



## **UNITED STATES HISTORY 8–**

**Mrs. Windschill – [mrs.windschill@sesmschool.com](mailto:mrs.windschill@sesmschool.com)**

The 8th grade historians started the year by investigating a mystery of history. Students used their analyzing skills to determine what happened to a crew lost at sea.

Students then embarked on a trip to the Sleepy Eye Depot Museum to analyze how history requires analysis and inquiry. Finally, unit one finished with students researching the story and history of anything they are interested in. They researched everything from Crocs, Scheels, Nike and the Minnesota State Fair -- with interesting results!

Students are currently analyzing the impact of the American Revolution on the formation of our nation. We will review the main events, key leaders and strategies of the Revolutionary War. Finally, we will evaluate the results and connect them to the formation of the Constitution. An important element of our Civics unit is understanding our personal rights and liberties.

## **MUSIC**

**Choir – Mrs. Derrickson–**

**[mrs.derrickson@sesmschool.com](mailto:mrs.derrickson@sesmschool.com)**

In Choir, students have started the year by reviewing music terminology and music theory. They also have been working on singing technique, specifically stagger breathing, blending vowel sounds, and expanding their ranges, while preparing music for a performance at a local nursing home. The students also composed their own vocalizations, which are used daily for vocal warm ups. In the coming weeks, they will perform at Divine Providence, evaluate their performance, and learn a little about the evolution of vocal technique and style throughout history.

**Band – Mrs. Moldan**

**[mrs.moldan@sesmschool.com](mailto:mrs.moldan@sesmschool.com)**

This quarter we are focussing on the school song and Don't Stop Believin' for pep band. I am having the students play this music for me individually or in groups of 2 by the end of the quarter. I highly encourage them to come play these 2 songs with the band at the games. It is an effective way to learn them faster. Our first concert will be Dec. 19th at 7pm where we will be performing our Christmas music for you!

## **THEOLOGY 8 –**

**Mr. Kaminsky – [mr.kaminsky@sesmschool.com](mailto:mr.kaminsky@sesmschool.com)**

In the Church History portion of theology, we have been learning about the early Church, especially as presented in the Acts of the Apostles. We have been focusing on the way the Catholic Faith originally spread, despite persecution and hardship. We've also been studying the structure of the early Church, with the Apostles as the first bishops and the deacons as their first ordained assistants.

**Father Tanner–[father.tanner@sesmschool.com](mailto:father.tanner@sesmschool.com)**

In the sacraments section of 8th Grade Theology we are devoted to studying Theology as a Science. This is to say that we are studying Theology objectively as a unified body of knowledge through which we are to view ourselves and the world around us. In relation to the sacraments, this means studying the way that God has chosen to communicate his life and reveal himself to us through the use of his material creation.

Now that we have established what it is to study Theology properly speaking, we are beginning our embarkation into the deep Mysteries of the Sacraments themselves. As a whole body of knowledge, we study the Biblical foundations of each Sacrament, the philosophical underpinnings to help us explain how they work, as well as the practical elements involved and how they affect our life.

## **PHYED 8 / HEALTH 8– Mrs. Mathiowetz**

**[mrs.kmathiowetz@sesmschool.com](mailto:mrs.kmathiowetz@sesmschool.com)**

In Phy Ed, students have been evaluating their fitness. Students have completed the mile run, shuttle run, sit and reach as well as sit-ups. Students have also been spending time working on their volleyball skills and strategies. The volleyball players have been very helpful in helping their peers improve on their skills. It has been exciting to see how much students have improved from the the start. We are finishing out our first quarter of PhyEd with flag football. The football players have been working with their teams on developing different offensive plays and helping students with their skills as well.