

## 8SS Newsletter – 1.28.19

Hello 8th Grade Families,

The students have completed their study of WWI and are moving onto [Chapter 24, The 1920s](#). People called the 1920s the Jazz Age - in part because of the popular new music - but also because of the restless, carefree spirit of the time. The economy boomed and many Americans prospered. Many Americans, however, did not share in the economic gains of this era. The 1920s produced striking new changes in American society. New forms of entertainment such as radio and film remain popular today. The automobile forever changed the American way of life. It helped shift homes, shops, and factories from the inner cities to the suburbs.

Students will begin by experiencing the social unrest of the 1920s. They will examine primary sources and analyze the Sacco and Vanzetti case. We will also work with the map while discussing the migration of African-Americans to the northern states at this time. Students will compare the presidency of Harding, with his call for "normalcy" and administration of corruption, to the presidency of Coolidge and his impression of honesty on the American people. Students will next examine and organize the factors that affected economic growth in the "Roaring Twenties." We will explore the culture of the time, focusing in on two concepts: the cult of beauty and the cult of personality. We will look at new forms of entertainment and music, and analyze primary source advertisements. Students will then examine the Jazz Age and the Harlem Renaissance, focusing on the poet Langston Hughes. They will analyze his poems and their impact on the decade. We will also tie in the topics of discrimination and nativism at this point. Finally, students will focus on Prohibition and politics during that decade.

Next week, the students will begin their new Friday Unit on [News Literacy](#). We will use The News Literacy Project's program "Checkology" to become more news literate so students can sort through the massive amounts of information they see, hear, and read on a daily basis. The goal is for them to be able to distinguish real news from fake news, opinion, entertainment, and propaganda. They will learn more about and discuss political, economic, and social events in the U.S. and around the world and their repercussions.

Happy Catholic Schools Week! Try to stay warm!!

--

Mrs. Esquivel