



7th & 8th Grade Friday Letter - Feb. 2nd, 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:
 - 7th Grade - Mate Revishvili
 - 7th Grade - Colette Tate

English Language Arts with Ms. Powers

7th Grade: It's Showtime!!! We began our performances of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* this week. Students have been doing an outstanding job providing a modern perspective on the play. Their scene-by-scene plot summaries have been a joy to watch.

8th Grade: Our 8th grade Journalist are busy meeting their February 19th deadline. Students have been using their sharp observation skills to write investigative articles on meaningful topics that revolve around Willow Creek Academy and its students. All articles will be featured in the 2018 WCA yearbook.

Mathematics

7th Grade - Seventh graders spent the week working with the 5d process. This is a process that helps students organize their thinking for word problems and work toward the correct answer. By Thursday teams were able to solve problems and present their solutions to the class, all while being grilled by yours truly. They did great!

8th Grade - We spent the week working on visualizing data. One of the highlights for me was examining maps where the area of countries was based on different factors like GDP, land use, or birth rate. They are getting adept at identifying relationships from scatterplots, and building skills in identifying independent and dependent variables.

Algebra 1- Another week, another unit! This week we refreshed and built new skills in factoring quadratics. We also took a chunky unit test on Thursday dealing with multiplying monomials, negative, and fractional exponents.

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

SCIENCE

7th Grade: This Week - Who are us humans and where did we come from? This week, students began our Evolution Project digging in to the Driving Question "How did us, as humans, become who we are today?" It is a wide look at an important and sometimes controversial topic which we will then use to dive deep and determine the probability of inheriting a specific trait.

Next Week: EVOLUTION PROJECT (cont'd)

8th Grade: This Week - NGSS Pre-Test Activities - This is the first year 8th grade will be taking a revised state test so we will spend this week and next working on some difficult and often purposely confusing directions and discuss how to attack such problems as we ramp up for the CAASP test.

Next Week: NGSS (cont'd) and start WAVE ENERGY

Social Studies with Mr. Baker

This had been an 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 focused on West Africa and the influence of Islam. The students were assigned an essay that they will have to present in the near future. They must describe what they have learned about West Africa so far.

8th Grade: This week our students focus on the meaning of the Constitution of the United States of America. The students did a wonderful job of reciting the Preamble this week. The students are currently working on translating articles of the Constitution in their own words. They will need to define our government and its processes.

[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.

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