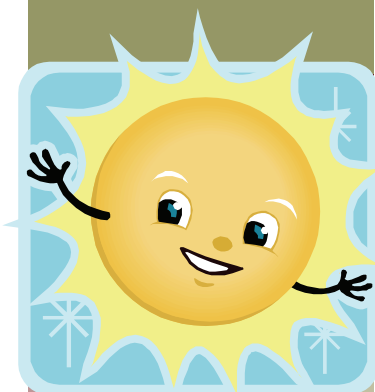




MVA SPOTLIGHT:

History & English Department



MOUNT VERNON ACADEMY

PARENT NEWS

The history department has had a busy year. The freshmen in 20th Century History worked on a world country project. They chose a country to research and studied the ancestry of that country's people, their way of life, the land, and their history. The students were also required to make up a series of maps and charts. When they were finished, the students presented an oral overview of the country, including costumes and foods.

The juniors also worked on a family history project, which helped them learn more about their family's roots. In addition, the juniors participated in the annual trip to New England in April. There they studied firsthand the American Revolution and the early beginnings of our country.

The senior American Politics class went to Washington D.C. this past October to witness our government in action. Some of the highlights of the tour included visiting

with our congressmen Zack Space, touring the Pentagon and attending part of a Supreme Court case. Since it is a presidential election year, the seniors were also required to work on a presidential campaign project. Because the most important right we have as American citizens is to vote, this project requires the students to find out about the candidates who are running and what they believe will be best for our country.



The Boston Experience

The feel of a hundred-year old parquet wood floor beneath your feet, the smell of salt-spray in your nostrils as you descend a ladder into the depths of a 17th century sailing ship, the sunlight glimmering off the message scratched into an old glass window pane by the diamond of Nathaniel Hawthorne's bride—and you thought English was just paper and pens and

musty old books!

The Junior English/History Boston trip April 27-May 2, 2008 was a wonderful way to incorporate American history and literature into today's reality and bring to life the words and characters that students thought only lived in the pages of school books.

Throughout their activities in Boston and the surrounding area, the students encountered the lives of the authors they had previously met only in school assignments. They stood hushed with awe in the lobby of Mark Twain's

ornate mansion, wore surgical booties to preserve the ancient house where both Emerson and Hawthorne lived and wrote, and saw the effects that one book--*Uncle Tom's Cabin*--had on a country and its history. This was literature and history at its best—not just written words but taste, touch, sight, hearing and smell as well.

We're glad the 2008 Boston trip went well and are looking forward to sharing these experiences again with next year's juniors.

Graduation Weekend Information

Consecration	May 23, 8:00p.m. MVA Gymnasium
Sabbath School	May 24, 10:00a.m. MVA Gymnasium
Baccalaureate	May 24, 11:00a.m. MVA Gymnasium
Parent Tribute	May 24, 6:00p.m. Hill Church
Class Night	May 24, 9:15p.m. MVA Gymnasium
Commencement	May 25, 10:00a.m. MVA Gymnasium



Special points of interest:

- **The end of the year** is in sight! Freshman and Sophomores must be checked out of the dorms by 7:00pm, Wednesday, May 21.
- **Graduation Weekend** is May 23-25.
- **2008-2009 Re-registration** is in progress. Contact the registrar's office for more information.