIENCE

**7th Grade: This Week** - Human organs and what they do. Students are learning the location and function of major internal organs as we ramp up for our frog dissection.

**Next Week:** Human Body Systems

**8th Grade: This Week - Helicopter Lab** - Using a Samara Maple Seed as our template, students designed their own seed helicopters. They then used the helicopters to gather data on the velocity of the falling leaf.

**Next Week:** How to write an effective Lab Report.

## Social Studies with Mr. Baker

This have been a wonderful first week of subbing for Mr. Baker. I have really enjoyed myself getting to know the students and truly look forward to the weeks ahead.

Parents feel free to reach out to me about any questions or concerns.  
Paul Austin

**7th Grade:** This week we started to study Medieval Africa with a focus on West Africa. The students begin learning about West Africa vegetation and the four stages of development. The development stages are family-base communities, villages, cities / towns and kingdoms. By the end of the week the students did a exercise, where they choose a development to live in and why?

**8th Grade:** This week we learned about Declaration of Independence. We compared the Declaration of Independence to a break-up letter. The class watched American Story of Us – Rebels in order to gain understanding visually

## Middle School Final Thoughts:

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

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Enjoy the Weekend! - Your MS Team.