

SAILOR P.R.I.D.E.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

RESPECT

INTEGRITY

DISCIPLINED

ENGAGEMENT

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February 2018

Mona Shores Middle School

News

SAILOR P.R.I.D.E.

MSMS Families,

As we conclude the month of January, I am grateful for such an outstanding month at Mona Shores Middle School! Our teachers continue to deliver engaging, quality lessons to our students, challenging them to reach their personal *best* in every situation. Our students continue to achieve high levels of academic and behavioral success. I am proud of both of their efforts! There is such value in a shared commitment to being the absolute *best* that we can be, every day, in every situation, that is evident at MSMS. We are truly striving to build the highest level of character and success within each of our students and in ourselves!

Moving into February, MSMS will be focused on **Compassion**. While there are many different definitions of **compassion**, the one that jumps out to me is, "*sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others; consciousness of others' distress together with a desire to alleviate it.*" As we move into our *Month of Caring* at MSMS, we challenge and remind our students, and ourselves, what it means to feel concern for others...for the situations, circumstances, experiences, and challenges that they are faced with. At Mona Shores Middle School, we want our students to not only recognize this, but to truly feel that sense of **compassion** and to take action to alleviate or support. I believe this quote captures that sense of **compassion**, "*Learn to love without condition. Talk without bad intention. Give without any reason. And most of all, care for people without any expectation.*" As our students move through the month of February, our *Month of Caring*, please have conversations at home about what it looks like, sounds like, and feels like to be a **compassionate**, caring individual, encouraging them to positively impact their school, community, and world with a spirit of **compassion**.

MONTH OF CARING -- February is the *Month of Caring* at MSMS. MMLI, with the help of Student Congress and Calling All Colors, has fundraising activities and charity events planned for the month. Each year, the MMLI students choose recipients of the monies raised from our *Month of Caring* efforts. Over the past 5 years, we have raised over **\$20,000** for a variety of charities and causes within our own community. This year, the money and drive items will go to **The Kids Food Basket**. Although there will be a lot of fun activities, don't forget the reason *why* we are doing what we're doing - caring and **compassion**. You are challenged to serve others this month and think outside of yourselves! Make an impact on the world! (See page 2 for the Outline for the Month.)

I am encouraged by the partnership between MSMS, our parents, and community as we continue our focus on academic success, high quality character, and serving others. I hope you all have a great week and a wonderful month of February.

Doug Ammeraal | Principal
Email: ammeraad@monashores.net

CALENDAR

SAILOR CELEBRATION

Feb. 2nd (Fri.) 5:00pm - 7:00pm

MIDDLE FIDDLES (9:00am - 10:00am)

Feb. 3rd (Sat.)
Feb. 24th (Sat.)

NO LATE START (7:40am)

Feb. 7th (Wed.)

SKI CLUB (CANNONBURG)

Feb. 7th (Wed.)
Feb. 13th (Tues.)
Feb. 21st (Wed.) - Make-Up Date

DRAMA PRODUCTION @ H.S.

Feb. 8th (Thur.) - Feb. 10th (Sat.) 7:00pm

6TH GR. ORCHESTRA SOLO FESTIVAL

Feb. 13th (Tues.) 5:00pm - 8:00pm

LATE START DATES (9:40am)

Feb. 14th (Wed.)
Feb. 21st (Wed.)
Feb. 28th (Wed.)

COUNT DAY

Feb. 14th (Wed.)

ORCHESTRA PRE-FESTIVAL CLINIC

Feb. 15th (Thur.) 3:00pm - 6:00pm

MID-WINTER BREAK - NO SCHOOL

Feb. 16th (Fri.) - Feb. 19th (Mon.)

MMEA BAND FESTIVAL 7TH/8TH GR.

Feb. 23rd (Fri.) - Feb. 24th (Sat.) @ H.S.

8TH GR. SCHEDULING ASSEMBLY

Feb. 26th (Mon.) 8:50am

8TH GR. PARENT NIGHT @ H.S.

Feb. 26th (Mon.) 7:00pm

7TH/8TH GR. BAND REHEARSAL

Feb. 27th (Tues.) 3:00pm - 3:45pm
Feb. 28th (Wed.) 3:00pm - 3:45pm

ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL

Feb. 28th (Wed.) - Time TBA??



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





BOX TOPS



The science department is collecting Box Tops for Education. Please have your student give their box tops to their science teacher to be entered into a contest.

Rewards are as follows:

10=one ticket into drawing for pizza party.

100=candy bar (+10 tickets into pizza party drawing)

500=\$10 gift card to Cinema Carousel Theater (+5 candy bars and 50 tickets into pizza party drawing).

Tickets accumulate throughout the year so you have until the end of the year to collect 500. If you ask neighbors, grandparents, and other relatives to collect them for you, you will have no trouble collecting 500! CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS and Tyson Chicken Project A Labels are collected in the front office.



February is Month of Caring! This year, MSMS will be raising money for Kids Food Basket with different activities and events throughout the month. Be on the lookout for Bake Sales, Student vs. Staff Basketball Games, Spirit Week Class Competitions, lunch activities, Kids Food Basket material drive, and much more! MSMS is challenging our middle school community to serve others and support a great cause!

○ **OUTLINE FOR THE MONTH**

- Week 1 (Jan. 29) -- **Spirit Week**
- Week 2 (Feb. 5) -- **Lunch Fundraisers and Teacher Challenges**
- Week 3 (Feb. 12) -- **Bake Sale**
- Week 4 (Feb. 19) -- **Kids Food Basket Drive**
- Week 5 (Feb. 26) -- **Student vs Staff Basketball Game TBA**





The counseling office has been a busy place this month! Here is a recap of the happenings...

- All 8th grade students completed their Career Cruising lesson. As 8th graders, students explore careers based on interests, but also begin to consider how different skill sets impact career interests and possibilities.
- 7th grade Tech Ventures students completed many tasks within Career Cruising's Educational Development Plan. Students took an interest inventory, explored careers, indicating which are of the most interest to them, and set goals related to the career choices they selected in the program.
- Students focused on the idea of respect, specifically respecting others' individuality. During an Encore lesson, students were challenged to reflect on and celebrate what makes an individual special.
- Month of Caring begins in February and we will begin our focus on compassion! What are different ways you can show kindness and compassion for others?
- The counselors will continue meeting with students to support them in their success as the school year progresses, both socially and academically.

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!



8th grade ELA will be focusing on our *To Kill a Mockingbird* unit. Throughout this unit, we will utilize in-class reading, discussion and reading strategies. We will also continue to expect students to read their chosen novels for an average of twenty minutes a night.



6th Grade Math - Congrats to Mrs. Cooper's 2nd hour and Mrs. Shaffer's 5th hour classes. Each class won the behavior challenge for the month of December! Nice work! For the month of February, we will be working Chapter 6 Expressions and Chapter 7 Equations. Please review these concepts at home and continue to practice multiplication facts to become fluent!



In 7th grade science, students are using microscopes to compare and contrast single-celled and multi-celled organisms. They are also learning about the difference between plant and animal cells.





Do you have 6th thru 8th grade aged girls and boys who are curious about what makes things work? Do they like to build things? Are they into technology? Do they like to create art? Are they willing to try new things? Then the 4-H Tech Wizards program is the right after-school program for them! Your child can come and explore science, technology, engineering, arts and architecture and math, (or STEAM as we call it) after school for one day a week.

We recruit and train caring adults, or high school students, from the community to work with the youth in a group mentoring setting. Your child, along with a couple other children, will be matched with a mentor and they will meet to work on STEAM-based projects. The mentor offers support as their group works on their project.

If this sounds like a program your child may want to join, you can learn more by contacting Lara Cummings, the program coordinator, at 231-724-6098. There is a \$20 participation fee for the year, and the program year will start on Thursday, Feb. 8th, 2018, and end in January 2019. There are a limited number of spots available, so we look forward to hearing from you soon!



In March, Mr. Cain's Choir students will be involved in a two-day clinic with Mr. Les Rowsey, a retired teacher from Jenison High School and a frequent teacher-of-the-year candidate. Students will spend two days working with and getting feedback from Mr. Rowsey, after which they will perform their March concerts. Mrs. Helsen's students' artwork is being prepared for the Expressions Art show at the Muskegon Museum of Art, in addition to the NICO poster competition coming up in March. Mr. Mosley's 6th Grade orchestra is preparing for Solo Festival in February, and the 7th & 8th Grade orchestras are preparing for MSBOA festival at the end of February. The 7th & 8th Grade bands are busy preparing new music for their upcoming performances at the Michigan Music Education Association Clinic held in mid-February. Mr. Check's Tech Ventures students are exploring the online photo editor Pixlr. Mr. Whalen's Tech Ventures 6.0 students are investigating how the development of Cloud Computing allows remote connection to entertainment, social, and school relationships on a variety of devices. Mr. Samson's STEM students are continuing 3D design & printing, not to mention the building of some paper roller coasters. Mr. Volkmann's 7th grade Health classes will be studying the effects and consequences of the misuse of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs. And, from our Media Specialist, Courtney Hansen: *"Research units are the theme of the winter! 6th grade just wrapped up a Civil Rights Movement research project. 7th grade will begin their research project on a student selected destination. 8th grade ELA will continue to help students grow as readers with an exciting activity: Speed Dating Books. Students will 'speed date' different genres and books to help them engage in new materials."*



#1 IN THE NATION!!

Mason Schlafer, a 6th grader here at MSMS, raised **\$57,250** by selling popcorn to help support the Boy Scouts of America (tents, camping trips, etc.). Last year, he was 3rd in the nation in total sales. This left him "hungry" to do even better this year. This year, Mason persevered through weather, and persisted in the face of rejection, to reach his goal...**#1 IN THE NATION!!**

I'm pretty confident that Mason is the best popcorn-sales-person in America!

[WZZM Clip](#) -- check this young man out on TV

Be sure to say congratulations to Mason when you see him!



LMC News



Eighth grade students had a fun opportunity to experience speed dating – with books that is! The Library Media Center (LMC) hosted this special event, which encouraged students to learn how to independently choose a book they would like to read. Students received a "date card" and traveled with a small group to "meet" books of various genres. They had 5 minutes to flirt, woo, and begin a relationship with any interesting books on the table. This is how the students were instructed to date a book:

Initial Attraction -Sight, you see the book and become interested in checking it out further. *By getting to know the book, you can learn to appreciate any cover... this is just initial attraction!*

Flirt with the Book - Look a little closer, read quotes on cover, check out the back reviews, consider the author.

Begin a real Conversation - Open the book and check out the inside flaps, read the blurb about the story, and maybe the information about the author.

Start your Relationship - Decide to invest time, energy, and emotion into the book. Begin a relationship!

Students were also reminded about online dating (looking up books and reviews online through Goodreads, Amazon, Destiny Quest, and other sites), and stealing relationships from their friends (seeking recommendations from people they trust).

