

SCOT TIMES

The MacArthur Middle School Newsletter

www.lilmac.org

Volume 36, Issue 2

Oct. 2016

Upcoming Events:

Oct 11— 6th Football vs. EMS, 7th & 8th Football vs. Duncan; 6th Grade GT

Oct. 12 — 8th Grade GT

Oct. 14—No School

Oct. 17-18 — Parent Teacher Conferences

Oct. 17-19 — Red Ribbon Week.

Oct. 18 — 7th Grade GT

Oct. 20-24 — Fall

Break—No School

Oct. 27-29 — All-Region Orchestra

Oct. 27-Nov 4 — Book Fair.

Nov. 1 — Picture Retakes; Special Olympics

Nov. 2— Military Students Bring Your Parents to Lunch Day

Nov. 3-4 — 8th Grade Great Plains Technology Center Tech-Know Zone

Nov. 5 — Band All-Region

Nov. 7 — Basketball vs. TMS

Nov. 8 — Basketball vs. CMS

Nov. 10 — Veteran's Day Assembly; Basketball vs. Duncan

Nov. 11—Veterans Day—No School

This Issue:

Page 1 — Calendar, Principal's welcome message

Page 2 — Team updates & announcements.

Page 3 — Team updates & announcements.

Page 4 — Feature: "How to Pick a Great Book"



MMS students and faculty cheer on the fall athletic teams at our annual pep rally in September. The enthusiasm shown by the 8th graders at the pep rally brought the spirit stick back to their hallway for the school year.

Great times ahead at Mac

MMS Community!

What a great time to be a "Scot!" It is hard to believe that we are into the fall season. The beginning of the school year has been fast and filled with academic and athletic opportunities. The month of October will continue the pace as it is filled with activities.

On tap is our Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences! Conferences will be on Monday, October 17th and Tuesday, October 18th. I encourage you to schedule an opportunity to visit with your child's teachers. The conference times will be from 4:00 – 7:00 P.M. on both days. Please call the main office to schedule your appointment.

Red Ribbon Week will be held the week of October 17th – 19th. This is a time we

focus on sharing the importance of living a life style free of drugs. The end of that week, we will begin Fall Break on Thursday, October 20th and the students will return to school on Tuesday, October 24th.

We are so pleased to have such a great start to the school year! I appreciate the parental support and understanding as we work to ensure all students receive the best education we can offer!

MacArthur Middle School is a school of excellence!

Sincerely,

Regina Lambert

Principal



7th Grade Encourages More Reading

We are currently reading short stories out of our textbook to lay the foundation for reading novels this year. Ask your child about plot mapping, making connection charts, foreshadowing, and using the dictionary.

These are just a few of the skills we have been reviewing and expanding on in 7th grade reading classes during these first couple of months after returning to school. Please encourage your child to read at least 20-30 minutes every day. Better yet, choose a book and read with your child – you could even read a chapter or two independently, silently and then discuss what you just read. You could even make a ‘family reading night’ once a week.

These are just a couple of ways to get your child expanding their ‘independent reading time.’

**PARENTS
AND
STUDENTS:
PICTURE RE-
TAKES WILL
BE ON TUES.,
NOV. 1**



**More information, including
ordering info, will be sent home
to affected students this month.**

Fall Greetings from the Sixth Grade Faculty

Happy fall, Scot Family!

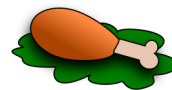
With cooler weather hopefully upon us, the sixth grade team is proud to report that our students are performing marvelously both inside and outside the classroom.

We continue to receive compliments regarding this year's students, and we aim to keep things in tip-top condition throughout the year. We'd like to thank the students and parents for continuing to make this such a successful year!

We have only a few brief reminders. First, parents, please make sure that your child is properly supplied for all of his or her classes. We've had a few problems with students habitually arriving with nothing to write with or on, and we want to nip that problem in the bud. Finally, progress reports are set to go out soon, and the sixth grade is requiring they be signed and returned to the first hour teacher who handed them out.

Thanks for all your support, and have a wonderful October!

MacArthur Middle is in need of part time cooks & cashiers! If you are interested, please contact the school or visit www.lawtonps.org.



Find us on



Click on the Facebook logo or visit
www.facebook.com/homeofthescots to Like our
official MacArthur Middle School Facebook page.
[This is the only school-approved page!](#)

You can now pre-order your yearbook! Yearbooks are \$40 — Pre-ordering is the only way to guarantee you get a yearbook. Click “Buy A Yearbook” banner below to order online!



Don't let the memories
FADE AWAY



8th grade Top Gun team announce top Sept. students

The TOP GUN instructors have nominated the following students for their diligent and tenacious work ethic for the month of September. Jerry Holman, Kenna Weber, Alexis Alvarez, Quincy Mask, Zenya Armstrong, Ameara Whitley, Delfina Teigata, Samuel Alexander, Jordan Fudge, and Danae Young.

It's also time for the annual Bedlam shirt fundraiser! Eighth grade students and teachers will be selling OU and OSU Bedlam T-Shirts starting at \$17. Have your student get ordering information from his or her teacher.

GIFTED & TALENTED

The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) was administered between August 22nd and September 9th. The CogAT is a tool used by LPS to identify students for the Gifted and Talented Program. Notification letters were given to students at the end of the day on Friday, October 2nd. Gifted and Talented will begin having meetings in Mrs. Crawford's room 15, the week of October 10th. Specific grade level dates and times will be given during ScotTalk.

If your child was previously identified by Lawton Public Schools, as Gifted and Talented, he/she is still identified as GT. Please encourage your student to attend these meetings.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Crawford at 580-353-5111

MILITARY PARENTS/ GUARDIANS

Thank you to all our military parents/guardians who were able to attend our first invitation to come eat lunch with your student and meet the Military Family Life Counselor (MFLC). We were excited to have 15 parents able to attend. We look forward to meeting more parents at our next lunch.

The MFLC so appreciated meeting everyone and getting ideas about future activities for the students and information about the best way to reach the parents to share information. If you were not able to attend please contact the MFLC during school hours at (580) 574-7972. She would love to meet all the parents and is available to offer support and be of assistance any way she can.

Please look forward to more information on our military wall, in the school newsletter, on Facebook, and on the school website; more lunches with your students; and activities for your students to participate in at school.

News from DI Team

It has been a very busy and productive year for the direct instruction team. All classes are working hard with a special focus on reading and math skills!

The 8th grade science classes are studying biomes. They are learning that there are 7 main ones and will begin doing a project over one of them. The student will chose one and then recreate it using pictures, drawings, or things brought from home.

The 7th grade science class worked on a project to promote teamwork. They had to create a tall tower that would support a golf ball for 2 minutes with a set amount of supplies. I am happy to report that both teams were successful in this venture. They are now studying about chemical and physical properties and their changes.

The reading classes are working on their dictionary, thesaurus, almanac, and glossary skills. The students are also learning how to infer the different meanings of words using context clues.

From the world of math:

Eighth grade students have been working hard with scientific notation, rational and irrational numbers. Sixth and seventh graders have been busy with percents, decimals, fractions, and the many different ways to represent the same value. This is a lifelong skill that will serve them well.

We took a field trip to Guthrie Friday, September 23. This is our first field trip ever!! We went to the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation with over 120 hands on activities. There were so many things to do, it was hard for everyone to choose! Look for pictures in the next article.

Thank you for all of your support!

8th Grade Families: RECOGNITION ADS ARE BACK!

Our yearbook will be bringing back Recognition Ads for the 2017 Yearbook! If you are interested in purchasing a dedicated page or a section of a page for your student, please contact elijah.morlett@lawtonps.org as soon as possible for ordering details, payment plans, and to reserve a space! Community organizations and businesses can also sponsor pages for school groups and teams, and businesses can also purchase ads to support our yearbook students and program!

This year's pricing is:

1/4 Page — \$70

1/2 Page — \$125

Full Page — \$250*

*Full page ads include a free personalized yearbook!

How to Pick a Great Book

Reading is a good way to discover the next big thing and to learn a little more about yourself while you're at it. But while you may know how to find the best app for your phone, do you know how to pick a book you'll really like? Here are some tips.

Start With Your Interests

Reading on your own isn't like reading for school (even though you'll probably end up loving some of the books you read for school and want to read more by those authors). You can pick something that's all about your interests, whether it's ancient martial arts, computers, or fashion design. You name it, there are bound to be books about it.

What's Your "Type"?

Do you prefer fiction or nonfiction (or both)?

Fiction books like novels or short-story collections can transport you to another world or help you imagine something beyond your own experience.

Not all fiction is the same — maybe you like the classics, fantasy or sci-fi, mystery novels, or ghost stories. Maybe historical fiction is more your thing. Try a range of types of fiction and see what you prefer.

Nonfiction books give you the who, what, when, and why of something. They tell stories using facts —but that doesn't mean they're dull. Nonfiction books can bring to life the eruption of Mount St. Helens in Washington or help you see inside a Chinese dynasty.

Many of them read like novels from start to finish.

Take a Hybrid out for a Spin

Maybe you want to try a "graphic book," which can be either fact or fiction, and is written with text and images, similar to a comic. There are a lot of great graphic novels, from *Maus* to *Persepolis*.

Read the "Blurbs"

The reviews and quotes on the back and inside covers of many books are called "blurbs." They give you an idea of what the book is about, but can also help you pick future books too. If you find a book you really like, take a minute to read the quotes (if there are any) and see which authors praised the book. Often, they'll have similar styles and you might find you like books by those authors too.

Do you have an ereader? You can download free samples (usually the first chapter) of ebooks that look interesting before you buy or borrow one.

Find a Family Favorite

What was your mother's favorite book when she was your age or your dad's? How about a sibling's? Find out and give it a read — then you can share your thoughts about the book. After all, what better way to connect with that cousin you only see in the summer than trading reading recommendations and discussing your reactions?

Join the Club — Online or In Person

Get your friends together and swap recommendations of authors, prose styles, and story types. Most social networking sites also have book-club sections. Join a group with your friends and people you trust (avoiding sharing personal information with people you don't know, of course).

Ask an Expert

Your local library can hook you up with a whole lot of great book ideas. Explain your interests — rock stars, sports teams, historical events, humor, whatever you're into — and any writers you like, and your librarian can point you toward books that you'll love.

Finally, you'll probably enjoy what you're reading a lot more if you find a quiet place and make time for the book. We all multitask, but most reading is best enjoyed when you can concentrate and focus on it. You can put on some good music (ideally without lyrics), get yourself some tea and a comfy spot, and let yourself be carried away by the book.

You'll see that time does fly when you're reading something you love!

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