

JANUARY 2010

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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 and updates:

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

January 5—M2M Executives 7 AM
January 6—M2M Connection with Grade 6
January 6—Earth Shuttle Meeting 7:30 PM
January 7—Geography Bee 6:30 PM
January 9—Ski Trip— Waterville Valley
January 12—Early Release –11:15 Dismissal
January 13— Spelling Bee 7 PM
January 14—Fitness Boot Camp Begins
January 18—No School—Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 22—End of Marking Period
January 22—School Dance 7-9 PM
January 29—Report Cards Issued
January 30—Ski Trip— Gunstock
February 2—M2M Executives 7 AM
February 3—M2M Connection with Grade 6
February 6—Ski Trip— Mt Snow

7TH GRADE NEWS

Seventh grade reading classes are moving on to a unit called "Facing Difficult Choices." We will be reading various short stories and articles in our literature book surrounding this theme. In language arts, students will be continuing work with grammar, vocabulary, and writing.

Seventh grade science classes are just beginning the first of our cell units. We will be comparing plant and animal cells and the unit will include the cell model project which is always a favorite with students.

Spanish students created PowerPoint presentations with information about themselves and their friends. They had the opportunity to practice verbs *gustar* (to like) *tener* (to have) and *ser* (to-be). As in English, the verb to be is used to describe where someone is from and to describe people. In Spanish, adjectives have to match the gender and number of the nouns. They had a great time putting pictures and special sounds in the presentations.

6TH GRADE NEWS

Sixth grade mathematics classes are finishing the first Bits and Pieces book on fractions, decimals, and percents. Pre-algebra students are working on the unit on variables and patterns including interpreting graphs and tables.

Students in reading classes will soon begin the novel Flipped. The skills reinforced through the novel include point of view, characterization, and figurative language.

Language Arts students are finishing with research papers and are focused on reading informational text, creating note cards, outlining, writing paragraphs and creating a bibliography. The next unit in grammar will be the study of pronouns, as well as the next chapter of classical roots. The next writing assignment will be a descriptive essay.

Science students will be finishing their study of chemistry shortly. We then move back into Earth science with our studies of earthquakes and volcanoes.

In social studies, students are comparing and contrasting the culture and climate of Southeast Asia and the United States.

PTA

Windham Middle School staff would once again like to thank PTA volunteers for the incredible assortment of holiday cookies delivered to our teachers' room. Each and every cookie was a treasure and we so appreciate everything that PTA does for our school.

SCHOOL SAFETY PHONE

Please use the following number when calling in your child's absence: 893-2636.



EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

Students in the eighth grade have been very busy. The language arts students have explored and discussed utopian societies through novel studies and discussion groups. Students have been able to compare and contrast character traits, author style, techniques, as well as develop their own opinions. Students will be writing persuasive essays and conducting debates in the upcoming months. In Pre-algebra, students are learning about linear relationships. Algebra students have concluded their study of slope intercept form for linear relationships, and will learn about Standard Form and Linear Systems after the break. In Science, students are working on a unit that focuses on the special properties of water as well as looking at acids and bases. Social Studies students are completing the Civil War Unit and will be starting Reconstruction in January. ILS students are finishing the Superhero Animation Project. French students researched a region of France and created a brochure to share with the class.

WINDHAM WONDERLAND DANCE

For the fourth year in a row, Windham Middle School was able to make a donation to Windham Helping Hands with proceeds earned from the dance. Money from carnations and drinks went to the Washington DC scholarship fund. As usual, art students created terrific snowflakes for decorations. Many thanks to the PTA volunteers who decorated the café to make it a truly wonderful winter wonderland.

JANUARY BASKETBALL GAMES:

Class I Team: Jan. 7 Home Nashua Catholic
Jan. 11 Home Milford
Jan. 14 Amherst (at Windham HS)
Jan. 21 @ Hood
Jan. 25 Home Hollis

Class A-1 Team: Jan. 7 @ Timberlane
Jan. 11 @ Chester
Jan. 14 @ Londonderry
Jan. 19 @ Mt. View
Jan. 21 Merrimack (at Windham HS)

Check www.windhamsd.org Athletics for details of games.

GUIDANCE NEWS

It is never too early to be thinking about college. On January 6, during their Language Arts classes, all 8th grade students will attend a 30-minute presentation entitled, "Who Wants to be a College Graduate?" Among the discussion topics that will be included are college lingo, financial aid, the PSAT, and the importance of building a strong high school transcript.

On January 7, Kellie Steward from Windham High School will be here to meet with all eighth grade students. Subjects for discussion will be block scheduling, specific course sequences, and electives. Eighth graders will also get the opportunity to ask questions about transitioning to high school. Look for information regarding the selection of classes to follow soon.

M.M & ADVISORY GOALS

The theme for January is Personal Responsibility.

YEARBOOK

The Yearbook Committee will sponsor a Windham Middle School dance on January 22nd from 7:00 – 9:00 PM. Admission is \$6.00.

FITNESS BOOT CAMP

Fitness Book Camp will begin on Thursday, January 14th and will continue for six weeks on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This is a co-ed fitness program for all levels to be held at the Flex Appeal Training Center. The cost for the program is \$30 with checks payable to Windham Middle School. A bus will be available to take you to the facility with parent pick-up at 4 PM. Please See Mrs. Lichtmann or Mrs. Rawley for permission slips.