

Welcome to 8th Grade **Reading,** **English,** and **Religion** classes



Mrs. Oster

- I have spent a lifetime in Catholic schools as a graduate of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Elementary School, Lake Catholic High School, and John Carroll University with a Bachelor's Degree in English and a Master's Degree in Education.
- I have been teaching 7th and 8th grade at St. Gabriel School for 21 years.
- I am a member of St. Gabriel Parish, I have four children who have attended St. Gabriel School, and my husband and I are involved in several St. Gabriel community events and volunteer opportunities.
- I am a Eucharistic Minister, I serve as a CYO and Junior Olympic volleyball coach, and I enjoy reading, running, hiking, and walking with my new puppy Benny.



My Goal: To prepare my eighth graders to be leaders in faith who are respectful, responsible, and ready for high school.



In reading class, I strive to teach my students how to comprehend the explicit and implicit meaning of fiction and informational text. To perform at their best, my students should follow this Grade 8 Reading Continuum:

1. Read every word on every page when you are awake and alert.
2. Complete questions well by looking up every answer and recording page numbers.
3. Correct and add to your answers in red pen when we go over them in class.
4. Study notes and questions/answers nightly, as well as the day before the test.
5. Take the test after a good night's sleep using all the test taking tips discussed in class.

In English class, I encourage my students to grow in confidence as writers. Students need to:

1. understand and implement the writing process: drafting, editing, revising, and proofreading.
2. practice, study, and use proper grammar.
3. use their creativity to produce work that makes them proud.

In religion class, I hope my students grow in their relationship with God, their peers, and themselves.

Policies and Procedures



◆ Students are expected to come to class every day prepared and ready to learn. Every class, every day, they need to have a pen/pencil, their correct binder, and their textbook or novel.

◆ Every child has a right to learn, and every student needs to be considerate of this right to learn, by being respectful, responsible, and kind -- to the teacher, to each other, and to themselves.

◆ The following technology is used in reading, English, and religion classes:

- **Google Classroom** -- for students to see and turn in work
- **Google Sites** -- for parents and students; homework updated daily
- **Facts Gradebook** -- for parents and students to keep track of grades

Assessments and Instruction

Reading Class:

- 1) Class novels: *The Outsiders*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Cage*
 - look for homework daily: answering questions, studying vocabulary, and reading
- 2) Lesson units (narrative elements, main idea, etc.)
- 3) Independent novels: Novel Magazine project (fiction), Biography/Memoir with presentation

English Class:

- 1) *Simple Solutions*: grammar practice with daily homework
- 2) Shakespeare Study: *Macbeth*
- 2) Writing in response to literature
- 3) In-class and at-home writing assignments: one focus per quarter
 - research, informative, narrative, argumentative

Religion Class:

- 1) Grade 8 Focus: *The Church, Then and Now*





Graduation, Here We Come!

- ❖ Eighth grade is such an exciting time! Our traditions and celebrations may look different, but our eighth graders have an exciting nine months ahead.
- ❖ It is a good idea to check high school websites regarding upcoming events. We will keep you updated on information on high school open houses, placement testing, and applications as soon as we receive it.
- ❖ We will do all we can to make this the BEST year ever for your eighth grader!
- ❖ The best way to reach me is by email: linda.oster@st-gabrielschool.org
 - ⇒ Feel free to contact me with questions or concerns.

Thank you for sending your eighth grader to St. Gabriel School!