

March
2019

WORTHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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WMS News

Hello WMS Families and Friends, Did you know that March is National Middle Level Education Month? We like to call it Middle School Month and it is a time to remind us how important it is to provide our middle school students with the support they need to succeed both academically and socially.

Middle school is the time when friends and activities begin to dominate your child's schedule, so finding the time to discuss their current work at school, and their plans for the future can be challenging. That conversation might have to take place as you drive them from one event to the next, so make them put away their phone, or their iPad, for those few quick minutes. Also, be sure to take full advantage of dinnertime if you are able to eat together. Parents need to put their phones away too and pay attention to those conversations. Sometimes all you need to do to show your support is be there. So go to their concerts and games, even if it is inconvenient. It may seem that they want their parents and siblings to just disappear, and sometimes it's best if we do...temporarily. However, they really do need family to be supportive and attending school functions, even if they do not always act like it. Whatever you do, make sure you celebrate their efforts.

There are a number of opportunities for you to celebrate your child this month:

March 1-Area Student Art Show opening at the Public Library (stays up all month)

March 8-Grades 6, 7, 8 Dance. Pick-up at 5:00!

March 11-Track first day of practice—weather permitting

March 15-WMS/WHS Jazz Night

at WMS

March 18-Baseball, Softball and Golf- first day of practice

March 23-5th Grade Dance. Pick-up at 5:00!

March 25-No School-THIS IS A DIGITAL SCHOOL DAY AT HOME ON THEIR IPADS. Be sure your child is taking part; this is making up for a snow day so we don't have to add days on to the end of the year.

Don't forget to check out the **Middle Years** newsletter, there are some great, short, articles. You can find it on our website, www.isd518.net/ms.

Mr. Luke

Spelling Bee

Congratulations to Dillon Maras (8th grade), Isaac Kinser (6th grade), and Thomas Anguiano (5th grade) for a job well done at the SWWC Regional Spelling Bee on February 5!

All three boys represented WMS well in a highly competitive round of the distinguished Scripps Spelling Bee which will culminate in May at the National Spelling Bee in Washington D.C. In the preliminary written round and first oral round of the Bee, Isaac tied for 6th place, Thomas tied for 2nd, and Dillon tied for 1st place! The top 17 spellers out of a total of 32 moved on to the final spell-down to determine the top four who will compete in the Multi-Region State Spelling Bee later in February. Dillon and Thomas were part of that final spell-down; Thomas earning 7th place overall and Dillon tying with three others for 8th place. This was Dillon's second year to compete in Redwood Falls at the SWWC Spelling Bee. Way to go gentlemen!



WMS held its annual 5th and 6th grade spelling bee on Friday, February 22. All twelve of our spellers did a stellar job and after an hour of intense competition, we determined our winners. **Austin Kinser** is our sixth place alternate, **Gilberto Lopez Martin** (5th Place), **Mary Dykema** (4th Place), **Mykala Phouangphet** (3rd Place), **Thomas Anguiano**, (2nd Place), and **Isaac Kinser** (1st Place!) There were some difficult words to spell during the bee. A few of those challenging words were ancillary, grandeur, noxious, pantomime, jettison, and prescient. Impressive! These six spellers will represent WMS at the SW MN Spelling Bee at Westbrook-Walnut Grove on April 6. Way to spell your way to s-u-c-c-e-s-s, students!

Bus Company

Please direct any questions you may have to Bud's Bus Service. You may contact them at 507-372-5552.



Media Center News

With all the snow days we have had remember to take an hour and READ! Here are some recommended titles:

Ghost by Jason Reynolds: Castle (Ghost) has been bullied by 2 people, Dad and Brandon Simmons. Ghost is one of the fastest runners and decides he wants to be a part of the team. Find out why Ghost runs as a way to solve his problems.

Terrible Two by Mac Barnett: Miles has to move to a new school! Can he still be the school prankster? Find out how Miles and his new friend take on the school bullies through pranking.

Codename Zero by Chris Rylander: Just as Carson is pulling one of his greatest pranks, some guy comes running up to him and hands him a box! Carson doesn't know it but this will become quite the adventure. Will he live through it all?

Fish in A Tree by Lynda Hunt: Ally wants to be like the other kids in her class. She especially wants to READ! If only the letters would stop moving all over the page. That's normal, right?

Fuzzy Mud by Louis Sachar: Tamaya and Marshall discover that Fuzzy Mudd can kill you! It is a worse fate than being bullied and the bully in this story discovers this first hand. The creator of the mud is like a MAD scientist. Will Tamaya and Chad live?



Student handbook is located on school website and also on your student's iPad! Please take a moment to read.

Regional History Bee:

Congratulations to the following students who have qualified to compete in the Regional History Bee! It will be held on Saturday, April 13 at the Wayzata Central Middle School in Plymouth, MN. **Thanks to ALL the students** who took the qualifying test!

5th Grade

Jayce Geertsema, Dylan Harms, Austin Kinser, Thet Tay, Kennedy Woodbury

6th Grade

Mechack Ndikubuntu, Lucy O'Donnell, Paulina Osorio Toj, Emanuel Saravia, Jacari Swinea

7th Grade

Thomas Bannor, Quinn Benz, Darwin Coronado Lopez, Ethan Mahlberg, Easton Newman, Mery Ramos, Ben Schreiber, Anthony Towns, Taylor Turbes

8th Grade:

Charles Brands, Ben Dykema, Tanner Gundermann, Tyler Jaycox, Lilly Mahlberg, Elizabeth Martinez Castro, Cooper McCoy, Juan David Rivera Hernandez





Music Corner

Music Corner for March 2019:

Greetings from the WMS music staff:

Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Andersen, Mrs. Jenson, and Mr. Paulsen- Thank you for sharing your students with us. We love watching and nurturing student creativity! Thank you parents and administration for your support of music in our schools!

Please mark your calendar with future MUSICAL EVENTS:

Monday, March 4- Augustana Jazz Festival for grade 7 and 8

Wednesday, March 6- Brandon Choir and Band Festival-Public Concert 2 PM Concert

Band students attending: Marco Ramos, Dillon Maras, Ezra Bonnett

Choir students attending: Grace McGaughey, Ethan Meyer, Guillermo Pacas Hernandez, Citlali Chavez Vega, Cassidy Madison, Vanessa Soto

Tuesday, March 12- 5th grade Band Solo/Ensemble Festival at WMS-3:15-6PM

Friday, March 15- WHS and WMS Jazz Night at WMS- 6:30 PM

Tuesday, April 15- 5-8 grade Band Concert at Memorial Auditorium

Tuesday, April 30- 4th grade instrument display at WMS 2:30-8PM

Thursday, Friday-May 2 & 3- WMS Choirs at Memorial Auditorium

Monday, May 13- All-School Orchestra Concert at WHS Gym- 7 PM

BECOME A MEMBER OF WAMBO: Worthington Area Music Booster Association.

This organization's board wants everyone to know this is just not for high school parents but open to ANY and ALL parents/grandparents. WAMBO strives to support music at all levels of the district.

New color guard uniforms.

One-day residency with The Copper Street Brass Quintet from Minneapolis, MN. This brass quintet worked with the band students and presented a free concert to the public.

String bass for the 5th grade orchestra.

New sousaphone for marching and practice.

We are always actively seeking new membership. Presently the yearly membership dues are \$20, which is similar to the athletic booster's organization. Monthly meetings are generally the 4th Monday of the month. We are also looking for members to serve in various board positions or to volunteer a few hours at musical events. For more information on how to become a member of WAMBO, see the Facebook page or speak with a music teacher.

Student handbook is located on school website and also on your student's iPad! Please take a moment to read.

5th Grade News

The end of the quarter is quickly approaching. Third quarter ends March 29. This is also the date the students need to be at their Accelerated Reading goal. Keep encouraging your child to read at home to reach their individual goal. Fifth graders are working hard to prepare for MCA testing this spring. They will be tested in reading, math, and science this year. All three subject areas will be tested in April. Look for more information to follow closer to testing dates.

8th Grade News:

Congratulations to the following 8th grade students who were chosen as Student of the Quarter for 2nd quarter. They go above and beyond the required work, have thorough answers when completing work, and are helpful to others in class. They were rewarded with a pizza party and a certificate.

Science: Root Gebremairam, Kate Robinson, Oscar Galvez Mendoza

Math: Arely Martinez Barajas, Abagotte Opiew, Alejandro Bernal

Global Studies: Marco Ramos, Aisha Zeidi

English: Erkinesh Bonnet, Elizabeth Martinez Castro

EL: Fikire Hayelom, Janai Dominguez Cervera

Music: Dillon Maras, Micah Tuesdell, Vanessa Soto

Tech: Dylan Markus, Moo Bleh

Computers: Triston Sauerbrei

PE: Miat Htoo, Abigail Reetz

FACS: Marisa Juarez Perez

AG: Grace McGaughey

Reading: Juan David Rivera Hernandez

Personal Development: Joseph Batres

Friday April 12- Eighth grade students will be going to Northwest Iowa Community College in Sheldon, Iowa for a career fair. Students have been looking at their academic and career goals this year and this event is an opportunity to explore potential careers. At the college, students will attend three break-out sessions where they will hear from people working in the profession they are interested in. There will be a keynote motivational speaker to wrap up the day.