

APRIL 2010

KORI ALICE BECHT
Principal

DAN MOULIS
Assistant Principal

SCHOOL NURSE & SAFETY PHONE
893-2636

Windham Middle School

112A Lowell Road
Windham, NH 03087
(603) 893-2636
Fax: (603) 870-9007

SCHOOL COUNSELORS
893-2636



We encourage you to utilize the District and Middle School Web sites to obtain information. By going to the district site at www.windhamsd.org, you can link to all of the Windham Schools.

Important Dates

Please continue to check the school calendar for changes:

<http://www.localendar.com/public/WindhamMS>

- April 2—3rd Quarter ends**
- April 6—M2M Executives meet at 7AM**
- April 7—M2M Connection**
- April 5— 8 Spring Book Fair**
- April 7 and April 8—Parent Conferences**
- April 8—Delayed Opening—School Begins at 9:40 AM**
- April 9—School Dance 7-9 PM**
- April 12—8th Grade PTA Essay Due**
- April 14—Band Concert 7 PM**
- April 15—Chorus Concert 7 PM**
- April 21—Earth Shuttle Meeting 7:30 PM**
- April 26-- April 30 —Spring Vacation**
- May 3— May 7—Washington DC Trip**
- May 3— May 7—Earth Shuttle Trip**

7TH GRADE NEWS

This month in seventh grade reading/language arts classes, we will be moving on to poetry. Students will have the opportunity to read, write, analyze, and - of course! - enjoy poetry together. In addition, we will continue our review of the parts of speech and our work with Classical Roots Vocabulary.

Seventh grade science classes are continuing to explore genetics and how traits are passed from parent to offspring. We will continue with a unit on modern genetics and learn about some inherited conditions and new technology which is helping treat and cure people with the conditions.

Math students are completing a unit on variables and patterns; they will be interchanging tables, graphs and equations. Students will create and solve equations from word problems. Seventh grade pre-algebra is finishing up ratio, proportions and percents; they will use proportions for problem solving. Pre-algebra will then investigate parallel and perpendicular lines and pairs of angles. Seventh grade algebra will investigate polynomials and operations with polynomials; they will begin factoring quadratics.

Our annual Medieval Day was held on March 12th and was the best ever! The cafeteria was transformed into the Great Hall of Midwin Castle, where we held a traditional Medieval feast in honor of our visiting royalty, King Buckley and Queen Shirley. The banquet was attended by the lords and ladies of all the surrounding manors (home rooms) and other nobility and clergy, as well as some honored peasants.

The festivities began with the lords and ladies of the manors performing a special dance to welcome the king and queen, accompanied by our excellent musicians. This was followed by the processional in which all those in attendance could show their respect to their monarch. During the banquet, there was much wonderful entertainment for everyone's enjoyment: singing, dancing, juggling, tumbling, swordplay, and riddles, as well as a chess tournament and board games for those so inclined. There were a few instances in which the royal guards had to escort someone to the dungeon, but order was maintained. After the banquet, everyone was delighted to learn that a jousting tournament was part of the day's entertainment, a proper ending to a wonderful day.

The seventh grade team would like to thank all those who made this wonderful learning experience possible. The PTA and our own Abbey Food Service Group provided all the food, and the PTA volunteers worked before and during the banquet to make it a success. Costumes of Nashua provided a major discount for costume rentals. All songs, dances, riddles, games, etc. were authentic for the period. Mrs. Shirley trained students for all the dances; Mrs. Cuneo and Mr. Szopa worked with all our musicians; Mrs. Mercier and Ms. Ells helped with our decorations; and our 7th grade assistant Mrs. Furse worked hard at organizing the entire event. We are also very appreciative to the Golden Brook teachers who brought their students up to view the opening ceremonies.

6TH GRADE NEWS

Grade Six is ushering in SPRING with a great deal of activity.

Language arts classes are finishing their descriptive essays. Students will be writing their Immigration Paper which is connected to their own unique heritage. They will first research their own family tree and from there they are finding out important facts about immigrants coming to America. In reading class, students are reading and discussing various pieces of literature to learn how authors develop theme, setting, plot and character traits.

In math, students just completed a study of addition and subtraction of integers. They will be moving into Bits and Pieces II, learning about the operation of fractions. Pre-algebra students are moving into a unit on Ratios/ Proportion/ Percents.

Social studies classes have completed their international country research by creating a display on tri fold poster board and sharing their information with students and parents at the Country Project Expo. The next course of study is to learn more about our Canadian neighbors.

In science students are working on Rocks and Minerals. They are investigating the origins of rocks and minerals, their uses, and where they are found throughout the world. Students are investigating through technology and hands on experiments. Please ask your student to demonstrate the mineral identification gizmo.

EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

Students in pre-algebra are working on a culminating project which includes solving equations, simplifying and evaluating expressions, and predicting pattern rules. They will complete an individual letter pattern project for one of their initials.

Students in algebra are completing their investigation of inequalities, solving them, graphing them, and working with inequality systems. They will then begin their polynomials unit. Algebra will be difficult during fourth quarter, students need to keep up with their excellent work habits or they will fall behind.

In language arts classes, the eighth graders have been studying persuasion and propaganda. They are examining the effects of propaganda on society and how advertising persuades. Students are reading the novel, The Gospel According to Larry and exploring the world of advertising.

Science students in Mr. Chaput's and Mr. Leberman's classes concluded their unit on motion and will begin a unit on forces. Students will develop practical applications of Sir Isaac Newton's Laws of Motion with an emphasis on forces at work around us including gravity, air resistance, friction, and momentum.

Social Studies classes are continuing to study World War II. We would like to send a special thank you to all the students, teachers, PTA members, and parents who attended the Swing Dance and made it such a success.

In ILS, students will be starting an in-depth career unit. They will research all aspects of selecting a career, including: interest surveys, needed education, possible salary amounts, and the budget requirements for life after school.

Important events in April for the 8th grade include, spring NWEA testing and an optional field trip to The Blue Man Group. Also, PTA is sponsoring an Essay Contest with a cash prize of \$150.

WINDHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILY NIGHT AT THE FISHERCATS

There will be a section reserved for students of Windham Middle School and their family members on Thursday May 13. The game is against Portland Sea Dogs (Red Sox Affiliate) and the Select Chorus will be singing the National Anthem. One student will be chosen to throw out one of the first pitches of the game!! Tickets are \$7.00 per person - order forms are available from Mrs. Cuneo in room 124.

PTA

WMS staff would like to thank PTA for the delicious foods served during Teacher Appreciation Week. A bountiful breakfast with assorted breads, bagels, pastries, yogurt, fruits, coffee, and tea was enjoyed by everyone on Wednesday. Then Friday, we were treated to a luncheon of wraps, salads, and numerous desserts!! PTA has also graciously donated \$300 to our Washington DC Scholarship Fund. Thank you!!

PTA is proud to announce its 4th annual essay contest for 8th graders. Essays must be submitted via email by April 12th to president@windhampta.net. The topic is as follows:

Each of us has hopes and dreams for ourselves, our family, and our country. It is January 20, 2017 and you have been consulted to help the new president compose his or her speech. Please assist in the writing of the Inaugural Address on any topic desired.

More information is available on the Middle School website. A cash prize of \$150 will be awarded to the winner at Academic Recognition Night.

GUIDANCE NEWS

The Theme in Advisory for March was **Fitness**. Our advisories have been busy learning creative ways to stay fit and eat healthy.

April is transition month for our mentors. We have started our recruitment for next years' mentors. Please obtain an application from one of the M2M Advisors. All completed applications are due by April 23rd.

M.M DANCE

M2M will host the monthly dance on Friday, April 2nd -7-9 PM. Get creative and sport your favorite hat-prizes will be given to the most creative hat worn.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Any parent interested in meeting with Mrs. Lichtmann or Mrs. Jodoin during Parent/Teacher conferences, please sign up using PTC Wizard.

YEARBOOKS

April will be the last month to order Yearbooks. Please see Mrs. Lichtmann or Mrs. Rawley to order your 2010 Yearbook. Yearbooks will be available for sale during the conferences. All orders should be in by April 21st. Checks can be made out to Windham Middle School for \$25.00. There are still a lot of 8th grade students who have not purchased their yearbooks yet. We will have a limited supply available for purchase the night of yearbook signing.

The weather is starting to get better and what a great time to offer alternatives for watching TV. Watching too much TV can have negative effects on your child's learning. Instead of turning on the TV why don't you suggest one of the following?

- Ride a bike
- Read a magazine
- Build a model car
- Draw a picture
- Walk the dog
- Listen to music
- Play some music
- Help cook dinner
- Write a letter to a friend
- Enjoy the outdoors!

CURRICULUM FAIR

Many thanks to everyone who helped make the Curriculum Fair a great success. As usual, the Café Rosa was a highlight, with delicious Spanish and French cuisine. Senor Boisvert, Senora Ripley and Madame McAlpine were instrumental in creating this authentic café environment, with 8th grade World Language students working diligently in many capacities. Also, special thanks to Mr. Szopa, Mrs. Cuneo, the Jazz Band, Select Chorus, drum line, and all the café performers. It was a wonderful event!!

SPRING CHORUS AND BAND CONCERTS

The Windham Middle School bands, jazz band, honors band and drum line will be performing their Spring concert on April 14th. The Choruses, Select chorus and string ensemble will be performing on April 15th. Both concerts will be at the High School auditorium and will begin at 7:00pm.