



7th & 8th Grade Friday Letter - March 9, 2018

REMINDER: Parent conferences are next week. Check with your homeroom teacher for details.

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 -
 - 8th Grade -

English Language Arts with Ms. Powers

7th Grade: This week the students are putting the finishing touches on their companion books by analyzing structure in a text. We've been paying attention on the treatment of time in narrative literature, concentrating on verb tense, and cues that teach readers about when events are happening. Next week we will be writing inside the story with improvisations and fan fiction. This genre of writing will be the the final inclusion in their companion books.

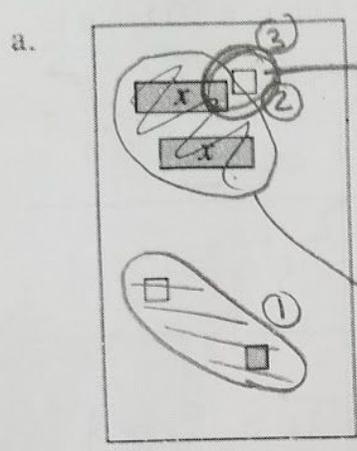
***** Parent/teacher conferences (7A)***:** Today I will be sending home a sign up sheet for parent/teacher conferences. Please pick your time and return sheet to me by Wednesday. Thank you!

8th Grade: We continue to collaborate with the Tam News team on our joint publication venture. Next week will be our final meeting, where we will edit and layout our articles in preparation for printing. I am looking forward to seeing the magazine, everyone is very excited. We began our reading unit this week as well. Monday we began Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize winning masterwork *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Mathematics with Mr. St. Denny

7th Grade - We continued work with using algebra tiles, and are now solving algebraic equations! We are just beginning to transition from solving with algebra tiles to solving symbolically (using just letters and numbers).

3.) Simplify each of the expression mats as much as possible. Which is greatest? Which has the smallest value? Record each simplification carefully.



$$2x + 1 - 2$$

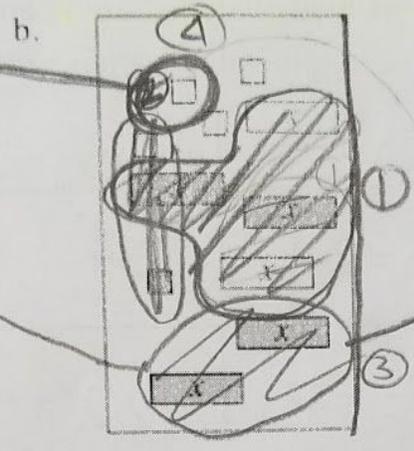
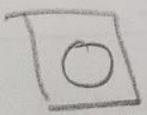
① Remove ZP 1, -1

$$2x - 1$$

② Remove BS $2x + 2x + 2x$

$$-1$$

③ Remove BS $-1, -1$



$$4x - 2x + 1 - 4$$

① Remove ZP $2x, 2x$

$$2x + 1 - 4$$

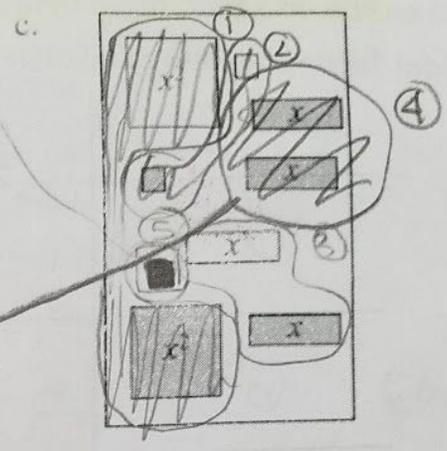
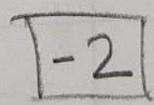
② Remove ZP 1, -1

$$2x - 3$$

③ Remove BS $2x + 2x + 2x$

$$-3$$

④ Remove BS $-1, -1, -1$



$$x^2 - x^2 + 3x - 1x + 2 -$$

① Remove ZP $x^2, -x^2$

$$3x - 1x + 2 - 1$$

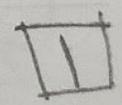
② Remove ZP 1, -1

$$3x - 1x + 1$$

③ Remove ZP $1x, -1x$

$$2x + 1$$

④ Remove BS $2x$



⑤ Remove BS

Greatest: C $\rightarrow 1$

Medium: A $\rightarrow 0$

Smallest: B $\rightarrow -2$

8th Grade - Eighth graders are working with exponents and exponential growth. We took this opportunity to examine interest rates and the effect of damaging your credit score. Ask your kids about hundred thousand dollar t-shirts.

Algebra 1- We continued working with quadratic equations. Students are getting really good at factoring quadratics, graphing, identifying intercepts and vertices. We finished the week learning to “complete the square” to turn standard-form into vertex form.

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

SCIENCE with Mr. Devol

7th Grade: 3rd Rock this week including engineering and design and the highlight of the week had to be when we made tables out of 8 pieces of paper. The student goal was to see which design would hold the most weight by stacking books on our homemade paper table. The winner stacked nearly 50 lbs. of books on their table which weighed only 14 grams!

8th Grade: The 8th grade this week continued working on writing persuasively. They debated whether a plant is a sentient being. While there is no argument that plants are living things, do they possess the ability to perceive and feel? Quite a debate!

Next Week: Parent Conferences!

8th Grade: This Week - In 8th grade, everyone got new journals and we continued looking at waves, their properties and how they behave. Students learned the different parts of a wave and began investigating the relationship and differences when light separates to form rainbows. (Why do the fish I always catch look bigger when they are in the water??? Refraction of course!)

Next Week: Enjoy the Family!

Social Studies with Mr. Baker

Parent Teacher conferences are next Friday and Monday. Here is information for how parents of students from 8A can sign up for a conference time slot. This information has been sent home with students.

Social Studies (con't): To pick a time slot, enter this link in your internet browser:

www.ptcfast.com/reg1

At that link, you will be asked for your Entry Code, where you should enter:

N4U1229496

7th Grade: This week's focus was the changes to Agriculture, Commerce, and Urbanization in Medieval China. We will be moving into Chinese inventions next week.

8th Grade: This week, we explored the various stances that can be held with regard to the 2nd amendment. Next week, we begin our research to be able to join our teams in debating 1 of 6 stances that we have created as a class.

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

Sean St.Denny - Math - [sst.denny@willowcreekacademy.org](mailto:ssst.denny@willowcreekacademy.org)

Joann Powers - ELA - jpowers@willowcreekacademy.org

Carter Devol - Science - cdevol@willowcreekacademy.org

Belinda Ingraham - Spanish - bingraham@willowcreekacademy.org

Lauren Haberly - Art - lhaberly@willowcreekacademy.org

Dave Singleton - P - dsingleton@willowcreekacademy.org