

BULLDOG BEAT

March 2024

Important Dates to Remember:

- *Mar. 1 - School Improvement Day - ½ Day*
- *Mar. 4 - Casimir Pulaski Day - No School*
- *Mar. 29 - Apr. 5 Spring Break - No School*

Please see school calendar for District Policies



2020 STATE CHAMPIONS



This issue

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Just as we've seen the tease of Spring showing itself, giving us a little false sense that Winter is over, the same is true about the school year. The hard work is not over, and we all need to push through this tough part of the year. This is true for students, teachers, staff and families. Just as we've done throughout, we can lean on each other and work together to keep our students progressing.

Starting in March, we will begin our Illinois Assessment of Readiness, or IAR. This is the state of Illinois' standardized test that all public-school students in grades 3-12 complete. Much like any of the testing we do, this will provide us with valuable data about the school, each grade level, classroom, and individual student. It is also a large portion of how the state "grades" our school.

We hope that everyone will stay the course and we can enter this testing process with as much preparation as possible. Please reach out to the school if you have any questions about this or any other school matter. We truly appreciate the relationships we have built at Washington and look to continue building in the future. We are proud to work with each of everyone in the Bulldog family.

As always, stay warm, stay safe, and stay healthy.

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...



Dear Washington Families,

In reviewing a previously read book by Carol Dweck, and implementing Responsive Classroom techniques this year, staff at Washington have been working to develop student's growth mindset. As we enter spring IAR testing begins. This assessment is considerably longer than any student's experience through the year, but it is important the adults in their lives send a positive message about it. With growth mindsets in mind, focus your praise and encouragement on effort. In their study about praise Mueller & Dweck (1998) states:

- ***“Praise for ability is commonly considered to have beneficial effects on motivation. Contrary to this popular belief, six studies demonstrated that praise for intelligence had more negative consequences for students' achievement motivation than praise for effort.”***

Carol Dweck and her colleagues have concluded that people with growth mindsets can increase their intelligence with effort. We want students to know their brain is like a muscle which will get stronger with increased mental effort. Encourage your child to take a mental break when they get tired, all students can pause the test for up to 20 minutes at any given time, and then get back to their best work. We have faith in their ability to show what they know.

March begins our testing window for IAR. While attendance is always important, it is especially so during the testing windows. Please make sure students are well rested and encourage them to have a good breakfast at home or school. For more information visit the following link: il.mypearsonsupport.com

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



1st Grade

Teacher

Ms. Harris
Ms. Benedict



FIRST GRADE

Happy New Year Friends and Family!

We have gotten our midpoint testing complete and we were able to see the growth in many of our students. Please continue to enforce being a good citizen because it starts at home. 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.

Thank you for all that you do!

Mrs. Harris

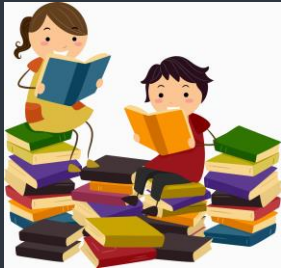
Ms. Benedict

2nd Grade

Teachers...

Ms. Pennington

Ms. Robinson



Happy Women's History Month!

Greetings! This month we have been learning many new and exciting things! In Reading, we have been studying characters and how they respond to challenges. We have also begun a unit on text features, including captions, subheadings, and graphs. We have also applied our knowledge of text features in understanding science and social science texts. In Math, we have mastered 2- digit addition and have begun learning about 2-digit subtraction. We will use these skills to help us in solving word problems. This month we have had exciting Flying Classroom Stem lessons, including making volcanos and sea snakes. In celebration of Black History Month, 2nd grade students completed 3D diorama projects on figures, including but not limited to, Madam CJ Walker, Mae C. Jemison, Guion Bluford, and Bessie Coleman. We enjoyed learning about each figure and their contributions. We are in the end stretch of the school year, but students still have so much to learn in preparation of 3rd grade! Continue to read nightly, practice math facts, and come to school daily! Thank you for all you do!

Thank you for all you do,

Mrs. Anita Pennington and Ms. Bethsheba Robinson

3rd Grade

Teachers...

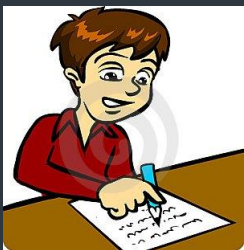
Ms. Cain

Ms. Watkins

THIRD GRADE

Hello 3rd Grade Families!!

We would like to commend our 3rd graders who did a fantastic job with their Black History Projects!! Way to Go!! In i-Ready Reading we are working on developing the skills of Identifying and Recounting Key Details to support the Main Idea in Informational Texts and Point of View. In i-Ready Math, we are continuing our work on Area. We are also preparing our students for the IAR state testing. Thank you again for all that you do to support your student!! Ms. Cain & Ms. Watkins



March Students of the Month

Ms. Cain: Tariq Shorty

Ms. Watkins: Kameron Gibson

FOURTH GRADE

Hello Parents and Guardians!

Our students of the month are:

Edxavier Hill- Ms. Sheared

Jalisa Sanford- 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.

We've made it through winter break, and we are now preparing for IAR, which will start March 11th.

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

ELA: The reading curriculum called Magnetic Reading, Spelling Connections, and Vocabulary Workshop. We work with each set of spelling words for 1 week. We're alternating between the vocabulary words and spelling words every week.

In Magnetic Reading we are working on Poetry and setting as we continue to prepare for the IAR.

Math: Fractions and decimals. Equivalent, comparing, adding and subtracting fractions. Understanding the use of a decimal.

Social Studies: March is Women's month, and we will be learning about different women who've impacted history.

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.

Over half of the 4th grade doesn't know their multiplication facts fluently. This is critical for their success in math for all the grade levels to come. You can help by asking your child randomly different multiplication facts. You can use flash cards to help build their fluency and knowledge. These couple of things will help more than you could imagine. They do not need a chart as much as they need to know the facts by practicing them daily.

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.

Feel free to ask questions or concerns. We are here to help and support you as much as we can. We value you and your children.

Thank You,

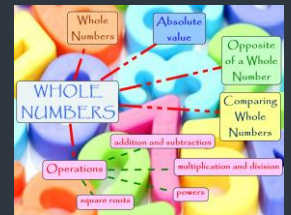
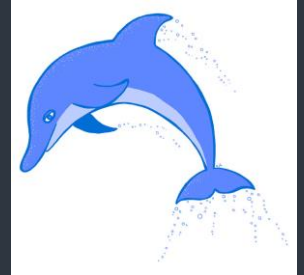
Ms. Sheared

Mr. James

4th Grade Teachers...

Mrs. Sheared

Mr. James



FIFTH GRADE

Fifth grade is melting its way through heaps of knowledge. As recent weather took a sudden turn into warmer temperatures, it rendered our learning path visible once more.

In Reading, our students will learn how relationships between text structure can affect text ideas. They will gain a knowledge of water problems and solutions. We will be reading the text "From Toilet to Tank: A New Way to Save Water" and the text "After the Flush". The students will also explain how an author uses evidence to support the points they are making in a text. They will then use that ability in their opinion writing. We encourage each student to read independently at home for at least 20 minutes a day to build their skills in reading.

In Math, the students will continue learning how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals and fractions. We will also be reviewing using place value to multiply, modeling fractions, and multiplication equations, as we prepare for the IAR testing in the Spring. Students should go on the I-Ready Math website and do 15-20 minutes of practice each night on their Path.

In Science, we will be experimenting with matter and noting its interactions to understand that matter is made up of particles too small to be seen.

In Social Studies, students will begin to study Women's History, as we continue to travel the world and study continents and countries. As you can see, we are keeping busy!

We know that learning is a challenge for all. Please make sure that your child has a quiet space that helps them to focus, minimize distractions, and do their best when they are studying.

Finally, we would be remiss if we did not mention each 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 February.

Seria Madix & Al'Mariana Person

Sincerely,

Ms. Garrett

Mr. Norris

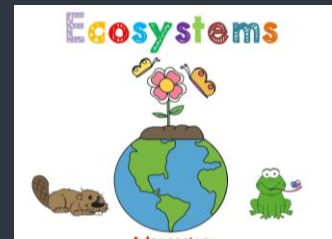
Mr. Pletka

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:

March music classes are learning to read, sing, play, and listen to a variety of music, focusing on different concepts: Kindergarten students are still developing their voices through simple songs, learning about long and short sounds, and learning how to read and write rhythm symbols such as quarter notes and rests. First grade students are practicing their musical scale and applying it to writing and playing melody instruments. Second grade classes are learning about patterns in music as well as learning about harmony. Third grade students are developing their knowledge of reading music's note names on the treble clef, which will assist them in playing melody instruments. Fourth grade classes are playing recorders, applying their knowledge of previously learned music terms and note names. Fifth grade is finishing their study of musical performers and styles and moving toward study of tonality (major or minor). Thanks for your help in moving the students forward!

Mr. Cheney

Elementary Physical Education

It's March already Washington families!!!! During this month all k-4th grade students will be learning basic tennis skills. Students will learn how to correctly hold a racquet, bounce, and trap a tennis ball, hit off a wall, and lead up games. We will also be doing our physical fitness posttests. These tests measure endurance, cardiovascular strength, flexibility, and core strength. The tests are the pacer run, sit-up and push up tests, shuttle run and sit and reach test. Hoping that March weather cooperates, and we can start getting back outside a bit to burn off some energy. Have a wonderful month.

Janet Eaker

From The Desk of Support Services

It is that time of year when Washington School will be taking the Illinois Assessment of Readiness. This is the state assessment that will give Washington School the opportunity to SHOW WHAT WE KNOW!! We know A LOT! All students, third to eighth grade, will take the Illinois Assessment of Readiness in reading and math. This assessment is computer based. We are working hard learning our testing strategies and figuring out how to use what we know to answer questions. During this time, it is important that your child gets plenty of rest, nourishment, and be in attendance and ON TIME. You will be notified of exact dates when the assessment gets closer.

HINTS FOR STANDARDIZED TESTS: To help your child be prepared, share these tips about the types of questions that often appear.

*Have a **POSTIVE ATTITUDE**: approach this assessment as you'd approach a giant jigsaw puzzle. It might be tough, but **YOU CAN** do it!! A positive attitude goes a long way toward success.

* **Multiple choice**: Read all the answers before marking your choice. Remember, multiple choice answers will need evidence from the text. Use your re-read strategy and eliminate your answers.

* **Writing Constructive Responses**: Read essay questions at least twice. Then, make a list of important thoughts, or key points, about each question before writing your essay. Read through the finished essay to be sure you've included all your key points. Check spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.

***I'm Stuck!** Those tricky problems can knock you off balance. Don't get worried or frustrated. Reread the question to make sure you understand it, and then try to solve it the best way you know how by eliminating answers. If you're still stuck, move on and **COME BACK** to solve.

The third quarter ends Friday, March 15, 2024. Parent Teacher Conferences will be held Thursday, March 28, 2024. We look forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's progress.

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



March Is National Nutritional Month: Eat right with my plate has replaced the old food pyramid. Start with small changes to make healthier choices. Half your plate should have fruit and vegetables. Choose fresh whole fruits, fresh frozen fruits, or canned fruits in 100% juice. Add fresh, frozen, or canned vegetables to a salad or main dish. Choose a variety of colorful veggies steamed, roasted or raw. Grains should be part of your plate. Make half of your grain's whole grains. Look for grains listed as the first or second ingredient on packages. Try oatmeal, popcorn, whole grain bread and brown rice in place of white. Limit grain desserts and snacks such as cakes, cookies, and pastries. Vary your protein. Mix it up to include seafood, beans, peas, unsalted nuts and seeds, soy products, eggs, lean meats, and poultry. Change to low fat or fat free milk. Choose fat free milk, yogurt, and fortified soy beverages to cut back on saturated fats. Replace sour cream, cream and regular cheese with low-fat yogurt milk and cheese. Drink and eat foods containing less sodium, saturated fats and added sugars. Choose vegetable oils instead of butter to cook. There is no one plan that works for everyone, so make your own healthy one.

Please, if your phone number, or the phone number of an emergency contact for your child has changed, please contact the school. Updated contact information is vital in the event of an emergency with your child.

Some students have received a vision or hearing referral. If you have received a referral for your child, please send or bring a copy of the doctor's findings to the health Office.

Feel free to contact me with any questions. I can be reached at (708)201-2078 extension 2397.

Have a happy and healthy day.

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

Welcome to March - the time of year we can almost feel the sun melting away!

This month most of us develop basketball madness, some of us wear green, and the world celebrates Women's History Month! "March" comes from the Latin word "Martius" their god of war, Mars, because war campaigns would re-start in the spring in Ancient Rome. Spring equinox, the mid-way point between winter and summer, will be celebrated March 19th this year. Some people wake up at dawn to notice the change in daylight, try to stand an egg on its end or plant a new flower. Spring Day, which is September 1st in some African countries, can be honored by cutting off all one's hair, spraying yourself and others with water and watching sunsets with loved ones.

With thinking about Tracy McMillan's quote "Spring: a lovely reminder of how beautiful change can truly be" take some time to think about your family's traditions and how this month can be used for that family to grow stronger.

Take sometime this month to water yourself!

Check in and see what breaks you need, what routines your family can omit and change.

Schedule some outdoor time with your family!

Breathe in that fresh air after months of us being inside.

Give the kids some chores around spring cleaning! You'll be helping them learn skills they will someday need and helping yourself not to do everything.

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

773.756.6724

Ms. Leach – Washington Junior High School Social
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)

Reading Doesn't Have to be a Solo Activity

One of the keys to encouraging your child to read is to make reading appealing! One way to do this is to make it something you do together. You can:

- Browse together.** Walk through a library with your child and get an idea of what he/she likes. Suggest books related to those topics.
- Join the fun.** Take turns reading aloud, especially if a book is challenging.
- Keep track of progress.** Keep a list of how much your child reads. Praise him/her for reaching milestones. Show that you're proud!
- Attend library events together.** Ask about special activities and reading programs.
- Be inspired by books.** After your child reads a book, do something related to it. For example, you might research or visit a place the author mentioned.

**When we read together, we connect. Together, we see the world.
Together, we see one another. ~ Kate Dicamillo ~**

Math can be fun! Find ways to incorporate math at home.

1. **Go on a shape hunt.** Explore around the house or in your community. What shapes can your child find? Look for circles, triangles, squares, rectangles, cubes, and cylinders.
2. **Play sidewalk chalk math.** Use sidewalk chalk to draw shapes and numbers on your driveway or the sidewalk in front of your home. Then, play a game with your children! Call out "square" and ask your child hop to it. Then, ask your child to twirl to the "circle." You can do this with numbers as well. Ask younger children to "get to 10" and older children to find the answer to "three plus four equals"! If going outdoors isn't an option, use construction paper to put numbers and shapes around your house.
3. **Play strategy games.** This is a great way to spend quality time. Games we love include Rummikub, Crazy Eights, Monopoly, Jr., Yahtzee, Chutes and Ladders, Uno and other classic board and card games. Play as teams while learning so you can talk about strategy and then move onto playing individually. Or, have your child make their own board game to share with the family.
4. **Bake cookies or work on a home improvement project.** Real-world applications of mathematical ideas, especially measurement, are everywhere! If you are stringing up lights, work with them to estimate how many sets you will need and calculate the total number of lights used. If you are baking cookies, count out how many cups of flour you need (with young children). Older children can discuss fractions or have them figure out what is needed to make a double batch or to cut the recipe in half. Challenge: How would you prepare the recipe for 24 guests?

Elementary Safety Facilitator

As the Elementary Safety Facilitator, I am working diligently to assist various classes concerning the IAR Test Preparation. I am reinforcing the skill training from the instructors along with allowing the students to provide feedback per skill, which allows equal engagement from the class! During my classroom visits, I am conducting numerous discussions with the students for them to exhibit and explain the purpose of adhering to our PBIS Expectations. In addition, students are required to respond and provide examples of how they express their PBIS characteristics within their virtual classrooms, at home and in their community. As we work daily to Empower Every Child, Everyday is a Great Day to express our Bulldog Pride! **GO BULLDOGS!!!!**

Junior High Safety Facilitator

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caretakers!

Hope all is well! Together, we have tackled the challenges of the cold weather and windchill factor. March brings Spring and academic conquests. As a school, we are all focusing on doing our best to make Washington a warm, safe, and fun place for our babies to live their dreams. Moving forward, the students will be participating in more positive interactive activities to show our appreciate of their hard work and dedication throughout the year, thus far. We will afford all family members many opportunities to partake in upcoming PBIS events, field trips, and other engaging activities. These fun-packed events will allow students to relax and enjoy themselves as they experience the social emotional aspect of the educational process. Nevertheless, the students will have to continue to display their assertiveness and academic endurance as the IAR testing quickly approaches. I'm confident that our babies will conquer any challenges placed before them and gain control of all academic endeavors. We at Washington take pride in our ability to provide students, families, and staff with the skills and tools needed to accomplish greatness.

CARE Facilitator

Hello Bulldog Families,

We are in the second half of the school year and sometimes students start to get run down not just with academics but especially with their social and emotional needs. Please watch out for your students and if you see there is issues that your kids are facing let us know so we can help them through it at school. Students will continue Suite360 here at school every Monday.

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



Junior High Computer Teacher



Touch Typing Begins in March

in Computer Class 6th, 7th and 8th Grade students will learn how to touch type using typing.com and other fun keyboarding activities.

Why learn to Touch Type?

Importance of Keyboarding for Students

There are many benefits to providing keyboarding lessons for students. Not only does it help to provide crucial technical skills, but also helps to support better learning and career opportunities in the future. While keyboarding used to be considered an “office” skill, its scope has recently expanded far beyond that. Keyboarding is regularly used in school lessons and projects, as well as in most modern careers. By helping students to master these skills, I help them to be more effective, productive, and confident when they are faced with a task requiring keyboarding.

- ✚ **Technical Skills:** One of the most important reasons for teaching keyboarding to students is to provide technical skills. Keyboarding has become a necessary skill for education and most careers. It has even become an integral part of social relationships, helping to support email, social media, and other forms of communication. By teaching students keyboarding, we are ensuring that they can effectively and efficiently perform tasks that require keyboarding.
- ✚ **Improves Computer-Based Test Scores in Students:** As more assessments and assignments for students take place in a digital setting, it's more important than ever that students are comfortable and confident using digital tools. Early and consistent exposure to keyboarding tools and practice has a notable impact on students' performance and test scores in computer-based assessments.
- ✚ **Supports Digital Equity:** Making keyboarding a part of computer class curriculum helps to support digital equity, offering students, regardless of socioeconomic status, the ability to master this important skill. This helps not only to provide more equal opportunities in the classroom, but also to open more equal job opportunities in the future.

6th Grade Students: will start with beginner lessons.

7th Grade Students: will continue with intermediate lessons.

8th Grade Students: will continue with advance lessons.

STOP
BULLYING
STAND UP. SPEAK OUT.

Elementary
And
Junior High
Art
Teacher
Mr. Jones



Elementary and Junior High Art Teacher

Dear Parents:

March signals the end of winter and the beginning of Spring. Mother Nature is slowly announcing her arrival with warmer weather , longer daylight hours and plants peeking through the soil. Almost like the beginning of a parade beautiful trees, gorgeous flowers , green grass are lining up for the procession. The butterflies, the bees, dragonflies, all sorts of feathered friends and expanding animal families including rabbits, squirrels, raccoons, and possums will practice their marching routines for their Springtime entrance. All the members of Mother Nature's parade offer creative minds new topics and ideas to explore the use of a variety of mediums including tempera paints, watercolor paint, oil pastels, paint sticks along with markers and color pencils. Primary students will increase the use of scissors and gluing skills. Intermediate and Junior high schools will continue to journey down the road of drawing Profile Portraits, landscapes, Fruit bowl Still Life and Abstract renderings. Once again Springtime causes creative explosions in every class!!!

Thank you,

Mr. Milton Jones

6th GRADE

This month students will be taking the IAR state test. We ask that you ensure your child is prepared and on time every day.

In ELA, students will be working on craft and structure in informational text by determining word meanings (figurative, connotative, and technical), analyzing text structures, and determining point of view.

In math we will be working on understanding the concept of comparing two quantities using ratios. We will use this understanding to develop strategies for finding equivalent ratios.

For the month of March, we will celebrate Women's Month. We will closely look at women's accomplishments and contributions which have impacted people and communities worldwide.

In science, Flying Classroom will have the students observe the ecosystem in the Amazon Rain Forest to look at the causes, effects, and benefits of why we need to save The Amazon. Students will create a water filtration system. At the end of the month, students will explore the Orbis Flying Hospital. Students will engage in a dissection of a cow's eye.

"It isn't where you come from; it's where you're going that counts." –Ella Fitzgerald

6th Grade Team

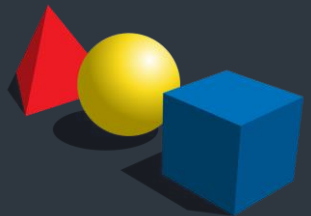
Ms. Reed, Ms. Toney, Mrs. Winston

6th Grade
Teachers...

Ms. Reed

Ms. Toney

Mrs. Winston



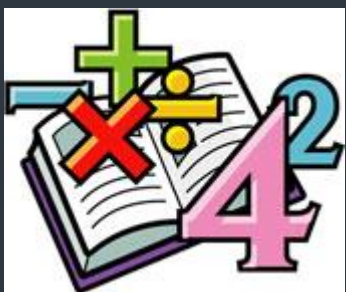
SEVENTH GRADE

7th Grade Teachers...

Ms. Skinner

Mr. Wells

Ms. Ross



This month is the time to ascertain and assess the basic principles of wisdom. It commences domestically and extends in the classroom. Pupils develop their foundational skills, like listening, reading, speaking, and writing. The Common Core State Standards address these concepts in a myriad of ways. In Social Studies, we are analyzing Civics, Geography, Political Science and Sociology to holistically reach each child. We do this with fidelity and veracity. Pupils are assigned homework, projects, along with field trips and mentoring. This is the BEST month of the year!

Here in 7th grade Math, we are gearing up for IAR Testing this month. Students have been reviewing past lessons and brushing up on our note taking skills. Testing can be daunting, but we are working to give ourselves the best foundation we can. We have also been talking about the importance of getting a good night's sleep and eating healthy meals. As we not only prepare our minds but also our bodies for testing.

Junior High Physical Education

Hello Parents',

February will be a very busy month. Students will be preparing for State testing, wrapping up our volleyball schedule and turning our attention to our Track Team. Please encourage your child to try out for Track. Please keep an eye out for information regarding tryouts.

Also, we will be completing our post-fitness testing and moving to kickball/softball. Please remember that students in 7th & 8th grade are required to wear their P.E. uniform, failure to dress can drastically affect their grade.

If you have any questions feel free to call Mrs. Blackful at (708)201- 2078.

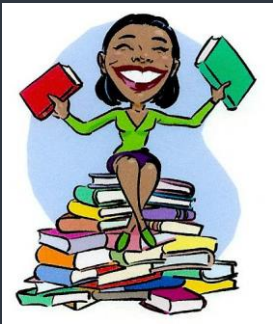


8th Grade Teachers...

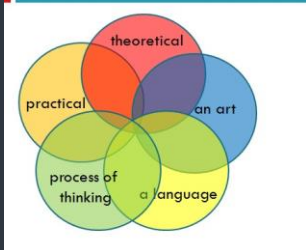
Ms. Gray

Ms. Weathersby

Ms. Matlock



Mathematics is ...



EIGHTH GRADE

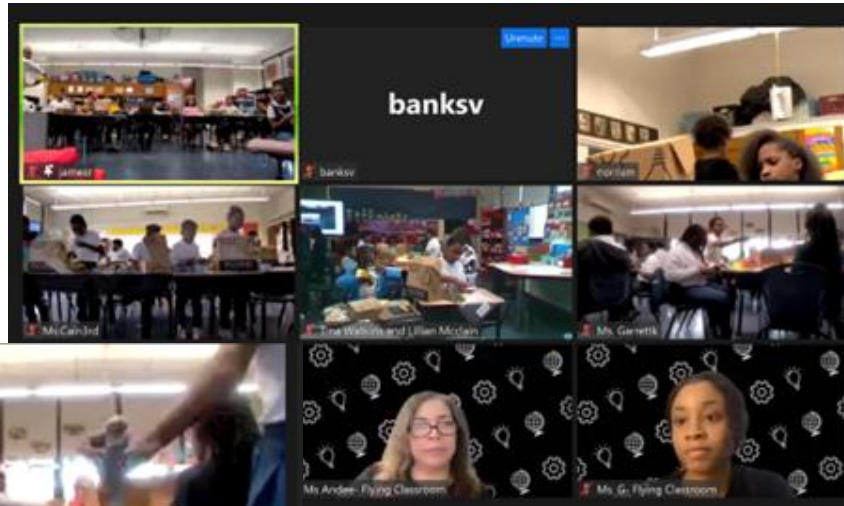
Happy New Year...and Welcome to 2024!

In Math, Ms. Weathersby's Wonderful Math Scholars are still trying to get the hang of Eighth Grade Math due to not having a Seventh Grade Math teacher. It's been rough; however, we're pushing through. This month our Eighth Graders will begin Unit 4 focusing on Functions. Students are all aware that the lessons we are working on in the book are always available to them online on iReady. All book assignments are posted on Teams and should be turned in on Teams within the assignment. I say this every month because I cannot say this enough but...I-Ready is a personalized instruction path that helps students fill prerequisite gaps and build up grade-level skills. Therefore, 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. Students should be logging on to i-Ready EVERYDAY during Intervention which is built into their schedules from 8:50-9:15! On some days, students are given extra time in class to work on assignments and My Path. It is a requirement and grade for students to complete at least 45 minutes AND 2 lessons each week. Please ensure your student is logging on each day...each week to i-Ready! We need to work TOGETHER to ensure our students stay focused and are working to the best of their ability. If you should ever need to contact me, I can be reached by e-mail weathersbyn@district148.net or on Class Dojo.

Third quarter is off to a great start! Hopefully February will bring us calmer weather. I would like to applaud our 8th grade students for demonstrating excellent attendance and participation during last month's E-learning days. In 8th Grade ELA, students have completed Unit 2 in the Ready Reading Curriculum and have begun exploring the craft and structure of informational texts. Students will exhibit knowledge of analyzing word meanings, word choice, the structure of paragraphs, how authors respond, and determine point of view. For Vocabulary Workshop, students are learning new words related to an author's profile, Toni Cade Bambara. In Grammar for Writing, we will practice writing effective sentences and word choice. We are more than halfway to the finish line, so let us keep the momentum going. Please make a habit of checking your scholar's progress via the PowerSchool. Your support can mean the world to your child and to teachers as well. I leave you with this quote: "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." -Nelson Mandela

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ELA Teacher
Washington Jr. High

FUN TIMES HAPPENING AT WJH



March



2024

WASHINGTON SCHOOL

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