

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

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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

November 3—End of Marking Period
November 3—Sixth Grade Dance 7-9 PM
November 6—M2M Executives Meeting 7 AM
November 6—8 Cheerleading Tryouts 2:30-4:40 PM
November 8 and 9 — Conferences
November 10—No School—Veterans Day
November 13, 14, 15—Basketball Tryouts
Girls 2:30—4:00 PM/ Boys 4:00—5:30 PM
November 17—School Dance 7-9 PM
November 23-24—Thanksgiving Recess

SEVENTH GRADE NEWS

Seventh grade Science classes are learning about viruses and bacteria. This is an appropriate subject with flu season almost upon us. Each student has researched and is working on creating an informational brochure on an infectious disease using Microsoft Publisher software at school.

Students will soon be exploring Ancient Greece in Social Studies, beginning with the earliest Minoans and Mycenaeans, and then doing an in-depth study of Classical Greece. Information on associated projects will be coming soon.

Language Arts classes will continue to explore and practice their grammar and punctuation rules throughout November. Upcoming assignments include a personal narrative and a mythology project building on content learned in social studies.

Students who have Mr. Bairstow for 7th grade Language Arts will begin creating an online writing portfolio. The initial steps will begin in early November and work will continue throughout the year.

Math classes are working on the unit on Integers and how they are used in everyday life. They will review addition and subtraction of integers and also incorporate multiplication and division; students will apply the order of operations with integer problems, evaluate algebraic expressions with integers and solve open sentences with integers. Students will complete their investigation of triangles and work with perimeters and areas.

The Pre-Algebra classes are also working with integers; they will combine integers using order of operations and solve open sentences with integers. Students will expand their study of Geometry by investigating types of lines and the unique angles they form.

The University of New Hampshire's Browne Center recently provided the seventh grade students a great experience. Students completed challenge activities on high and low ropes courses that encouraged teamwork, determination, and self-confidence.

SIXTH GRADE NEWS

We welcome back our sixth graders after their week at Camp Bourne-dale. All students had a wonderful week participating in the numerous activities offered at camp. During the day, students took part in classes such as Coastal Ecology, Marine Lab and Lobster Tale that engaged them in learning about marine ecosystems. In addition, each class traveled through Plimoth Plantation learning about life as a settler in the 1600's. They also learned about team work, communication skills, and trust for one other through their Adventure classes. Other classes that students could elect to participate in were Rocketry, Ceramics, Native Cultures, Pond, and Cape Cod Canal. In the afternoon following lunch, students attended presentations featuring live birds of prey and reptiles. Between the hours spent in classes, recreation time, and evening presentations such as line dancing and karaoke, our sixth grade students were extremely active during their week at Camp Bourne-dale.

Science classes are wrapping up their unit on Ecology with a "Bottle Biology" project. They will begin their Chemistry unit beginning with the metrics system. Also, students will attend a presentation given by Gordon Corbett on Earthquakes and Volcanoes which has been sponsored by the PTA.

Social Studies classes are beginning their unit on the largest country in the world, Russia. They will learn about the geography, culture, economy, and its relationship to the United States.

Math classes are beginning their new unit "Bits and Pieces I" covering the relationships between fractions, decimals, and percents. In Pre-Algebra, we are continuing our study of geometry in the next unit "Covering and Surrounding."

Reading classes are continuing their novel HOOT and its connection to our ecology unit in Science. Language Arts classes continue to learn new vocabulary from the series, Classical Roots. They are working on verbs in grammar and completing their Camp Bourne-dale journals as a continuation of writing across the curriculum.

EIGHTH GRADE NEWS



Algebra:

Students in Algebra are simplifying complex algebraic expressions using the laws of exponents and their understanding of like terms. They also spent time looking at patterns of the ones digit in powers. Our next unit, solving equations, will rely on many of the skills students learned while simplifying algebraic expressions.

Pre-Algebra:

Students in Pre-Algebra are investigating algebraic expressions and equations. They are using algebra tiles to model equivalent algebraic expressions and show the distributive property. Soon they will translate verbal expressions into algebraic expression, and solve simple equations.

News from The School Nurse

What is a healthy weight for your child?

All children have a healthy weight range depending on their age and height. If you would like to know if your child is at a healthy weight you can go on the Internet and figure out their Body Mass Index (BMI).

BMI is a calculation of weight for height and estimates how much weight is from body fat. To find your child's BMI you will need an accurate height and weight measurement. Bathroom scales and tape measures are not always correct. The best measurements are taken at the pediatrician's office or by the school nurse. For tips on getting better measurements and how to find out your child's BMI go to:

<http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/dnpabmi/Calculator.aspx>.

No matter what your child weighs, he or she should get 60 minutes of activity each day. Activity minutes can be added up during the day, 10 or 15 minutes at a time. When children get enough activity they sleep better, build muscle and bone, are more fit, and they do better in school.

KidPower News from the NH Dept of Health

Isinglass Teen Read Award

Every year students in grades seven and eight across New Hampshire have the opportunity to vote on the Isinglass Teen Read Award, which is sponsored by Barrington Middle School and Barrington Public Library. Each year twenty books are chosen and students vote for their favorite, tallies being sent to BMS. Last year seventh graders from Windham Middle School participated in the voting. Because of their participation, WMS was invited to send a small number of students to the BMS to see the winner, Sonya Sones, receive her award. Mrs. Fahey and Mrs. Greenleaf traveled with Nina Misra, Kaylyn Queen, Chris DiPersio, Maddie Northcutt, Maddie Smith, Kelsey Chase, Erica Gallo and Anna Cino on Oct. 16 to the award ceremony. Ms. Sones proved to be an entertaining speaker and truly appreciative of the award for her book One of Those Hideous Books Where the Mother Dies.

BAND AND CHORUS WINTER CONCERTS!

The music department will be performing annual winter concerts on **Tuesday, December 12 (band)** and **Wednesday, December 13 (chorus)**. Note that the days have been switched from the original schedule shown in the handbook and school webpage. Both concerts begin at 7:00pm in the gymnasium! Please come and support our musicians!

French

Well it is already the end of the quarter, and 6th grade students will be moving on to other classes. Sixth graders have finished their time learning about weather.

Seventh grade students are learning vocabulary about how to ask about family and friends. They also are studying how to say large numbers in French – VERY large!

Students in the eighth grade are finishing their quarter-long review. Currently they are working with lots of adjectives, but will soon be moving onto new material.

Guidance News

Private High School

Transcript requests have started trickling in for private high schools; please remember that this is all done through Guidance. If anyone has any questions please call Mrs. Lichtmann at 893-2636. The deadline for Central Catholic is December 9th and in January for Bishop Guertin. Please do not leave this to the last minute.

Mix It Up Day

Mix It Up Day is scheduled for November 14th during lunch. Mix It Up is a simple call to action for students, asking them to step out of their comfort zones to meet new people in the school cafeteria. Surveys identified the cafeteria as the most segregated place in the school.

M₂M

M₂M training will be held on November 6th. All Executives meet in the Media Center 7:00am All M₂M members will meet in the Café 8:30-9:30.

M₂M Connections will be in the 6th grade homerooms from 9:30-10:00.

Pay It Forward

Compliments are powerful words. November's theme is to pay compliments and see how contagious they may be. Look for all the M₂M Dollars being used to "Pay it Forward" and see how many students "bought" into the idea. Here is your challenge: How many people can you touch by passing on a good deed? Make our community and world a better place and "Pay it Forward".

Need help with Math, Reading or Organization? Stay posted for a special M₂M study mentoring session for 6th graders.

Food Drive (November 13-17)

Thanksgiving is right around the corner and Windham Middle School would like to do their part. The 3 Windham Schools will be having a friendly competition over the amount of food donated. The winning school wins the "Turkey Trophy" and proudly displays the trophy until next year's competition. Items that are in great need are: stuffing, rice, cranberry sauce etc. Please look for a flyer coming home around November 6th.

Yearbook Meeting/Sales

The next meeting will be on Thursday, November 2nd from 2:15-3pm in the Media Center. Yearbooks will be on Sale during Parent Teacher Conferences on 11/8 & 11/9. Reminder: Yearbooks can be purchased on line. Go to Windhamsd.org and click on the Jostens link.

Book Fair

Don't forget the Book Fair is coming! It will be open from Nov. 6 – Nov. 9 during lunches and after school on Nov. 8 and 9. It's a great place to start your holiday shopping. Students interested in working at the book fair may pick up applications in the office or Media Center.

PTA

Congratulations to Mrs. Fahey's and Ms. Beaver's homerooms for winning the membership contest. Each student in these homerooms will receive a complimentary video rental from Movie Scene.