

Grade 8 curriculum update
3rd Quarter

- Religion: This quarter, instruction is centering on Christian morality. The students have had discussions on human freedom and sin, and are currently exploring issues of social justice. Upcoming units include respect for life, others, self, and truth.

We will also continue learning prayers, and reviewing those we should already know.

- Social Studies: The war is over! Now what? Well, the 8th graders know who our first president *really* was (ask them!). We've already gone through the framers of the Constitution, so it's time to look at the document itself. They may ask for assistance when finding out our current government leaders. They will be required to look in-depth at one of the amendments.

At the same time, I will be teaching the challenges faced by George Washington, as well as the beginning of political parties. I hope to be through the Jefferson Era and on to pre-civil war America by the end of the quarter. (phew!)

- Science: It's all chemistry. They will be introduced to elements, atomic structure, the periodic table and compounds. Once they are comfortable with those concepts, we will move on to chemical bonding and chemical reactions.
- I am finalizing arrangements for Washington D.C. Thank you so much to those parents who have put so much effort towards giving us fundraising opportunities. A few families are already set to not have any out-of-pocket expenses as a result of the student's commitment to raise money!
- As always, I welcome any resources you may wish to share or send in, that relate to any of the curriculum topics we are covering as a class. The most reliable method for contacting me is through e-mail (kmcmahon@cdeducation.org) but I will gladly return phone calls to the school at the earliest opportunity, or respond to any notes via kidmail.