

Hello Families of our Eighth Grade Class of 2021!

Summer is here, and we can't believe that the 2019-2020 school year has already come to an end! We have enjoyed being able to teach your children this year and are so proud of their perseverance during such a difficult time. We are looking forward to watching them continue to grow as leaders of our school as they enter into their 8th grade year this August. In an effort to ensure that your child continues to have success with his/her learning, the following assignments have been designed for your child to complete this summer.

To our students: have a great summer, remember to be the NOW of God, rest and relax, and we will see you soon!

The Middle School Teaching Team

Religion: Students will read the Acts of the Apostles from a Catholic Bible. This short book of the New Testament, the second volume of Luke's writings, will be the starting point for our studies in August. Students will complete guided notes that they will find in our Class of 2021 eighth grade religion classroom. The Google Classroom code for our 8th grade religion class is: **gableao**

Any questions about content can be emailed to Mrs. Lombardo throughout the summer.

If students do not have access to a Catholic Bible, the entire text can be found here:

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/books-of-the-bible/index.cfm#Acts>.

ELA and Reading: Similar to last summer, students will each need to choose **one fiction novel** that is appropriate in difficulty level, length, and content. It should also be one that is school appropriate, such as the "green" level on our YA rating scale, and should only be "yellow" with parent permission. If students arrive in the fall and have chosen a mature book, then ELA teachers will email parents to confirm permission. Any student who needs help choosing a book or finding ebooks is welcome to email Mrs. Hardin, Mrs. DeLucia, or Mrs. DeSocio for suggestions; visiting www.arbookfind.com and commonsensemedia.org might also be helpful to sort through reading levels or preview mature content in books. Again, please choose a fictional novel and not nonfiction so that we can explore plot, theme, and other literary devices in the first two weeks of school.

In addition to this reading requirement, Mrs. Hardin will post optional ELA activities in Google Classroom, starting in June. In August, she will also post some first quarter assignments that students could choose to complete early, but there will be no consequences if students do not work ahead. The code for the 8th ELA Google Classroom is: **wj7cesy**

Math: Students should continue to work on ALEKS throughout the summer. Ideally, I would like each student to grow their pie by 15-20%. To calculate how many topics each student should complete, multiply the current number of topics mastered by the percent as a decimal (ex: .20). I encourage students to work on a little ALEKS each week (The school is recommending three times/week.) to help space out completing this goal! If you have any questions, please email Miss Nentwich.

Google Classroom Codes:

8th grade math: **qxukird**

Algebra: **atqxmka**

Science: Students will be provided with optional, engaging STEM activities and fun ecological studies that will help them to continue to build upon the foundation we established in their seventh grade year and encourage curiosity and wonder! Possible activities include building a device that utilizes an alternative energy resource, an observational bird study, and keeping a nature journal. Activities and resources will be posted in our eighth grade science Google Classroom beginning in June. Mrs. Maschari will also continue to hold periodic Touchbase Tuesday meetings through the summer and check in with you via email. The code for the 8th grade science Google Classroom is **zu32jqk**.

Social Studies: Students entering into the 8th grade will be learning about early American history, from the time period of Exploration to Reconstruction. Students will have one required assignment to complete to get them ready for the first topic of the year. All other assignments will be optional history activities to complete over the summer. Possible activities include making food from an ancient civilization, creating a museum, interviewing an adult about a historical event, and much more. Activities and resources will be posted in the social studies Google Classroom page beginning in June. Students will need to join Google Classroom using their school account. The code for the class is **dwkpc4k**.