



7th & 8th Grade Friday Letter - September 15, 2017

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:
 - Yasha Zink - 8th Grade
 - Colton Wagner - 8th Grade

African-American and Latino Community Day

On October 7th, from 12:00 Noon - 2:00 pm, Saint Ignatius will be hosting our third **African-American and Latino Community Day** for families of 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. We would love for you and your families to join us as we will have representatives from admissions, our Black Student Union (BSU), Association of Latin American Students (ALAS), faculty, alumni, and African American and Latino Parent Association (AALPA) present to help answer the question of "can my child be supported and thrive at SI?"

Attending the Shadow Visit and Open House gives our prospective families a good basis for understanding the workings of SI, but we hope this event will give you and your families more insight into the Black and Latino Experiences at Saint Ignatius.

Families who attend the event will have the opportunity to watch the SI vs. St. Francis football game (for free) at 2:00 pm!

If you or your families would like to attend, please RSVP by Friday, September 29th.

RSVP: Kguilbeaux@siprep.org or 731-7500 ext 5589

What: African-American and Latino Community Outreach Day

Who: African-American and Latino Families of Middle School Children

When: October 7th from 12:00 Noon - 2:00 pm. Lunch provided

Where: Student Center

- ★ Please look for the Outward Bound paper work (Medical Form and Liability Release). We need to have that packet of documents filled out and turned in ASAP for the upcoming 7th grade camping trip October 17-19. 8th graders need to have forms turned in to prepare for the Rock Climbing Trip November 7-9. These forms, with the Presentation Slides from Back to School Night, are available via the Friday Post Page link here: <https://www.willowcreekacademy.org/domain/134>

- ★ 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: We are nearing the mid-point in our reading of *The Outsiders*. This week we annotated the poem “Nothing Gold Can Stay” by Robert Frost, which appears in Chapter 5. I then had the students write their own poems using figurative language, symbolisms, and metaphors. We also read the short story “All Summer In A Day” by Ray Bradbury and extended the story by predicting what would happen to the main character, Margot, after she was released. I have some exciting news, Marin Theater Company will be visiting our class on September, 25th, 27th, and 29th to work with students on a project that will connect directly to our reading of *The Outsiders*. More to information to follow.

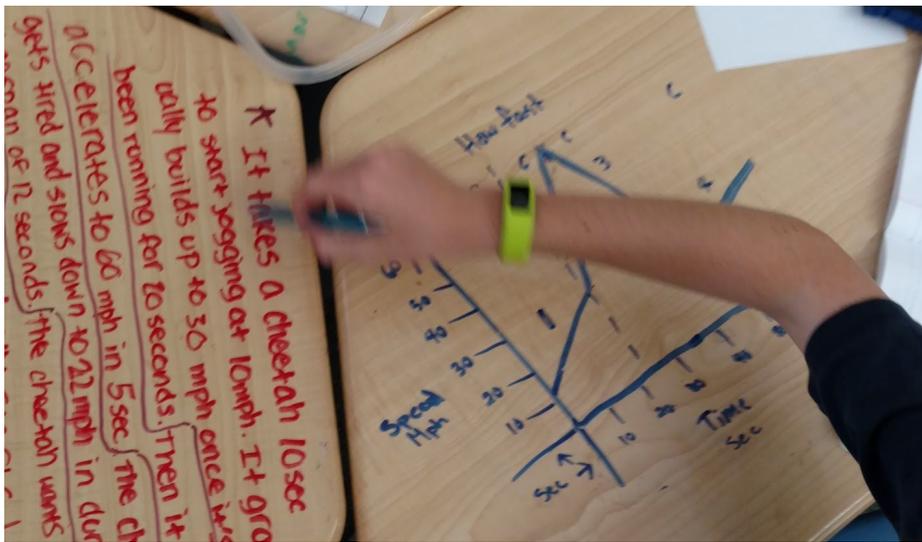
8th Grade: We continue to read our in class novel *A Long Walk To Water*, we are two-thirds of the way through. We continue to have in depth discussions on this brave, young man’s journey, delving deeply into current refugee problems around the world and the United States role in this issue. Along with our classroom reading, each student is reading their independent book for homework, minimum of a half hour a night, along with answering prompts I have given them in class.

Mathematics with Mr. St. Denny

Algebra 1- We have finished the selection process, and I’m very excited to begin the important work of teaching your students high school math! Expect a letter home regarding your student’s selection. In addition to the students selected to join the algebra course, there are a number of students who were not selected to join at this time. I am thankful for their effort, and available via phone (415) 286-2139 or email if there are any questions about the process specific to your child.

7th Grade: 7th Graders are getting into probability, and proportion. We started the week with figuring out the height of 1 million pennies (much taller than you might expect), and worked our way toward experimental and theoretical probability. We will be continuing to use math to make predictions, and to build number sense and mathematical intuition.

8th Grade: 8th grade is working on collecting and analyzing data. One of the most useful skills that math develops is data analysis. By building competency in graphing and data analysis, we prepare our students to be able to interpret information and make decisions.



Science with Mr. Devol

This week, we continued working on how we get around class in an efficient manner in both 7th and 8th grades. We have been establishing routines and protocols (getting in a circle, sharpening pencils, using the bathroom, etc.). Students are doing great on progressing daily.

7th Grade Our 7th graders spent this week learning how to use graphs to represent data. We began looking at populations and will continue next week where students will be given a country and asked to graph the population data for their country. (*SEE PICTURE BELOW)

8th Grade We had our first quiz this week in 8th grade on how to find the velocity of an object as well as defining the first 5 words of our Caesar's Science Vocab. We will continue next week with velocity culminating with a wooden car project! **Reminder: *EACH THURSDAY IS A SCIENCE VOCAB. QUIZ**



Social Studies with Mr. Baker

This week we spent two class sessions taking the MAP Language Usage test.

***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: This week, we had our first introduction to our Textbook, and we watched a fun video with singing and really awesome art about the 8 Reasons Rome Fell. The video, and class notes, are on the Google Classroom.

8th Grade: Aside from the two days of MAP Testing, we gained an understanding of the effects of the various Reformation movements in Europe and how European Christianity split into Catholics and a variety of Protestant movements. We also began our exploration of Enlightenment Philosophers whose ideas created the climate that led to the American Revolution.