

Humanities Department News

March 27, 2017

Social Studies

Mrs. Memmott's CP US History classes are currently focused on the controversies associated with the Vietnam War. After having some students share their familial connections to the conflict, students reviewed (or will be reviewing) the long scope of the conflict, some environmental dangers US servicemen faced, protests against the conflict, varying presidential actions, the draft and PTSD afflictions. Both text based and visual primary sources are being relied upon for this focus, including a portion of the 1969 CBS Special Report that covered the draft lottery birthday selection. Students were able to determine where their birthday (month and day) fell within this initial random selection sequence. They were further asked to mentally assume the role of a young male adult whose birthday was associated with a low number and form a short response about their personal inclination to dodge or serve. Responses considered knowledge of the Vietnam conflict itself, in addition to reflections about honor, duty, values and family; overall, quite honest and insightful.

• By Jessica Memmott

AP World History I students have begun to engage in the study of the Black Death, a fourteenth century plague that claimed the lives of millions between Asia and Europe. In addition to researching factors associated with the plague's spread, students will be examining the social, political, religious, and economic effects that it produced during the corresponding period. Students will also be comparing the Black Death with another historical epidemic or pandemic of their choosing, comparing and contrasting their impacts in the areas mentioned above. The generated presentations of the students' findings and analyses will be shared with the class.

• By Patrick Holyst