

RESURRECTION LUTHERAN MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



January 2024

Designed by RLS MS

January Highlights

- 3 Chapel (8:40am)
- 8 Basketball Home vs. Oak Forest (4:00 Boys)
- 10 Chapel (8:40am)
- 12 Early Release Day (11:30 Dismissal)
- 12-14 Lutheran Schools Basketball Tournament
- 15 NO SCHOOL (MLK Day)
- 16 Basketball Home vs. Trinity (4:00 G/5:00 B)
- 17 Chapel (8:40am)
- 18 Basketball Home vs. Bethesda (4:00 G/5:00 B)
- 19 School Spelling Bee (8:30am)
Early Release Day (11:30 Dismissal)
End of the 3rd Quarter
- 24 Chapel (8:40am)
- 25 Basketball at Montessori (4:00 G/5:00 B)
- 26 Q2 Report Cards posted in Sycamore
- 29 Basketball Home vs. CA Christ (4:00 G/ 5:00 B)
- 30 Basketball at Cary Academy (4:15 G/5:15 B)

But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

-- Isaiah 40:31

New Year New Beginnings

To optimize the beginning of the day for your middle school student, we encourage dropping them off **no later than 8:25**. This will allow ample time for them to visit their locker and be comfortably settled in their homeroom before the **bell rings at 8:30**, signaling the start of class.

Please be aware that arriving after **8:25** may not provide sufficient time for your student to make it to their homeroom by the **8:30** bell. *Late arrivals require a parent to check them in at the front desk.*

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated, as it contributes to a positive and organized learning environment for all students.



RLS Middle School Instagram

Follow the RLS Middle School on Instagram!

rls_middle_matters

Science

Jennifer McCuiston - jennifermccuiston@rlscary.org

Happy New Year!!! I hope everyone had a wonderful break and got to enjoy quality time with their loved ones. We are hard at work these next several weeks as we wrap up quarter 3. The quarter ends 1/19. Please continue to encourage your student to check google classroom nightly and to review their notes and vocabulary daily.

8th

In 8th grade students have been working collaboratively to utilize their engineering skills, they finished up their paper roller coasters on $\frac{1}{3}$. For the remainder of the quarter we will be focusing on chemical reactions. Students will continue to apply their knowledge of atomic structure and chemistry.

7th

We have started our next chapter on cells. Ch 2, this chapter will build on chapter 1 information about life. We will dive into the cell theory, its discovery and the different types of cells. We will also learn about macromolecules and some beginning chemistry basics. We will also learn about moving cellular material and how different types of cells use energy. Our focus will be on distinguishing animal and plant cells.

6th Grade Science

Stephanie Lee - stephanielee@rlscary.org

New Year - New Unit!

Your sixth graders spent August-December focusing on geology...Earth in space, natural disasters on Earth, Earth's dynamic surfaces, and Earth's energy resources. I am so proud of them!

Our new large unit, Exploring Life, will now consist of chapters focusing on exploring biology. From cell structure of plants and animals to how scientists classify and group living things

This is a difficult, but also fun and interesting unit. I have many hands-on components planned. We will be building cell models, utilizing microscopes, and even dissect squid in the weeks to come.

It will be more crucial than ever for your students to consistently bring home their science binders to study a bit each night. Your gentle reminders with this would be greatly appreciated to ensure academic success during this unit and to close the quarter.

Thanks for sharing your amazing kids with me!

Math

Mrs. Farmer - amandafarmer@rlscary.org

6th Grade Math:

We will finish this quarter by covering our unit on ratios, proportions, and percentages. In this unit we will work on writing ratios, rates, and unit rates. We will then use these rates to solve proportion and percent problems. The midterm for 6th grade math will be in mid-February.

Compacted 7th & 8th Grade Math:

We will begin the month by reviewing the material covered in units 1-6 as we prepare for the midterm exam. The midterm will be on Monday, January 8th and Tuesday, January 9th. This will count a regular test grade. A lot of review material has been posted in google classroom.

8th Grade - Math 1:

This month we will be wrapping up our study of linear functions. First we will finish our unit on writing and solving linear functions, then we will move into our study of systems of linear equations.



Math

Mrs. Boyle - judyboyle@rlscary.org

Our MIDTERM will be held February 21-23 during class. Students will be given review material each week to begin preparation for this exam. This test will count as 1 test grade in the 3rd quarter.

8th Grade: Well done with exponent rules. Once we complete the material on scientific notation we will progress to geometry topics, including angles and angle pairs, transformations, volume, similar and congruent figures and more! Keep up the excellent effort.

7th Grade: Nice work on the unit on solving linear equations! We are now in the midst of the unit on ratios, rates, unit rates, proportions and percents. Upon completion we will move onto our geometry unit.

6th Grade: We will continue with our unit on multiplying and dividing fractions then move onto ratios, proportions and percents. From there we will begin our geometry topics. Keep up the great work!!

Help is available before school from 7:40-8:15 and during lunch.



Literature Studies

Ms. Valvano - jamievalvano@rlscary.org

All classes will be working on their novel projects prior to starting our Dystopian Novel Unit. The quarter 2 independent novel project is due on Tuesday, January 16th.

6th Grade: Students will create a visual and written representation of Percy Jackson's hero's journey. We will also be watching the movie in class.

7th Grade: Students will complete a literary analysis essay related to I am *Malala*. We will be watching a documentary that was created about her life.

8th Grade: Students will complete a short research project that focuses on the experience of a refugee similar to the main character in *A Long Walk to Water*.

8th graders love reading with our Preschool friends.



Language Arts

Ms. Valvano - jamievalvano@rlscary.org

7th Grade: Students will focus on how to create a strong thesis statement, provide evidence, and utilize grammar skills to write an effective literary analysis. All steps of the writing process will be reviewed.

8th Grade: Students will evaluate websites to uncover trustworthy evidence to support their claims. Students will utilize reading strategies while interacting with informational text during their research.

Quarter 2 Vocabulary Test: January 11, 2023

Language Arts

Jennifer McCuiston - jennifermccuiston@rlscary.org

6th grade: I hope everyone had a wonderful and joyous break! We are hard at work these next few weeks as we finish quarter 2, we will continue working on our research skills. The students are working so hard to enhance their writing skills in a variety of ways. Students are finishing up their research probes and their million dollar project. We will begin our next project where we research young adult authors the first week of January, we will also to continue to progress through our Shurley grammar curriculum. Please continue to encourage your students to complete their weekly readworks and study nightly for their vocab quizzes.

Social Studies

Mr. Timm - tylertimm@rlscary.org

6th Grade: As we finish third quarter, we'll wrap up our studies of North America, finishing with Mexico and Central America. We are also going to be presenting our "Dream State" projects to the class. The best presentation of a state to visit wins a prize!

7th Grade: We're wrapping up 2nd quarter by studying Southeast Asia. We'll also be spending quite a bit of time presenting and playing our RISK games based on major wars from world history. These took a lot of time to prepare and now it's time to let all that effort pay off. These are some amazing games that they've designed!

8th Grade: After looking at Manifest Destiny and the Mexican Cession, we'll examine how the North and South developed to be two separate economies in preparation for our study of the Civil War, which starts at the end of the month. We'll also be presenting our "Party On" projects, where each student has developed their own political party that attempts to solve some major issues facing contemporary America.

Spanish

Mrs. Vondette - susanvondette@rlscarv.org

¡Feliz Año Nuevo!

New for 2024, students will have a vocabulary quiz on a regular basis (almost weekly). Continue to encourage your child to review/study vocabulary nightly!

On our first day back, we learned about some New Year's Eve traditions from Spanish-speaking countries, created 12 wishes/resolutions for 2024 and ate 12 "grapes" at each stroke of midnight!

6th Grade:

We begin January adding some grammar into our lessons and strengthening vocabulary usage. We have been practicing the Pledge of Allegiance daily in class, and are ready for their speaking assessment, which is due on January 8th!

7th Grade:

Students have been diligent in practicing the Pledge of Allegiance, and will have a speaking assessment on Jan 10th. We will begin the new year with some vocabulary refresher activities, and will add prepositional phrases to talk about where things are.

8th Grade:

We will continue with the current unit and will focus on more listening and speaking activities in class. At the end of the unit, students will have a major speaking assessment, incorporating vocabulary and grammar.

Electives

Art - Mrs. Timm

This month in Art, we are working on Costume Design! When Q3 begins, we will start our new electives; Sculpture and Textiles!

Drama - Mr. Timm

The play was fantastic! Everyone poured their hearts into making a great Christmas production. Thank you to everyone who helped!

Choir - Mr. Unger

Band - Mr. Unger

PE - Coach Elliott

It's FUN & FITNESS Month!



Religion

Religion 6 - We're FINALLY finishing Genesis! After studying Joseph and his account, we'll prepare for our Test on Genesis and begin our studies of Moses and the Exodus of God's people from Egypt.

Religion 7 -

Religion 8 - We are finishing up our intentional discussion on who Jesus is for us. Jesus was more than just a man on earth, He is our Savior and the Christ!

National Junior Honors Society

Service Hours:

Each member needs 4 service hours for the 2nd quarter, which are due January 11th. Use the form posted in Google Classroom and get the signature form from Mrs. Farmers classroom.

Important Meeting Dates: All meetings during lunch in room 242

All Members: January 4th

Executive Board: January 18