

As a quality
educational
ministry,
Leif Ericson Day
School nurtures the
whole person in a
safe environment,
integrating
academic
excellence and
spiritual formation,
and equipping
servant leaders for
the 21st century.



8th Grade

The year to prepare
for high school.....

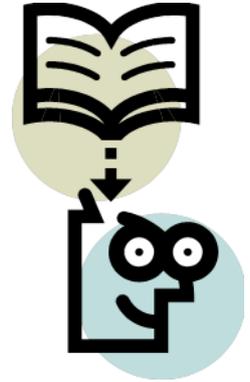
English Language Arts

- Eighth graders will be doing a quick review of the eight parts of speech. The students will be given a test at the end of the review.
- They will also be having Spelling tests each week. Students who receive a 75% or lower will receive extra homework the following week. This will allow the students to review study skills.
- However, our main focus this year will be writing. They will spend the year learning how one person can affect the world. We will be doing this through research, interviews, and movies. After all our information gathering they will write a thesis report. I will teach them the students the step by step process. Through this process they will write their arguments to support their claims, write informative texts to examine the topic. Students will write narratives developing their opinions into well structured essays. With some guidance and support from both peers and me they will learn to develop, organize, and strengthen their writing skills. By the completion of the thesis they will be able to draw evidence to support their analysis, reflection, and research.



English Language Arts

- Your child will also be responsible for completing monthly book reports. They were given a list of books from which they may choose. I have compiled that list from local high school summer reading lists. All of their work will be done in class. Mrs. Campbell is the teacher.



English Language Arts

Book Report Schedule



● Show your book

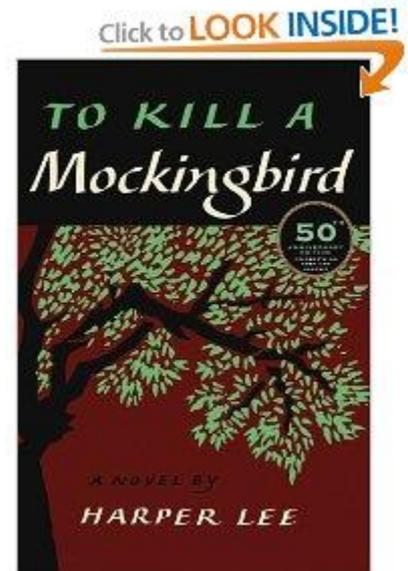
- September 12, 2016
- September 26, 2016
- October 2, 2016
- No Book Report for December – Merry Christmas
- January 3, 2017
- January 23, 2017
- February 27, 2017
- March 27, 2017
- April 24, 2017

Report due

- September 30, 2016
- October 31, 2016
- November 30, 2016
- January 31, 2017
- February 17, 2017
- March 31, 2017
- April 28, 2017
- May 31, 2017

Literature

- Eighth grade will be reading a variety of short stories and novels. The literature selections will cover a variety of literary styles and may be supplemented with activities that would align with the NYS Learning Standards involving writing, independent reading, class discussions, quizzes, tests, plus art/drama choices. Class conduct and effort will affect citizenship grades. The literature classes will be on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Eight graders may be reading The Cay, To Kill a Mockingbird, The Thirteenth Apostle, Freak the Mighty, Unbroken, and The Giver. Ms. McCarthy is the literature teacher.



Math

- In order to prepare for high school tests, the eighth grade will begin the year by reviewing certain aspects of math from a list of topics students desire to review (e.g. fractions, decimals, percents, etc.) After most high school tests are taken, we continue with regularly scheduled math work. Homework may be workbook pages, re-teach sheets, textbook examples, review pages, study or have test/quiz/homework signed. Tests may be given after a review. Quizzes may be given at any time. Class conduct and effort will affect citizenship grades. Mr. Russo is the math teacher. NYS Learning Standards will be met via several resources.



8th Grade NYS Learning Standards Curriculum



- **The Number System**
 - Know that there are numbers that are not rational, and approximate them by rational numbers.
- **Expressions and Equations**
 - Work with radicals and integer exponents.
 - Understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations.
 - Analyze and solve linear equations and pairs of simultaneous linear equations.
- **Functions**
 - Define, evaluate, and compare functions.
 - Use functions to model relationships between quantities.
- **Geometry**
 - Understand congruence and similarity using physical models, transparencies, or geometry software.
 - Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.
 - Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving volume of cylinders, cones and spheres.
- **Statistics and Probability**
 - Investigate patterns of association in bivariate data.

Social Studies

- Grade 8 begins the year with Chapter 16 “Reconstruction and the New South”. America History of Our Nation published by Prentice Hall, gives a comprehensive overview of US history up to recent events. The class follows the NYS Learning Standards requirements for social studies. A workbook will supplement the course with interactive reading and notetaking study skills. Grading may include end of the lesson questions, special projects, essays, class discussions, homework, quizzes, and tests. Class conduct and effort will affect citizenship grades. Ms. McCarthy is the teacher.



Science



- Science Explorer Earth Science focuses on the NYS Learning Standards and Next Generation Science Standards requirements for the study of the Earth's surface, atmosphere, the biosphere, also extending to the surrounding planets and universe. Students will also learn how to conduct valid scientific experiments and will complete group experimental projects in class. Group work is essential to understand the value of teamwork and the effectiveness of group problem solving. Grading may be based on homework, lab work, class participation/cooperation, projects, quizzes, and tests. Class conduct and effort will affect citizenship grades. Ms. McCarthy is the teacher.



Koinonia (January 11-13, 2017)

(fulfills NYS Learning Standards in environmental education)

For 3 days and 2 nights, 6th, 7th and 8th grades participate in an winter environmental learning program developed by Koinonia, a year round Lutheran camp/conference in upstate NY.



Christian Studies



- Beginning the year we will be studying a 12 part series on “Who is God?” This study will look at the attributes of God. This is important to know how we view God, how this will affect our lives and examine why faith is essential in our lives. Emphasis on school service and participating in worship services.

Spanish

- The students will refresh what they learned in seventh grade and further their study to prepare for high school foreign language. In class a variety of projects and activities will be used to explore and understand the different Spanish cultures. Ms. Solby is the Spanish teacher.

MORE!



- Computer classes are held 3 periods a week. Mr. Warfield is the teacher.
- Music classes are held 2 periods a week. Mrs. Majurinen is the teacher.
- Physical Education classes are held 2 periods a week. Mrs. Mattera and Mrs. Plamenco are the teachers. Classes are on Monday and Thursday.
- Class conduct and effort will affect citizenship grades.



Graduation Requirements

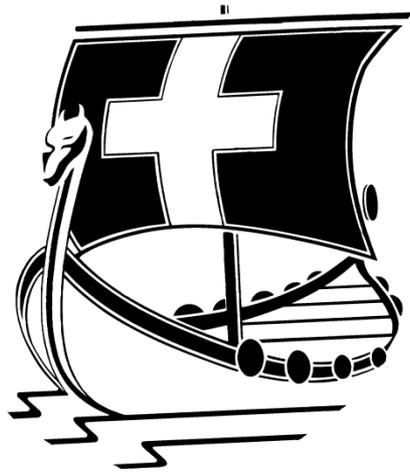
- According to the regulations of the Chancellor of Department of Education of the city of New York criteria for promotion from grade 8 to grade 9 is as follows:

The student will:

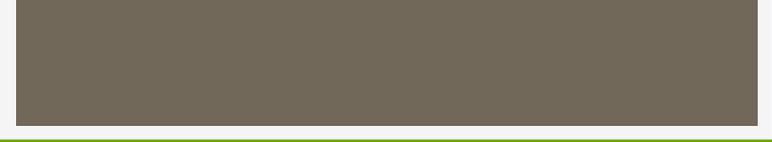
- -meet NYS Learning Standards for ELA, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies as evidenced by student work, teacher observation, and assessment/grades;
- -attain passing grades (65%) in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies;
- -attain 90% attendance.

It is expected that L.E.D.S. students should strive to surpass such minimums.

- Eighth grade graduates are eligible for the Valedictorian and Salutatorian awards. The valedictorian is the student who achieved the highest year end average in all subjects except art and handwriting and has achieved a "G" or "E" in the year end discipleship categories. The salutatorian is the student with the second highest year end average and similar citizenship qualities. (Family- Student Handbook, p. 9)



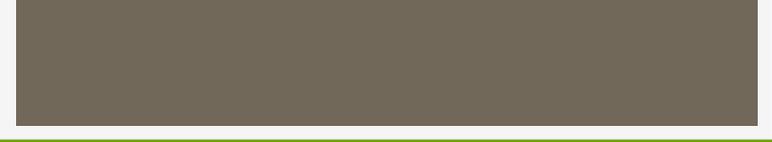
Classroom Reminders 8th Grade



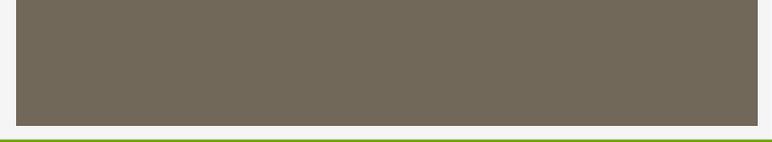
Grade 8 is a very challenging year not only academically, but it is also a time of great physical and social growth. It is an important year to learn independence, plus team work, to prepare them for high school. Attendance, punctuality, completion of homework, engaged learning and participation are all essential for a successful year.

Discipline

- **Student Behavior**
- Behavior codes are established to promote social growth, to grow personal discipline, and to maintain a safe learning environment.



There are classroom rules that must be followed in order to function safely and efficiently. We have written rules together and they are posted along with the consequences. The following sequence of consequences may apply as the situation presents itself: the student will be made aware of the first time he/she breaks a rule. Depending on the severity of the infraction, the student may be asked to leave the classroom and wait on the bench and/or may receive a behavior detention. This includes the lunchroom warning slips and will result with at least one day removal from the lunchroom. If a student is put on the bench three times in one semester, he/she will receive an after school behavior detention for one hour. Parent or guardian will be notified if your child gets sent to the bench. A behavior detention must be served the following day after school. If the student does not serve the assigned after school detention, he/she will serve one week on the bench at lunch time.



Conduct/effort grades and comments will be posted weekly on every spelling test. Please make note of these grades and comments. Please sign and return the spelling test the next school day.

Reminders

- **Attendance/latenesses** in grades 6, 7 and 8 are taken into consideration by all high schools when accepting students. Three unexcused latenesses will result in a student serving a one hour detention. (Family/Student Handbook, p. 5)
- If your child is absent, he/she will have two days upon returning to school to make up any work missed- including notes, homework, quizzes, and tests. It is his/her responsibility to make up their work.
- **N.U.T. (No Uniform Today) cards** are to be presented the day of his/her dress down. If the student does not have a N.U.T. card to present, he/she will need to forfeit the next card (total of 2) or receive a one hour detention. (Family/Student Handbook, p.11)

- Please review all **uniform** requirements in the Family-Student Handbook p.12. During colder weather, only navy blue sweaters or a navy blue blazer will be allowed to be worn with the dress uniform.
- No student will be allowed to change clothes before leaving the school building at dismissal unless a written note is received from parent or guardian.
- **Cell phones**-All cell phones must be handed in at the beginning of the each day in the classroom. Phones will be taken to the office to be stored until the end of the day. If a cell phone is not handed in and is seen or heard it will be taken away and given to the principal until it is picked up by a parent or guardian of the student. If this happens a second time, the cell phone will be kept until the end of the school year by the principal.

Homework Reminders

- 1. Proper heading must be on all papers.
- 2. Homework must be written in **cursive** handwriting or you will be required to rewrite your homework!
- 3. Homework must be written in blue or black ink. (Exception math homework.)
- 4. All homework must be written in complete sentences.

- 5. Grammar rules must be followed for capitalization and punctuation.
- 6. Homework answers must rephrase the questions.
- 7. No white out or correction tape can be used on homework or tests.
- 8. No abbreviations for words or symbols. (and, not &)
- 9. Do not start sentences with numerals such as 3. Use the word “three.”

- 10. Get to know your homophones.
which -witch
know - no
your (possessive), you're (you are)
there (location), their (possessive),
they're (they are)
to-preposition, too-also, two-2
- 11. All tests and failed homework assignments must be signed by a parent or guardian and returned the next day. If a student is absent, he/she will have two days upon returning to school to make up any work missed including notes, homework, quizzes, and tests. It is the student's responsibility to make up their work.

Thank you in advance ~

- For wanting to be involved in your child's education and future,
- For communicating and cooperating with their teachers
- For supporting the policies and procedures of Leif Ericson Day School
- For trusting us with your child