

Good afternoon, 8th grade families!

Hope you all had a fantastic spring break and have been staying safe and healthy. I spent the week with my family in Mahtomedi and went back to River Falls on Sunday. I went hiking with a couple of my buddies yesterday, because, boy, was it gorgeous out! I hope you all took advantage of the - well, mostly beautiful - weather we had this week.

Alas, spring break is at an end and we must get back in business. It was great to get to talk to some of your students this afternoon. Reminder that all assignments you picked up on March 18th are due today between 3:00 and 5:30. As you hand in these assignments, please pick up the assignments for the next couple weeks, due April 14th. We will not have a drop-off/pick-up on April 7th because that is Holy Week. Please encourage your students to take some time to prepare their hearts for Easter.

Here are your assignments for the upcoming week:

Pre-Algebra

- **April 1-6**
 - Complete your snow day packets
- **April 7**
 - Read Lesson 8-1
 - Take/write down notes
 - Complete 8-1 worksheet
- **April 8**
 - Read Lesson 8-2
 - Take/write down notes
 - Complete 8-2 worksheet
- **April 9**
 - Read Lesson 8-3
 - Take/write down notes
 - Complete 8-3 worksheet

Algebra

- **April 1-6**
 - Complete your snow day packets
- **April 7**
 - Read Lesson 7-6
 - Take/write down notes
 - Complete problems 1-21 starting on page 317
- **April 8**
 - Read Lesson 7-7
 - Take/write down notes
 - Complete problems 9-25 starting on page 324
- **April 9**
 - Read Lesson 7-8
 - Take/write down notes
 - Complete problems 1-23 starting on page 328

Language Arts/Literature

- **April 1-6**
 - Do your snow day packets
- **April 7**
 - Continue snow day packets if you haven't finished
 - Look over all of your autobiography chapters and ask your parents to help you make revisions or possibly rewrite anything.
 - Start thinking about your graduation speeches. I realize this is a tricky field with the COVID-19 pandemic happening now, but I am remaining optimistic and holding out hope that I'll get to sit in the audience, grinning ear to ear, proud and excited for all of you and the amazing futures that God has in store for your children.
- **April 8**
 - See April 7
- **April 9**
 - See April 8

Civics

State Government

- **Section 2**
 - Vocabulary
 - Read Section
 - 2 Worksheets
- **Section 3**
 - Vocabulary
 - Read Section
 - 2 Worksheets
- **Section 4**
 - Vocabulary
 - Read Section
 - 2 Worksheets

Science

- **Lesson 2: Properties of Waves**
 - Submit outline of notes with key points and terms p.11-15
 - WS 15D
- **Lesson 3: Interactions of Waves**
 - Submit outline of notes with key points and terms p.17-23
 - WS 23E
 - Follow Google classroom for videos and instructions - complete online questions on Reflection, Refraction and Diffraction
- **Chapter 1 Review and Assessment p.25-26**
 - #1-16 (except #15)
 - Tear out and hand in April 14

Phy Ed

- **The Daily Big 3 Packet**

Health

- **Infectious Diseases**
 - Google classroom online video and lesson - COVID-19
 - Submit answers electronically by April 19
- **Lesson 2 - Body Defenses - Read p.178-185**
 - WS 185D
 - Due April 14

Religion

- **Daily Prayers:**
 - Pray "Stay With Me" prayer daily (on holy card)
 - Memorare for seminarians (Remember O most gracious Virgin Mary...)
- **Assignments as described (Chapter 6 and Triduum chapter)**
 - Optional "Passion" assignment instead of Triduum from book.
 - Must still do Mass reflection (4/9)
- **Begin Religious Order Slideshow Presentation (due April 28)**
 - Join Google classroom
- **Begin 4th Quarter service hours**

Art

Theme is product design

- Imagine you were a designer at Nike or Adidas, and your job was to redesign a new jersey or shoe for the non-athlete!
 - If you choose the T-shirt jersey, research designs outline...no copying, just try to get ideas. What color combinations will your jersey have, what kind of logos or type of number fonts? Room for a last name on the upper back of the shirt? What will it be made out of? Cotton, polyester Rayon, or Latex, easy to wash and dry no shrinkage, etc.
 - If you are designing a shoe, you may draw 4-6 sides of the shoe including top, sides, heel, toe and sole areas. You will also need to research shoes for ideas and cite your sources for both the Jersey idea and the shoe idea. What materials, this can be part of your color drawings.
- Yes, you can generate your ideas with digital computer imagery. You can make actual models out of cardboard for shoes or old T-shirts to use a clean plain T-shirt to create your jersey.

Music

Keep looking over music for the concert.

- **Let it Be** (Beatles - arr. Emerson - Hal Leonard Music)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pQqTINkaFEk>
- 4/5 & MS Choir - **Alleluia Canon** (Mozart - arr. Moore - Alfred Music)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eTgpYTnSZuc>
- ALL SCHOOL - **Queen of the May** (Bring Flowers of the Rarest)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ld4FNjK4IEQ&list=PLT3Z_tVJgGhCHMLGtT7vhl-iedYThG17R&index=76&t=0s
- ALL SCHOOL - **Sound of the Saints** (Audio Adrenaline)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zemiJhquxH8>

I'm going to take a page out of Mrs. Weber's book and start a live classroom chat in place of the phone call. I will start doing this on Thursday. We will take time to check in, ask questions on math or language arts and literature, and have a grand old time. Because the eighth grade class is split in algebra and pre-algebra, I will have a separate group session for each class, and we will have a full-class session when talking about language arts and literature, and just to check in with one another and grow in community. I plan on driving out to Durand on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so we can have these sessions then. Please let me know what time works best for you. Otherwise, we will stick to 1 to 3 pm as previously established. Please ask your students to accept the invitation to join Google classroom; I sent these out earlier today. I finally figured out how to get my webcam to work, so I'm really stoked to try this.

Just remember, I've been praying for all of you. While I don't get to go to a whole lot of places I like to go to, I have been trying to take advantage of this time to dedicate more of it to prayer, whether it be at home or just on a walk around town or on a trail. Now that I'm back in River Falls, I'll be going to the chapel in Hudson to do some personal prayer (I know, it's still open!) and will gladly take any prayer requests or intentions to the Lord every morning to help all of you through this time. And please continue to keep me in your prayers, as well. Remember, we are all navigating uncharted waters, and I rather we do that together and with Christ, especially in this Lenten season as we prepare for His Resurrection.

Please continue to stay safe and healthy in this time of uncertainty, and I hope school will be back in session soon. I have truly and genuinely enjoyed working here and with this class for my first semester out of college, and it's been a wild ride. Your students are such a blessing to me and bring me so much joy in my life even on some of my darkest days. They just affirm to me day after day that teaching is what God is calling me to do, and they always encourage and inspire me to be, as Matthew Kelly puts it, "the best version of myself," something I strive for every single day, especially in these times, and something I pray your children strive to be for themselves.

Have a great week and a blessed Easter, and I hope to see you all on Thursday.

Praying for you all,

God bless,

Nicolaas Persoon
8th grade teacher