

## SAILOR P.R.I.D.E.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

RESPECT

INTEGRITY

DISCIPLINED

ENGAGEMENT

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March 2020

# Mona Shores Middle School

## SAILOR P.R.I.D.E.

# News

MSMS Families,

With the days getting longer and more sunshine coming through (hopefully the temps rise a bit too), Mona Shores Middle School continues to demonstrate their **BEST!** The Month of Caring has been another success that has allowed MSMS to impact the lives of others within our own community. Our athletic teams are rolling and getting better every day. Performing Arts are providing amazing opportunities for students to engage in music, perform, and be a part of something special. March is Reading Month at MSMS; our 6th graders will be engaged in the Battle of the Books. Independent reading will continue at all grade levels and writing (CERs) will still permeate our classrooms, hallways and learning experiences. Our Student Leadership teams (Student Council, CAC, Green Team) continue to impact our school and our community. Our teachers continue to deliver high quality lessons that challenge all of our students, incorporate high levels of literacy and technology, and connect student learning to life outside of school. Our parents are showing support and encouraging their students to reach high levels of academic and behavioral success, as well as discussing our monthly character traits at home. It has, without question, been another outstanding month for our students, staff, and families! I am proud to be a part of such an inspired, caring team! It is certainly great to be a **SAILOR!**

As we begin the month of March, our focus will move to the monthly character trait of **Positivity (Attitude)**. The Dalai Lama says that, *"In order to carry positive action we must develop here a positive vision."* Throughout our lives, tough, challenging situations will arise. Perhaps it is in our learning, athletics, families, friendships, or work, but our ability to choose a **positive attitude** will carry a huge impact for us in dealing with these times and in moving forward. Charles Swindoll said, *"I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it."* This month at MSMS, we will challenge our students to maintain a **positive attitude** and to continue to see their cups as half-full instead of half-empty. We want them to know that their **positivity** can impact their life and the lives of those whom they encounter. Please have conversations with your students about keeping a **positive attitude**, with themselves and with others. Ask them what this **positivity** might look like, sound like, or feel like. Discuss what the impact of a **positive attitude** might have on their relationships, grades, or self-perception. With the sunshine and warmer temperatures around the corner, let's all work to bring some more **positivity** into our lives and into the lives around us; let's maintain a **positive attitude** as we encounter the challenges of March and in life.

I continue to be encouraged by the partnership between MSMS, our parents, and community! Together, we will continue to focus on academic and behavioral successes, along with building positive character traits, for **every** student. I hope you all have a **positive** month of March!

With Sailor PRIDE,

Doug Ammeraal  
Principal  
Email | [ammeraad@monashores.net](mailto:ammeraad@monashores.net)

## CALENDAR

### LATE START DATES (9:40am)

Mar. 4<sup>th</sup> (Wed.)  
Mar. 18<sup>th</sup> (Wed.)  
Mar. 25<sup>th</sup> (Wed.)

### 8TH GR. BAND MSBOA FESTIVAL

Mar. 4<sup>th</sup> (Wed.) - Mar. 6<sup>th</sup> (Fri.)

### 8TH GR. VISITATION TO HIGH SCHOOL

Mar. 5<sup>th</sup> (Thur.) 12:00pm - 2:20pm

### 6TH GR. CHOIR CONCERT

Mar. 5<sup>th</sup> (Thur.) 10:00am; 12:45pm

### 2ND TRIMESTER ENDS

Mar. 6<sup>th</sup> (Fri.)

### MIDDLE FIDDLES

Mar. 7<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) 9:00am - 10:00am  
Mar. 21<sup>st</sup> (Sat.) 9:00am - 10:00am  
Mar. 28<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) 9:00am - 10:00am

### NO LATE START (7:40am)

Mar. 11<sup>th</sup> (Wed.)

### 6TH GR. AMAZING PROGRESS CONCERT

Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> (Thur.) 12:05pm in Large Gym

### SATURDAY SCHOOL

Mar. 14<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) 8:00am - 11:00am  
Mar. 21<sup>st</sup> (Sat.) 8:00am - 11:00am

### 7TH/8TH GR. CHOIR DRESS REHEARSAL

Mar. 18<sup>th</sup> (Wed.) 2:50pm - 4:00pm

### 7TH/8TH GR. CHOIR CONCERT

Mar. 19<sup>th</sup> (Thurs.) 7:00pm - 8:30pm

### NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS - STAFF IN-SERVICE

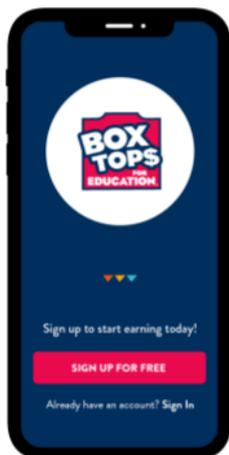
Mar. 20<sup>th</sup> (Fri.)



Sailors have ownership, engagement, gratitude, service, respect, compassion, attitude, disciplined, integrity & success.



## Here's How To Earn \$\$\$ For Your School!



- Download Box Top App
- Choose MSMS School
- Scan your receipts
- Or... send in store receipts with kids and we will scan for you!

It's that easy!

- Incentives and prizes are given to kids for participating.
- If you download the app right now, you may help yourself to a treat!

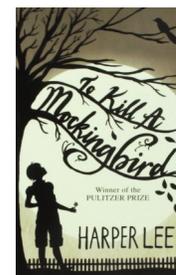


**6th Grade ELA:** Research is underway! Hopefully you've seen some excitement about the topic your child has chosen for our 6th grade research project. The whole month of March is committed to the process of research and the final product and presentation. The 6th grade ELA teachers are looking forward to learning all about the interesting topics the students have been researching.

March is also reading month. You should have received an email letter from your child's ELA teacher explaining BOB. Students started reading BOB books in February and we will begin the bracket voting in March. March also holds many fun classroom activities to celebrate March is Reading month and a final celebration to celebrate the championship round and the final champion. Keep those kids reading!

**7th Grade ELA:** March brings us an engaging research project! Students will select a middle school debate topic (Is brand name clothing worth the cost? Should the school calendar be changed? Should college athletes be paid? Should Instagram ban likes?), and develop an argument based on evidence. Students will select and cite quality sources, develop note-taking and outlining skills, and learn effective public speaking strategies.

**8th Grade ELA:** Throughout February, the 8th graders have been reading, analyzing, and discussing *To Kill a Mockingbird*. This month, we look forward to finishing this novel, and forming an argument related to the persecution of the various characters we have come to love. As March comes to a close, we will begin our Opposing Viewpoints Research unit; this unit will challenge our students to blend together all the skills they have learned throughout their Language Arts experience. Students should also be reading their chosen novels at home!





**Seventh grade** math students have begun a study of geometry. Concepts include angles, as well as two and three dimensional shapes finding area and volume. The students enjoy seeing connections with these concepts and the real world.

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This month, the counselors will be going into 6th and 7th grade classrooms to share some information about elective choices for next year's schedule. After getting this information, students will need to return their elective choice sheets to the counseling office (date TBD). Students will be asked to rank their elective choices 1-5. The sooner sheets are returned to the counseling office, the more likely it will be that students will get their first choice for an elective. Please contact the counseling office with any questions.

As a reminder, Mrs. Opiela works with student last names A-K, and Mrs. Butterfield sees students with last names L-Z. Stop in and say "hi!" They look forward to seeing you!

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## January Students of the Month - PRIDE

Congratulations to the following students on being honored as our Students of the Month for January:



Quinn Addicott, Simar Dhillon, Lydia Carefelle, Sophie Mettler, Lila Torresen, & Logan Clausen





- **LATE START CHANGE** -- We have communicated a few different times, but due to a scheduling conflict and the end of the trimester, we have to adjust one of our Late Start Wednesdays. Please plan for the following:
  - March 4 -- **LATE START (THIS WEEK)**
  - March 11 -- **NORMAL START (7:40)**
- **TESTING** -- As we move into late Winter and early Spring, we wanted to update you on a few testing updates. Upcoming testing includes: High School placement tests, M-STEP, and the PSAT (just for 8th graders) ([here is some additional information on the PSAT](#)). On the calendar at this point are: 8th Grade PSAT on **April 14** (date set by State), and then M-STEP testing throughout the month of April. Please contact the counseling office or an Administrator if you have additional questions. More information to follow. **Please note that we make every effort possible to allow these tests to have minimal impact on our daily teaching and learning.**
- **END OF TRIMESTER** -- As we approach the end of the trimester **THIS FRIDAY**, we will be giving/sending reminders of Spring School for students who **fail any subject during 2nd trimester**. If your student is failing, we will be sending out reminders and connecting with students themselves. Please continue to encourage your student to stay on top of their academics! The end of the trimester is this **Friday, March 6**.
- **WATER BOTTLES & DRINKS** -- Please know that drinks (coffee, cappuccino, energy drinks, etc.) are **NOT ALLOWED** in the hallways or lockers. Students will be asked to finish it (in the morning) in the cafeteria or to throw it away. Additionally, if they would like to drink water during the day, they must have a clear water bottle and no added flavoring. We want to support their hydration for learning, but need to have perimeters within the building. Thank you for supporting us in this.
- **TRAFFIC FLOW** -- When everyone works together and is courteous, we can maximize the safety and efficiency of our parking lot. Please pay extra attention to the following that will help with flow, efficiency and safety.
  - **PULL FORWARD** as far as you can into available spots - the kids can walk a few extra steps
  - Do **NOT** drop off or pick up in the middle lane
  - Do **NOT** BACK UP TOWARDS WOODSIDE WHEN WAITING - If the circle drives are full, please use the East and South parking lots

