

St. Joseph's Middle School Newsletter

**First Trimester
(Beginning)**
September 2018



Welcome Back to School!

Welcome to the start of a new year in Middle School! We are glad to see everyone and look forward to a successful year.

Throughout the year, look for six Middle School Newsletters to keep you updated on what is happening in our classrooms. Newsletters will come out at the beginning and mid-point of each trimester. Their purpose is to provide general information about each class as daily assignments are posted on Google Classroom.

History (Ms. Roettger)

Welcome back to another exciting school year! Sixth grade students will start off the year examining artifacts from some of the earliest people on earth. Students will be asked to bring in their own "artifacts" that describe themselves.

Seventh grade will start with basic geography concepts and ideas.

Lastly, the eighth graders will start with the founding of America and civic skills.

Communication Skills (Mrs. Bruce)

Welcome to Communication Skills! This is a class that will focus on grammar, writing, and study skills.

Grammar: All grades will begin the year with a review of the types of sentences.

Writing: All grades will begin the year by working on writing a good quality paragraph.

Study Skills: All grades will begin the year by discovering what type of learner they are and how to make that work with a variety of teaching styles.

Science (Ms. Schafer)

All grades will start with lab safety and scientific method at the beginning of the school year.

6th grade will dive "Inside Earth" and learn about Earth's core, Earthquakes and Volcanoes.

7th grade will start with "Intro to Life Science" and figure out what makes a living thing living.

8th grade will start with "Intro to Physical Science" and dive deeper into Matter.

Mrs. Bruce
Comm. Skills

Ms. Roettger
History

Ms. Schafer
Science

Mr. Schultz
Literature

Ms. Rowe
Religion

Ms. Muellerleile
Math

Literature (Mr. Schultz)

Welcome to middle school literature. I am excited to share some great books, stories, and poems with you this year.

The sixth grade will begin with short stories, and then we will read Where the Red Fern Grows.

The seventh grade also will start with short stories. Then we will read Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry.

The eighth grade will soon begin reading Greek myths and The Adventures of Ulysses, a retelling of The Odyssey.

Religion (Ms. Rowe)

It is wonderful to begin a new school year, not unlike our experiences when making New Year's resolutions. High anticipation and expectations for the time ahead. The students and I will be meeting for religion class each day. The sixth graders will be studying the patriarchs of the Old Testament.

Seventh graders will study the New Testament and the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Eighth graders will be studying Church History during first and third trimesters. During second trimester, students will focus on Confirmation preparation. The parish Confirmation kick-off meeting for parents and Confirmation candidates is **October 9th** from 7-8 PM in the Church.

The parish offers a monthly faith opportunity for middle school students. NET retreats are held monthly; the first one being Oct. 2nd. The theme is "In His Image". Retreats are held in the Monsignor Foran Great Room after school until 7:00. While students are encouraged to participate fully, students may arrive late or leave early as their schedule demands.

Ms. Rowe

Upcoming Dates

September 12th

Middle School Retreat
(NET Ministries)

September 28th

8th Grade Duluth Trip

October 4th

Marathon

October 5th

No School
(Teacher Workday)

October 9th

Confirmation Kick-off
(Parent and Candidate)
7-8 pm (Church)

October 10th

Mass of the Holy Spirit

Math (Ms. Mullerleile)

Welcome to an exciting year in math!

6th grade will start by learning about the number line, and how to represent fractions and decimals, followed by working with adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions and decimals.

7th grade will begin by learning about negative numbers and absolute value, before moving on to the real number system where they will learn about rational and irrational numbers.

8th grade will talk about the real number system, followed by learning about exponents.