



7th & 8th Grade Friday Letter - April 6th, 2018

Announcements

- ★ The week we get back from SPRING BREAK is the Outward Bound 8th Grade Camping Trip
 - April 16 - 20. The bus leaves WCA at 9 am. We will return on Friday between 3pm & 4pm (depending on traffic).
 - All participants have been given an envelope with a letter to parents (please do not share the letter with your child - it has a request for each family and is a **“SECRET”!!!!**)
 - The packing list is also available digitally in the Friday Post page.
 - The envelope also contains the packing lists and a list of FAQs (for families that may have missed the meeting).
 - If your child takes any kind of medication, please make sure to keep all prescription medications that you are sending with your child in their ORIGINAL BOTTLE that has the prescription label that is not expired. Without the actual bottle, the OB staff will not administer the medication, and your child may not be able to attend.

- ★ 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 -
 - 8th Grade -

English Language Arts with Ms. Powers

7th Grade: This week we finished Part Two of *Unbroken*. We will be reviewing both Part One and Two, concentrating on theme, character analysis, and exploration of author's craft.

Dear Parents,

Students are beginning a new unit about Japanese-American relations during World War II, and will be reading the compelling story of Louie Zamperini in the book *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption*, by Laura Hillenbrand, and an account of Miné Okubo, a Japanese-American interned during World War II. Students have the option to read either the original or young adult version of *Unbroken*. Most students are already engaged in the story and up for the reading challenge. Students who need simplified text for independent reading or are more sensitive to violence may chose to read the YA version. We'll use the original in class for deeper analysis, exploration of author's craft, and as a mentor text for their upcoming writing unit.

Great care has been taken to create this unit, and any time we read about violence in the world, we need to be extra thoughtful to make sure that everyone feels safe. We welcome your feedback and questions about the important work that we are doing to support your child's growth as a reader, writer, and citizen.

Sincerely,
Joann Powers

8th Grade: This week we will be finishing up our reading of the classic, *To Kill A Mockingbird*. We began watching Part One of the film , concentrating on comparing and contrasting the novel to the film.

Mathematics with Mr. St. Denny

8th Grade - We completed the second round of high school placement practice time, and while most students are meeting the cutoffs, there are several ways in which students can better ensure their success.

We have discussed which topics need attention so that each student can practice before the official test.

As always, don't hesitate to email me at
sst.denny@willowcreekacademy.org

SCIENCE with Mr. Devol

7th Grade: Evolution cont'd... Dragons have continued to be the focus of 7th grade as students continued sketching and determining the traits of their newly adopted pets.

Next Week: SPRING BREAK!

8th Grade: What's in a WAVE? What does a wave actually do? We spent most of this week and part of last week answering these questions. Students took a QUIZ today and looked ready to enjoy a week off!

Next Week: SPRING BREAK!

Social Studies with Mr. Baker

7th Grade: This week we finished our chinese Invention Presentations, and spent some time with the Heian Period in Medieval Japan. This was the Golden Age for Japanese Culture and students have an assignment over the break to try to capture the "Perfect Moment", knowing that it is short and transient. They will capture that moment in a tanka poem, illustration, or a photo and haiku poem.

8th Grade: Today was our debate! It was an awesome event that the 8th grade has been work toward for about 3 weeks now. When we come back from break, most of the 8th graders will be attending the camping trip with Outward Bound, however we will still have classes for the students who opted out of the camping trip.

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

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