

Junior High Tech Lesson for March 23, 2020

Introducing FACTS LMS

I'm so excited to announce the debut of FACTS LMS (Learning Management System) through the library at our school. The LMS will allow us to connect with students online, distribute materials, collect assignments, facilitate discussions, and assess progress.

It is a private and secure student area that will allow students to connect with other students and teachers online, including accessing class materials, uploading assignments, participating in classroom discussions, and taking quizzes.

Right now, we are only releasing it as a library and technology class connection. This is our "test drive" to see what works and what doesn't, and get it fixed before we try to do bigger things with it. (And we will!)

To do for this lesson:

1. Watch the two videos listed below: the LMS Overview Video and the LMS for Students video. I'll know if you watch them or not.
2. Log in to the St. Mary LMS (instructions below).
3. Post at least one comment in the assigned discussion.
4. Read the Week 2 Library Assignment; clues and/ or points for our Odyssey-based escape room may be involved!

FACTS has created a short LMS Overview Video to give you an introduction to the system. [Click here](#) to watch it at your convenience. The password to access the video is **factslms** (case sensitive).

You can learn about how to log in and use the LMS by watching the LMS for Students video. [Click here](#) to watch it at your convenience. The password to access the video is **factslms** (case sensitive).

Here's how to access the **LMS**:

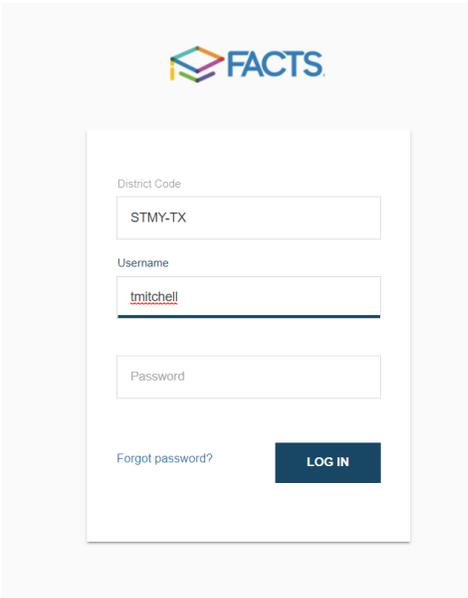
1. In Chrome, Firefox, Safari, or Internet Explorer go to lms.renweb.com
2. Type the school's **District Code: STMY-TX**
3. Type the student's **Username**. (This is the same username you use to log in to the Family Portal on RenWeb.)
4. Type the student's **Password**.
5. Click **Login**.

If you are not sure what your username and password are, email me (kpate@stmarylc.org) and I will send it to you. Please do not create your own.

Keep reading . . .

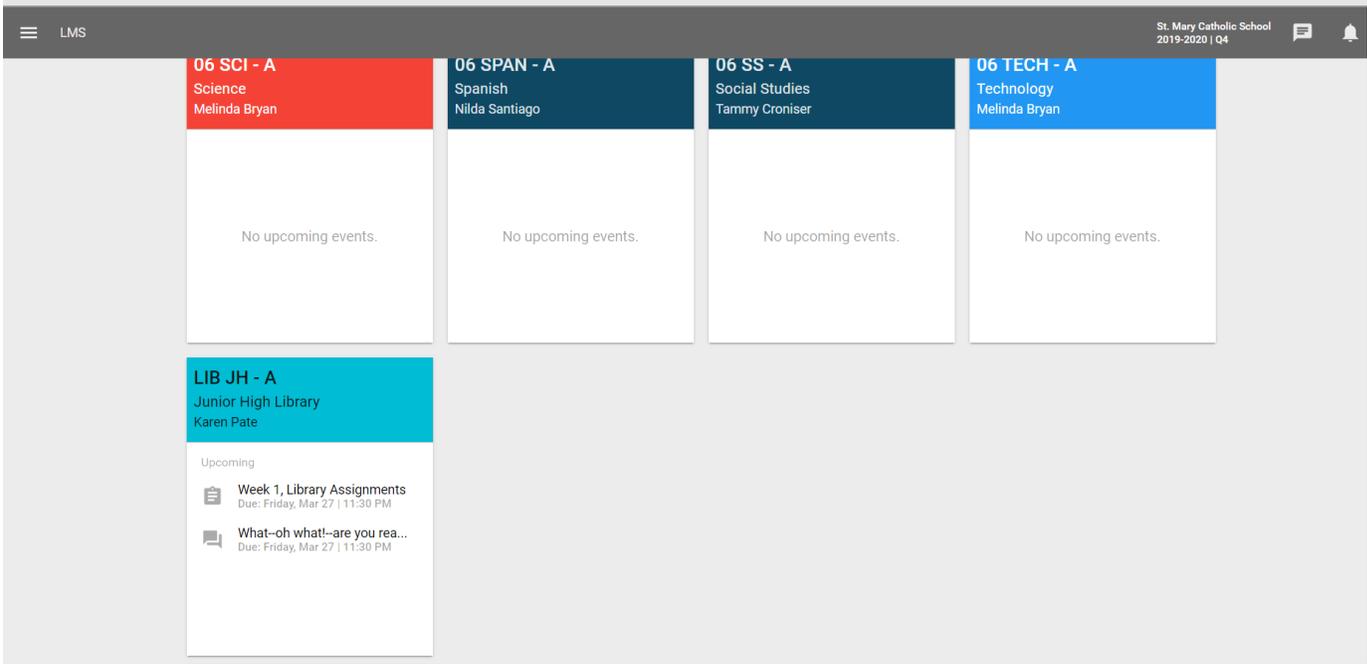


This is what your login page looks like. (Looks familiar, but it is important to remember that you can only get to LMS by using lms.renweb.com.



The login page features the FACTS logo at the top. Below it is a form with three input fields: 'District Code' containing 'STMY-TX', 'Username' containing 'tmitchell', and 'Password'. A 'Forgot password?' link is located to the left of a dark blue 'LOG IN' button.

This is what your dashboard looks like. It has a block for each class you take. You will have to scroll to the bottom to see the library.



The dashboard header includes 'LMS' on the left and 'St. Mary Catholic School 2019-2020 | Q4' with notification icons on the right. The main content area is divided into five colored blocks representing classes: Science (red), Spanish (dark blue), Social Studies (medium blue), Technology (light blue), and Junior High Library (teal). The Science, Spanish, Social Studies, and Technology blocks each display 'No upcoming events.' The Junior High Library block shows an 'Upcoming' section with two items: 'Week 1, Library Assignments' and 'What-oh what!-are you rea...', both with due dates of Friday, Mar 27 | 11:30 PM.



Click on the class block to open it.

The screenshot shows the LMS interface for 'Junior High Library (LIB JH - A)'. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'LMS' and 'St. Mary Catholic School 2019-2020 | Q4'. Below the header, the page title 'Junior High Library (LIB JH - A)' is centered. On the left, the 'Class Calendar' widget shows 'This week' with 'No events this week.' and 'PREV' and 'NEXT' buttons. A red arrow points to the 'NEXT' button. In the center, the 'Class Wall' widget shows a post by 'JA' with a 'POST' button. Below that, a post by 'KP' (Karen Pate) is visible, with details: 'Unit: Fourth Quarter', 'Topic: Week 2, Library', and the text 'Check it out: escape room clues, book trailer and discussion group are all available in LMS!'. The post is dated 'March 20, 2020 | 11:58 AM'. At the bottom of the post, there's a 'JA' comment field.

As you can see, I don't have anything posted for this week. If I click on the blue word "NEXT," however, I will see next week's "assignments." (No grades—just cool clues, tips and points for our escape room!)

Now I can see next week's assignments.

The screenshot shows the LMS interface for 'Junior High Library (LIB JH - A)'. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'LMS' and 'St. Mary Catholic School 2019-2020 | Q4'. Below the header, the page title 'Junior High Library (LIB JH - A)' is centered. On the left, the 'Class Calendar' widget shows the date range 'March 22, 2020 - March 28, 2020'. It lists two assignments: 'Week 1, Library Assignments' due 'Friday, Mar 27 | 11:30 PM' and 'What--oh what!--are you rea...' due 'Friday, Mar 27 | 11:30 PM'. 'PREV' and 'NEXT' buttons are at the bottom. In the center, the 'Class Wall' widget shows a 'POST' button. Below that, the post by 'KP' (Karen Pate) is visible, with details: 'Unit: Fourth Quarter', 'Topic: Week 2, Library', and the text 'Check it out: escape room clues, book trailer and discussion group are all available in LMS!'. The post is dated 'March 20, 2020 | 11:58 AM'. At the bottom of the post, there's a 'JA' comment field.



There are several ways you can get to these assignments.

1. Point to and click on any of the assignments you see under the Class Calendar.
2. Point to and click on the “Topic: Week 2 Library” in blue under the Class Wall.
3. Point to and click on the “Fourth Quarter” unit in the third column (farthest to the right).

The screenshot shows the LMS interface for Junior High Library (LIB JH - A). The interface is divided into three main sections: Class Calendar, Class Wall, and Fourth Quarter. The Class Calendar section shows a list of assignments, with a yellow box containing the number '1' next to the assignment 'What--oh what!--are you rea...'. The Class Wall section shows a post by Karen Pate with a yellow box containing the number '2' next to the text 'Click it out: escape room clues, book trailer and discussion group are all available in LMS!'. The Fourth Quarter section shows a yellow box containing the number '3' next to the unit title 'Fourth Quarter'.

Using the Class Calendar links is the easiest way. Here, I've clicked on the “WEEKLY TECH GRADE” assignment.

The screenshot shows the LMS interface for the 'WEEKLY TECH GRADE' assignment. The page displays the assignment title, due date (Friday, Mar 27 | 11:30 PM), and a detailed description of the assignment. The description includes instructions on how to earn points and a list of recommended books. A 'SHOW MORE' button is visible below the text. The page also shows 'Max points: 10' and a red plus sign button at the bottom.

The assignment requires that each student make at least one post in order to earn this week's tech completion grade.



Click on the orange circle with a white plus sign in it (between the blue and gray). This is what you will see.

WEEKLY TECH GRADE

Due: Friday, Mar 27 | 11:30 PM

Hey there! We'll be earning points in our Odyssey-based escape game. Want to start earning now? If you post on-topic you can receive 2 points for each post you make: 2 for recommending a book, plus up to 8 more (2 per comment) for posting a meaningful reply to another student's suggestion. What is "meaningful"? Here's an example:

"Twitchell, I like the idea of reading a book about a boy who survives on his own in the Canadian wilderness. You might also like the "I Survived" series by Lauren Tarshis. They're shorter books, but lots of fun."

Here's your topic:

What are you reading while you're at home? Share some REALLY good reads with the rest of us. I just read an awesome book called *The Neptune Project* by Polly Holyoke. It's the first in a trilogy of dystopian-themed novels. To read more about it, click [HERE](#).

SHOW MORE

Max points: 10

Add to discussion

POST

In the white box, where it says "Add to discussion" type your comment. When you finish, click on the dark blue "POST" box. This will submit your comment. Come back during the week to see other students' comments and to reply to them. The first comment gets you credit for tech this week. All your comments can earn points towards our escape room game (see the instructions under WEEKLY TECH GRADE for more explanation).

Later on, if you need to attach a document, you may use the paper clip. You won't need it for this assignment.

To get back to this week's assignments (so you can do the second one), find the breadcrumb trail (watch the instruction video linked above to locate this). Click where it says "Fourth Quarter | Week 2, Library".

LIB JH - A > Fourth Quarter | Week 2, Library > WEEKLY TECH GRADE

WEEKLY TECH GRADE

Keep going . . .



You should be here. Click on the Week 2 Library Assignments.

The screenshot shows the LMS interface for St. Mary Catholic School. The main heading is "Week 2, Library". On the left is a "Topic Wall" with a post by Karen Pate dated March 20, 2020. The central section is "Week 2, Library Assignments" with a due date of Friday, Mar 27 | 11:30 PM. It includes a tip, a paragraph about an escape room, and a link to a video book trailer for "Hero by Mike Lupica.mp4". On the right is a "Topic Calendar" showing no events for this week. At the bottom, there is a "WEEKLY TECH GRADE" section with a message about earning points in an escape game.

You are now here. This is not a graded assignment. It does, however, provide opportunities to earn clues for our escape room! Read carefully, and don't forget to click on "SHOW MORE" at the bottom, because . . . there's more!

This screenshot shows the "Week 2, Library Assignments" page in more detail. The due date is "Friday, Mar 27 | 11:30 PM". The text includes a tip, a paragraph about an escape room, and a link to a video book trailer for "Hero by Mike Lupica.mp4". A red circle highlights the video link. At the bottom, there is a "SHOW MORE" button and a red circle with a white document icon and a downward arrow, indicating a document upload area.

There is also a video book trailer for you to see. It's the white box that says "Video book trailer for Hero by Mike Lupica.mp4." Click on it and watch the video for a description of an awesome sci-fi/ fantasy novel about some of the down sides to being a superhero.

NOTE: the orange circle with the down arrow is where you would click to upload documents of your own, if you were required to turn something in. We aren't doing that, so I'll describe it another day.



When you finish you will log out. Go to your initials in the upper, right-hand corner. Click on them.

The screenshot shows the LMS interface for 'Week 2, Library'. The top navigation bar includes 'LMS', a help icon, and 'St. Mary Catholic School 2019-2020 | Q4'. The user's initials 'KP' are circled in red in the top right corner. The main content area is titled 'Week 2, Library' and contains three panels: 'Topic Wall', 'Week 2, Library Assignments', and 'Topic Calendar'. The 'Topic Wall' panel shows a post by 'Karen Pate' with a 'POST' button. The 'Week 2, Library Assignments' panel includes a tip, a paragraph about an escape room mystery, a video link for 'Hero by Mike Lupica', and a due date of 'Friday, Mar 27 | 11:30 PM'. The 'Topic Calendar' panel shows 'No events this week' with 'PREV' and 'NEXT' buttons. A 'WEEKLY TECH GRADE' panel is visible at the bottom. A red plus sign is in the bottom right corner.

Click on "Logout," and you're finished!

The screenshot shows the user profile dropdown menu. The top bar includes 'St. Mary Catholic School 2019-2020 | Q4', a help icon, a notification bell, a grid icon, and the user's initials 'KP'. The profile card shows 'Karen Pate' with 'RenWeb University - Privacy' and a 'User Options' link. The 'Logout' button is circled in red.