



Newsletter January

5th / 6th Grade

Science

We are starting "Chapter 1: Cells to Body Systems." During this chapter, we will be taking a very close look at cells. We will be exploring the parts and functions of the organelles that make up the plant and animal cells. Next, we will see how cells work together to form tissues, organs, organ systems, and finally, organisms. We will conclude the chapter with a close look at the different systems inside our body.

To help us understand the cell organelles and functions, we will be making a model of either a plant or animal cell. These projects will be due Friday, January 27.

Social Studies

We are starting "Chapter 5: Nubia and Kush." IN this chapter, we will learn about the Kushites of Nubia, Egypt's southern neighbors. They borrowed cultural ideas from Egypt and developed a powerful civilization based on trade.

Health

We are now examining the negative effects of illegal drug use and how to avoid and refuse illegal drugs to stay healthy. Students will practice refusal skills in remaining drug-free. Our last section will deal with sources of help at home, in school, and in the community for someone who misuses drugs. After a review, we will have a chapter test.

The following chapter will examine the risks of using tobacco and alcohol and analyze situations that can lead people to use these, as well as resources available to help people quit.

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Please check assignment notebooks for homework and test dates!

Math

5th Grade

Least Common Multiple is our present topic which will be used when students learn to add and subtract fractions. Then, comparing and ordering fractions and relating fractions to decimals will be discussed, as well as how to write mixed numbers as improper fractions and decimals. We will spend a couple of class periods with these concepts before we apply them to word problems.

6th Grade

We have just begun our work with adding and subtracting fractions with like denominators, after which we will extend this to unlike denominators and mixed numbers. Several class periods will be needed for practice. The following section will be an integration with measurement, as students learn how to add and subtract time measures and also determine elapsed time.

Religion

Our new chapter is "Come, You Who Are Blessed: A Scripture Story," which focuses on why hearing and understanding the Gospel is vital for all people. We will examine the 4 accounts of the Gospel and how each came to be written, as well as ways we can "live the Gospel" as Jesus taught. Following this, our discussion will be centered on "Celebrating the Liturgy," which will include why the Church comes together to worship God, the importance of the Sacraments, and an understanding of the seasons of the liturgical year.

Language Arts

We are continuing with "Unit C: Free to Fly." The literature in this unit develops the theme of imagination as it explores the creative and exciting adventures the imagination can provide. In this unit, we will explore how people from different cultures and time periods use their imagination to create stories based on similar ideas.

In Grammar, we are beginning to work with adjectives and adverbs. We will also be continuing to improve our writing skills throughout the month.