

Good afternoon families,

We made it through the first week back from February vacation and the first week with masks being optional. I have to say, the students have adjusted nicely! There are only a few announcements, but a lot of information this week.

1. The final day to purchase the 2022 MMS Tidings yearbook is Monday March 7. The link to order can be found on the MMS website under the Parents Tab. Yearbooks are pre-ordered and not available for sale at the end of the year. Students really love to receive their yearbook at year's end. Please order one today if you haven't already. Any questions: Reach out to LBerry@darienps.org or CWestcott@darienps.org
2. Applications are available for our 2022 Summer Reading Ambassadors program. Students in grade 6 and grade 7 are welcome to apply. ELA teachers have application forms for students, and [a digital copy is available here](#). The application deadline is Thursday, March 24. If you have questions about this program, please contact Francis Janosco, the 6-12 English department chair, at fjanosco@darienps.org.
3. Sarah Malhotra from the Rowan Center hosted two presentations last night for 7th and 8th grade parents about the lessons and information they share in Healthy Living classes. It was well received. We will host another parent information night in the fall for incoming 7th and 8th graders.
4. MMS challenged Saxe Middle School in New Canaan to a Kindness/Spirit Week challenge. Each day, the principal at Saxe (@DavidGusitsch / @SaxeMS) and I (@KarolynDahl) will tweet out our school spirit and acts of kindness as a friendly competition between schools. Keep an eye out if you have Twitter. For next week, the days for students are:

Monday – “Hats off to New Friends” – Hat day

Kindness Act: Say hello to someone you do not know

Tuesday – “Color MMS with Kindness” – Wear tie dye/rainbow

Kindness Act: Give a compliment to someone

Wednesday – “Team Up for Kindness” – Sports Jersey Day

Kindness Act: Sit with a new group or person at lunch

Thursday – “Kindness Rocks” – Rock Star look / favorite singer/band shirt

Kindness Act: Get to know someone by asking what their favorite band/song is

Friday – “MMS Loves Kindness” – Wear your MMS/Darien Pride (Blue and Silver)

Kindness Act: Say thank you to a MMS staff member

Each day students have the opportunity to earn stickers when they are “Caught Being Kind” and each day we will tweet out photos and short videos to Saxe to show our school spirit is better than theirs! We hope your students will enjoy being involved and a friendly competition.

5. Please see this month’s [Moments from the Middle](#). As usual, it is best viewed in presentation form.

We wish you a restful and relaxing weekend,

Karolyn

Principal