

BULLDOG BEAT

2023

This issue

Principal's Message **P.1**

Assistant Principal's Message **P. 2**

Classroom Happenings K-5th Grades **P. 3- 8**

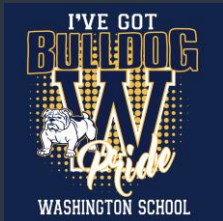
Resource and Support Staff **P. 9--16**

WJHS Classroom Happenings 6-8th Grades **P.17-20**

Important Dates to Remember:

- *Dec. 8 - School Improvement Day - ½ Day*
- *Dec. 25 - Jan. 5 Winter Break - No School*

Please see school calendar for District Policies



2020 STATE CHAMPIONS



As we are winding down toward the end of the first quarter, I am starting to reflect on the opening of this school year. We are off to a great start. We have completed a lot already. With that said, I'm not sure I take enough time to thank the biggest and most important parts of our students' lives...our Washington families. We appreciate all of you for working with us as a team. As a parent, I know raising children can be a difficult task. I know we try as hard as we can to do what's best for our children. We may make mistakes, but we give it our all. For that, I appreciate all of you and am proud to be working with such great families.

I've worked in the community now for 16 years. I have built many strong, life-long relationships with staff, students, and families. There are now students in the building who are siblings or children of students I have taught. I cannot help but feel a great sense of pride when I think about these bonds. I am proud of our Washington family and look forward to continuing the task at hand, which is helping our students grow up to be successful. A heartfelt, sincere thank you to all of you who do all you can for our Washington Bulldogs. Here's to you!

Washington School Vision Statement

The vision of Washington School is to provide each student a diverse education in a safe, supportive environment that promotes self-discipline, motivation, and excellence in learning.

Washington Staff Promise

The Washington School Family promises to join the parents and the community to assist the students in developing skills to become independent and self-sufficient adults who will succeed and contribute responsibly in a global society.

School Website:

<http://www.district148.net/washington/>

Parent Info Online @

<http://www.district148.net/parent.html>

Sign up and check students' grades online:



A Message From The Assistant Principal...



Greetings Washington Families,

In our busy world, our minds and bodies can get wrapped up in the hustle and bustle and may have a hard time slowing down. It is also easy to get stuck thinking about things from the past or in the future, while forgetting to focus on the here and now. We all start out with a healthy ambition to accomplish and grow our abilities. Sometimes along the way when things don't seem to come naturally to us, it is easy to give up. We can't! We need to think positively and persevere. Anyone who excels in their field has come upon hard times. They succeeded because they persevered and learned through experience. The children are our future. We are role models for them. Let us take this busy time of year to reflect and be prepared to hit the reset button starting January 1! We owe our children the gift of love, time, and the ability to persevere. Wishing you a happy holiday season. I hope you find time to do everything that is important to you and your family.

As children age through elementary school, and transition into middle school however, adolescence kicks in and limits our chances for deep conversation. It is important to build upon the natural acquisition of questioning in kids to sustain this foundation to learning. Try meeting your child's question with another in response: "Why do you think...?" Other question stems to use to stretch another's thinking are:

What caused...? Why...? What evidence do you have to prove...? What if...?

How does _____ compare to...? How do you know that...? How did ____ occur..?

Who knows, by engaging in this way of asking more deep-thinking questions of your child, maybe you will hear more than "Nothing happened in school today".

Sincerely,

Ms. Banks,
Assistant Principal

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten
Teachers...

Ms. Scott
Ms. Hines

Welcome to Kindergarten Families! Thank you for making sure your child is on time and at school every day! Attendance is a key ingredient to learning.

In English Language Arts, we will begin Unit 1 All About Me, our focus includes concepts of print, letter recognition and formation of Mm, Tt, Aa, Ss, Bb, Ii, Ff, and Hh, and rhyming. Also, we can develop skills to describe the relationships between illustrations and text. During Math, we will describe position, compare length and height, and sort and count objects. This quarter students will be required to write their first name, complete sorting activities, name positions, and be able to identify at least 25 high frequency (sight) words. In Science, we will begin discovery of the scientific process, define science, and understand how scientists work. During Social Studies, we will identify qualities about self and others.

Congratulations!

Class Ambassadors :

Jacob Weston (Scott) Calese Payne (Thorpe)

Student of the Month:

Sergio Madix (Scott) Ava Jefferson (Thorpe)

Parents should be connected to Dojo, connect home device to Dojo (if possible), turn in medical and dental forms, and library permission slips. As a suggestion, an extra set of clothing may be kept at school in the event of an emergency.

Love,

Ms. Scott and Ms. Grover





FIRST GRADE

Happy Holidays Families and Friends!

First graders should be able to compare characters, ask and answer questions about what they are reading, and identify the setting of the story as well as the main idea. The anchor text that we are reading is Who Eats What? In Language Arts, students are learning about questions and words that we use to ask questions. Math skills that are being taught are subtraction with number bonds and making subtraction sentences. Please continue to work with your child on these basic skills such as letter recognition, number recognition, sight words, counting to 100, and adding and subtracting within 20. We would like to congratulate the students of the month in first grade, Dionni Zimmerman (Mrs. Harris) and Armari Johnson (Dr. Merriweather).

Thank you for all that you do!

Mrs. Harris

Ms. Benedict

2nd Grade

Teachers...

Ms. Pennington

Ms. Robinson



"Education is not preparation of life; education is life itself." - John Dewey We have officially made it midway through the 2nd quarter of 2nd grade! In Reading, students have been working hard at improving their reading skills. We have begun studying consonant blends, words with silent e, describing connections using sequence and steps in a process. In Math, we have learned about one step word problems, bar and picture graphs, and are preparing to solve two step word problems. Students are becoming more tech savvy with i-Ready Reading and Math and using features such as the math tools to help solve problems. In science we have completed a unit on adaptations and are now learning about our following steps in a process to complete experiments. In social studies, we have been enjoying learning about democracy and the election process. We believe in our students and know that their success is a team effort. Let us continue to ensure that our scholars attend class each day and arrive on time. Attendance is mandatory and imperative. When tardy or absent, students miss whole and small group instruction, which addresses skills in which they specifically need as found in their beginning of the year assessment data. Check Class Dojo regularly for posted announcements in the Class Story and Messages. Read, read, read! Students are encouraged to read personal books, classroom weekly stories, e-books provided on capstone. Capstone e-books can be accessed at www.mycapstonelibrary.com. Username: washingtondrsd Password:read . Please refer to your child's Class Dojo page for information on accessing the other schools in the district's books. Practice reading sight words daily. Together we will continue to strive to make this school year an amazing one!

Respectfully,

Mrs. Anita Pennington and Ms. Bethsheba Robinson

3rd Grade

THIRD GRADE

Teachers...

Ms. Cain

Ms. Watkins



Greetings 3rd Grade Families!!

The first 4 months of school have flown by!! We have already learned so many new things and must keep going strong once we return from Winter Break! In Math, we have been working on multiplication and division. In Reading, we have been working on verbs, prefixes, describing characters. Upon return from our break, in Math we will start Unit 3, which involves using multiplication to find area, solve word problems and use graphs. In Reading, we will begin Unit 2, Ocean Survival, which includes recounting key details, determining main ideas, point of view and sequential order of ideas and events.

It is important that our students continue working on their reading skills during the break. Have your child try to read and/or be read to at least 20 mins a day. Choose different reading materials such as different books, magazines, and newspapers.

We wish you a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!!

Ms. Cain & Ms. Watkins

Students of the Month

Ms. Cain: Treasure Bridges

Ms. Watkins: Charles Brown



FOURTH GRADE

Hello Parents and Guardians!

Here's your monthly updates from 4th grade with updates on what we are working currently and what you can do to help them be successful. Please read to stay updated.

Our students of the month are:

Aliyat Amuda - Ms. Sheared

Jsean Jones – Mr. James

Congratulations to both students on being the student of the month. We look forward to EVERY student having the opportunity to become the student of the month.

Things we will be working on as a grade level this month are the following:

ELA: We are working with a reading curriculum called Magnetic Reading. We also have Spelling Connections, Vocabulary, and Grammar curriculum. There are spelling activities that go with each unit. Please support your child by quizzing them on the spelling words to help them become better spellers and writers. In Magnetic Reading we are learning about the Main idea and will be moving on to Determining Word meanings.

Science – We wrapped up our science projects in November and are practicing for our science fair being held on Dec. 6th. The science fair will be held in our elementary gym at 1pm.

Math: We are working on understanding division as it relates to multiplication. We will be moving onto Factors, prime and composite numbers. Long Division and multi digit multiplication.

Ways you can help:

Making sure your child is reading at least 20 min every night. It can be whatever they want that is age appropriate.

Making sure they are present, well rested and on time most of the time. Attendance most times has the greatest impact on their learning.

Helping them to learn to be responsible for keeping up with their classwork, homework, and supplies for school.

Please feel free to reach out with questions or concerns. We are here to help and support you as much as we can. We value you and your children.

Thank You,

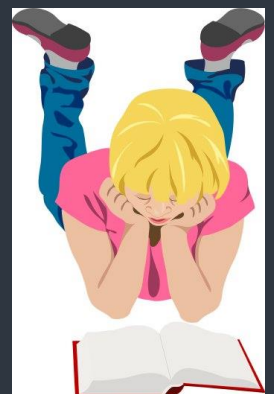
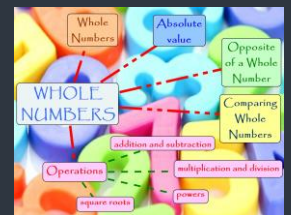
Ms. Sheared

Mr. James

4th Grade
Teachers...

Mrs. Sheared

Mr. James



FIFTH GRADE

Fifth Grade Students of the Month

Ms. Garrett-Amir Curry

Mr. Norris-TBA

Mr. Pletka-Decolby Brown

Fifth grade is getting into the swing of things. As the leaves fall and the cold weather sets in, we are hunkering down for some learning.

In Reading, 5G will determine main ideas and key details for the story "The Harlem Renaissance." We will also summarize the text called "The Arts of the People" and analyze the historical text called "Letters from the Dust Bowl." We encourage each student to read independently at home for at least 20 minutes a day to build skills in reading.

For Math, our classes have begun to study adding and subtracting fractions with and without common denominators. They will also start to learn about decimals: place value, reading, writing, adding, and subtracting. Students should go on the I-Ready Math website and do 20 minutes of practice each night on their Path.

Concerning Science, we will begin to learn how matter cycles through ecosystems as we make our own "Virtual Biomes."

In Social Studies, students are starting to study the history of Colonial America as we finish up our study of types of government. As you can see, we are keeping busy!

Finally, we would be remiss if we did not mention the Student of the Month. The qualifications for this honor are: 90% or higher attendance rate, no Fs, no discipline referrals, and a Grade Point Average of 2.0 or higher. Congratulations to the Students-of-the-Month for November.

Sincerely,

Ms. Garrett

Mr. Norris

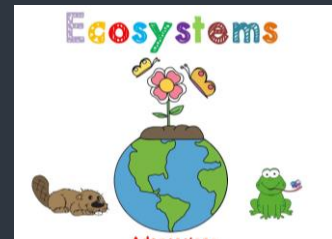
Mr. Pletka

5th Grade
Teachers...

Mr. Pletka

Mr. Norris

Ms. Garrett



**K-5 Music
Teacher...
Mr. Cheney**



**Elementary
Physical
Education
Teacher....**

Ms. Eaker



Elementary Music

Hello Families of Washington School:

Music classes in December are learning to read, sing, play, and listen to a variety of music, focusing on different concepts: Students in Kindergarten are developing their singing voices through learning and practicing simple songs and activities to build their sense of pitch.

First Grade students will learn about instrument families and audience etiquette.

Second grade classes are learning more complex songs with a focus on how they relate to the language of solfege (do, re, mi...) and identifying melodic direction.

Third grade students will listen to learn about voice types and vocal ranges.

Fourth grade classes are working on recognizing musical symbols and knowing how to react to them within written music, which will enable them to read and perform on melody instruments.

Fifth grade is continuing to learn about musical theater and opera through studying existing works and creating their own.

Mr. Cheney

Elementary Physical Education

Happy beginning of winter Washington families. During the month of December Kindergarten through 4th grade students will be practicing their basketball and scooter skills. They will practice ball skills of dribbling, passing, throwing, catching, and shooting and play fun lead up games such as scooter basketball, steal the bacon/chicken and knockout. As always stay safe, warm, healthy, and active in these cold weather conditions.

Janet Eaker

From The Desk of Support Services

The Support Teachers would like to thank the Elementary and Jr. High Parents who attended Parent/Teacher Conferences. It's always a pleasure meeting with you to discuss your child's academic performance for the first quarter. Together we can make a difference in your child(ren)'s education. Please encourage your child(ren) to put forth their best effort each and every day.

We are well into the second quarter. Please remind your students to read every evening. Reading regularly has proven to increase comprehension and fluency. If you need books, we have a book box by door 10 on the junior high side of Washington School. Please help yourselves to a book. The book is yours to keep, you do not need to return it. If you have any concerns, questions, or just want to chat, please feel free to call (708-201-2078) or email us. Enjoy your winter break!

Thank you,

Washington School Support Staff

- ~ Ms. Henderson
K-4 Special Education Teacher
hendersonk@district148.net
- ~ Ms. Weber
5-6 Special Education Teacher
weberk@district148.net
- ~ Ms. Whitehorn
7th Grade Special Education Teacher
whitehorns@district148.net
- ~ Mrs. Snedden
8th Grade Special Education Teacher
sneddenb@district148.net

Resource Team...

K-4th Grade Special Education:
Mrs. Cullen

5th -6th Grade Special Education:

Ms. Weber

Elementary Paraprofessional:

Ms. Basemore

7th Grade Special Education:

Serita Whitehorn

8th Grade Special Education:

Mrs. Snedden

Junior High Paraprofessional:
Mrs. Ragland



From the Desk of Ms. Mary Jo Konczal



The year is flying by, December is here already! Unfortunately, that means colder weather. Please make sure your child is dressed for the weather. This includes warm jackets, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, boots and/or umbrellas. Dressing for the weather can help your child stay healthy. Keep fighting the flu with frequent hand washing, cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing, eat healthy and get a good night sleep. It's not too late for the flu shot, discuss this with your physician.

During the break is a good time to make an appointment for needed dental, eye or medical visits. If your child will be entering kindergarten or sixth grade next year, it's not too early to start scheduling their doctor visits for required state physicals or immunizations. If you need forms, feel free to contact me at (708) 201-2078 extension 2397. I will send the form home with your child.

If you or an emergency contact for your child have had a change in phone numbers, please call the school to update the contact information. When your child is ill or if there is an emergency, correct phone numbers are very important.

Have a happy and healthy break! Enjoy time with your child! See you in the New Year!

Nurse K

School Nurse...

Ms. Mary Jo Konczal

RN

Health Office



From The Desk of the Social Workers

Socially Speaking.....From Your School Social Workers

Yes!! This year is almost over and a new one is about to begin. As you go forward, take some of the wonderful things from the past into the future and start some new ones. Remember to take care of yourself and your family, have fun and stay engaged with your children's learning, social-emotional development and with the school staff.

Some self-care ideas are exercise, have some quiet time, eat healthy, drink water, stay in touch with friends, engage in conversation, connect with nature, take care of your body, pamper yourself, enjoy music, smile, laugh, hope and dream.

Do not forget we are here to provide any assistance/support you and your child's(ren's) needs. If your child has experienced a difficult night, morning, or weekend, please let us know. We would like to handle your child with appropriate care.

Stay safe and let's stay socially connected.

"To often we underestimate the power of touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around." Leo Buscaglia

Ms. Newell – Washington Elementary School Social Worker newellt@district148.net

773.756.6724

Ms. Leach – Washington Junior High School Social Worker Workerleach@district148.net

773.756.6672

RESOURCE TEAM

**Social
Workers...**

**Elementary Social
Worker...**

Ms. Newell



**Junior High Social
Worker...**

Ms. Leach

homework

**Speech and
Language
Pathologist...**

Mrs. Megan Wall

MTSS Coordinators:

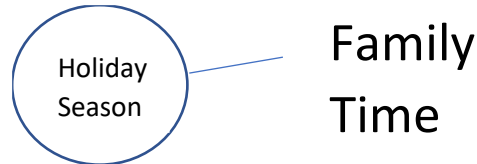
Ms. Seaton (JH)

Ms. Smith
(Elementary)

Fun With Words

As we begin the holiday season it is important that we remember that we can still make learning fun. Sitting around with family can be a very enjoyable experience, why not add a little word fun into the mix. Here are a few word games that you can play with your family and friends using the word phrases **Happy Holidays, Holiday Season or Winter Break.**

1. **Word Web:** Write the word or phrase on a piece of paper and draw a circle around it. Then write words that go with that word or phrase and use lines to connect them to the main word.



2. **Make-a-Word:** Write the word or phrase on a piece of paper then see how many smaller words you can make from that word or phrase. You can only use the letter as many times as it appears in the phrase.
3. **Acrostic Poem:** Use every letter of the phrase to write a poem that describes what you like to do with your family during this season.

No matter what you decide to do during this time, just have fun and keep learning!!

7 Thanksgiving Reading Activities

Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Here are some fun activities perfect for this holiday break. Some activities can be adjusted for kindergarteners versus older elementary-age children. Thanksgiving presents a timely opportunity to talk about gratitude, friendship, and why we give thanks.

Gratitude Writing Prompt

Have your child answer the question, "Today I am grateful for..." and draw a picture based on their response. When they are done, hang their picture on the fridge. This activity helps children practice writing sentences and develop a greater sense of gratitude. Grateful children are often happier and more compassionate. Since gratitude is a learned behavior, this Thanksgiving prompt is a fun way to practice being thankful daily!

Turkey Name Craft

Create a handmade turkey with feathers that spell the child's name! Make a Turkey body from a paper plate and construction paper. Cut out paper feathers and have the child draw one letter of their name on each feather. Attach the feathers to the paper plate to spell out their name. Kids can use this Thanksgiving craft to practice reading the letters one by one and writing their name.

Pin the Turkey Word Activity

Find the correct words to describe Thanksgiving! For this reading activity, you'll need to write words on paper feathers. Choose Thanksgiving-themed words like thanks, gratitude, food, pumpkin, turkey, table, corn, brown, and so on. Make sure to include some "wrong" words too like baseball, summer, purple, ocean, etc. Kids will read the words and select the appropriate words to describe Thanksgiving and the fall season. Then they'll pin the Turkey with their word feather.

Thanksgiving Word Scavenger Hunt

Find the hidden words, write them down, and decode the special Thanksgiving message! For this activity, you and your child will cut out paper turkeys. Then an adult will write different words on the turkeys and hide them around the house. On the count of three, the child will race to find the turkeys and write the words down. After finding them all, the child will sit down and try putting the words together in a sentence to discover the hidden message! Try a short sentence like: "I am grateful for my family" or "I am thankful for books."

Thanksgiving Dinner Menu Scramble

The Thanksgiving dinner menu is all jumbled! Can you put the dinner foods under their correct section? For this activity, kids can color their own menu template. Create sections, like there would be on a restaurant menu: Main Courses, Sides, Dessert. Cut out paper strips with lots of different foods such as green bean casserole, turkey, candied yams, macaroni and cheese, pumpkin pie, cornbread stuffing, mashed potatoes and so on. Kids will need to read the food and stick it to the right section on the menu. This is an interactive activity where children can pretend to host their own dinner party!

Elementary Safety Facilitator

Season's Greetings to my 148 Family! As the Elementary Safety Facilitator, I along with the K-5 instructors are encouraging our students to continue to strive for excellence during our I-Ready Middle of the Year (MOY) Assessment. In addition, we are challenging our students to participate with our Suite 360 weekly lessons and activities. The students are also encouraged to promote our PBIS 3 B's: Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe within their daily routines. Also, we are motivating our students to remain engaged within their classroom curriculum lessons. Our student's presence, support and participation are greatly appreciated! Also, I will continue to recognize and acknowledge the efforts of our Student of the Month and Highest-Class attendance via Class Dojo, certificates, and prizes. Next, the students will be participating in a PBIS Winter Celebration! I applaud their continuous perseverance! By modeling a Champion Mindset, it can lead to a positive outlook concerning our school, their peers, and their educational goals! **GO BULLDOGS!!!!**

Junior High Safety Facilitator

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caretakers!
The summer days have left us and now we have ventured into Autumn. With Parent-Teacher conferences, parents are afforded the opportunity to hear all the great things their babies have accomplished thus far academically and socially. Our PBIS celebrations continue to provide students with incentives and rewards for demonstrating excellent citizenship, attendance, and behavior. At Washington, we realize school should be a place of learning and fun. Therefore, we will strive to ensure the students are rewarded and recognized for their hard work and positive attitudes.

CARE Facilitator

Dear Bulldog Families,
This message is from Mr. Elias your CARE Facilitator here at Washington School. With the holiday season approaching we need to focus on the students' emotional needs as well as their academic needs. Students will be continuing their lessons every Monday during the month of December. We want everyone here at Washington to have a safe and healthy winter break.
Sincerely,
Mr. Elias/CARE Facilitator

Elementary Safety Facilitator...

Ms. Ballentine

Be the kind
of leader
that you
would
follow.



Junior High Safety Facilitator...

Mr. Hughes



CARE Facilitator Mr. Elias



Junior High Computer Teacher

Ms. Anderson



STOP
BULLYING
STAND UP. SPEAK OUT.

Junior High Computer Teacher



Coding with Scratch

For the next couple of months, in Computer Class 6th, 7th and 8th Grade students will be coding with Scratch, which is a block form of coding (computer programming). Writing code has become a crucial part of creating millions of products that our society uses daily. Code is the foundation for all computers, from the one in your cellphone to the one running a NASA satellite.

Why learn to code?

The benefits of learning to code can be surprisingly wide-ranging. Here are a few of the ways learning to code can benefit our students:

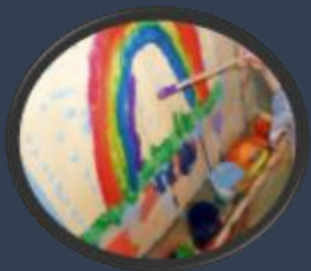
1. Coding and programming careers have great earning potential
2. Demand remains strong for coding-related jobs
3. Coding ability gives new perspective to problem-solving
4. Learning to code offers career flexibility
5. Learning to code can be a fun bonding opportunity for families

6th Grade Students: will be introduced to coding and learn the basics of coding with Scratch.

7th Grade Students: will have a refresher of coding and learn harder concepts of coding with Scratch.

8th Grade Students: will have refresher of coding and learn advance concepts of coding with Scratch.

Elementary
And
Junior High
Art
Teacher
Mr. Jones



Elementary and Junior High Art Teacher

Dear Parent:

Season's Greetings!!!

The excitement of the holidays offers so many ideas for creative expressions in the Art Class. During the past month of November our Junior High Students completed Watercolor paintings that featured Still Lifes of Tulips in a Vase (inspired by Paul Cezanne). Students first explored the pencil drawing of their composition and then had to use watercolor paints to add LIFE to their project. 3rd thru 5th completed various drawings and paintings of Sea Turtles. Kindergarten thru 2nd grades explored Harvest themes of pumpkins, apples, leaves and scarecrows.

But now for the month of December all classes will explore lessons under the umbrella of PORTRAIT MAKING. Using various mediums including crayons, markers, colored pencils, oil pastels, watercolor paints, paint stiks and tempera paints. Attempting to draw people is exciting and challenging. Most children enjoy creating their unique personalities on paper.

I hope all parents are signing up for Classdojo. Please check with your child's homeroom teacher on how to. It offers such a wonderful communication tool for teachers and parents. Also, I will be sending home in January a new PARENT ART LETTER to inform everyone my classroom expectations, art supplies list, etc.

Thank you and have a WONDERFUL HOLIDAY,

Mr. Milton Jones

6th GRADE

In Reading, we will be taking our Unit 2 Assessment. We will also take the middle of the year diagnostic test in I-ready.

In math this month students will engage in taking their 2nd diagnostic test in math. Also, in I-Ready math we will move into Unit 1 Lesson 4 where students will write, generate, and solve algebraic expressions.

In science, students will learn about bats and their interesting characteristics, such as how they adapt to survive. Students learn the adaptations, defense mechanisms, environmental impact of jellyfish and their use in scientific research.

In social studies, students will learn the traditions and cultures of different countries/regions from around the world. Students will be asked to share their traditions they have with their families as well prepare for Winter Break.

We are making great strides towards having a successful year. Please remember the importance of daily attendance. We do not want any of our students to fall behind, so it is vitally important they are in attendance every day. If your child will not be in attendance, please communicate with us.

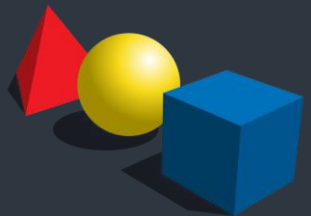
Ms. Reed, Mrs. Bolden-Winston, and Ms. Toney

6th Grade Teachers...

Ms. Reed

Ms. Toney

Mrs. Winston



SEVENTH GRADE

7th Grade Teachers...

Ms. Skinner

Mr. Wells

Ms. Ross



- In Mr. Wells class This month is an exciting time to be at Washington School! Our students are being challenged to think constructively and critically. We begin our day reciting our educational creed. Erudites commence developing their language and writing skills with a Daily Language bell ringer. Also, Suite 360 must be completed, which focuses on Socio-Emotional concepts and allows the students to become empowered in the decision-making areas of life. Then, it is time for an enrichment activity and/or peace circles, which further ameliorates the consciousness of our student population. Common Core subjects follow respectively in which students are guided in direct instruction with fidelity and care. Homework, projects, arts, and music provide the euphoric background of an enlightened academic experience. It's a wonderful life at WASHINGTON SCHOOL!
- Skinner's Scholars are embarking on an Exciting and rigorous learning program focused on raising Reading scores. This year I am challenging my scholars to push beyond the norm. The entire 7th grade team is determined to help them to succeed. All our lessons are data driven and strategically planned to hone skills that show where my scholars need support. During December, we will focus on key ideas in informational text and literature. This includes analyzing central ideas, analyzing story elements summarizing text, and citing textual evidence. In science we will be working on Earth Science and with our Flying class STEM program.
- In Ms. Ross's class we can't believe it's December already! We have been moving right along through the end of our first big unit. We've wrapped up the section on proportional relationships and will be focusing on math involving both negative and positive integers. We have begun preparing for our Unit test which will cover everything we've touched on so far this year. We're practicing good study habits and learning the best ways to take notes for each of us. We plan to pass this test with flying colors!

Junior High Physical Education

Dear Parents/Guardians;

The Washington Junior High Physical Education department would like to wish everyone a safe Winter Break. We encourage everyone to adopt an exercise program if you do not already have one.

Parents, classes resume on January 8, 2024, remember P.E. uniforms are Mandatory for 7th and 8th grade students. Please make sure that your student wears their Washington Junior High School P.E. uniform for class when they return from winter break. Five (5) non-dress days will result in a failing grade. If you have any questions, feel free to call Mrs. Blackful at (708)201-2078

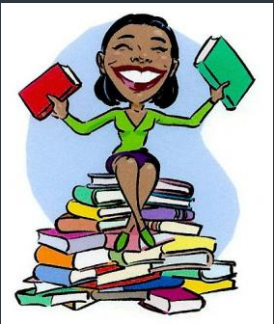


8th Grade Teachers...

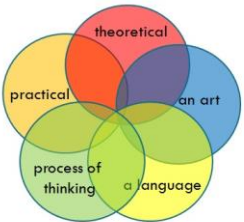
Ms. Gray

Ms. Weathersby

Ms. Matlock



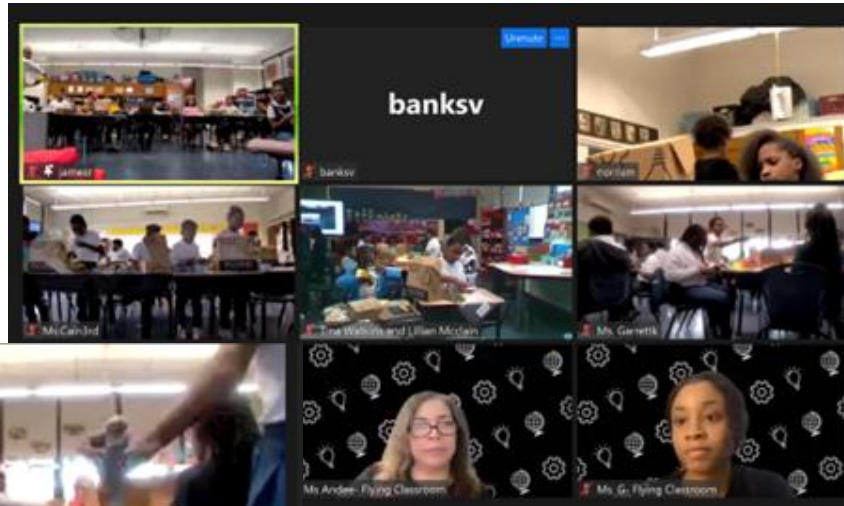
Mathematics is ...



- In Math, Ms. Weathersby's Wonderful 8th Grade Math Scholars are still struggling with the rigorous learning standards and higher expectations. However, we need to work TOGETHER to ensure our students are staying focused and working to the best of their ability. It is IMPERATIVE that students are not only completing their Teacher-Assigned Lessons and Homework but also, that they are completing assignments in their My Path Assignment Logs. I-Ready is a personalized instruction path that helps students fill prerequisite gaps and build up grade-level skills. I am working EXTREMELY HARD to catch students up; however, it's difficult when they are not trying to help themselves! Our 8th Grade Scholars will be working on Lessons 15 through 18 which focuses on Functions in Unit 4. Students know that the lessons we are working on in the book as well as videos are always available to them online on iReady. All assignments are posted on Teams and should be turned in on Teams for credit. There are many students who are not turning in assignments in a timely manner and it's not fair to myself to have to grade hundreds of assignments at the last minute before grades are posted! Please talk to your scholar about the importance of time management and turning in their assignments on time. If you should ever need to contact me, I can be reached by e-mail at weathersbyn@district148.net or on Class Dojo.

- Greetings and Happy Holidays!
I hope everyone is gearing up for a restful Winter Break surrounded by the warmth, joy, and laughter of family and friends! In 8th Grade ELA we will continue to keep the momentum going with our Ready Reading Curriculum, Grammar for Writing, and Vocabulary Workshop. In our Ready Workbooks, we have shifted from analyzing information text to identifying key ideas and details in literature. Students will home in on Common Core Reading Literature Standards by citing evidence to support inferences, analyzing dialogue and incidents in stories and drama, determining theme, and summarizing literary texts. Students will also explore writing effective sentences and using word choice. Quarter 2 ends quickly after our return from Winter Break, so as always parents, please be cognizant in checking your student's progress by logging into PowerSchool. Reach out if you have any questions or concerns. You may contact me by email or ClassDojo.
Maxine Gray, M.S.Ed, M.Ed
Graym@district148.net
ELA Teacher
Washington Jr. High

FUN TIMES HAPPENING AT WJH



December



2023

WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
					Noon Dismissal SIP DAY	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Winter Break NO SCHOOL	Winter Break NO SCHOOL	Winter Break NO SCHOOL	Winter Break NO SCHOOL	Winter Break NO SCHOOL	
31						