

# *SMLS Middle School Newsletter*

*October 15, 2018*

## *Boys' and Girls' Basketball*



The boys' basketball season runs during the months of November and December, and the girls' season runs during the months of January and February.

Please have your student stop and see Ms. Prentice if they would like to sign up.

### **Coaching Opportunity**

I do need coaches for both the girls' and boys' basketball teams, please let me know if you are interested, or if you know someone that may be interested.

Thank you!

## *Science Day (Grades 7th and 8th)*

The 7th and 8th graders will be attending a Science Day at West Michigan Lutheran School on November 2nd from 9:45am to 2:00 pm. This is a half day for St. Michael, but we will still be attending.

The students will participate in four different STEM themed science sessions and have the opportunity to showcase their science projects that will be tested on Science Day.

**NOTE:** We will need drivers, please contact Ms. Prentice if you are available.

## *ITBS Testing*

Just a reminder that we will be having ITBS testing next week.

## *Computer Class - A Note from Mr. Murray*

Computers are incredible tools! But just like any other tool you have to learn how to use them correctly. Computers will not think for us, but have been designed to help us think faster. I am excited to teach your students the many wonderful things that can be accomplished using these great tools. I am also very excited about what some of your students might be able to teach me as there is so much information out there it is impossible for one person to know it all.

The objective of the Computers Class is to expand your student's knowledge of computers in a way that is useful, fun, and exciting! The absolute core goal is that students experience new ways to use computers to increase their own learning potential. My hope is that many of the skills explored in this class will translate into greater engagement in students' core subject areas, too. Greater focus will revolve around personal productivity, understanding computer technology, and digital citizenship.

At any point during the year, your students might learn about topics such as Internet Safety (Digital Citizenship), Internet Research, Software/Programming, Graphic Design, Video Editing and Spreadsheets.

For me, as a father of two small children, my passion for computers is understanding digital distraction, social awareness, and how to use technology to think more broadly about any topic.

*St. Michael Lutheran School - 7211 Oakland Dr., Portage, MI 49024 - 269-327-0512*

*Ms. Prentice - Science, Grammar, Reading, and Vocabulary Teacher - [jprentice@mightymessengers.org](mailto:jprentice@mightymessengers.org)*

*Mrs. Lam - History, Social Studies, Math, and Writing Teacher - [llam@mightymessengers.org](mailto:llam@mightymessengers.org)*

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## Fortnite - What's It All About?

Check out this [1-minute video](#) from Common Sense Media about the wildly-popular game that many of your children are playing. There is also a full review of the game available [here](#) on Common Sense Media's website.



<i>Upcoming Events</i>	
No school; Teachers to MANS conference	10/18 & 10/19
IOWA testing	10/22-10/26
Harvest Festival	10/27

## Academic Highlights

<p><b>Social Studies 5/6 - Regions of the Eastern Hemisphere</b> We are wrapping up ch. 1 and will take our test on Tuesday, 10/23. Students have study guides where they type their notes which they may use to study.</p>	<p><b>History 7/8 - American History</b> We are heading toward Civil War in ch. 15, focusing on the divisions that led to the South seceding.</p>
<p><b>5th and 6th Grade ELA</b> <b>Grammar:</b> We will be finishing types of nouns in Grammar. <b>Vocabulary:</b> There is not a vocabulary test this week, due to the short week. <b>Literature:</b> We will be finishing our book study on <i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen. We will be starting <i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i> next week.</p>	<p><b>7th and 8th Grade ELA</b> <b>Vocabulary:</b> There will be no vocabulary test this week, due to the short week. <b>Literature:</b> We will be finishing up <i>Macbeth</i> this week.</p>
<b>Science 5/6</b>	<b>Science 7/8</b>

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We will be starting Chapter 2 on Weathering and Soil.

We will be having a test over Chapter 2 States of Matter on Friday, Oct. 26th.