

# 8TH GRADE NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2026

MRS. SMITH & MS. SHANA

## 1. Classwork.

Math: Systems of Equations, practice FIABs for the end of year test.

History: Society and culture before the Civil War, Industrial Revolution, and current event presentations.

Language Arts: we analyze various literature selections through close reading, class discussion, writing, grammar, and language study. We are preparing to write a persuasive essay, and we are finishing the novel, *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

Science: Sexual and asexual reproduction of plants and animals, then photosynthesis and cellular respiration.

## 2. Upcoming Events:

- MathCounts Competition: February 10th
- Ski Trips: February 12th and March 12th.

**3. Keep Healthy Routines.** Since it is cold and flu season, help students stay healthy with a good night's rest, plenty of fluids, healthy snacks, and frequent washing of hands. As a bonus, these habits also help kids stay focused and energized in the classroom.

**4. CAASPP Testing.** We will begin preparing for the end-of-year tests by taking practice "FIAB" tests as well as reviewing test formats and types of questions. Test anxiety can run high, and this can help alleviate some of the stress.

**6. Graduation Dresses.** Please ensure that the dress meets school dress code. In a nutshell, look for dresses with adequate coverage, straps, and about knee length or longer. Keep in mind, graduation will be outside so shoes that handle grass are advisable.

**7. 8th Grade Slideshow Photos.** Over the next month, please look through your family photos and gather your top **ten single** shots (no collages). We need a variety of photos that show your child growing up. For example, start with a baby picture, the next at 1 year, 2 years, 4 years, 5 years, 6 years, 8 years, 10 years, 12 years, and then one recent picture. Please send all **10** of your **digital** photos to me [ismith@dcesd.org](mailto:ismith@dcesd.org) in 1-2 emails. Make sure they are cropped just how you'd like them to appear in the slideshow. Thanks!

Virtue of the Month:

## Cooperation

*"The process of working together to the same end."*

- Oxford Dictionary

## Contact Information

If you have any questions or concerns about your child and their progress, please feel free to contact me at 623-6350 (before or after school hours).

Mrs. Smith can also be reached at [ismith@dcesd.org](mailto:ismith@dcesd.org).



*Be sure to show school spirit by wearing green every Wednesday*