

8TH GRADE

8th Grade Courses

Mrs. Sullivan-	Literature English Religion 7 th Math
Mrs. Suarez-	Science Vocabulary Pre-Algebra
Mrs. Barnes-	History

Welcome Back!

Students, you've finally made it to 8th grade, one of the most important milestones in your educational careers. Since kindergarten, you have been growing in knowledge, responsibility, and in faith. Your hard work and effort will continue this year as you take on the challenging 8th grade curriculum. We have much work ahead of us.



Parents, thank you for making the decision to send your child to St. James. I am confident that our mission to promote social, educational, and spiritual excellence can be fulfilled in each of your children. A Middle School packet is attached to this letter. Please read it over with your child tonight, and return any papers that are to be signed or filled out on the first day of school. A prompt response is appreciated.

AR Deadlines

1 st Quarter	Oct. 6
2 nd Quarter	Dec. 15
3 rd Quarter	Mar. 9
4 th Quarter	May 24

Lunch Fees

Lunch Cost-	\$2.60
Milk-	\$0.50

Lunch charges are sent home every Wednesday in the Blue Folder.

Important Dates

Aug. 9	First Day
Sept. 4	Labor Day: No School
Oct. 12-13	Parent Conferences
Oct. 19	10 K Dinner
Oct. 20	In-service: No School
Nov. 2	Picture Day
Nov. 20	Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 27	Return to School
Dec. 13	Christmas Play
Dec. 18	Christmas Break
Jan. 3	Return from Break
Jan. 15	MLK Day- No School
Jan. 28	Catholic Schools Week
Feb. 19	In-service: No school
Mar. 26	Spring Break Starts
Apr. 3	Return to School
Apr. 23	10WA Exams Begin
May 12	5K Run
May 18	Field Day
May 24	Graduation

Curriculum Outline

The 8th graders will be expected to excel in all content areas. In Literature, we focus primarily on genre studies and conclude with a unit on Shakespearean drama. The writing assignments in English build upon our Literature studies and cover expository, persuasive, and narrative writing. The Religion course covers Church history, virtues, Catholic Social Justice teaching, and the Sacraments. For more information, about middle school math, science, or social studies, please contact those teachers directly.

Homework Guidelines

1. Students should expect one to two hours of homework nightly.
2. Students should read AR independently for 15 minutes per day.
3. Students will receive homework notices for missed work and must return them signed by a parent.
4. Late homework assignments will receive a 10% deduction per day. Assignments that are more than a week late will not be accepted.

AR Policy

Students must read at least one book a quarter at home and one book at school. The first must be within their ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development). The second AR book to be read in class will be chosen by the teacher. The AR tests for the two books will total 200 points. Students must meet their assigned points goal for an additional 25 points. In some cases, it may be necessary for a student to read more than two books to reach their desired points goal. The AR component of the literature course totals approximately 1/3 of the total literature average.

Absences/Check-Outs

Students have two days to make up missed assignments. Please use the check-out/absence forms for any scheduled dates. You may call before noon for HW assignments to be gathered that day. Please pick-up after 2:30.