

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Newsletter**  
**August 27-September 9, 2010**

**Ms. Molly Pruett—Language Arts**

Thank you very much for the warm welcome! The seventh graders are off to a great start! Students are learning the elements of a short story as well as utilizing active reading strategies. In addition, they are in the beginning stages of writing a personal narrative and learning to identify and transform nouns from singular to plural and vice-versa. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing you next Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> at Back-to-School Night.

**Ms. Mary DiGiovanna—Math**

After studying the classroom guidelines for math class, the seventh graders have begun Chapter 1. Chapter 1 emphasizes number sense, patterns, and algebraic thinking. Students have described patterns and will use them to solve problems. They will apply the order of operations to evaluate variable expressions with exponents. They will be studying some geometric measurement by working with perimeter and area formulas. Their first quiz is tentatively scheduled for next week.

**Mrs. Tina Wendling—Religion**

We have spent the first week in seventh grade getting acquainted, going over procedures, and working toward a group consensus as to what commitments we are willing to make to each other and ourselves in order to succeed this school year. We are just beginning the first chapter in one of our texts, "The Amazing Search for God." This chapter explores the idea that our desire for God is, and always has been, part of being human. It will provide a brief overview of ancient and modern world religions as a preface to what is different and unique about Christianity.

**Mr. Bob Jacobsen—Science**

The students are off to an excellent start. They have reviewed the use of the scientific method and applied it to the production of a peanut and butter sandwich by their teacher. Because the students will be using microscopes frequently throughout the school year, its structures and operation have been reviewed. They are in the process of preparing various types of slides using different staining techniques. A quiz over the microscopic and staining techniques is scheduled for early next week. The students then will analyze the cellular processes of diffusion, osmosis, active transport, respiration, and reproduction. There will be a test over diffusion, osmosis, and active transport during the week of August 30, and a test over cellular respiration and reproduction during the week of September 6.

**Mrs. Dianna Youngblood—Social Studies**

Dear Parents,

My name is Dianna Youngblood, and I will be teaching your child social studies this year. I am a graduate of U.M.K.C. and have been teaching for 26 years, four at St. Augustine and 22 at St. Peter's. I live in Lee's Summit and have three children and eleven grandchildren. I told the seventh graders that they get the advantage of having the grandmother-teacher instead of the mother-teacher and one student commented, "My grandmother makes cookies." I guess I now owe all the 7<sup>th</sup> graders cookies

The year is off to a great start. Students seem eager to be back and teachers are excited about the new school year. The seventh grade students are adapting well to their junior high environment. It is going to be an exciting year.

Seventh grade students will be studying about Earth and its physical and cultural geography this year. We will begin with basic geography and then tour North and South America, Antarctica, Australia, and Africa. Seventh graders do have a vocabulary test tomorrow over their geographic terms. I hope they have been studying them a little each night.

I am looking forward to a fantastic school year and I am looking forward to teaching your children. If you wish to contact me for any reason email (dyoungblood@stpeterskc.org) is the best option. I check it at least twice a day and will get back to you as quickly as possible.

