



The Middle School Messenger

[From the Middle School Team](#)

Hello Families!

We have had a great Catholic Schools Week! Congratulations to you for making Catholic Schools a part of your child's life! We celebrated Faith, Academics, and Service this week in many ways. Highlights included Mass, the Spelling Bee, the Science Fair, and appreciation days. We are so blessed to have such an extraordinary Catholic School in MISSION GRAMMAR!

Literacy:

All classes completed midterm skill analysis work. Each Scholar worked to go through his or her midterm exam and analyze each question that they got incorrect. They determined the type of question, the skills behind it, and how they would answer it correctly next time. Each Scholar set goals after this. Please ask your Scholar about his or her literacy goals. Grade 6 began working with realistic fiction, thinking about character traits and creating stories around characters. Grade 7 is working on essay development and drafting effective leads to an essay. Grade 8 is also working on essay development but has focused on structure and the use of an outline as an organizational tool. They are also working to provide strong evidence and examples for each point in their essays. These essays will be entered in the annual St. John Neumann Essay Contest. St. John is the founder of the Catholic School system in the United States.

Social Studies and Vocabulary:

In grade 6, we are studying various tools of history how we learn about the past. Some of the methods include primary and secondary sources, as well as digging for clues and artifacts. Scholars have also learned about the difference between archeology and anthropology. In grade 7, we are learning about ancient Muslim civilization. We have studied the origins of the religion, focusing on the founder, the Prophet Muhammad and his influence on the Muslim people. We have also learned about how the religion of Islam is practiced, and how it spread across Europe and Africa. In grade 8, Scholars are learning about the Articles of Confederation, and how they eventually turned into the United States constitution. We have learned about how the constitution was formed, and some of the debates and issues that showed up along the way. Some of these include the federalists versus the antifederalists, and the inclusion of a bill of rights, and the division of power within the federal government.

Math and Science:

This week in math 6th grade worked on converting decimals to fractions and fractions to decimals. 6th grade is using knowledge of place value to aid in their approach to conversions. 7th and 8th grade are working tirelessly on angles, polygons, and intersecting lines. Both grades should be able to label shapes, find missing angles and identify sides of polygons. In science all 3 grades had the Science Fair!!! All of the middle school scholars presented in the parish center for the other grades. The Science Fair is a great opportunity to use hands on approaches to learning and teaching others. Scholars got to learn from each other as they heard presentations from peers. Each scholar got to share what they learned, why it was important and what follow up questions need to be answered from the data we uncovered.

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Save the Date!

- 2/3 Report Cards go home
- 2/3 Talent Show at 6pm
- 2/4 Saturday Tutoring
- 2/4 Harvard- Seeds of Hope! 7-4pm
- Homework Club meets Monday –Wednesday and Friday!

Congratulations to our Grade 8 Scholars on High School Acceptances! We are so proud of you!

The running list includes:

Xaverian Brothers
Fontbonne Academy
Matignon High School
St. Joseph Academy
Cathedral High School

We will continue to add to this impressive list over the weeks!