

## 8SS Newsletter – 12.14.20

Hello 8th Grade Families,

Tomorrow, the students have a test on "Overseas Expansion," which covers the Age of Imperialism, foreign policy, and conflicts like the Spanish-American War. Students should re-read the textbook pages, review the lesson notes, and study the study guide they completed for class today.

The rest of this week - and after Christmas Break - we will be studying "World War I." World War I changed the world. The people of the time called the conflict the Great War, and they believed that there could never again be another like it. Although the United States tried to remain neutral, it was drawn into the conflict. But we were ready for it due to the period of our massive rise of industrialism. The war touched all aspects of life. When the fighting was over, the United States emerged as one of the great powers in the world.

Students will begin by investigating the factors that led to World War I. They will also debate what role the United States should play in international conflicts. We will then focus on U.S. neutrality and the events that lead to our eventual involvement in the conflict. As a part of this, students will analyze primary source propaganda posters from the WWI era. We will move on to understand the effect of the war on the home front. Students will finish up exploring the end of the war and the peace plans for after the war with the Treaty of Versailles. Finally, students will assess the results of World War I.

All materials and assignments are on the Social Studies Google Classroom. There will be no homework over break.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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Mrs. Esquivel