

# JMA 8th Grade Newsletter



## Academic Updates

October 2014

**Language Arts** Language Arts classes have been analyzing and evaluating fictional texts and will soon transition to studying the genre of nonfiction. Scholars will be analyzing text features and reading nonfiction texts including excerpts from *I Am Malala*.

For homework, students should be reading 30 minutes nightly in their self-selected books and responding in their Reading Response Journal which is due every two weeks. The next turn in date is October 17 with 8 entries due. Scholars should also be reviewing notes and studying vocabulary nightly. Scholars should refer to their agenda or their teacher's Wiki page for homework and important dates.

**Social Studies** In Social Studies during October we are examining the birth of our nation. We have discussed the exploration and colonization of America which leads us into the grievances the colonists had with their British rulers. These grievances would lead to protest which quickly led to revolt. This is an exciting time in history as we see the birth of the United States of America. Scholars will complete an in-class project later in October.

**Math** Math 8 scholars have com-

pleted Unit I on expressions and equations and have begun the study of slope and graphing linear equations and inequalities in a coordinating plane. Scholars are assigned homework nightly and should be completing and submitting it daily. Scholars are expected to study nightly. Tutoring is available on most Tuesdays and Thursdays.

**Math I** Scholars have finished a unit on exponents and are beginning the study of equations. Scholars will be progressing from one-step equations to multi-step equations that involve fractions and combining like terms. Please be sure that your scholar's checking their teacher's wiki on a regular basis. Homework is assigned almost nightly and is due the next day. When homework isn't assigned, it is expected that scholars take 20 minutes to review their notes and redo any problems completing during class.

**Science** Classes continue to use Discovery Education online for classwork and homework. Scholars have completed the unit on Earth's Formation and History and have begun to study Infectious Diseases. Please see your teacher's Wiki page for updates.

### Special points of interest:

- ✓ Quarter I late work deadline is Monday, October 20.
- ✓ Quarter I ends Monday, October 27.
- ✓ Friday, October 31 is a Teacher Workday.



## News from the Library Media Center

*Books can be dangerous. The best ones should be labeled "This could change your life." - Helen Exley*

Mark your calendar for the JMA Scholastic **Book Fair** set for November 17-21<sup>st</sup>!

Parents –Looking to clear out some of those like-new and gently used books that your scholar has outgrown? Consider donating them to the JMA Library Media Center; have your scholar drop them off in the morning at the Media Center. Books appropriate for the collection will be added, others may be passed on to classroom libraries.

Did you know your scholar can check his/her JMA Library Account online? Go to the [JMA Library Media Center](#) home page, click on Horizon Information Portal (aka, the library catalog), click on [My Account](#). Scholars can keep track of the books they have checked out, when the materials are due, and request a book.



## Upcoming Events for 8th Grade

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|--|---|---|
| 10/7 Club Day  | School Hornets" Field Trip  | 10/27- 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Ends                   |
| 10/8 ACT Explore Testing Day 1                                       | 10/15- Softball/Volleyball @ James Martin 5:00 PM                             | 10/27- Softball/Volleyball @ Ranson 5:00 PM           |
| 10/9 <i>Liars</i> play from Charlotte Children's Theater             | 10/16- Football @ Home vs. Ridge Road 5:00 PM                                 | 10/29- Softball/Volleyball @ Home vs. Bradley 5:00 PM |
| 10/10 Scholar's Academic Progress Report with Conference Information | 10/22- Club Day   | 10/30- Football @ Bradley 5:00 PM                     |
| 10/13- Softball/Volleyball @ Home vs. Bailey 5:00 PM                 | 10/22- Softball/Volleyball @ Ridge Road 5:00 PM                               | 10/31 Teacher Workday                                 |
| 10/14 ACT Explore Testing Day 2                                      | 10/23- Football @ Home vs. Ranson 5:00 PM                                     |   |
| 10/15- 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade "Cool                                   | 10/24- "Student of the Month Celebration" in the Principal's Conference Room. |   |

