

# 8th Grade Newsletter

## SFA MIDDLE SCHOOL



### Religion (Nennig)

- We began our Confirmation lessons after we returned from Christmas. The students are learning what is expected of them as a Confirmed member of our Catholic Church.
- Students also discussed the roles of Mary and Joseph and their importance as they modeled for Jesus how to be a man of faith. Student also began learning about protecting life this week.

### Language Arts (Mataloni)

- Students just finished writing creative short stories. With these stories, they transferred them into picture books using various illustration techniques. We will be sharing these books with the Kindergarten classes next week.
- Next week we'll begin our 2nd class novel, *The Giver*. The 8th graders will have nightly reading assignments, weekly vocabulary, and chapter quizzes during this novel.
- Monday, January 25th, the 8th graders alternative book reports are due. The report is to be completed on one of their independent novels they've been reading this trimester.

### Math (Streff)

- Students completed Chapter 5, Application of Proportion, with a test and completing a scale drawing of their classroom. It was a great way to use what they had learned about ratio and proportion.
- 8th graders are now working on Chapter 6, Application of Percents. There is a quiz on Monday over percent problems—solving with a proportion or equation.
- Dowling Catholic Freshman registration is in February. If you have any questions on the Math class your child should be taking, let me know.

### Social Studies (Wallace)

- The 8th grade students are studying the events leading up to the Civil War. On Tuesday, January 26th, we will be taking a field-trip to the Iowa Historical Museum. The students will view an opera about George Washington Carver and will participate in workshops about the Civil War. Their test over Chapter 16 will be Tuesday, February 2nd.

### Science (Mistry)

- The 8th graders are continuing their study of chemistry, moving on to chemical reactions. They recently completed their test on ionic, covalent and metallic bonds and did a great job!
- Next week we will be working on labs demonstrating physical and chemical change. Students will be learning to recognize and distinguish between types of chemical change.
- Five students will be selected to participate in the First Annual Diocesan Science Bowl which will be held at the Pastoral Center on Wednesday, April 14. I am also looking for a parent volunteer to help transport and chaperone the students that day. Please let me know if you would like to help!

### Mark your Calendar!!

- Catholic Schools Week  
Open House January  
31, 2010, 12:15-2:15PM
  - February 14th  
Confirmation Gathering
  - Ash Wednesday  
February 17th