

July 30, 2008

Aloha Beloved Parents of Our Savior's Seventh Graders,

I excitedly welcome you partners in educating your children. I firmly believe that together we will build joyful life-long learning foundations. Please see the seventh grade website for more information about my professional and personal background. Today, I would like to give you a glance at the overall curriculum for your child.

The seventh grade students will receive science, foreign language, spelling, physical education, and music lessons from the other faculty members. Depending on our math department evaluations, they may have math instruction from other teachers as well. I will teach the subjects of religious instruction, language arts (grammar, composition, and literature), art, math, and social studies (current events, civics, history, and geography).

In our social studies unit on civics I am excited to offer a closer look at the philosophical and practical aspects of government as we follow this unique presidential election. More information on a tour of the capital of our state will be coming soon. We also will teach a full course on Hawaiian history and culture towards the end of the year.

For grammar and composition we will use the Shurley course of study. Our materials from this course are new (2007 edition) but the method of oral repetition and sentence classification has a long and successful reputation. An updated approach to writing, using the 6+1 Writing Traits, is included with the grammar and will be taught across the curriculum content.

My Saxon Math87 class is a solid review of number concepts and pre-algebraic thinking and problem solving. Accelerated sixth graders and motivated seventh and eighth graders will do well in this class. I will continue to offer after school math homework help on Mondays and Fridays. You must sign up for this via a permission slip on a quarterly basis. There is no charge for these sessions.

In Literature we will be reading four novels, and one play. We will also look at poetry, short stories, and public speaking. Our school will celebrate our public speaking skills with a Speech Festival during which each student in the school will perform a memorized book, lengthy poem, famous speech, or group skit. Our Lutheran High School students and faculty will judge the performances.

Art workshops will be held monthly and will focus on the history and works of the Impressionists, photography, sketching, printmaking, needlepoint work, and other art skills. During the week we will work on completing the workshop projects. We will take part in an art seminar offered by the Art Institute sometime this year.

- ◆ Attached is a detailed schedule for you to keep at home. The students will receive their own laminated copy for their lockers/desks. They will be expected to know and follow the schedule.
- ◆ Please look for a learning contract to come home for your signature, which needs to be returned to school by Friday of the first week (August 1, 2008.)
- ◆ I will expect a minimum of one hour a night on homework (reading AR books will be at least 30 minutes of this time allotment.)
- ◆ All tests (not quizzes) will need to be signed by a parent and returned to the classroom the following day.
- ◆ Every year an academically enriching off campus experience is planned and led by parents, paid for by fund raising which is also supervised and tracked by the parents. Please look for the upcoming parent-planning meeting in September.
- ◆ We communicate the student progress in several ways: Our On-line Engrade program, where students are given a password protected account to view their homework and test grades in each subject, written mid-quarter progress reports, and parent conferences. Parents also will have the password.
- ◆ I am available at the 488-000 Ext. 238 school number and will either answer immediately or reply to voice messages before the end of the day. OF COURSE, IN AN EMERGENCY YOU WILL HAVE THE OFFICE REACH ME DURING CLASS.

God's Warmest Blessings,
Mrs. Pat Lemmer
plemmer@osls-hawaii.org

August 6, 2007

Welcome to Our Savior's Families!

Please allow me to introduce myself to you. Many of you may already know that this is my first year as a full time teacher. I am describing my education adventure. After many years of being a stay-at-home mom, I made the prayerful decision to seek a college education to attain a teaching degree. My four and one-half years of college at Concordia University Mequon, in Wisconsin, were blessed with wonderful courses and professors, and I graduated in December 2005.

Since then, I have taught in a first and second grade class on a volunteer basis at my home church's school for a semester and occasionally substituted for the upper grades. Then God gave me the opportunity to work in my church's daycare with 17 little three year olds. I feel very blessed to have received the call to teach the seventh grade class here at Our Savior Lutheran School. I see it as just one more step in the plan God has for my life as I seek to serve Him and reach out to others with His love and joy.

My husband Roy and I were both born and raised around the Milwaukee, Wisconsin, area. Roy is now retired after working in retail for 35 years. Our three children are: Roy, Jr., Rory, and Regina. Our two sons work in the construction trades (plumber and mason) and Gina is a military wife and fulltime mom expecting her second child (our sixth grandchild). We have four teenage grand children in Wisconsin and one five and a half year old (Caitlyn) who attends first grade here at Our Savior in Mrs. Epperson's class.

Initially, Roy and I will be living with our daughter and son-in-law just minutes from the school. Gina's husband Kurt will be deployed soon, and they will need our prayers and support. I have to admit that my favorite hobby of reading will be done with one or more grandchild on my lap. I also love to golf and enjoy the theatre and a wide variety of music.

Our seventh grade class this year will grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as we become all he has created us to be. Healthy growth is a balance of intellectual pursuit, physical strengthening, and spiritual discipline. At Our Savior, we will care for and respect each other and ourselves and seek to benefit our families, school, and community. I know I join the rest of the staff in welcoming your help as we teach your children. Please feel free to contact me at the suggested times and methods listed below.

God's Amazing Aloha!

Mrs. Pat Lemmer, 7th Grade Homeroom Teacher

Contact Information:

Leave messages with the school office during school hours. Between 6:30 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. you can reach me on my cell phone: (414) 801-0749. My email address is:

thelemmers@earthlink.net