

Cougar Tracks

CMS Online Parent & Student Newsletter

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CMS Football

Cougar Football is underway. Come out and support the Cougars. Thanks to all that has supported us through our fundraisers. We still have Football T-Shirts for \$12.00. On Sept 5 all three teams will host Tomlinson at Cameron with a 4:15 Kick Off. Sept. 12 the Cougars will take on Eisenhower at Cameron. Sept. 19 the 7th and 8th grade teams will travel to Altus for a 5:00 Kick Off. On Sept. 21 the 6th Grade Cougars will be at Tomlinson at 4:15. Then on Sept 28 all three teams will play MacArthur at Cameron for a 4:15 kick off.

CMS School Year Off to a Fantastic Start

From the Principal's Desk

We have had a fantastic start to school! Our focus has been on student procedures and engagement. We strive to make every minute productive. Overall the students have really been doing well. Dress code has been going great this year as well. Thank you very much for helping make this a great start to the school year.

I would like to remind you about the importance of student attendance. Regular attendance at school is vital to help children achieve and get the best possible start in life.

Please remember that absences are verified by a doctor's note, funeral, or court appearance. Any absence not verified (even if you call in) will go toward his/her absence count. A

student who has more than 10 unverified absences per semester can cause him/her to not get credit for that semester. CMS will work with you to help your child be successful at school. By making your



child's school attendance a priority, you will be taking an important step in supporting your child's school success, and setting a good example. Remember every day counts!

At enrollment you should have received a link to Campus Portal. This log in allows you to see your student's grades and attendance. It is a great tool to keep informed about the daily progress your child is making. If you did not receive a Campus Portal, please call or come by the school to get one.

Thank you for all you do for your students and to support CMS. Please call or come by with any questions or just to see how your child is doing. CMS wants to be a team with parents to help every child succeed and grow into a responsible, career-bound citizen.

Sincerely,
Blake Thomas

Welcome From CMS Autism, MD and Mod Classes

Dear Parents and Students, The Autism, MD and Mild/Mod classes would like to take this opportunity to welcome new faces to Central Middle School and say "hi" to old friends.

We look forward to an exciting

new school year working with your students. The coming year is filled with an abundance of promise and new ideas.

Throughout the year our students will be participat-

ing in many activities. We will keep you informed on what event is occurring and when.

Have a great year!
Mrs. Brinsfield, Mrs. Owens and Mrs. Sparks

8th Grade Avengers off to a Spectacular Start

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year!! The eighth grade Team Avengers has gotten off to a spectacular start in the 8th grade hall. In English class we started the year working collaboratively to create a positive mindset within the classroom. Currently we are deconstructing writing prompts and creating strong introductory paragraphs. I am looking forward to a fast paced and productive year with a wonderful group of students.

In math, we started off strong. We took the STAR math test last week, and I was very satisfied with the average of that test. The first week was used to review old standards, and procedures. We began the 8th grade curriculum with rational and irrational numbers. We will be taking our first quiz real soon. Please make sure your child has brought in their composition notebooks. We will use them daily for

notes and foldables. Also, if you haven't seen the team procedures or math syllabus, ask your child for them. They were both supposed to be signed and returned. I can't wait to see what this year has in store.



In reading, we have been working on classroom procedures for the first week of school. Currently we are working on spotting and correcting inappropriate shifts in verb tense. We will also be working on irregular verbs in the past tense. Ending the month of September we will be working on verbals (gerunds, infinitives, and participles) and their uses in sentences.

In United States history the students are starting with the French and Indian War, we will discuss how it's strains relationships with the colonist as well as how it places Britain in debt. Throughout the month of September we will be focusing on taxation, unification, and ultimately the lead up to the American Revolution.

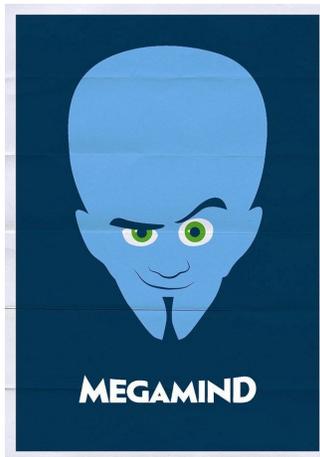
In Science the kids had a great time experiencing a solar eclipse on Monday Aug 21st. With the solar eclipse viewing glasses they were able to see the eclipse in its splendor. Currently we're learning about SI units and we will do a lab where the kids will get to use what we have learned by measuring different items using several different tools. Looking forward we will delve into the scientific method and perform our own experiment.

8th Grade Megamind Begins with Writing Prompts, Basic Methods and More

In Language Arts on team Megamind, we are teaching students how to plan out and write an essay. We're currently teaching them how to break down a writing prompt so that they know what to write about and reviewing the rules for using commas and when to capitalize.

We'll be moving on to how to plan out an essay and identify evidence as you read next week, and from there begin practicing how to properly cite evidence and use it to demonstrate what you're writing about in the body paragraphs of an essay.

We'll also be covering basic methods



of conducting research, in addition to

how and when to use colons, semicolons, apostrophes and quotation marks.

We're hoping to be have premade assignments in USA Test Prep within the next two weeks so that they can practice skills at home.

Science is doing the basics this month. Parents and students should sign up for Remind! All classes text to: 81010 and message: @7cmsford. Honors need to text to: 81010 and message @7cmshonors.

In History we are studying The American Revolution as we begin our course on US History to 1877.

CMS Strings Orchestra Hard at Work

Congratulations are in order for the CMS Strings Orchestra Department students' hard work.

8th graders Zaedriion McCray and Joyce Ronspez auditioned for the 2017-18 Community Lawton Youth Orchestra and won seats.



Also, all CMS 8th grade strings students are working on 6 pieces to play blind auditions at the end of September for the All-Region Honors Strings Clinic to be held for 2 days in October. —Cheryl

6th Grade Justice League Productive in all Content Areas



Mrs. Pool's World Studies classes have learned the answer to the question "what is geography?". We've learned how geography impacts our day to day lives. Starting next week, we will begin reviewing the oceans and continents.

In Mr. Mietchen's Science classes, we are wrapping up our study of the scientific method. Next, we will begin creating experimental designs as we prepare for the fun activities we will be moving on to later on in the year.

Ms. Floyd's theme in her Language Arts classroom is social networks. All of her students

have already created a "Facebook profile" for her wall. As we start thinking about writing narratives in the weeks come, students will add a "photo" to the Instagram wall. We will be reviewing verb tenses and parts of speech throughout these next few weeks as well. The students will also be creating their "LinkedIn profiles," which will primarily indicate what career path they are interested in at the moment. This will help students to be reminded of their goals anytime they come in the classroom.

Mrs. Morlett's Reading classes have begun the year by completing their initial STAR and ReadingPlus assessments. Please encourage your child to complete at least three ReadingPlus lessons per week. Some weeks we will not be able to complete these

at home, so students should try to do some at home if possible. More than three lessons per week is okay too! We will finish up working on some of our vocabulary skills before taking our first LPS interim assessment the last week of September.

In Ms. Long's Math classes, we are working on identifying integers as well as comparing and ordering integers. Homework is assigned Tuesdays and Thursdays. Book orders are due September 5th.

Please bring in a check or money order made out to Scholastic Book Club or order online using code 2B1BP at www.scholastic.com/bookclubs.

7th Grade Team Defenders

Team Defenders: Geography: Geography skills; Starting the book *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*

ELA: Honors: Ag in the classroom – seed bombs and watermelon tasting; Benchmark testing

Reading: Benchmark testing

Math: Order of operations; Rational and irrational numbers; Benchmarks

Science: Pneomoultramicroscopicilicovolancoconiosis

The 7th Grade X-Men

The X-Men are extremely excited to be back at school, and we are preparing to be exemplary students this year!

In Language Arts, we have been working on setting goals for the school year, writing an essay, and practicing grammar. We will continue working on nouns, verbs, subjects, sentences and clauses during the next few weeks.

Mrs. Anderson's Reading class has been review procedures and expectations and has written a class creed. We have been learning Greek and Latin root words and will be exploring story elements, like plot, setting, and character in the near future. We have gotten most of our initial testing completed and are looking forward practicing our reading skills.

Our Science classes are discussing solar eclipses and the cause and effects of Hurricane Harvey. Mr. Mithlo's Geography classes have started the school year reviewing the 5 Themes of Geography, introducing the Eastern Hemisphere, the tools of a geographer, and map types. In September, we will look at natural disasters, climate regions, and religions.

In Math, we have been busy taking a pre-test and STAR test. We have also been practicing operations with integers. Next week, we will be starting on order of operations and using the ever-popular PEMDAS/order of operation rules.

6th Grade Guardians of the Galaxy off to a Stellar Start



Team Guardians of the Galaxy are off to a stellar start. Locker combinations, schedules, and lunch procedures have been mastered.

Ms. Claborn's reading class has been refining dictionary, thesaurus, and glossary skills. Next, will be prefixes, suffixes, and root words. They have also been busy taking initial assessments in Star and Reading Plus. Some students still need to bring a composition note-

book, colored pencils, and colored pens.

In Mr. Anderson's geography class, The Guardians of the Galaxy geography students will be learning the parts of a map, how to measure distance on a map, and using latitude and longitude to locate places on a map.

Ms. Pennington's math class are completing integers and will begin activities with plotting. Starting next week we will be covering adding and subtracting integers. We will then have a unit test over these items. I am very excited about how well students have done with each item we have covered so far!

This week the young scien-

tists in Mrs. Ervin's class have been diligently working on the scientific method and experimental design. We will begin applying what we have learned to experiments. First up, does the weight of the paper affect the distance it will fly? Results to come!

In Ms. Miller's ELA class it has been all about verbs and verb tense. We will be taking our CFA on verbs soon. We are also looking forward to our first library day. Students will be assigned a book project and their creativity will be encouraged. More details will be sent home with students. Most students have brought one composition notebook, but we need two. A 3 prong folder is also required for writing. Please send these as soon as you can.

What Is Your Child's Learning Style?

If your child constantly squirms and fidgets when he's doing math homework or insists on listening to music while studying vocabulary words, take heart. Although it may seem like he's trying to drive you crazy, he's probably just using the strategies that help him learn.

"I like to study at a desk in silence, and my daughter can't think that way. She likes to bounce around on a ball with music in the background," says author Maureen McKay, whose website, *Optimistic Outcomes*, provides tips for parents based on a child's learning style. "Sometimes kids are just doing what works for them."

Educators have long been aware that learning is not one-size-fits-all. In a typical classroom, some kids process information best by hearing the teacher explain it, some learn by seeing what's on the chalkboard, and others learn through hands-on exercises. Colleges have increasingly begun teaching new students about learning styles so they can develop effective study habits. And many primary and secondary schools conduct surveys to give teachers insight into the learning styles of their students. Three basic learning styles are **auditory**, **kinesthetic**, and **visual**.

Auditory learners prefer listening to explanations over reading them and may like to study by reciting information aloud. This type of learner may want to have background music while studying, or they may be distracted by noises and need a quiet space to study.

Kinesthetic learners learn by doing and touching. They may have trouble sitting still while studying, and they are better able to understand information by writing it down or doing hands-on activities.

Visual learners process new information by reading, looking at graphics, or watching a demonstration. Children with this learning style can grasp information presented in a chart or graph, but they may grow impatient listening to an explanation.

Most people use a combination of styles but have a clear preference for one.

Understanding your child's learning style can reduce homework frustrations and make it easier for families to communicate, says McKay. She observed different learning styles while working as a teach-

er's aide, and she started researching strategies for working with different learning styles when her daughter began having trouble in elementary school.

Because her daughter had difficulty listening in class, McKay looked for exercises to strengthen listening skills. Her daughter especially enjoyed one approach, listening to an audio book and reading the book at the same time. She's now doing well in middle school, and McKay attributes her success in part to the fact that her teachers and parents came to understand her unique style of learning.

Once you know your child's primary learning style, it's a good idea to let his teacher know what kind of approaches help him learn best. "I find that educators are much more willing to work with you if you're giving them ideas that work for your child," McKay says. "The great thing is that the things that benefit your child are really going to benefit all the kids, so you're not asking for the moon."

Although it may be tempting to stick with what works, keep in mind that a child's preferred learning style may change as she grows and that people who can learn in a variety of ways can more readily absorb information. McKay advises parents to help their children practice using different kinds of skills.

"Really well-balanced students will be able to be comfortable learning in all ways. Knowing that and working on that when they're young gives them a competitive edge," she says.

Parents can use a variety of approaches to help kids learn math facts, for example. When a kid gets bored with flash cards, a visual and auditory strategy, McKay suggests letting him play a family board game that uses two dice and asking him to count how many spaces each player should advance. This is a more kinesthetic approach but may also appeal to visual and auditory learners.

"Being able to tap in to different styles allows you a lot of novelty and adds a lot of fun to homework and chores and interactions at home," McKay explains. For example, if a child resists studying her spelling words, you can ask her to spell the words on a table using Scrabble tiles. Being aware of your child's learning style can reduce homework battles and strengthen parent-child relationships. "It's

very empowering for families to really understand each other and how they learn and how they think to work out problems," McKay says. "This kind of involvement is a great way to bond with your kids and to impart knowledge, and it's really fun."

Homework Tips for Each Learning Style

Auditory learners are typically good at absorbing information from spoken words. Strategies that work well for auditory learners include:

- Talking to themselves or with others about what they're learning
- Reciting important information aloud, perhaps recording it and playing it back
- Reading a book and listening to the audio book at the same time
- Using word associations
- Setting information to a tune and singing it to help remember it
- Limiting distracting noises

Kinesthetic learners prefer to be active while studying and may not be able to focus while sitting still. Strategies for kinesthetic learners include:

- Reading aloud and tracking words on a page with a finger
- Writing things down multiple times to commit them to memory
- Highlighting and underlining
- Playing with a stress ball or toy while studying
- Moving around or taking frequent breaks
- Doing hands-on activities, such as building models or playing games

Visual learners benefit from seeing information on a chalkboard or in an illustration and may grow impatient listening for long periods of time. Strategies for visual learners include:

- Using flash cards
- Studying charts, tables, and maps
- Drawing illustrations
- Writing things down and reviewing notes
- Highlighting and underlining
- Color-coding information

Excerpt from: Schoolfamily.com

CMS Is A Successful Title I School

2016 A-F School Report Card

Parents are encouraged to access the Lawton Public Schools Website and view our 2016 School A-F Report Cards. The Lawton School Report Cards are available at the following website address:

<http://afreportcards.ok.gov/>

If you do not have internet access at your home, you may request a copy of the school report card at the principal's office.



THE FCA VALUES

It's time for Fellowship of Christian Athletes Rally!

First Baptist East Bunker
Saturday September 30,
10 am–1 pm

A great time of food, fun, games and fellowship rally. For all 6-8 grade students who attend middle school.

Invite Your Friends!

CMS 'Superheroes' Thematic Instruction 2017-18

Each school year, CMS adopts a thematic instructional unit which the faculty uses to incorporate and enhance student curriculum. Thematic instruction is the organization of a curriculum around macro "themes" that integrates basic disciplines like reading, math, science, and social studies with the exploration of a broad subject. Thematic instruction encourages student interest and demonstrates the interdisciplinary nature of learning.

CMS Online Parent & Student Newsletter

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Central Middle School
Develops Tomorrow's
Leaders.



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Pink Out Day Shirts Available



CMS Pink Out Cancer shirt sales will be Sept 5-15. If you would like to purchase this year's Pink Out shirt, order forms will

be in main office, or see Mrs. Chao. Pink out day is October 3rd. Let's pink out!

How Will Math Look In Your Child's Classroom?

Title I Math Suggestions

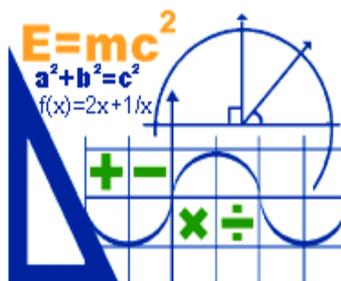
As a result of the recent effort in mathematics teaching to include understanding in the teaching of math, from basic through advanced levels, the picture of your child's math class may, indeed, look different from what you remember when you were in school. For instance:

Children will be expected to know their math facts: Children will be learning their math facts with an understanding of how facts relate to each other.

Children will be doing more than arithmetic: Children will be seeing that math is much more than arithmetic (knowing the facts and number operations); it involves estimation, geometry, probability, statistics, and more.

Children will be striving to achieve high goals: Children will be achieving high stand-

ards of understanding, complexity, and accuracy set for



them by their parents, teachers, schools, and states.

Children will be actively involved in the study of mathematics: Children will be doing tasks that involve investigations. They will be talking and writing explanations for their thinking.

Children will be working with one another: Children will be collaborating to make discoveries, draw conclusions, and discuss math.

Children will be evaluated in a variety of ways: Teachers will use many different ways to determine if children know and understand math concepts. Some of these will include writing samples, projects, or written tests. Not all evaluation will be the same for every classroom or every child.

Children will be using calculators to solve problems: They will be using calculators not as crutches but as tools to solve more complex problems with bigger numbers than they could do otherwise. Children with good knowledge of math facts, number sense, and reasoning about math will be able to use the calculator most effectively.

Children will be using computers: They will be developing databases, spreadsheets and computer graphics, while solving problems.



CMS Collects Box Tops
for Education



Simply bring your box
tops to the library