



Mr. Lakowski's Class News

April 24, 2012

8th Literature

We have begun our novel study of To Kill a Mockingbird. We complete a chapter or two in class each day. I do not want the students to read ahead, as tempting as it may be! If you get a chance, take a moment and discuss this wonderful book with your son or daughter.

The assessment for the unit will be an essay on one of the major themes, which we will be identifying along the way. If time permits, students will also reenact a scene from the novel in groups. Finally, we will conclude with the award-winning film version starring Gregory Peck. I am certain that our students will love both the book and movie!

Don't forget, the memoir project is due Mon. 5/7.

8th Social Studies

We took the Illinois Constitution test today. Once again, a score of 77 or higher is necessary to graduate. We are now returning to our study of history and Ch. 24, the Roaring 20s. The test will cover both Ch. 24-25 and is tentatively scheduled for Fri. 5/11.

We will again be taking a semester final. It will cover Ch. 17, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26, including listing all Presidents through FDR, and one essay question. The rest of the questions are vocabulary and multiple choice questions that students have seen previously, so they should study old tests. The semester final will be Tues. May 22.

As time permits, we will also be completing a group project on the decades from the 1920s through 1950s.

7th Religion

We are wrapping up our Family Life curriculum this Thursday. We will then extend our understanding to Mary and the Holy Family. We will then begin Ch. 13. This is one of my favorite chapters because it is one which is applicable to every junior high student-making good choices.

7th Social Studies

We are deep into Ch. 26, China, Mongolia, and Taiwan. Students read a Chinese fable and then worked in groups to create their own fable with the same lesson. Next, we are traveling to the Gobi Desert to explore more about dinosaur fossils. The Ch. 26 test is tentatively scheduled for Fri. 5/4.

6th Social Studies

We are learning about trade and the earliest levels of globalization in Ch. 14. We also studied economic concepts including scarcity, trade offs, and opportunity costs.

5th Social Studies

We have begun Ch. 8 and are heading into the Revolutionary War. We will also be working on identifying point of view.

Save the Date...

4/27... Progress Reports available online

4/30... April Birthdays free dress

5/4... Mass and May Crowning

5/5 ... First Communion celebrations