

Summer 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Next week we will begin reading and studying about the Vietnam War and its effects on the soldiers fighting, as well as the overall effect on the homefront. To gain an understanding of the key turning point in the Vietnam War, 1968, we will watch the award winning film *Full Metal Jacket* (1987). There will be an analysis of the movie when it is over, and an extension activity for homework.

Here is the storyline from the International Movie Database (IMDB):

“A two-segment story that follows young men from the start of recruit training in the Marine Corps to the lethal cauldron known as Vietnam. The first segment follows Joker, Pyle and others as they progress through the hell of USMC boot-camp at the hands of Gunnery Sergeant Hartman. The second begins in Vietnam, near Hue, at the time of the Tet Offensive. Joker, along with Animal Mother, Rafterman and others, face threats such as ambush, booby traps, and Viet Cong snipers as they move through the city.”

The movie takes place during the height of the Vietnam War, 1968. It does a great job in demonstrating the street-to-street fighting that took place during the Tet Offensive. Moreover, the film focuses on a very important battle during the Tet Offensive, the Battle of Hue—one of longest and bloodiest of the war. The film has an “R” rating due to “war violence and language.” However, viewed in safe environment, the film can be very beneficial to the learning experience. However, if you do not want your child to see the movie, an alternate lesson plan will be made available.

Please sign and return the bottom portion of the page letting me know you read the above letter and agree/disagree to your son/daughter viewing *Full Metal Jacket*.

Thanks!

Robert Alvarado

____ I give my son/daughter permission to view the movie

____ I do not give my son/daughter permission to view the movie.

Student Name _____

Parent Guardian Signature _____ Date _____