

SAILOR P.R.I.D.E.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

RESPECT

INTEGRITY

DISCIPLINED

ENGAGEMENT

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March 2017

Mona Shores Middle School

SAILOR P.R.I.D.E.

News

MSMS Families,

With the days getting longer and more sunshine coming through, Mona Shores Middle School continues to demonstrate their **BEST!** Our Math-Counts Team placed in the top of the county and will now travel to the State competition. March is Reading Month, and along with the 6th grade Battle of the Books, there will be specific competitions for our 7th and 8th graders throughout the month; we are off to a successful start. Our Student Leadership teams (Student Council, CAC, Green Team, and the Student Advisory Team) continue to impact our school, community and the lives of others. Our teachers continue to deliver 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. It has, without question, been a phenomenal month for our students, staff, and families! Additionally, our entire building, along with families and community members, have supported the Month of Caring in an incredible way! Thus far, we have raised over \$2,500 for our local charities, donated hundreds of pairs of socks, sent decorated bags to the Kids Food Basket, given monetary support to local families, and will be collecting hundreds of books for local elementary schools. I am extremely proud to be a part of such an inspired, caring team! It is, without doubt, great to be a **SAILOR!**

As we begin the month of March, our focus will move to the monthly character trait of **Positivity**. 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 stay **positive** 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 those whom they encounter. Please have conversations with your students about staying **positive**, with themselves and with others. Ask them what **positivity** might look like, sound like, or feel like. Discuss the impact **positivity** can 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.

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!

Doug Ammeraal

Principal

Email: ammeraad@monashores.net

CALENDAR

LATE START DATES (9:40am)

Mar. 1st (Wed.)

Mar. 15th (Wed.)

Mar. 29th (Wed.)

ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL

Mar. 1st (Wed.)

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS KICK OFF

Mar. 1st (Wed.)

8TH GR. SCHEDULING AT MSMS

Mar. 2nd (Thur.) During the day

6TH GR. BAND CONCERT

Mar. 3rd (Fri.) 12:05pm

NO LATE START (7:40am)

Mar. 8th (Wed.)

Mar. 22nd (Wed.)

MIDDLE FIDDLES

Mar. 11th (Sat.) 9:00am - 10:00am

7TH/8TH GR. CHOIR REHEARSAL

Mar. 15th (Wed.) 3:00pm - 4:00pm

CHOIR FESTIVAL

Mar. 16th (Thur.) - Mar. 17th (Fri.)

8TH GR. VISITATION TO HIGH SCHOOL

Mar. 16th (Thur.)

2ND TRIMESTER ENDS

Mar. 17th (Fri.)

6TH GR. CHOIR CONCERT

Mar. 21st (Tues.) 7:00pm

HALF-DAY (DISMISSAL AT 11:00AM)

Mar. 24th (Fri.)

SPRING ASSEMBLY

Mar. 30th (Thur.)

NO SCHOOL - START SPRING BREAK

Mar. 31st (Fri.)



Sailors have personal responsibility, 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.

SOCIAL STUDIES

8th Grade Social Studies: We are coming to the beginning of the third trimester! The 8th graders will be finishing up the unit about the causes of the Civil War, and then right into the study of the war. Look for another writing assignment between the two units.

Math Counts Competition



Congratulations to the Math Counts team on their 2nd place finish at the local competition! Brady Whalen took first place overall and Isaac Powell took second place overall! Brady and Isaac will advance to the state competition in March! Matt Durose and Olivia Abraham placed in the top 10, and Matt Hylland placed in the top 10%! Great job!



7th Grade Math: The 7th grade math classes just finished up a unit on Algebraic Expressions, and are beginning a new unit on Equations and Inequalities. Don't forget, students have a great online resource with our new textbook, <https://connected.mcgraw-hill.com/connected/login.do>. Students use their student email as their username and Sailors7 for their password. We use the online resource quite a bit in class so students know where to find the eBook, self check quizzes, tutor videos, and so much more. If you have any questions about using the online book resource, please email your child's teacher.

January Students of the Month



8th: Isaac Powell & Avery Smith



7th: Samantha Sewick & Noah Martin



6th: Jon Habetler & Delaney Whalen



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SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING PREVIEW SUMMER CAMP FOR GIRLS

This is a Monday - Thursday day camp introduction to the world of science, technology and engineering. Campers participate in activities that give them hands-on experience with high-tech engineering equipment and processes.

CAMP DATES:

Week 1: June 19-22, 2017

Week 2: June 26-29, 2017

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call: (616) 331-6025

Or Click this Link:

<https://www.gvsu.edu/cms4/asset/84121ECC-B7E0-024B-C851F564B9DE7D47/2017stepsbrochure.pdf>



8th Grade English/Language Arts: 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!

7th Grade English/Language Arts: March brings us an adventurous research project! In a real-world research task, students will select an American city or state as a vacation destination and determine the best events, attractions, and activities of that location. Students will select and cite quality sources, develop note-taking and outlining skills, and learn effective public speaking strategies.



In 7th grade science, we are wrapping up our cells unit and moving on to photosynthesis. Students enjoyed using microscopes to learn about cells. Later in the year, we will be studying about *Man's Impact on the Environment*. Look for a Home Energy Survey to come home with your child, during the first week in March, that you can complete with your child. Our hope is that this survey will help your child become more aware of the different ways energy is used in the home as well as ways to conserve it.

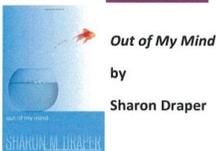
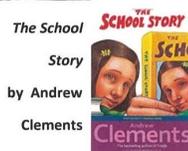
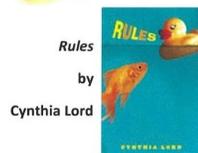
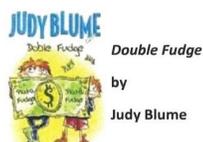


Home Energy Saving Tips

Replace burned out light bulbs with efficient light bulbs.
 Turn off the lights when you leave the room.
 Turn off computers, televisions, hand-held and gaming devices when they aren't being used.
 Unplug cell phone chargers when they are not in use.
 In the winter, turn down the thermostat at night or when you are not home.
 In the summer, open the windows in the evening instead of running the air conditioner.
 Open curtains in the winter to let the sun in.
 Close curtains in the summer to keep sun out.
 Use rechargeable batteries.
 Use energy-saving settings on your appliances.
 Purchase energy-saving appliances.
 Only run the washer, dryer and dishwasher when there is a full load.
 When possible, hang clothes outside to dry.
 Use a microwave or toaster oven for cooking small amounts of food.
 Turn the hot water heater down to 120 degrees Fahrenheit.
 Use a low-flow shower head.
 Take 5-minute showers.
 Repair leaky faucets.
 Make sure windows and doors are well sealed and there are no drafts.
 Replace old windows with double or triple pane windows.
 Make sure you have adequate insulation in the attic.
 Close the fireplace damper when there isn't a fire going.
 Check the furnace regularly to be sure it is working properly.

(Adapted from "Inspiring Change" lesson plan developed by Climate Change North)

MSMS Sixth Grade Battle of the Books



LMC News

The Library Media Center (LMC) is very excited about MARCH IS READING MONTH! Sixth graders will be competing in Battle of the Books (BOB). Students will work in teams to earn points and prizes -- all to inspire the joy of reading. Points are earned for designing a team poster, reading books, completing quizzes, returning a parent letter, and more. The "battles" will take place on April 11th and 14th. Parents are invited to attend the final "battle" on April 14th beginning at 8:00am. Parents, please encourage your student's reading efforts and sign the letter before March 8th.

Seventh and eighth grade students are also celebrating MARCH IS READING MONTH with a fun calendar of activities. Students can complete these activities in any order. When activities are completed, students should get them initialed by their English teachers or Ms. Hansen and Mrs. Mann in the LMC. Completed activities earn sweet treats, and every five activities completed earns an entry in a drawing for a \$10 book from our Scholastic Book Fair in April.

Ask your middle schooler what they are reading. Find out how their team is doing in BOB. Discover what activities have been completed on the March calendar. Let's share our enthusiasm for MARCH IS READING MONTH!!



ATTITUDE

“The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than success, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill.

It will make or break a company, a church, or a home. The remarkable thing is that we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day.

We cannot change the past, we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is plan on the one thing that we have, and that is our attitude.” - Charles Swindoll

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