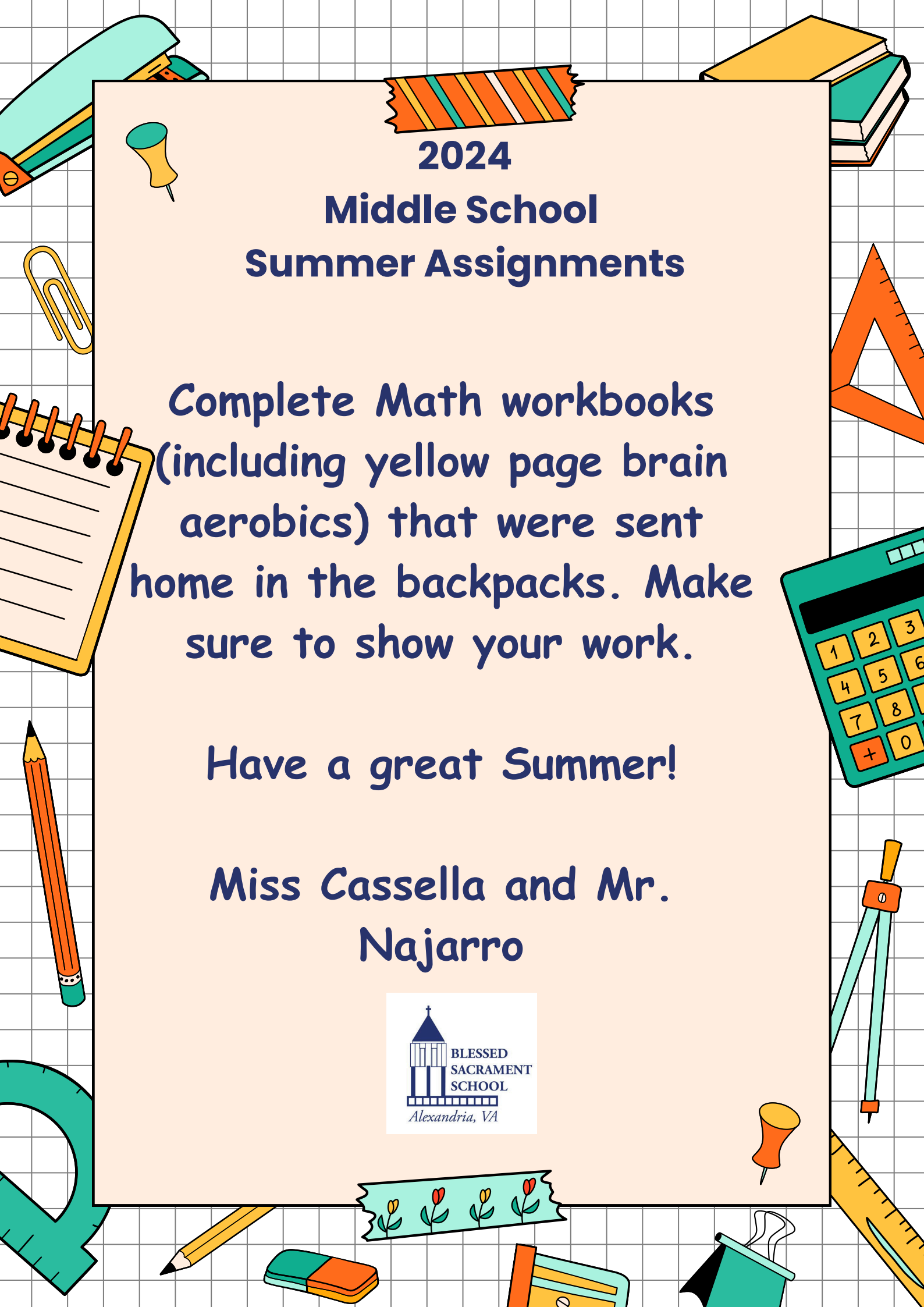


TO DO LIST

GRADE 8

- ☐ **Complete the math workbook**
- ☐ **Read one assigned literature book and complete an assignment**
- ☐ **Visit a park/museum/concert/play and send a postcard with a description of the place visited**
- ☐ **Read one assigned science non-fiction book and complete an assignment**
- ☐ **Visit a historic site and create a pamphlet/brochure about the site (optional)**
- ☐ **Complete science assignment**
- ☐ **See you at Mass!**
- ☐ **Spanish practice (OPTIONAL)**



2024

**Middle School
Summer Assignments**

**Complete Math workbooks
(including yellow page brain
aerobics) that were sent
home in the backpacks. Make
sure to show your work.**

Have a great Summer!

**Miss Cassella and Mr.
Najarro**





Summer Reading Assignment

Happy Summer, Class of 2025!

I'm excited to be your Literature teacher next year and to put on a Shakespeare play with you in the spring!

Before all that, I'd like you to do two things this summer:

First, read an age-appropriate biography, autobiography, or memoir of a person you admire.

Please keep a log of vocabulary words that are new to you or less familiar. On the first day of school, please submit a list of at least 20 words from the book you read, along with their definitions.

Create a one-page (8.5" x 11" or 11" x 14") visual review of the book. Include basic information: title, author, year of publication, and genre. Overall, would you give the book a thumbs-down or a thumbs-up? What is great about the book? What could be better? What group or age is the best audience for the book? Would this be a good book to adapt into a movie? Who would play major roles? Please DO reveal the ending! Use pictures and short bullets for this exercise. Think of this as an advertisement to convince people to read (or to avoiding reading) the book. Bring your visual review on the first day of school and be prepared to present it to the class the first week of school.

Next, please write a short essay (due the first day of school) about the subject of the book, the person who is the topic of the biography, autobiography, or memoir. In the essay, please consider the following and other questions: What did you learn about the person that you didn't know before? What is one obstacle the person has overcome? How did she

or he overcome this challenge or obstacle? What are some of the traits or qualities of this person? How do your feelings about the person compare to before you read the book? Is this person a good role model? Why or why not? As you write about the person, provide specific details. Give concrete examples of events or actions from the person's life to support your answers. Aim for about 625 words, but I'm more worried about quality than length. The essay, the visual review, and the vocabulary log will be graded (150 points). I'll grade this for the quality of your work: your creativity; the thoughtfulness of your ideas; using proper spelling, punctuation, grammar, and capitalization; effort.





Second, stay in touch! Get out in the world! Use your local post office. Visit a museum or a park or go to a live play or concert. This park, museum, play, or concert can be local or a place you visit on vacation. Admission may be free! There are lots of free museums and concerts in and around DC and Northern VA throughout the summer. Send me a postcard with a couple of sentences about your experience. The postcard can, but doesn't have to, depict where you went (I'm not sure you can get a postcard of all parks or concerts...). What did you see or hear or do? What did you like best? Would you recommend this place for other 8th graders? for teachers? Why or why not? Please mail the postcard (postmarked on or before August 1, 2024) to:

Mrs. Maggio
c/o Blessed Sacrament School
1417 W. Braddock Rd.
Alexandria VA 22302

Don't be surprised to see your postcards hanging somewhere at school, so please make sure your work is hallway-quality. I'll grade this for completion!

- Mrs. Maggio



Optional

History Summer Assignments, June 2024

Mr. Riordan

Historic Site Visit Report for Grades 6, 7, 8 (*same assignment for all three grades*)

History students! You live in the midst of arguably the most historic region of our country! Take advantage by becoming a history buff this summer.

STEP 1: Choose a historic site to visit this summer (probably on a family trip, but if it's nearby, you could visit on your own or with friends). Your site can be ANYWHERE in the U.S.A., but a list of links to well-known local and regional sites is below. The definition of "historic site" is broad. Any place where history happened, can qualify.

While on your visit, be curious! Make observations, take notes, ask questions of a guide or park ranger, pick up interpretive material, and take photos to remind you of what you saw and learned.

STEP 2: After your visit, you will compile a one-page illustrated document about your trip. Do this on a 8.5" x 11" piece of white or colored paper (you can use a bigger sheet if you want, but I am NOT requesting a poster!). This must be a hand-made document – not made on a computer and printed out.

Your document should graphically and visually represent the historic site you visited and what you learned there. It is NOT an essay or a book report. Think of it more like a homemade brochure. (**OPTIONAL:** If you actually want to make it a folded brochure with three panels, you can then use BOTH sides of the paper).

You should use headlines, short phrases, fun facts, and colorful hand-drawn illustrations / doodles to create your report. Please use a tool like colored markers or colored pencils. Squeeze in as much as you can on one page, and make it visually interesting as well as educational. I expect you to spend a few hours on this product, making it look as good and complete as you can.



Optional

In some way, your report should include these topics:

- Name and location of the historic site (how about a hand-drawn location map?)
- Why it is important to American history, Virginia history, or local history.
- Highlights of what you saw and learned there.
- The date you visited.
- Put your full name (first and last) on the FRONT in the bottom right corner.

You will turn this in on paper on the first day of History class. Please make something that you will be proud to see hanging in the hallway. This assignment will be graded and worth 10 points (which is the equivalent of half a chapter test, normally).

Ideas for Places to Visit

Washington, D.C.

<https://washington.org/visit-dc/free-things-to-do-history-and-heritage>
<https://washington.org/visit-dc/monuments-memorials>

Virginia

<https://www.virginia.org/things-to-do/history-and-heritage/>

Northern Virginia

<https://www.fxva.com/explore/history/historic-sites/>

Alexandria

<https://visitalexandria.com/things-to-do/historic-attractions-and-museums/>

Maryland

<https://www.visitmaryland.org/list/15-must-visit-places-history-buffs>






SUMMER SCIENCE ASSIGNMENT (2024) – *Rising 8th Graders*

REQUIRED – READING AND WRITING ABOUT SCIENCE NONFICTION

Read Bomb, The Race to Build – And Steal – The World's Most Dangerous Weapon by Steve Sheinkin.

Write an outline summarizing the key steps to the workings of (1) an atom bomb and (2) a hydrogen bomb.



See you at Mass!

Blessed Sacrament Church

***Daily Masses**

Weekday Masses are celebrated Monday thru Friday at 6:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., unless otherwise noted.

***Saturday Masses**

A weekday Mass is celebrated each Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

***Sunday Masses**

Sunday Masses are celebrated at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.*, 11:00 a.m.*, 12:30 p.m., 2:00 p.m. (Spanish), and 5:00 p.m.

* SUNDAY NURSERY (walking to age 6) at the 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Please use the main school entrance (Braddock Road) to enter the Early Childhood Center.



Optional

7th and 8th Grade Spanish

1. Practice the conjugations of the following verbs in Ella Verbs:
Popular Spanish Verb Conjugations | [Ella Verbs App](#)

Ser

Estar

Hacer

Dar

Ir

Ver

Tener

Poder

Decir

Querer

Poner

2. Practice Vocabulary in Spanish Games: [Spanish lessons for beginners free online, all with audio \(spanish-games.net\)](#).

Classroom Objects

Activity

Numbers

Family

Places

People

Time

Home

Click Lessons and then Tutorials then choose the Categories to practice the Vocabulary.