THE CRETE NEWS

SALINE COUNTY SCHOOLS SPOTLIGHT PAGE



RESPECT -

Students such as

Daniel Mora Cardenas

are taught to look for

evidence in the text.

Circular SEMINARS

Have you ever pondered why children ask so many questions? It is a good sign of a healthy human being that they do. Aristotle states that, "All men by nature desire to know." The number of meaningful questions has been on the increase at St. James School as teachers

purposely lead students to wonder and inquire. Good questions enhance interest, challenge preconceptions, sharpen reasoning, and deepen conversations.

One of the arenas for questioning in-depth at St. James School is the seminar. Seminars frequently happen over topics in Religion, History,

Literature and even in Math and Science classes. During a seminar, students sit in a circle while the teacher or classmates pose questions over an area of study. For example, "What would life in a civilization which had no concept of numbers be like?" Students share their thoughts and insights, being careful to

listen respectfully to each other and to reference a text if that is available. Often a good question will lead to others. "When did civilizations first learn to count?" "Are there still civilizations today without a sense of number?" Sometimes good questioning leads to

> debate. In this scenario some students might think that grown adults who cannot comprehend that 1+2=3 must be mentally deficient. Others might argue that they could be very intelligent in different ways. Interest kindled, students and teachers are soon investigating to find answers for the sheer joy of knowing. (By the

way the Piraha tribe of the Amazon is one example of a current civilization without a sense of numbers.)

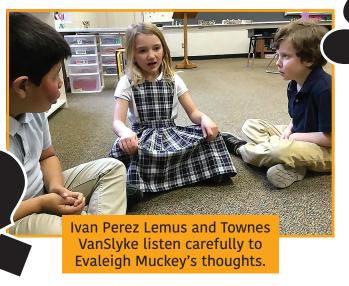
Questioning helps the mind discover truth. The faculty and staff at St. James school believes that those who seek the truth will find it and eventually find





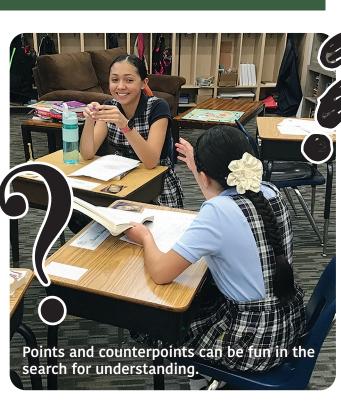


questions regarding the American Revolution.





Alexia Marino Alarcon and Kaylee Domingo Agular direct their attention to a classmate sharing her insights.



Axcel Garcia Mendez enjoys a classmate's comments during literature class.

Ranae Ward and August Eberhardt question, ponder, and express their thoughts during class seminars.



Allison Rios Murillo and Marlenn Rodriguez Romero have been taught to listen carefully before agreeing or disagreeing with another's insights.

GO JAGUARS!

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