

# **CUTLER ARTS & HUMANITIES MAGNET MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - November 2019**

## **CUTLER ARTS & HUMANITIES MAGNET MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT**

At Cutler Arts & Humanities Magnet Middle School, we use the ARTS and HUMANITIES to engage students in inquiry based learning. Our students are active and responsible citizens who create, perform, respond, and connect in our global society.

### **From the Principal's Desk**

Dear Cutler Families,

It is hard to believe we are already completing the first quarter of the school year. There is LOTS happening at Cutler in and out of the classroom. Please take a few moments to review the items in this newsletter.

We are appreciative of all parents and guardians who took the time to join us for parent / teacher conferences last month. I hope that you found them informative and time well spent. As always, please don't hesitate to call or email us here at school.

Sincerely,

*Peter Bass*

Principal

## **2019-2020 CAHMMS Yearbooks are on Sale!**

CAHMMS yearbooks are available to order now! Yearbooks will cost \$20 if ordered prior to December 31st. After that date, they will be \$25. Order now to reserve your yearbook! Details can be found on the Cutler website. Just follow the links to order!

If you use the order form that was sent home, please write your check out to Cutler Arts and Humanities Magnet Middle School.

### **No School**

Tuesday, November 5th: Teacher Professional Development

Monday, November 11th: Veterans' Day

Wednesday, November 27th, Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th: Thanksgiving Break

### **TLI EARLY RELEASE DAYS**

There are 4 remaining early dismissal days this year for the Teaching and Learning Initiative (TLI) for staff.

The TLI early dismissal days are:

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

All students will be dismissed at 12:32 p.m. Lunch will be served on these early dismissal days.

### **PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS**

Friday, April 3, 2020 (conferences held the evening of April 2)

All students will be dismissed at 12:32 p.m. Lunch will be served on this early dismissal day.

### **Did you know?**

Smart watches (such as Apple Watch) are electronic devices. If students choose to bring a smart watch to school it should be turned off / silenced and stored in their locked lockers from bell to bell.

### **Extracurricular Activity Eligibility**

In accordance with the middle school philosophy, extracurricular activities are offered and encouraged. Various sports and activities are available. We recognize the importance of both academic success and participation in extra-curricular activities. Students must maintain passing grades in all subjects to be eligible to participate in these extracurricular activities. Therefore, if a student is failing one or more classes at the end of a grade reporting period the student and parent would be notified and would have two weeks from the date of notification to show substantial growth in the subject(s) in which the student failed or be removed from all extra-curricular activities.

## Student Spectators

Student spectators must have a permission slip for each basketball game. Please see the link on our website to print a permission slip. Signed slips should be dropped off at the office in the morning on the day of the game as students enter the school.

## Attendance Policy

Connecticut state law holds parents or guardians responsible for their student(s) attending school regularly during the hours and terms school is in session. It has been well demonstrated that regular attendance is a key factor in success in school. Parents are requested to call the office by 9:00 a.m. if their child will be absent from school that day. If we do not receive a call from you, you will receive a call from School Messenger requesting confirmation of your child's absence. Each absence will be recorded as either excused or unexcused. The school will make this determination on the day of the absence or the day the student returns to school. An excused absence will be recorded when the school receives a phone call **and a note from the parent**. Excused absences shall include illness, death in the family, religious holidays and other legitimate reasons as specifically approved by the principal. An unexcused absence will be recorded when a communication from the parent is not received before, during or immediately after an absence. The parent is responsible for notifying the school of all absences. Each unexcused absence will be reported as truancy. Please refer to page 17 of the Middle School Handbook for a detailed description of the truancy policy. Copies of the handbook are available in the main office and guidance office. ***Please be aware that a phone call no longer excuses a student's absence. A note must be forwarded to the school's secretary upon return to school in order for an absence to be considered excused in accordance with Section 10-210 of the Connecticut General Statutes.***

## Absences

If your child is absent from or will be tardy to school, please call the school at (860) 572-5830 before 9:30 a.m. Connecticut State Department of Education policy requires a **written** note from a parent/guardian upon the child's return to school.

## Late Arrival

Students should not arrive before 7:55 a.m. The first school bell rings at 7:55 a.m. and homeroom begins at 8:05 a.m. at which time attendance is taken. Students are considered tardy if not in homeroom by 8:05 a.m. and should report to the main office to sign in. Students who are tardy three times without a valid excuse may be assigned a detention.

## Student Early Dismissal

Should it be necessary for a student to be dismissed from school early, please send a written note to school. The note should be dropped off in the office first thing in the morning. Students will then be given an early dismissal pass so they will be ready for you when you arrive to pick them up. Your ID is required to pick up your child.

## **Transportation Change**

A note is required if students are going home from school by means other than their normal assignment, whether they are walkers or bus riders. All notes must be brought to the office during homeroom. Students are not allowed to ride other buses to friends' houses.

## **Student pickup after school**

If you are picking up your child after school from an activity (club, sports, etc.), particularly between 3:45 and 4:05 p.m., please do not block the driveway/fire lane in front of the school, as our late buses must be able to pull into the driveway and park in front of our main entrance. Feel free to park in one of the parking spots and/or arrange to have your child meet you on the side of the school closest to Route 1.

## **Delayed Opening, Early Dismissal and No School Information**

Selected radio and television stations will carry the announcement for no school or delayed openings. When an early dismissal is called information regarding dismissal times can also be found by going to the Groton Public Schools website ([www.groton.k12.ct.us](http://www.groton.k12.ct.us)) and click on the URGENT INFO button. Normal delayed openings will be 2 hours unless otherwise notified. Notice of such closing is broadcast on local radio stations, through the School Messenger auto dialing system, and on our website at [www.grotonschools.org](http://www.grotonschools.org). Please listen to the radio or television and check your messages. Please do not call the school, central office, police, or radio stations. NOTE: It is important that your contact number be kept up-to-date with your child/children's school so that you receive all messages. Tune into any of the following for this information:

WBMW 106.5 FM I98.3 FM  
WCTY 97.7 FM WFSB TV – Channel 3  
WICH 1310 AM WTNH TV – Channel 8  
WKNL 100.9 FM WVIT TV – Channel 30  
WNLC 98.7 FM GPS – Channel 19  
WILI 1400 AM

School Messenger: This is a “phone alert” system. The Superintendent will send messages home or to designated numbers to notify families of delays or cancellations.

## **Safety in our Schools**

When you visit our school, you will notice the identification badges all staff members are wearing. This is part of Groton Public Schools' safety plan to protect our students. To access the building during school hours please press the silver button located on the security camera located on the LEFT column and face the camera. Someone from the main office will ‘unlock’ the LEFT door. All visitors to our school must report to the Main Office, sign in, and receive a visitor badge before entering the building. As always you should have your photo ID ready and available. This procedure allows parent and community involvement while ensuring the safety of our students.

## School Lunch Program

**Remember:** You only need to fill out one form for your entire family, and you can fill out an application at any time during the school year if your income changes. If you need assistance filling out this form please contact Food Services directly at (860)-449-7208. If your child received free/reduced lunch last year, you **must** reapply this year. Those families with a TANF form from the Department of Social Services should send that form to the school office immediately (you are not required to complete the GPS form).

### Breakfast and Lunch Prices for the School Year 2019-2020

**Breakfast Full Pay Middle School:** \$1.50      **Lunch Full Pay Middle:** \$2.80

**Breakfast Reduced:** Breakfast \$0.30      **Lunch Reduced:** \$0.40

**Milk** - per carton \$0.50

### Horizon Point of Sale Computers

The Food Service Department uses the Horizon computerized system in all cafeterias. Each student has their own account and pin number, and deposits in any amount may be made to the student's personal account. Any time you have questions about your child's account you may contact your child(ren)'s cafeteria manager for a "History Transaction Report", which shows all transactions made in a student's account. If you wish to prepay online, please visit is [mypaymentsplus.com](http://mypaymentsplus.com). You will need your child's school ID number to set this up.

### Charge Policy

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is the policy of Groton Public Schools to allow a full pay student to charge up to \$11.75 at the Elementary schools and \$12.15 for Middle and High School, and reduced meals up to \$2.10. (All charge limits are equal to 3 days of Breakfast and Lunch charges). If no payment is received to cover the charges, then the student will be offered an "Oops" meal in place of the menu meal, however there will be a limit on the number of "Oops" meals allowed during the year. You will be contacted if there is a recurring problem. An "Oops" meal consists of PB&J sandwich, fruit and milk.

## **Student Council**

Greetings from Student Council! We are so proud of those members who ran for officer positions and presented speeches to the entire CAHMMS student body. Our Student Council officers for the 2019-2020 school year are as follows: Elaina B. (President), Cassidy B. (Vice President), Marissa H. (Secretary) and Kathryn R. (Treasurer). We are always welcoming new ideas to Student Council. If you would like to be involved and haven't made it to a meeting yet, it's not too late! We typically meet every other Wednesday in Room 20 until late bus, but please check the morning announcements for updates.

We will be planning some fun activities and fundraisers for the fall including a Fall Harvest Dance and community sock drive. The dance will be held on Friday, November 22nd from 3-5pm. Permission slips will be distributed and are required in order to attend the dance. The community sock drive will begin on November 1st and run through the end of the month. More information will be given to students during advisory time on Fridays. Please feel free to contact Ms. Fiore [bfiore@groton.k12.ct.us](mailto:bfiore@groton.k12.ct.us) or Ms. Brown [sbrown@groton.k12.ct.us](mailto:sbrown@groton.k12.ct.us) with any questions.

## **Eye to Eye Mentoring Program**

The Eye to Eye national mentoring program has begun at Cutler! We have 20 trained Connecticut College students with learning differences, including dyslexia and ADHD, to mentor similarly-identified middle school students. This is an art based, social-emotional, scientifically proven intervention with high-impact results. If you would like more information about this after school program, please Email Mrs. Ambroise (Mrs. A) at [Lambroise@groton.k12.ct.us](mailto:Lambroise@groton.k12.ct.us) , or you can visit the Eye to Eye mentoring program's website: [www.eyetoeyenational.org/signup](http://www.eyetoeyenational.org/signup)

## School-Based Health Center News

The SBHC is run by **Child and Family Agency of Southeastern CT (CFA)** and we are one of 10 SBHCs in the Groton, New London and Stonington areas. CFA's main office is located in New London. The SBHCs in Groton are located at Catherine Kolnaski Magnet School, Claude Chester Elementary School, Cutler Arts and Humanities Magnet Middle School, Fitch High School, and West Side STEM Magnet Middle School.

The staff at CMS includes Anne Ravenscroft, the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Amanda Frechette, the Mental Health Clinician, and Liz Weber, our new Medical Assistant/Secretary. Anne provides medical coverage on Monday, Friday, and every other Wednesday. Amanda is here for mental health services during the week, although her schedule varies. Our phone number is **860-572-4448**, if we are not in the office we will call you back within 24 hours.

Students must be registered with the school-based health center to obtain services. All students will receive a registration packet on the first day of school for you to register your child if you wish. We ask that parents of a student who is already registered to complete a new packet so we can have your most recent information on file.

A student can be seen at the SBHC for a medical visit in several ways. Students who become ill or injured during the school day may be referred for evaluation by the school nurse. A parent can also call and request to have their child seen for an illness. Anne may also schedule an appointment for a student who needs follow up care. Finally, she may schedule students with chronic medical conditions such as asthma or weight management for routine review. She will either call the parent or send a note home after seeing a child.

We do offer the influenza vaccine each year. Permission forms will be sent to all students for you to indicate if you would like us to vaccinate your child at the SBHC.

**We are not a substitute for your child's primary care provider (PCP). Routine school physical exams** should be scheduled with the PCP – please make your appointment well in advance. We can do urgent sports clearance exams as our schedule permits and per your medical insurance guidelines. We can provide required school physical exams for those students who do not have medical insurance or a PCP. We do send reports to PCP's if your child is seen for a medical issue. Anne may also call a provider to discuss concerns.

Students who are struggling with emotional or behavioral issues, family relationship problems, or other mental health concerns may benefit from the SBHC's counseling services. Amanda, our mental health clinician, can provide individual, family, or group counseling as well as crisis intervention. CMS guidance counselors, the school psychologist, or administrators may refer a student for counseling. Alternatively, parents can contact the SBHC directly to speak with Amanda. Students are usually seen during the school day; however, other arrangements can be made to fit a child or family's needs. A psychiatric evaluation for ongoing medication management with one of CFA's child psychiatrists can be arranged in conjunction with counseling.

There is never a direct cost to the family for SBHC services. We are required by the Department of Health to attempt to bill a student's medical insurance company for the visit but we **do not** collect co-payments, balances or other fees. There is never a fee for those students who do not have health insurance.

Please call us at **860-572-4448** with any questions. We love to do all that we can to make sure our CAHMMS students have a healthy and productive school year.

## **Parent Teacher Organization**

### **PTO NEWS**

Please be on the look-out for information regarding upcoming fundraisers! Our first dine-out of the year will be at Manana Modern Mexican on Sunday, November 10th. The next dine-out will be at Mango's Pizza in Mistick Village on Dec. 4th. These dine-outs are a great way to avoid cooking, support the Cutler community and get your holiday shopping underway.

Looking ahead: the next PTO meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 12th at 6:00 in the media center; there will be no December meeting, but if you'd like to plan ahead for 2020, the PTO will meet again on Jan. 14th at 6:00.

### **PTO-8th Grade Committee**

This year's PTO 8th grade committee held its first meeting and preparations are underway for the end of the year activities that include the 8th grader dance, field day, t-shirts, and more. 8th grade families keep an eye out for a donation flyer coming home soon to support these activities. If you would like to help with planning please attend the next meeting, which will be held Tuesday, January 14th at 7pm in the Media Center. Holiday Poinsettia and Wreath Sale-the 8th grade committee will be selling beautiful poinsettias and wreaths from Pequot Plant Farm with delivery right after Thanksgiving break. Watch for an email and flyer mid-November.

**CHECK IT OUT:** Like us on Facebook to keep up to date with the latest happenings with the CAHMMS PTO. Also stay informed by clicking on the PTO link on the CAHMMS PTO webpage. Check out the ways in which you can help:

- Corporate or Company Sponsorship / Matching Funds
- Amazon Smile

Parent involvement is critical for a successful school, so please consider volunteering and/or helping with one or more of our many fundraisers and events throughout the school year. Dedicated TEACHERS, STAFF, and PARENTS make Cutler Arts and Humanities Magnet Middle School great! Thank you for supporting your PTO!  
Your involvement makes a difference!



## **TEAM UPDATES**

### **Grade 6 Team A**

#### **Language Arts – Ms. Kelly**

Team A is working hard on our narratives! We've been exploring strategies to ensure that our writing is as detailed as possible, and now we're moving into drafting and editing. We're looking forward to sharing finished products with you by the end of the month! In reading news, we're expanding our understandings of why characters do what they do by looking into character traits and examining pressures on characters. We're looking forward to continuing to consider motivations and perspectives!

#### **Math – Mr. Rege**

Hello Friends and Families,

October was a busy month and November will be another. In class we are finishing our Prime Time Unit. Our final investigation will include the Distributive Property and the Order of Operations. We will have our first unit assessment by the middle of the month. Stay tuned for study guides and review sessions. We will then move into our next unit, Comparing Bits and Pieces. In this unit we will explore ratios, rates, integers, and percents! As always, feel free to contact me at any time.

Thanks,

Mr. Rege

#### **Science – Ms. Popp**

In 6th grade science we are continuing our study of weather and climate. The students are learning about how different salinities and different temperatures have different densities which lead to the formation of ocean currents and wind currents. We will also study the water cycle. Next, we will discover how water holds on to heat longer than land which creates changes in weather patterns locally and globally. Following that we will examine how human activities can increase the levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and therefore increase climate globally.

#### **Social Studies – Mr. Byassee**

In Social Studies during the month of November students will continue becoming proficient in the area of Geographic Literacy. Thus far we have been investigating the common elements found on many maps: the legend, compass rose and map scale. Students will continue by learning to utilize the many types of maps cartographers create. Vocabulary such as landforms, topography, theme, and frequency will be explored.

## **Grade 6 Team B**

### **Language Arts – Mrs. J. Panucci**

Happy November! In Mrs. Panucci's classes we are continuing with our Deep Study of Character Unit for reading. Students continue their journey in investigating character traits, pressures on characters, and perspective. In writing we are in the midst of our personal narratives. We are continuing to learn about descriptive, sensory, and figurative language and how to apply it to our own writing. I am SO thrilled to see the progress of all my students and cannot wait to see the finished product!

### **Math – Ms. Morelli**

We will be wrapping up our Prime Time unit which focused on factors and multiples. Next we will be moving into our Comparing Bits and Pieces unit which focuses on ratios, rational numbers, and equivalence. We will be learning about how ratios work to compare quantities. This relates to using fractions to describe those comparisons.

### **Science – Mr. Luong**

In 6th grade science we are continuing our study of weather and climate. The students are learning about how different salinities and different temperatures have different densities which lead to the formation of ocean currents and wind currents. We will also study the water cycle. Next, we will discover how water holds on to heat longer than land which creates changes in weather patterns locally and globally. Following that we will examine how human activities can increase the levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and therefore increase climate globally.

### **Social Studies – Ms. Winter**

Wow, have we have been busy! Our October journey in social studies introduced a unit where students have been reading and using various types of maps...terminology such as compass rose, scale, and elevation are becoming commonplace. With that said, these concepts are a great segue into more geographic literacy...cartography, landforms, topography, theme, frequency (just to name a few). Additionally, students have been utilizing their problem-solving strategies appropriately and frequently (it is terrific when they make reference to their usage), as well as tapping into their resources to arrive at an answer. Finally, we continue to give necessary attention to vocabulary and reading the question, keeping us literate. Kudos!

## **Grade 7 Team C**

### **Language and Literature – Ms. Reinhold**

I really enjoyed meeting with so many parents and grandparents during conferences. Taking the time to check in about your student's progress certainly sends the message to your student that you value the important work they do every day in school.

At the end of October we completed our unit on investigating characterization. Students read incredible books and had amazing discussions about perspective, how authors craft characters, and the ways that an author uses techniques to convey a theme through a character. In the end, book clubs created a talk about how the author of their club books crafted characters, revealed perspective and conveyed the theme of the book. These thoughtfully done presentations were recorded using our chromebooks and the videos were then converted to QR codes. Classmates and future students who are browsing for a book to read will have the QR code available to view through using a smartphone or iPad. This project provides a more authentic way to share work with a wider audience, something that many middle schoolers love! In the near future, some of these presentations will be on my class website.

<https://sites.google.com/groton.k12.ct.us/cahmms-7c/language-and-literature>

Heading into November, we will begin our unit on writing realistic fiction. I look forward to seeing how the students incorporate their knowledge of author's craft and characterization into their stories.

### **Math - Mr. Panucci (see team D, Mr. Masterjoseph)**

### **Science – Ms. Fiore**

Happy autumn from Team C Science! I would like to start by saying thank you to all the families who were able to attend the parent teacher conferences last month. During the month of November, we will continue to learn about matter and chemical reactions. Students are also continuing to work on skills related to lab report writing and data collection. Don't forget to visit the Team C website for nightly homework assignments.

### **Social Studies – Ms. S. Panucci**

HAPPY THANKSGIVING! During the month of November, Ms. Panucci's Individuals and Society students will work on their summative assessment for the Geography of European Countries and Russia. Students will create an informational piece with the following features: location, bodies of water, physical features, climate, vegetation, natural resources and fun facts. In addition, students will create a cultural exhibit to persuade their peers that their country's unique culture will enhance his/her quality of life. Students will have an opportunity to do a Gallery Walk and assess their peers' exhibits

## **Grade 7 Team D**

### **Language Arts – Ms. Delaporta**

During the month of November in 7th grade ELA we will be finishing up our unit of “Investigating Characterization” with a digital assessment in which students discuss and analyze their book club books. Some of the reports will be on titles such as Fish in a Tree, Okay For Now, and All American Girl. We will also continue to work on our grammar, involving students to actively practice and pay close attention to capitalization, punctuation, and the different spellings/definitions for the same words. The last main focus of November for ELA includes diving into writing about realistic fiction. Stay tuned for those rough drafts and final copies of writing!

### **Math - Mr. Masterjoseph (Team D) and Mr. Panucci (Team C)**

Mr. Masterjoseph’s & Mr. Panucci’s Math 7 Happenings Newsletter

#### **NOTE TO PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN GRADE 7**

Parents & Guardians,

Mr. Panucci and I would like to thank all parents for their ongoing communication and support. We truly appreciate your help as we work as a team to make sure your child has a successful year in mathematics. Please continue to urge your child to complete assignments regularly so that they reinforce skills taught in class. Your support at home is making great contributions to your child’s learning.

Math 7 Students had a successful start of the school year working with two dimensional geometric shapes and their applications to the real world. Math 7 students have just begun the study of integers and the rational number system. This will lead into the study of order of operation, and how important they are for school and the real world. Understanding of integers is a critical foundation for interpreting expressions and solving equations/inequalities. As part of our efforts to link these ideas to real-world authentic concepts, students will be making connections with integers in relation to the number line, credit, debit, elevation, dissection expression, and temperature.

Advanced 7 Students began the year with the same concepts as Math 7. However, they applied the concepts to a much deeper level and a much faster pace. They have also just completed their first Unit Exam. Students will need to master these concepts in order to proceed to Algebra I Honors in 8th grade. Math 7 advanced student are quickly realizing that they will be challenged this year in mathematics and will need to study, complete assignments, and see us for extra help ASAP.

Projects are on display in room #23 & #24. Mr. Panucci and we look forward to parents/guardians viewing them during parent conferences, October 23rd & 24th. There are also resources located on the CAHMMS Website.

## IS YOUR CHILD A FINANCIAL WIZARD?

If your child is enrolled in the co-taught financial investment course by Mr. Panucci & Mr. Masterjoseph?

## IS YOUR CHILD A MATH SUPERSTAR??

There are three different ways that scholars can earn a place of honor on the

Math Superstars display:

- ❖ 100% homework return;
- ❖ Highest average in each class;
- ❖ 95% or above on all tests & quizzes

All assignments are posted on google classroom. Code: mbte8n

Any students requiring additional help are urged to visit Math Lunch Bunch offered by Mr. Masterjoseph Monday – Wednesday or after school on Thursday and before school as requested. Mr. Panucci offers extra help before school on Mondays and during lunch on Tuesdays and Fridays. He also offers basketball practice on before school on Wednesdays.

P.S. We are always available for communication with parents. Feel free to contact either of us at school or via email at [mmasterjoseph@groton.k12.ct.us](mailto:mmasterjoseph@groton.k12.ct.us) or [rpanucci@groton.k12.ct.us](mailto:rpanucci@groton.k12.ct.us).

## **Science – Mr. Browne**

I wanted to start off by thanking all the parents who stopped by for conferences at the end of October. I really appreciate everyone who took time out of their schedules to check in with me and converse over successes and areas to work on going forward. Any parents who met with a different member of team D or anyone that was unable to attend and has questions or concerns in science, please don't hesitate to send an email. I also wanted to thank all the parents of soccer players who support the team by watching the games, picking up their students from practices, and by making our end of season party great!

The students will be continuing their unit on chemistry. We will be focusing on applying what we've learned about matter to a project with the Mystic Museum of Art. Our goal will be to wrap up this first unit before Thanksgiving break.

## **Social Studies – Ms. Waddicor**

We have been working very hard in Mrs. Waddicor's Individuals and Society classes! During the months of September and October we have been studying the geography of European countries and Russia. Now, in November, we are putting all of our knowledge and research together to create a final summative project. This project will consist of 2 parts. The first part will be an informational piece which will focus on the following features: location, bodies of water, physical features, climate, vegetation, natural resources and fun facts. Part 2, will consist of a cultural exhibit to persuade their peers that their country's unique culture will enhance his/her quality of life. The students will have an opportunity to participate in a Gallery Walk and assess their peer's exhibits. I would like to wish all of my students and their families a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

## **Grade 8 Team E**

### **Language Arts – Victoria Patrick**

Team E Language Arts is deep into our Memoir unit. Students have been spending a lot of time writing and coming up with Small Moment Narratives, short stories about events that have happened in their lives. The idea is that they will have a large selection to choose from in their Writer's Notebook once we begin drafting their memoir. Students were also tasked with finding a novel length memoir to read as their independent reading book. The hope is that students will use the books they are reading as mentor texts while writing their own memoir. We took a "field trip" to the school library to look for memoirs, I purchased quite a few from the Book Barn for students to borrow, and I gave students lists of memoirs they could read and where they could find them. This month, we also began our first unit of vocabulary. Students have been working hard at studying the vocabulary words and we had some fun by using Kahoot! for studying. I am very excited to get started on drafting memoirs and I cannot wait to read what students write!

### **Math – Ms. Lucy**

Math 8 students are working on writing linear equations in slope-intercept form. They have compared graphs of various equations, taking note of how each number affected the steepness, trend, or intercept of each line. They have worked on using function tables to find solutions, or ordered pairs, for lines and are able to verify whether or not an ordered pair is a solution to a given equation. Students are also working on their slope picture project, where they created an original drawing on graph paper and calculated the slope of each line segment. We will soon be progressing into writing linear equations from real world scenarios.

Algebra students are working on their trimester 1 project on patterns. They have each selected 4 patterns of their choice; are representing them in a visually interesting way; are creating a table of values, graph, and equation for each; and are creating written explanations of the patterns. We are also making our way through unit 2, equalities and inequalities, where students are learning how to solve multi-step equations using inverse operations. They will be practicing their skills on writing equations from word problems as well.

### **Social Studies – Ms. McCabe**

The eighth graders on Team E are continuing to work hard in Social Studies. My mid-November we will be done with our colonial America unit. Students have enjoyed creating "emoji stories" to retell the founding of the Pennsylvania colony. Creating the visual stories has been engaging, collaborative and fun for all the students in the class. To wrap up our unit, students will participate in a group project, in which they will use a colony simulator to practice building their own settlements in North America. I can't wait to see what the students come up with!

### **Science – Ms. Conway-Fenn**

This month in Science we have been using our understanding of Newton's Laws to help us learn about the force of gravity in our solar system. Be on the lookout for planetary art, and be sure to ask your child about their experience walking through the Solar System in the hallway!

## **Grade 8 Team F**

### **Language Arts - Ms. Cady**

Students have begun the Memoir Unit and are in the process of reading/discussing a variety of memoirs as well as determining a memoir's characteristics. They will be using their writing notebooks quite a bit as they draft a number of memories in excerpt form, trying to incorporate the aspects of memoirs as determined in class. We will be delving into figurative language and imagery and the effect of setting and mood. Theme will also be a part of our discussions. By Friday, all students should have a memoir book of choice to read. Students have completed 6-word memoirs and will be turning in their best two-sentence horror stories this week, complete with an illustration.

### **Social Studies - Individuals & Societies (U.S. History) – Mr. Murallo**

We are continuing our IB approach to teaching colonial developments. The students are researching, studying and reporting their findings on one of 3 geographic regions of Colonial America. These include the New England, Middle and Southern Colonies. Each group will report to the class their findings via slides, posters, or *PowerPoint* presentations. In addition, the class will be assessed by writing a persuasive paper which will identify the reasons why a settler would desire to live and work in one of these areas. Pros and cons will be an important part of the writing. A review of the important components of a well written persuasive paper will be practiced and learned prior to the assessment.

### **Science – Mr. Beriau**

This month in Science we have been using our understanding of Newton's Laws to help us learn about the force of gravity in our solar system. Be on the lookout for planetary art, and be sure to ask your child about their experience walking through the Solar System in the hallway!

### **Math – Mr. Jacobson**

We are getting some excellent work done in both Honors Algebra and Math 8! In Math 8 we have been focusing on using what we know about equations of lines and applying that to real world situations. We interpret the slope and y-intercept of a line to make sense of data given to us about different things. We also put a lot of work into a Slope Picture project for students to have a chance to show off their art skills! We will be moving on to Inverse Relationships and correlations this month.

Honors Algebra has moved on to Unit 2 and has been dissecting the many different tools that can be used to solve linear equations. We are in the process of translating real world word problems into solvable linear equations. We will be transitioning into linear inequalities soon! We have also been working hard on our first Trimester Project and they have been coming along very nicely!

## **Concert Band**

Thank you for all the families that participated in our Pop on the Block Fundraiser! Special thanks to Jenn Millas and Rosa Woodhams for coordinating this fundraiser.

The 7th and 8th grade concert band performed the Star Spangled Banner with the West Side STEM Magnet Middle School Band at the annual Fitch High School Home Marching Band Show on October 19th at Fitch High School.

The 7th and 8th grade concert band enjoyed their field trip to the United States Coast Guard Academy on October 29th to see the music program entitled "Road Trip America" performed by the U.S. Coast Guard Band. Special thanks to Mr. Magee, Mr. Koitz, Mrs. Henrie, and Mrs. McLoughlin for chaperoning our trip.

The 7th & 8th grade band will perform Patriotic music, with select members of the orchestra, to honor those who have served our country at the Veteran's Day Assembly on Fri., November 8th. Please contact the main office for details.

The 6th grade concert band is learning new pieces for the winter concert. The band concert is scheduled for December 5, 2019.

## **Jazz Band**

The Cutler Jazz Band is in full "swing" rehearsing weekly on Tuesday nights and learning new pieces for the winter concert.

## **Eastern Regionals**

Many students are diligently practicing for their audition for Eastern Regionals to be held on December 7th. Best of luck to all!



## **Arts & Humanities Update:**

As you walk the halls of CAHMMS, one cannot help but notice all the student work displayed everywhere throughout the school. From bulletin boards, to display cases, inside and outside classroom walls, hanging from doors and ceilings, the students' work not only shouts our magnet theme but celebrates cultural diversity as well. Besides creating a welcoming and inviting environment, it truly represents all the great work our teachers and students are doing integrating the arts & humanities with the world-mindedness of the IB MYP instructional approach.

Special recognition to Ms. Whitcello's art students Katherine L., Jillian Deigh M. A., Mathew W., Katheryn R. & Maria H. who were selected to participate in the Mystic Seaport & Mystic Aquarium's, "How I See My Ocean" Art Event Fiesta del Oceano! Their drawings will be displayed this entire year at the Aquarium. Congratulations to these students!

## **November A&H Activities:**

Grade 6 Individual & Societies: Displayed in the front showcase-

- Students' Afghan rugs representing their personal culture and identity that were completed in their Individual & Societies classes.

Grade 7: Science Integrated Chemistry/art project

- Partnering with Mystic Museum of Art artists, Kristen Thornton and Mary Addison, students will use tiles to create a mosaic showing molecular structures of common dietary compounds and molecules on two picnic tables which will then be used for students at the new middle school.

Grade 8: Science Analemmatic Sundial

- Students will work with MMoA to complete the analemmatic sundial that was begun last year.

Also at the end of Trimester 1 in late November, there will be a magnet performance assembly showcasing work students have accomplished in their discrete magnet class.

Future events:

Grade 8 Algebra students will work with Mark Love from Engineers Teaching Algebra

Grade 6 Field trips to Mystic Seaport Museum

## **Stamp Club**

Stamp Club is meets weekly on Thursdays in Room 4. As always, membership is open to students in all three grades and new students are always welcome. Sixth and seventh graders in particular are encouraged to join as projects sometimes can last from year to year.

November 11 is, of course, Veterans Day, which originally marked the end of the First World War and today honors all of America's veterans. One girl is working hard on a collection of correspondence of a Connecticut veteran of the Civil War, who after serving in campaigns in the South, was stationed in the North, guarding Boston Harbor.

Another girl looked up a World War I doughboy whose letter had been censored as indicated by the rubber stamp on the envelope, who wrote to a young lady in Flint, Michigan. She found that he had been drafted and served in an engineering unit.

MANPHIL, the semi-annual show of the Manchester Philatelic Society, will be held on Saturday, November 23, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at East Catholic High School, 115 New State Road in Manchester. The show will include a dozen dealers and the US Postal Service.

## **Old Sturbridge Village**

### **Veterans' Day**

***November 11***

To celebrate Veterans Day, the Village will present special activities including cannon demonstrations, a display of American military uniforms and equipment, a chance for kids to participate in mock militia training, and more!

*All active, veteran and retired members of the military and their families (up to 6 people) receive FREE admission on Veterans Day!*

**Sports:**

**Girls' Basketball Schedule 2019-2020**

**Coach - Mr. Robert Panucci**

December 12 - Westside (no JV) Home 3:30

January 23 - Westside (no JV) Away 3:30

December 16 - New London Away 3:30

January 27 - New London Home 3:30

December 19 - Stonington Home 3:30

January 30 - Stonington Away 3:30

January 6 - ISAAC (no JV) Away 3:30

February 3 - ISAAC (no JV) Home 3:30

January 9 - Tyl Middle Away 3:30

February 6 - Tyl Middle Home 3:30

January 13 - Ledyard Home 3:30

February 10 - Ledyard Away 3:30

January 16 - Clark Lane Away 3:30

February 13 - Clark Lane Home 3:30

ALL GAMES INCLUDE JV UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

**Boys' Basketball Schedule 2019-2020**

**Coach - Mr. Ryan Magee**

**Assistant Coach - Mr. Dave Hall**

December 12 - Westside (no JV) Away 3:30

January 23 - Westside (no JV) Home 3:30

December 16 - New London Home 3:30

January 27 - New London Away 3:30

December 19 - Stonington Away 3:30

January 30 - Stonington Home 3:30

January 6 - ISAAC (no JV) Home 3:30

February 3 - ISAAC (no JV) Away 3:30

January 9 - Tyl Middle Home 3:30

February 6 - Tyl Middle Away 3:30

January 13 - Ledyard Away 3:30

February 10 - Ledyard Home 3:30

January 16 - Clark Lane Home 3:30

February 13 - Clark Lane Away 3:30

ALL GAMES INCLUDE JV UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Be sure to check <https://www.grotonschools.org/cutler/student-life/athletics> for updates and changes throughout the season.

## LONG RANGE PLANNING

<i>Monday, November 4</i>	<i>Picture Retake Day – 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.</i> <i>Cross Country Pizza Party, Cafeteria - 2:45 p.m. - until the late bus</i>
<i>Tuesday, November 5</i>	<b>No School</b> – <i>Professional Development for Teachers</i>
<i>Wednesday, November 6</i>	<i>Girls Intramural Basketball - 7:00 a.m.</i> <i>Yeabook, Media Center - 2:45 p.m. - until the late bus</i>
<i>Thursday, November 7</i>	<i>MathCOUNTS, Media Center - 2:45 p.m. - until the late bus</i> <i>Stamp Club, Room 4 - 2:45 p.m. - until the late bus</i> <i>STEP's Program, Art Room - 2:45 p.m. - until the late bus</i> <i>Girls Soccer Party, Cafeteria - 3:00 p.m. - until the late bus</i>
<i>Friday, November 8</i>	<i>Veterans Day Assembly - 9:15 a.m.</i>
<i>Monday, November 11</i>	<b>No School</b> – <i>Veterans Day</i>
<i>Tuesday, November 12</i>	<i>PTO Meeting, Cafeteria - 6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Wednesday, November 13</i>	<i>Girls' Intramural Basketball - 7:00 a.m.</i> <i>Chorus Full Rehearsal - Period 2 &amp; 3</i>
<i>Thursday, November 14</i>	<i>MathCOUNTS, Media Center - 2:45 p.m. - until the late bus</i> <i>Stamp Club, Room 4 - 2:45 p.m. - until the late bus</i> <i>STEP's Program, Art Room - 2:45 p.m. - until the late bus</i>
<i>Wednesday, November 20</i>	<i>Girls Intramural Basketball - 7:00 a.m.</i> <i>Boys Basketball Tryouts - 3:00 p.m.</i> <i>Girls Basketball Tryouts - 3:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Thursday, November 21</i>	<i>Concert &amp; Jazz Band- Dress Rehearsal- Period 2 &amp; 3</i> <i>Stamp Club, Room 4 - 2:45 p.m. - until the late bus</i> <i>STEP's Program, Art Room - 2:45 p.m. - until the late bus</i> <i>Chorus and Orchestra Concert - 6:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Friday, November 22</i>	<i>Fall Harvest Dance, Gym - 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Tuesday, November 26</i>	<i>Trimester 1 Magnet Performance</i>

Wednesday, November 27 –

Friday, November 29

**No School** – Thanksgiving Recess

Thursday, December 5

Concert & Jazz Band – Winter Concert 7 p.m.

Friday, December 6

Jazz Band – A Mystic Christmas

Saturday, December 7

Eastern Region Auditions, William J. Johnston M.S.-Concert & Jazz Bands, Orchestra & Chorus

Monday, December 9

Orchestra & Chorus Winter Concert – 7 p.m.

Tuesday, December 10

Early Dismissal for TLI – 12:32 p.m.

Friday, December 20

Early Dismissal for Holiday Break – 12:32 p.m.

Monday, December 23 –

Wednesday, January 1

**No School** – Holiday Recess

Tuesday, January 14

Early Dismissal for TLI – 12:32 p.m.

PTO Meeting, Cafeteria - 6:00 p.m.

PTO 8th Grade Committee, Media Center - 7:00 p.m.

Monday, January 20

**No School** – MLK Holiday

Tuesday, February 11

Early Dismissal for TLI – 12:32 p.m.

Monday, February 17-

Tuesday, February 18

**No School** – Winter Break

Friday, March 13

**No School** – Professional Development for Teachers

Friday, April 10

**No School** – Good Friday

Monday, April 13 –

Friday, April 17

**No School** – Spring Recess

Tuesday, May 12

Early Dismissal for TLI – 12:32 p.m.

Monday, May 25

**No School** – Memorial Day

Friday, June 5

8th Grade Dance - 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 11

Early Dismissal - Last Day of School – 12:32 p.m.

**This calendar will be revised on a continuous basis as events are added or deleted.**

CUTLER ARTS & HUMANITIES MAGNET MIDDLE SCHOOL LATE BUS SCHEDULE

MYSTIC SOUTH LATE RUN

**Leaves CAHMMS at 4:00**

Right out of the school  
Left onto Route 1  
Left onto Groton Long Point Road  
Stops along **Groton Long Point Road as needed**  
Left onto Burrows Street  
Left on North Street  
**Stops at North Street and East Shore Ave.**  
Left onto East Shore Avenue  
Right onto Groton Long Point Road  
Stops along **Groton Long Point Road as needed**  
Right onto Elm Street/Route 215  
Stops along **Route 215 as needed**  
Stops along **Noank Road as needed**  
Left onto West Mystic Avenue  
Stops along **West Mystic Avenue as needed**  
Stops along **Allyn Street as needed**  
Left onto Ann Avenue  
Left onto Avon Place  
Right onto Nantucket Drive  
Stops at **Nantucket Drive and Lamphere Rd**  
Left onto Lamphere Road  
Right onto Cow Hill Road  
Bear left onto Cow Hill Road Ext  
Stops along **Cow Hill Road Ext as needed**  
Continue onto High Street  
Stops along **High Street as needed**  
Right onto New London Road  
Stops along **New London Road as needed**  
Right onto Flanders Road  
Stops along **Flanders Road as needed**

MYSTIC NORTH LATE RUN

**Leaves CAHMMS at 4:00**

Right out of the school  
Continue onto Noank Ledyard Road  
Stops along **Noank Ledyard Road as needed**  
Right onto Sandy Hollow Road  
Stops along **Sandy Hollow Road as needed**  
Continue across to Sandy Hollow Road  
Left onto High Street  
Right onto Bindloss Road  
Left onto River Road  
Stops along **River Road as needed**  
Left onto Shewville Road  
Continue across on Shewville Road  
Stops along **Shewville Road as needed**  
Right onto Hyde Pond Road  
Turn around  
Left onto Shewville Road  
Right onto Route 184  
Stops along **Route 184 as needed**  
Right onto Pumpkin Hill Road  
Stops along **Pumpkin Hill Road as needed**  
Turn around  
Left onto Pumpkin Hill Road  
Right onto Route 184  
Stops at **Route 184 and Chesebrough Farm Road**  
Stops along **Route 184 as needed**  
Left onto Flanders Road  
Right onto Rogers Road  
Stops along **Rogers Road as needed**  
Left onto Route 184  
Stops along **Route 184 as needed**  
Right onto Candlewood Road  
Stops along **Candlewood Road as needed**  
Right onto Route 117  
Stops along **Route 117 as needed**  
Left into Lorenzo Park to turn around  
Right onto Route 117  
Right onto Gales Ferry Road  
Stops along **Gales Ferry Road as needed**  
Turn around  
Left onto Gales Ferry Road  
Stops at **Gales Ferry Road and Mountain Laurel Road**  
Right onto Route 117  
Continue onto Route 117  
Left onto Hazelnut Hill Road  
Stops along **Hazelnut Hill Rd as needed**

NAVY LATE RUN

Leave CAHMMS at 4:00

Right out of school  
Left onto Route 1  
Right onto Buddington Road  
Left onto Drozdyk Drive  
Right onto Route 1  
Stops along **Route 1 as needed**  
Right onto Kings Highway  
Right onto Route 184  
Stops at **Route 184 and Kings Highway**  
Stops at **Winding Hollow Road**  
Stops along **Gold Star Highway as needed**  
Left onto Tollgate Road  
Stops along **Tollgate Road as needed**  
Right onto Route 12  
Stops at **Route 12 and Charter Oak Drive**  
Stops at **Route 12 and Hickory Drive**  
Left onto Pleasant Valley Road South  
Stops at **Highland Avenue**  
Stops at **Lestertown Road**  
Right onto Walker Hill Road  
Stops at **Bushnell Street**  
Right onto Grove Avenue  
Stops at **Grove Avenue**  
Right onto Military Highway  
Stops along **Military Highway as needed**  
Right onto Crystal Lake Road  
Left onto Route 12  
Right onto Ohio Avenue  
Stops at **Ohio Avenue and Pleasant Valley Road North**  
Right onto Pleasant Valley Road North  
Stops along **Pleasant Valley Rd No as needed**  
Left onto Gungywamp Road  
Stops along **Gungywamp Rd as needed**  
Right onto 1st Pelican Drive  
Right onto Poplar Road  
Left onto Burningtrees Drive  
Stops at **Burningtrees Dr and Magnolia Dr**  
Stops at **Burningtrees Dr and Cormorant Rd**  
Right onto Gungywamp Road  
Stops along **Gungywamp Road as needed**  
Right onto Route 184  
Left onto Buddington Rd  
Stops along **Buddington Rd as needed**

CITY LATE RUN

Leave CAHMMS at 4:00

Right out of school  
Left onto Route 1  
Left onto Poquonnock Road  
Stops along **Poquonnock Road as needed**  
Left onto Johl Drive  
Stops at **High Rock Road and Johl Drive**  
Stops at **Hyrock Terrance and Cranston Dr**  
Right onto High Rock Road  
Left onto Poquonnock Road  
Right onto Old Farm Road  
Stops along **Blueberry Hill Road as needed**  
Cross Poquonnock Road to Rainville Avenue  
Left onto Litton Avenue  
Stops along **Litton Avenue as needed**  
Left onto Brandegee Avenue  
Stops along **Brandegee Ave as needed**  
Left onto Shennecossett Road  
Stops along **Shennecossett Rd as needed**  
Right onto Tyler Avenue  
Stops along **Tyler Avenue as needed**  
Right onto Eastern Point Road  
Stops along **Eastern Point Rd as needed**  
Continue onto Benham Road  
Stops along **Benham Road as needed**  
Continue onto Mitchell Street  
Stops along **Mitchell Street as needed**  
Left onto Broad Street  
Stops at **Broad St for Thames Street area**  
Right onto Thames Street  
Right onto North Street  
Left onto Meridian Street  
Stops along **Meridian Street as needed**

**2019****November****CAHMMS Calendar of Events**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
28	29	30	31	01	02	03
04 8 am - 9:30 am Picture Retake Day, 2:45 pm - late bus - Cross Country Pizza Party	05 No School - Professional Development	06 7 am - 7:45 am Girl's Intramural Basketball 2:45 pm - 3:45 pm Yearbook in Media Ctr	07 2:45 pm - late bus MathCOUNTS in Media Ctr, Stamp Club in Rm 4, STEP's Program in Art 3 pm - 4 pm Girls Soccer Party	08 9:15 am-Veteran's Day Celebration	09	10
11 NO SCHOOL VETERAN'S DAY	12 6 pm - 7 pm PTO in Media Ctr	13 7 am - 7:45 am Girl's Intramural Basketball, 8:11 - 9:55 Chorus Full Rehearsal (per. 1 & per. 2)	14 2:45 pm - late bus MathCOUNTS in Media Ctr, Stamp Club in Rm 4, STEP's Program in Art	15	16	17
18	19	20 7 am - 7:45 am Girl's Intramural Basketball, Boys Basketball Tryouts 3 pm - 4:30pm, Girls Basketball Tryouts 4:30 pm - 6pm	21 Per 2 & 3 Chorus Dress Rehearsal, 2:45 pm - late bus , Stamp Club in Rm 4, STEP's Program in Art, 6:30 pm - Chorus & Orchestra Concert	22 Per 2 & 3 Concert & Jazz Band Dress Rehearsal, 3pm - 5pm Student Council Dance	23	24
25	26 Tri 1 Magnet Performance (pm, tbd)	27 NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING BREAK	28 NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING BREAK	29 NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING BREAK	30	01