

# Mrs. Sorensen's Newsletter

## 4TH QUARTER



### IMPORTANT DATES:

- April 7 - Holy Day
- April 21 - Early Release Day
- May 1 - 9 - Easter/Spring Break

HAPPY  
2021!!!!!!!

### THIS DAY IN HISTORY:

## Stamp Act Imposed on American Colonies

In an effort to raise funds to pay off debts and defend the vast new American territories won from the French in the Seven Years' War(1756-1763), the British government passes the Stamp Act on March 22, 1765. The legislation levied a direct tax on all materials printed for commercial and legal use in the colonies, from newspapers and pamphlets to playing cards and dice.

Though the Stamp Act employed a strategy that was a common fundraising vehicle in England, it stirred a storm of protest in the colonies. The colonists had recently been hit with three major taxes: the Sugar Act (1764), which levied new duties on imports of textiles, wines, coffee and sugar; the Currency Act (1764), which caused a major decline in the value of the paper money used by colonists; and the Quartering Act (1765), which required colonists to provide food and lodging to British troops under certain circumstances.

With the passing of the Stamp Act, the colonists' grumbling finally became an articulated response to what they saw as the mother country's attempt to undermine their economic strength and independence. They raised the issue of taxation without representation, and formed societies throughout the colonies to rally against the British government and nobles who sought to exploit the colonies as a source of revenue and raw materials. By October of that year, nine of the 13 colonies sent representatives to the Stamp Act Congress, at which the colonists drafted the "Declaration of Rights and Grievances," a document that railed against the autocratic policies of the mercantilist British empire.

Realizing that it actually cost more to enforce the Stamp Act in the protesting colonies than it did to abolish it, the British government repealed the tax the following year. The fracas over the Stamp Act, though, helped plant seeds for a far larger movement against the British government and the eventual battle for independence. Most important of these was the formation of the Sons of Liberty—a group of tradesmen who led anti-British protests in Boston and other seaboard cities—and other groups of wealthy landowners who came together from across the colonies. Well after the Stamp Act was repealed, these societies continued to meet in opposition to what they saw as the abusive policies of the British empire. Out of their meetings, a growing nationalism emerged that would culminate in the fighting of the American Revolution only a decade later.

History.com

### GRADUATION COLORS

Seniors are planning a private graduation ceremony this year. I will let you know date/time when we have it, but it will be sometime in late May. **Colors are mint and white.** There are no promoters this year.

## HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL

Students are continuing to work on math, life science, art, Russian, language arts and history. Mrs. Sorensen is the contact for all classes but Russian, which is led by Arena White.

They should be working on at least 6 lessons per week and keeping their grades up.

Upcoming Art Jubilee at Homer Council on the Arts. I'm having students submit one piece each. These will go on display in April at 355 West Pioneer Avenue.