



7th & 8th Grade Friday Letter - Jan. 26th, 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:
 - 8th Grade - Ruby Marshall
 - 6th Grade - Magnus

English Language Arts with Ms. Powers

7th Grade: This week students continue writing their own scripts of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Each group has been rehearsing their specific scenes in preparation for their Monday performances.

8th Grade: We began our Investigative Journalism unit this week. Each student has been assigned a staff member to be interviewed for a student-written profile that will appear in this year's Willow Creek Academy Yearbook.

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 our 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

SCIENCE

7th Grade: This Week - We had quite a time of it in 7th grade this week! It started with learning all of the main organs of the frog (which looks eerily like a mini version of us!) in our dissection and ended with a DRY ICE phenomena centered around **SUBLIMATION** (moving from solid to gas without the liquid state) and **DEPOSITION** (moving from gas to solid without the liquid state).



Next Week: EVOLUTION PROJECT

8th Grade: This Week - Learning How to Learn. This week, students reinforced the skill we focused of PROPER NOTE TAKING. While learning about kinetic and potential energy formulas we spent an entire class refocusing on note taking and discussing its value now, but more importantly, in high school. We

used a variation of CORNELL NOTES where students aren't limited to just written notes but can draw, illustrate and color their notes to help them have staying power.

Next Week: BALANCING CHEMICAL EQUATIONS

Social Studies with Mr. Baker

This had been amazing 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 the students continue their study of Ghana and how it grew into an Empire. We also study the decline of Ghana and the rise of Mali around 1000 C.E. The Ghana empire had a major influence in West Africa, as it relates to trade.

8th Grade: This week our students focus on the Constitution and what it meant for colonies. The students was asked "What is a republic and why did our Founders believe it was best for the nation"? All the students are working on memorizing the Preamble. Parents, check with your child to see if they have memorize the Preamble yet.

Middle School Final Thoughts:

**Progress Reports will be coming home with students next week so be on the lookout
Have a great weekend!**

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

Roy Baker - Social Studies - rbaker@willowcreekacademy.org

Paul Austin - Social Studies, (Long Term Guest Teacher) - paustin@willowcreekacademy.org

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