



## *Grade 7/8 December Curriculum Newsletter*

*Advent is a time to prepare.*

As part of our spiritual preparations for the season, we will be working on various Advent activities throughout the month in Religion class. Please be mindful of our Food Hamper Drive Campaign in support of needy families in our parish.

Our **Grade 8 students** will be celebrating the **sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**. **All candidates are asked to meet at Nativity of Our Lord Church at 6:00 pm for the mass at 7:00 pm.**

Thanks to our Parent Council for providing the Confirmation candidates with a special luncheon.

Aside from those preparations, we will be busy preparing our performance for the **Christmas Concert on December 16<sup>th</sup> at MPSJ High School.**

We will also be busy in all our other subject areas as noted below.

### **Mathematics-Grade 7/8**

Patterning and Algebra-Focus will be on recognizing patterns and creating algebraic expression.

Measurement- Gr. 8-Focus will be on describing the relationship among the radius, diameter, and circumference, and the area of a circle. Gr. 7-Focus will be on calculating the area of a trapezoid.

## **Language Arts**

Students will conclude their novel study and continue to work on developing their inferencing skills through analysis of a variety of reading materials.

Persuasive writing skills will be developed through the writing of a critique of the novel read by both the grade 7's and 8's. Emphasis will be on proper paragraph development and the use of effective transitioning statements to ensure proper flow.

Students will research a topic in order to defend a point of view in preparing for a one-on-one or two-on-two debate. *Debates* will take place in the new year on *January 11th*.

## **Science**

Grade 8-The next unit of study will be Mechanical Advantage and Efficiency. Focus will be on simple machines and calculating the advantage of the machines.

Grade 7-Focus will be on structures and their form and function.

## **History**

Grade 8- Focus will be on Canada, post-Confederation 1867.

Grade 7-Focus will be on the development of British North America following the capture of Quebec and the fall of New France.

## **Geography**

Grade 8- Focus will be on different world economies.

Grade 7-Students will examine the importance of physical patterns, specifically, landforms and rivers.

**Physical Education and Health-** Students will continue to examine issues surrounding healthy living. Focus will be on the development of basketball skills.

As you can see, we have a busy month ahead of us. Please continue check your child's assessment portfolio as we have several assessments this month.

Hope to see you at the concert! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thanks always for your continued support,

Mr. M. O'Neill