



SAU 28

Windham Middle School

Windham Middle School

Daniel Moulis, Principal
Brenda Morrow, Assistant Principal

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November 2011

Principals' Corner

We are very proud of all of the middle school students. All of the students worked very hard to complete the NECAP tests to the best of their abilities. The NECAP pep rally was a success filled with NECAP cheers and slogans to keep the students energized throughout the testing.

Our fall sports teams had great seasons. All of our teams made the playoffs for their respective sports. Congratulations to all of our student athletes. They did a great job of being competitive and displaying good sportsmanship.

November is filled with exciting events. Our first Family Reading Night will take place on November 3rd at 7:00pm. Please join us in exploring the "Magic of Reading" with a magic show to kick off an evening filled with fun activities to support and encourage the love of reading.

Parent conferences scheduled for November 16th from 3:00-5:00 and November 17th from 3:00-9:00. If parents are interested in scheduling a parent/teacher conference please go to school website and click on the PTC Wizard link. The window to sign up for parent/teacher conferences will open beginning on November 7th. Enclosed is a PTC wizard letter providing information on signing up online for a parent/teacher conference.

The last event is a student assembly scheduled for November 21st. We are fortunate to have a New York City Dance Troupe visiting our school for a performance and discussion about the dangers of bullying, drugs, and alcohol.

We wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving break! Enjoy time with family and friends.

Dan Moulis, Principal
Brenda Morrow, Assistant Principal



Important Dates

Please continue to check the school calendar for changes:

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

- 10/28 Camp Bournedale Pick-up approximately 3:00 at WHS
- 11/1 Fall Sports Evening 6:30
- 11/1-4 Boys Basketball Tryouts 4 - 5:30
- 11/1-4 Girls Basketball Tryouts 2:30 - 4
- 11/1-3 Cheerleading Tryouts 4:30 - 6:30 at Center School
- 11/2 Earth Shuttle Meeting 7:00
- 11/3 Family Reading Night 7:00
- 11/4 End of Q1 Marking Period
- 11/4 School Dance 7-9
- 11/7 PTC Wizard opens 7:00 am
- 11/8 No School for Students (Teacher Workshop Day)
- 11/10 Report Cards go home
- 11/11 Veterans Day - No School
- 11/14-18 Scholastic Book Fair
- 11/16 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 11/17 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 11/17 Picture Retakes 8:00 am
- 11/18 PTA Bingo Night 6 - 7:30
- 11/21 Dance Troupe (Internet Safety)
- 11/23 Early Release Day - Dismissal 11:15
- 11/24-25 Thanksgiving Break - No School
- 12/2 2nd Qtr. Progress Reports go home

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Guidance News

NECAP:

All students completed the State NECAP Assessment this month. Students Kicked off NECAP testing with a NECAP pep rally to share the NECAP banners that they created in their advisories. One winning banner was selected from each grade level. The banners were judged by Mrs. Morrow and Mr. Moulis. The winners received a pizza party.

M2M:

M2M mentors made their second connection with their 6th grade mentee's this month. The monthly theme was Time Management.

Cyber Bullying Presentation:

We had Officer Frank from the Plymouth University Police Department come in to speak with our students on Cyber bullying and Internet Safety. Officer Frank also held a presentation for parents the same evening on Internet Safety and strategies on how to keep your child safe. Both presentations were very informative.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Windham Helping Hands will be sponsoring a food drive from November 7-18th. We will once again hold our friendly competition with Golden Brook and Center Schools and the High School this year.

Each year the food is weighed and tallied and WMS was the first to win the "Turkey Trophy". The trophy was awarded to Middle School last year-let's work together to bring home the trophy again and help others by sending in canned goods, stuffing, rice, soup etc. for the Thanksgiving food drive.

Private High School Tests/Deadlines

Attention 8th graders, it is not too early to think about high school. Many private high schools begin the application process as early as October for the following school year.

When applying, most schools require the completion of an application, school transcripts, and letters of recommendation in addition to taking an entrance exam. Please give all application information to Mrs. Rogers or Mrs. Wagoner in Guidance along with a personal biography. Be sure to include information about your academic performance, as well as any sports, clubs, service organizations, etc. in which you have been involved during your past 8 years of school. The biography should demonstrate that you are a well-rounded student, as this is what many of the schools look for in their selection process.

All applications, including biographies, recommendation letters, and transcript requests, should be submitted to Guidance. The guidance department will then forward the completed application package on to the private high school before the deadline. Please see Mrs. Rogers or Mrs. Wagoner if you have any questions.

Trinity HS

Admissions Exam:

October 29, 2011:
Admissions Test Date,
8:30-11:30 a.m

November 19, 2011:
Make-up Test Date,
8:30-11:30 a.m.

Central Catholic

Entrance Exam:

Saturday, November 12,
2011 and Saturday
December 10, 2011

Bishop Guertin

Entrance Exam:

Saturday, October 29,
2011 (8am) or Saturday,
November 12, 2011 (8am)



"We will once again hold our friendly competition with Golden Brook, Center School & the High School for the Thanksgiving Food Drive."



Windham Middle School

Sixth Grade News

The 6th grade enjoyed their week at Camp Bournedale. We're lucky to have such fantastic coordinators to put on this great trip and the 6th grade team thanks them for their preparations in making everything run smoothly while we're there!

In math we're finishing up Prime Time and are excited to move onto our next unit, Bits & Pieces I. We will begin working on fraction operations, decimals, and percents. In pre-algebra we're getting to the real "algebra" stuff in working with expressions and learning properties of numbers. Students are doing a fantastic job with the material as they continue to work hard at the curriculum.



Seventh Grade News

In seventh grade reading, we will be reading our first whole-class novel in November: *Tangerine*, by Edward Bloor. We look forward to exploring the various literary devices in this novel, including character, flash-back, point of view, symbolism, and theme. The culminating project for this novel is *The Tangerine Times*, a newsletter that encapsulates important aspects of the book.

In language arts, students will be continuing work with vocabulary in *Classical Roots*, as well as incorporating varied sentence structure into their writing. Essay writing will be the focus for November, and we will work on writing strong thesis statements and five paragraph essays.

Seventh grade math will complete the unit on ratio, proportions and percents including word problems with proportions and percents and then move on to Integers. They will do all 4 basic operations with integers. Seventh grade Pre-algebra will complete the unit on Integers including reflections and translations on the coordinate grid. They will move on to operations with signed rational numbers and comparing signed rational numbers. Seventh grade Algebra I will complete the unit on different word problems (coins, age, motion and mixture) and move on to graphing linear equations, rate of change and direct variation including linear sequences.

Seventh grade science classes are finishing up a unit on classification and will be starting a new unit on bacteria and

viruses. It seems to be good timing since the flu season is almost upon us.

Community Building at Camp Lincoln

Last month, the seventh grade went to Camp Lincoln for the day. They enjoyed a myriad of team-building activities in the morning, and then personally challenged themselves in a high-ropes course in the afternoon. Teachers and students alike benefited from this day and will continue to reinforce this sense of community throughout the school year in Advisory.

“Seventh graders will continue to reinforce this sense of community throughout the school year in Advisory.”



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Eighth Grade News



"Don't forget to check Moodle!"

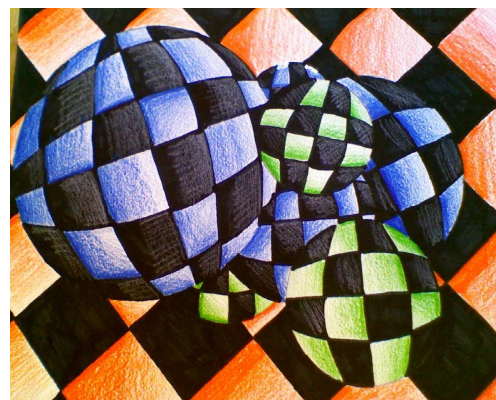
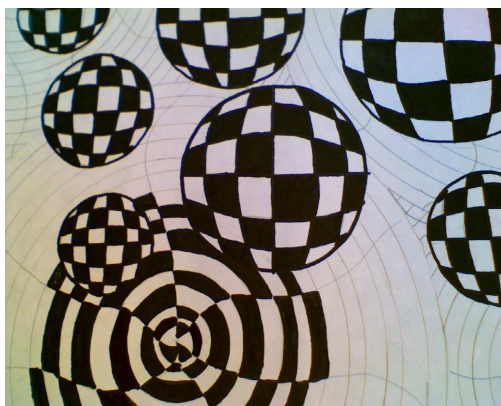
In eighth grade, the language arts classes just finished their tolerance unit regarding examples of scapegoating throughout world history. The culminating activity was a trip to Salem, Massachusetts. In November, students will be learning about elements of gothic horror and will be exposed to short stories by Edgar Allan Poe and other great writers. In social studies, students will

be discussing the formation and creation of the United States. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson's presidency will be evaluated. ILS classes will be working on Type 4 Learning, a typing tutorial to practice keyboarding skills. In Pre-Algebra, 8th graders have completed their probability unit and will review integer operations before starting linear relationships.

Algebra students will continue solving equations to find the solution for a variable. Geometry students will be quizzed on logic and are preparing for proofs. In science the students continue working on chemistry concepts - especially chemical reactions.

Art Department News

It has been a very busy Fall! We've been having fun introducing different types of art to our eager learners. The students have been creating some interesting work and we're happy to show it off!



These pictures are from an Optical Illusion project our 7th graders are currently working on. The one on the left is a work in progress.

Windham Middle School

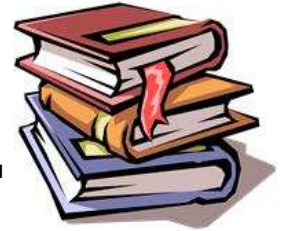
Media Center News

The Media Center continues to be one of the busiest rooms in the school! Students come in daily to return books they have read, and immediately replace them with new books. Students are recommending books to their friends, so those that are the most highly recommended are difficult to keep on the shelves! Students are able to put books on hold to ensure that they will get the ones

they want as soon as they are returned. Keep up the great reading Middle Schoolers!

Thanks go out to an expanding student crew. These students are willing to come to the library when they are free to shelve books and help students find the books they are looking for. Also, these avid readers make great suggestions to their classmates about books they have enjoyed. Great work!

The Scholastic Book fair returns to WMS during the week of conferences, 11/14 – 18. Additionally, this year you will have the ability to purchase book fair books online. Stay tuned for more information about when the book fair will be open, and how to purchase books from the online book fair! We will be looking for student helpers. Please see Mrs. Smith for details.



Fall Sports

Congratulations to all our Fall Sports Teams. Boys and Girls XC, Boys and Girls Soccer, Volleyball and Field Hockey. We had another very successful year and all the athletes did a wonderful job representing WMS as student-athletes.

All of our teams qualified for the play offs, and a special congratulations to the boys soccer team who made it to the finals for the fourth straight year and ended up the Class I regular season champs. The Field Hockey team also won their 3rd straight Division II regular season championship as well as being Tri-County Champs!!



Music News

The WMAA (Windham Musical Arts Association) will be holding another pie fundraiser this year to help the music departments at both the middle and high schools. Forms can be found outside the main office at the middle school and turned in to Mrs. Cuneo in room 222. Donated pies can also be ordered and will be delivered on your behalf to the Shepherd's Pantry. Those who order pies will need to pick them up at the high school on either Tuesday November 22 (Thanksgiving orders) or Thursday December 22 (Christmas orders). See order forms for more details.



Windham Middle School

Family Reading Night



Please come and join us for an exciting evening of activities designed to promote a love of reading! **Thursday, November 3rd** is the date for a fun-filled WMS event. Please come experience a program specifically selected by our Reading/Library staff. The fun starts at **7:00 PM** in the WMS Media Center with a magical performance by Philip A. Smith from *Abacadabra Productions*. After the show, all participants will be able to visit various stations: a poetry table, technology-in-reading location, create-your-own-bookmarks station with the Art staff, and our first Parent Book Club gathering.

Please bring friends and family, parents, students and siblings. All are welcome to attend the first WMS Family Reading Night.

PTA Bingo Night

PTA Bingo/Game Night

The PTA is sponsoring a bingo and board game night on Friday, November 18th from 6 - 7:30pm for the middle school students.

The cost is \$3.00

There will be prizes and refreshments.

SMILES Club



The Smiles Club visited the Windham Terrace on Wednesday, October 26. This is an annual trip and this year was special because it was a Halloween Party. Approximately 30 members prepared nice Trick or Treat bags for the residents. Some items in the bags are:

- a real pumpkin (donated by the Donabedian family)
- crossword puzzle books
- Caramel chocolates
- Assorted candies

There are also a lot of door prizes such as Hand & Body lotions, door wreaths and lighted pumpkins. This trip is always a huge hit with all of the students, and this year looks to be one of the very best yet.

Windham Middle School

Internet Safety Dance Troupe Assembly

The Windham Middle School students will have a special assembly on Nov. 21st highlighting Jim Linehan's Dance Troupe. This New York City dance troupe will conduct a high-energy dance performance to highlight the importance of individuality. The members of this dance group will share individual struggles they have faced in their lives, including bullying, drugs and alcohol, as well as, how they overcame these struggles. The assembly will stress the importance of making good choices and the ability to overcome obstacles. For more information see the Jim Linehan's Dance Troup website:

jimlinehandancetroupe.com.

Earth Shuttle

It's not too late to sign up for Earth Shuttle!

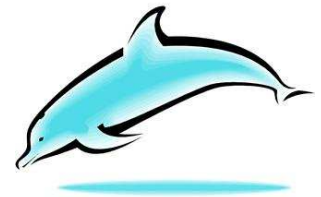
Earth Shuttle is an educational program for students interested in learning outside the classroom. Students take notes in all educational programs to use in writing a report when they return.

This year's itinerary includes:

- **Sea World:** "Saving Our Seas" an up close and personal behind the scenes look at animals being rehabilitated so they can be released back into their natural habitat.
- **Fort DeSoto State Park** –Participate in a dissection and kayak around mangroves in search of exotic plants and animals. Snorkeling, dip netting and beach study.
- **MOSI- Museum of Science and Industry:** Participate in a simulated space mission in the Challenger Learning Center. Create a comet using common household materials.
- **American Pro-Diving:** Snorkel w/Manatees; learn about the history and conservation of these endangered animals, explore Rainbow River and its abundant wildlife and search for prehistoric sharks teeth.

Discovery Cove - "Dolphin & Coral Reef Experience"

Students may register for the 2012 trip by picking up a registration form from Mrs. Pierpont or Miss Corbin. You may also register online at www.worldstrides.org using the trip ID# 69011. Cost of this year's trip: Student \$2,282.00 Adult \$2,396.00



November 1, 2011

Dear Parents,

We are once again using the on-line program called “PTC Wizard” to schedule parent teacher conferences.

The PTC Wizard system allows you to schedule your own appointments with your child’s teachers. The portal for this program will be on the front page of the Windham Middle School website, <http://www.windhamsd.org/wms/index.cfm>. You will be able to view the portal to the PTC Wizard beginning Monday, November 7th, @ 7:00am and it will remain there until Monday, November 14th @ 9:00pm. Parent conferences will be held on Wednesday, November 16th from 3-5pm and on Thursday, November 17th from 3 – 8:45pm. The sign-ups for parents will be on a first come first serve basis. In order to accommodate all WMS families, **please limit your conference sign-ups to two (2) teachers.**

When you access the website by going to <http://www.windhamsd.org/wms/index.cfm>, on the right side of the page, you will see the portal and be able to register. You begin by entering your name, an e-mail address and a password. Once you enter your child’s name, you will be taken through a simple, step-by-step procedure, which allows you to choose from your child’s teachers’ available time slots. After you create a conference schedule for yourself, the details of your schedule will be automatically e-mailed to you. An instruction guide to walk you through this procedure for the first time can be found at https://demo.ptcwizard.com/docs/ptcwizard_parent.pdf. Should you have any questions regarding how to use this system, feel free to send an e-mail to Gail Low, a member of the WMS staff. Her e-mail address is glow@windhamsd.org.

We look forward to seeing you at the fall Parent-Teacher Conferences scheduled for November 16th and 17th. Your attendance sends a very strong message to your child. Let your child know how important his/her education is to you.

Sincerely,

Daniel Moulis
Principal