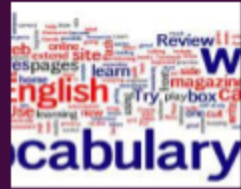




# SJS Middle School Newsletter

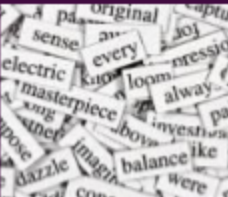
October 6, 2017

Ms. Montigny



## Upcoming Events

- October 9th: No School
- October 10th: Ellis Tech visit to 8th Graders 9am
- October 12th: Bishop Cote visit to SJS
- October 13th: Activity Clubs Meet
- October 20th: Dress Down Day for 8th Graders who received an "A" on their Seton Essay Only! ½ Day All Students
- October 24th: 8th Grade Visit to Killingly High School.
- September 22nd: ½ day of school



## SJS Middle School Expectations

- Lead by example.
- Be respectful.
- Be prepared.
- Follow the dress code.
- No Cell Phones.

### 6th Grade Literature/Language Arts

Sixth graders are a little more than half way through *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen. Their first book report projects were due on October 6th. If your child has not turned in his/her project yet, please be sure they turn this in as soon as possible. Late projects will result in lost points. Students have also been assigned their first group project based on the book *Hatchet* and its important topics. Students will work on these projects during class time, but may need to complete parts of the project on their own at home. Groups were assigned randomly and will change with each new project throughout the year.

In Vocabulary students have completed the first 4 Units of their book, which included a cumulative test on Units 1-3. My policy is that any student receiving a failing grade on a test must have his/her test signed and returned. Students may still turn in corrections to bring up their grade.

In Grammar students are finishing up the first unit which covered Sentence Basics. I broke the Unit up into 2 parts; students will take the quiz on part 2 next week. Students have received a new consumable grammar workbook. Most nights students will have 1 page of homework from this notebook. Please also remind students that 10 minutes of *Moby Max* is due each night (50 mins by Friday evening). This counts towards their homework grade.

### 7th Grade Literature and Language Arts

In Literature, seventh graders have completed their Short Story Unit. Students should have turned in their Short Story Project as well as their own written short stories. Next week students will orally present the information they compiled about the author they researched. Students will also share the short stories they wrote in a "coffee house" style next week. This should be a fun activity for the class which we are looking forward to. We started *Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson this week. We began this by watching a couple of interviews with the author and discussions on friendship which is the central theme of the novel. Be on the lookout for their next project which will be coming home next week. Students will be creating their own imaginary worlds like *Terabithia*. This project has proven to be a favorite among past students. I am eager to see their creativity.

In Vocabulary we have completed the first three units of words which culminated in a test on Units 1-3 taken last week. We started Unit 4 this week and will finish this unit next week.

In Grammar we are doing a review of Sentence Basics which is Unit 1 in their books. This information was covered in depth last year, so we are reviewing it quickly. Students have been given a grammar workbook and will generally have 1 page of homework from that each night. Please also remind students that they should be completing 10 minutes of *Moby Max* Language Arts each night for a total of 50 minutes each week.

### 8th Grade Literature and Language Arts

We continue to read *The Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane. Students have been taking comprehension quizzes after the completion of 2 chapters. Students have completed their first group project where they made Civil War trading cards based on the historical aspect of the novel. The groups did an excellent job and I even shared them with Mrs. Lajoie. Students should be completing their first book reports as they are due next week.

In Grammar students have been given workbooks which they will be having homework in nightly. Presently we are reviewing Unit 1 which covers Sentence Basics. We will be reviewing the first few Units quickly before moving on to new concepts. In addition to the workbook worksheets, students should be completing 10 minutes of *Moby Max* each night (Mon-Fri). Please remind your child that this counts towards his/her homework grade.

We have completed the first 4 Units in the Vocabulary Series. Students have done remarkably well on their first few quizzes and their cumulative test on Units 1-3! Every Thursday we play a Vocabulary Review game which the students seem to be enjoying, and it appears that this has been helping to boost grades.

8th Grade News: Our first parents' meeting will take place next Tuesday, October 10th before school. I have met with the class officers several times and am eager to share some of their ideas for the school year. I hope to see you there!

#### MISSION STATEMENT: St.

James Catholic School is dedicated to providing a faith, safe and caring environment. We provide a challenging academic program of a strong moral foundation that incorporates relevant skills with Gospel values. We encourage our students to become life-long learners to serve God and others.