



7th & 8th Grade Friday Letter - September 29, 2017

Announcements

***** 7th GRADE: MONDAY 10/2 IS THE LAST DAY TO TURN IN [OUTWARD BOUND PAPERWORK!](#)**

★ An announcement from the Marin Community Foundation:

Hello everyone:

In record time, MCF has made two emergency grants to Mission Asset Fund (MAF) and Canal Alliance (CA) **to cover the full cost of renewal application fees** for any DACA recipient who lives, works, or attends school in Marin County.

These grants are in direct response to the recent announcement by the U.S. Attorney General of the rescission of DACA, the program that provided a level of protection and opportunity to undocumented youth brought to the U.S. as children. We estimate between 300-500 Marin residents are eligible to **renew by the October 5 deadline**, but they must pay an application fee of \$495. MAF and CA have set up scholarship funds for this specific purpose. Canal Alliance, in partnership with 10,000 Degrees, is also offering two free workshops this weekend that will include DACA application assistance, immigration screening, and 1:1 consultations with pro bono attorneys. Whether people go through Canal Alliance or choose to self-renew, they can access fee application assistance through either organization.

With October 5 just two weeks away, time is of the essence to ensure DACA holders get their applications in on time. Literally every minute counts right now! Please share widely to help us get the word out immediately to our local Dreamers, especially with organizations and institutions that serve immigrant families. We stood by them when DACA started, and we stand by them now.

If you'd like to know more, here is the link: [APPLICATION FOR DACA FUNDING](#)

★ 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

Every dollar makes a difference!

★ 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

- 6th Grade

- ★ A message from the foundation: “Did you know that Willow Creek Foundation is now funding the Outward Bound program? Their generous donation covers 150 students backpacking! If you are able to, please increase your donation to SMART by \$350 per child you have in these grades.”
- ★ Did you know that WCF is now funding the Outward Bound program? If you are able to, please increase your donation to SMART by \$350 per child you have in these grades.

English Language Arts with Ms. Powers

7th Grade: It has been an exciting week for our 7th graders. We have had the fortunate opportunity to be working in collaboration with the Marin Theater Company all this week with a project based, end of unit activity surrounding “The Outsiders” novel. They have been working within small groups to come up with tableaux , dialogues, and their final individual monologues that will be performed in front of our class Friday the 29th.

8th Grade: We have finished our first novel “*A Long Walk To Water.*” I have been enjoying their end of novel presentations this week. They’re amazing! The students have shown a full understanding of the obstacles that Salva Dut, as well as Nya, have encountered and overcame. They have shown great understanding and empathy in concerns to the walk that the Lost Boys had to make, and the freedom our country allows them.

Mathematics with Mr. St. Denny

Hi all,
I missed a couple of days this week due to sickness, but I'm glad to have bounced back for the end of the week.

Because of my absence, I did not include homework grading in the preliminary report cards being sent home.

Students finished up their first round of unit tests this week, and we continue to push forward with some excellent math work.

As always, don't hesitate to email me at sst.denny@willowcreekacademy.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Science with Mr. Devol

7th Grade In 7th grade, we continued to study the six major Eons which make up the History of Earth. Students will use this information to play a year-long game called “3rd Rock From the Sun” (I am pretty sure it is already taken but oh well). Students will need to know the details of each Eon and pass a verbal interview by myself and other students on their understanding of the Eon or Era they are responsible for (in

this case, students need to be able to talk intelligently for 20 seconds about the Hadean Era). **Next Week:**
TROPHIC LEVELS AND CYCLES

8th Grade 8th graders learned about friction this week. They also took time going back over a difficult concept we learned about last week which is acceleration. On Wednesday, we had a crash course introduction in to the various types of energy. **Next Week:** **ENERGY AND THEN SIMPLE MACHINES**

Reminder: *EACH THURSDAY we will have a science quiz (usually) or end of the unit test.

Social Studies with Mr. Baker

***The Google Classroom for all Social Studies classes are up and running, and you can see what we are working on in class there. Your 7th or 8th grader student can provide access for you, or you can contact me and I will provide you your own log in.*

7th Grade: We wrote an essay, this week, about the Fall of Rome. We used information provided by our textbook, a short video, and a slide presentation to compose a 5 paragraph expository/persuasive essay about the reasons we felt most likely led to the collapse of the Western Roman Empire in 476 C.E.

8th Grade: This week, we learned more about the Age of Discovery/Exploration and how European explorers and conquerors found new resources in the New World. We also are learning more about the people who already lived in North and South America and how sophisticated their societies were and what knowledge has been lost about these complex cultures.