

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

We are halfway through the summer! I hope you are staying cool on these hot summer days and enjoying a restful summer! This year I am starting a monthly Middle School newsletter to partner with parents and students and keep you informed about Middle School events and important dates throughout the year.

PowerSchool:

The Middle School now has its own school in PowerSchool. Check it out using your access name and password. If you don't have one, contact Mrs. Stempien at the Upper School office at dstempien@kingsmen.org or at extension 502.

Middle School Missions trips

Twelve girls from grades 6-10 went with Mrs. Reens, Mrs. Baylis, and me to New Mexico to work with Western Indian Ministries. During the week we painted 10 porches and a two bay garage! In the evening we held a neighborhood Bible club for a missionary family that had recently moved to the area. Each night 12-18 children came to make crafts, play games, and hear a Bible story. It was a wonderful time of ministry and community.

Twelve boys from grades 7-8 went to His Mansion in Vermont to work cutting and stacking wood on the farm for three days. After completing the work, they went to Maine to rock climb and raft with the staff of Moose River Outpost. Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Waters, and Mr. Meyer led the team.

Future ministry opportunities

The Middle School hopes to continue ministering to the community throughout the school year. We will continue our friendship with Alexis, the 9 year old girl with brittle bone disease. Please continue to save your metal pop tops from soda cans and bring those to school to give to Mrs. Keegan. We are also looking to begin a nursing home ministry, as well as renewing our peer tutoring program at Longfellow Elementary School. If parents are interested in helping out, please contact Mrs. Keegan at ckeegan@kingsmen.org or Miss Avery at lavery@kingsmen.org.

The Middle School is moving!!!

We will be located in rooms 111 and 112 (the former 5th grade classrooms), and rooms 133, 134, and 135. This will reduce the distances that Middle School students need to travel, as well as create a "Middle School neighborhood" which is important to the social development of Middle School students with faculty collaboration and integration of curriculum. We are very excited about this move, which was made after much thought and planning.

The Middle School administrative office for Mrs. Keegan and Mrs. Hannibal will be in Room 136. You may come and visit on August 23 and 24! Locker assignments will be posted outside Room 136 on August 23rd.

Summer Reading ☺

Hopefully you have begun your summer reading! Attached with this newsletter is the summer reading assignment for your grade as well as the questions that you will be asked to write on for your books. Please do not leave this until the first week of school. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Keegan at ckeegan@kingsmen.org.

THE RETREAT IS COMING!!

The highlight of the beginning of the year (besides seeing friends again) is the Fall Retreat! We will be traveling to Lakeside Christian Camp in Pittsfield, MA on **September 9 -10!** Please check out the "Back to School" link for the permission slip!

Upcoming Dates for August and September:

August 24	New Student Orientation and picnic
August 23-24, 27, 30	Come and see the new Middle School. Set up your locker
September 1	First day of school!
September 2	Dedication picnic
September 9-10	Fall retreat - depart at 8 am
September 23	Middle School Student Government elections
September 24	Teacher in-service

8th grade courses and books

<u>Course name</u>	<u>Book(s)</u>	<u>ISBN</u>
Old Testament	<i>Daring Deliverers</i>	9781583311172
Computer Science	No book needed	
Literature and Composition 8	<i>Literature (Penguin Edition) 8</i> <i>The Hiding Place</i> <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> <i>Guide to MLA Documentation</i> (This book will be used for grades 7-12) <i>Prentice Hall Writing and Grammar Handbook</i> <i>Introductory Logic</i>	9780131317161 9780553256697 9780446310789 9780618967896 9780130375483 9781591280330
Spanish 1	<i>Realidades 1</i> <i>Realidades 1 – Workbook</i>	9780131016873 9780130360076
American History	<i>American Republic for Christian Schools</i> <i>Nystrom Atlas of United States History</i>	9781591664253 9780782507829
Grade 8 Science	<i>Science Explorer: Cells and Heredity</i> <i>Science Explorer: Animals</i> <i>Science Explorer: Inside Earth</i>	9780133651027 9780133651010 9780132011495
<u>Placement determined by Math department</u>		
Pre-Algebra	<i>Pre-Algebra</i> <i>Pre-Algebra Workbook</i>	9780618250035 9780618257522
Algebra 1 <u>and</u> H Algebra	<i>Algebra 1</i> <i>Algebra 1 Workbook</i>	9780618594023 9780618736942

8th grade summer reading

On Friday, September 3, each student will write about the books he/she read this summer. Students may use the book and personal notes to write this essay in class. They may not use notes created by someone else or generated notes (such as *Cliff* or *Spark Notes*).

For the one required book: The theme of the 8th grade Literature and Composition course is “How should a Christian respond to great evil?” In an essay of at least one page, give some examples from the book addressing this theme. What is an example (or examples) of evil and how do the characters respond to it? Do you agree or disagree with the response? Explain why.

For the one choice book:

Please write short answers to explain the following:

- 1) Write a brief (1-2 paragraphs) summary of your book. What are the main events?
- 2) Who are the main characters? Write about at least 2 (and no more than 4). Describe the character (appearance, personality, choices, and changes).
- 3) What is the theme or central idea/point of the book?
- 4) Did you like the book? Would you recommend it be on the summer reading list for next year? Why or why not?

For extra credit books: On September 3, come to school with questions used for the choice book **already completed** for 1-2 additional books.

Parent or guardian, please sign the following:

With my signature, I verify that my child read the two required book and one choice book this summer.

Questions or comments: