

June 2009

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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:

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

June 3—Camp Bournedale Information Night for incoming 6th grade parents 6 PM

June 3 – Parent Step-Up Night for incoming 6th graders 7 PM

June 4—WHS Information Night for Parents of 8th and 9th Graders 7 PM—WMS Cafe

June 5– 8th Grade Graduation Dance 7–10 PM

June 9—Spring Sports Awards—6:30 PM

June 10 – PTA Academic Recognition Evening 7:00 PM

June 11 – 8th Grade Hampton Beach Field Trip 4:00 Return to School

June 12—Salem High School Graduation 6PM

June 16 – 8th Grade Graduation 6:30pm (Rain date 6/17)

June 17 – Last Day of School for 6th and 7th grade 11:15 Dismissal

Enjoy the Summer

THANK YOU PTA

Windham Middle School staff and students would like to thank our PTA volunteers for another spectacular year. Our picnic tables look fabulous, outside by the Media Center for all to enjoy!. All the breakfasts, lunches and dinners were delicious. Thank you to all volunteers who helped with unit activities, classroom assistance, tutoring, baking, serving—anything we asked of you. Our special thanks to President Holly Breton and Vice President Laurie Sweetser, who will be missed next year on the PTA Board.

6TH GRADE NEWS

During their last term of this school year, the sixth grade students have been very busy academically. In Math, our students have wrapped up Bits and Pieces III and will move on to 2-Dimensional and 3-Dimensional Geometry. Pre-Algebra students will finish up their unit on 3-Dimensional Geometry and end the year working on activities dealing with probability.

Social Studies classes are completing their unit of study on Mexico and Central America, our neighbors to the South.

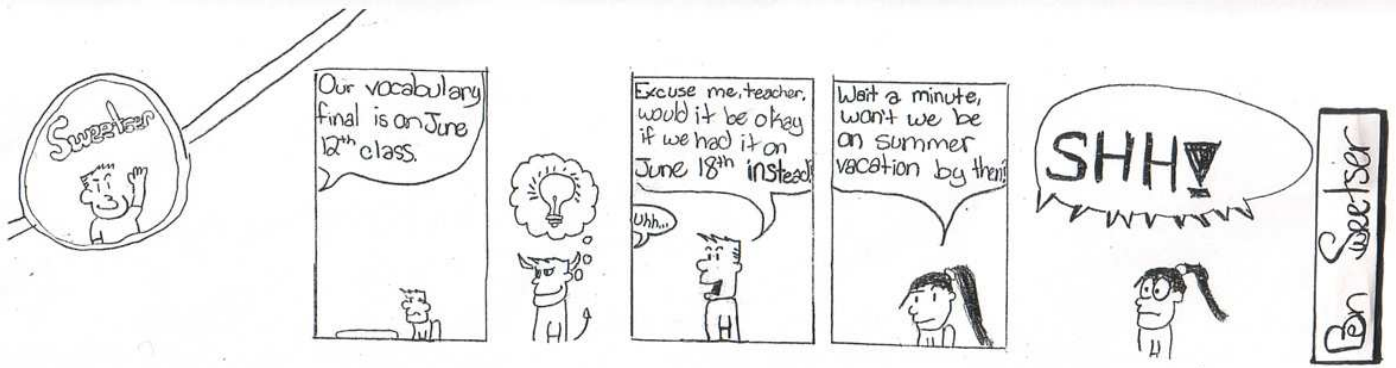
In Reading, our sixth graders have had a varied experience this term. Some are enjoying Where the Red Fern Grows, Flipped, or Dragonwings or selected science fiction novels. Many students will end the year working on poetry. Finally, as Diary of a Wimpy Kid was named the Great Stone Face Winner for 2009, our sixth grade students were able to see how their personal vote faired against those of the rest of the state.

In our Language Arts classes, both the Lincoln and Liberty teams have completed their Immigration Research papers, and now are continuing to work on vocabulary and spelling enhancement.

Our Science classes are all finishing their unit on Weathering, Erosion and Deposition, the forces that change and shape Earth's surface. We will wrap up our year by studying Earth's resources.

Step-Up Day is Wednesday, June 3rd. Our current Grade 6 students will be given their homeroom assignments for next year, meet their "new" teachers and spend a little time in a Grade 7 classroom. Soon-to-be sixth grade students will visit the Middle School, spend some time with their sixth grade teachers, and meet with their M2M mentors.

We hope that all sixth graders and their families have an enjoyable and safe summer vacation!! Best of luck in Grade Seven!!



7TH GRADE NEWS

In Reading, we will begin June by finishing up The Outsiders. The last couple weeks of school will be spent reading short stories in the literature anthology.

In Language Arts, students will complete another writing project focused on descriptive writing. Expect to see those flash cards at work as students gear up for their final, cumulative vocabulary exam. We will finish up the year with an end-of-year reflective writing piece.

Science students are finishing the year studying the cardiovascular system. Discussions have included the important connections between nutrition and cardiovascular health. We will be using technology with internet activities to access up to date information and enhance learning.

Students in ILS continue to work on their autobiographies.

Social Studies classes are finishing the Age of Exploration and talking about the English colonies and the French and British Revolutions. We will be finishing the year discussing the United States Constitution.

The seventh grade math classes have completed the unit on ratio, proportions and percent. Next they will investigate transformations on the coordinate grid, including rotations, reflections and translations. Pre-algebra classes have completed the unit on volume and surface area of prisms, pyramids and cylinders. They will now be working on pairs of angles and special pairs on parallel lines. They will finish the year with transformations on the coordinate grid. Algebra class is working on irrational numbers, simplifying radicals and solving equations with radicals. They will apply those skills to using the Pythagorean Theorem with right triangles. They will also become familiar with the quadratic formula as a method of solving a quadratic equation.

SPANISH NEWS

Seventh grade students researched information on a specific person, place or holiday in Mexico and created a postcard. Using Microsoft Publisher, students word processed a postcard to inform parents, friends, or teachers about their topic, including a Mexican stamp. Then students shared the information with the class.

STEP UP DAY/NIGHT

Step Up Day will be Wednesday June 3rd. This is an opportunity for the 5th graders to meet with their 6th grade teachers, Middle School staff and take a tour of the Middle School. Mentors will meet their sixth grade mentees. Step Up Night will be June 3rd at 7pm. This is an opportunity for parents to meet the 6th grade teachers, attend an informational session about Middle School and your child and take a tour of the school. Please feel free to contact Lizz Jodoin or Julie Lichtmann at 893-2636 if you have any questions.

EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

WMS S.M.I.L.E.S. will have the last event of the year, for which we will be custodial workers at Windham Middle School. Our SMILES members will sweep, dust, mop, etc on June 2nd for about three hours to make their school a brighter place. Thanks to all our SMILES members for a job well done this year!

ILS students are finishing up their school newsletter project and will finish the year with a project of their choice.

Science students will present their Rube Goldberg inventions during the first week of June and it will be very exciting to see what tasks their inventions will accomplish. We will finish the year off with a lesson on kinetic and potential energy, which will include a lab investigation.

Students in Pre-algebra are finishing the year investigating data representations including box-and-whisker plots, scatterplots, and histograms. They will have a final exam on June 10th, mainly involving the vocabulary learned throughout the year.

Algebra students are concluding their quadratic unit with solving quadratic equations using different methods, including factoring, completing the square, and using the quadratic formula. They will simplify radicals and "discover" the Pythagorean Theorem in the upcoming weeks. Their final will be on June 4th, and it will include vocabulary and major concepts studied throughout the year.

The Social Studies classes will be wrapping up their study of US History by looking at the period from the 1950s through today. Emphasis will be placed on the Cold War and societal changes. Students' last book reports for the year are due by June 5th and students will be taking final exams on June 9th and 10th. We would like to thank the students for an outstanding year and wish all families the best for the future!

During the months of May and June, the eighth graders have been expressing themselves through creative works of poetry and storytelling in Language Arts. The students have been exposed to great works of poetry by Frost, Wordsworth, Poe, Coleridge, and many more. The students have and will be exploring different techniques of poetry writing. Many of them have been pleasantly surprised with their artistic capabilities when creating their own original poems. Some of the classes have just completed the storytelling video projects. They were fun to watch.