



TRAILBLAZER NEWS

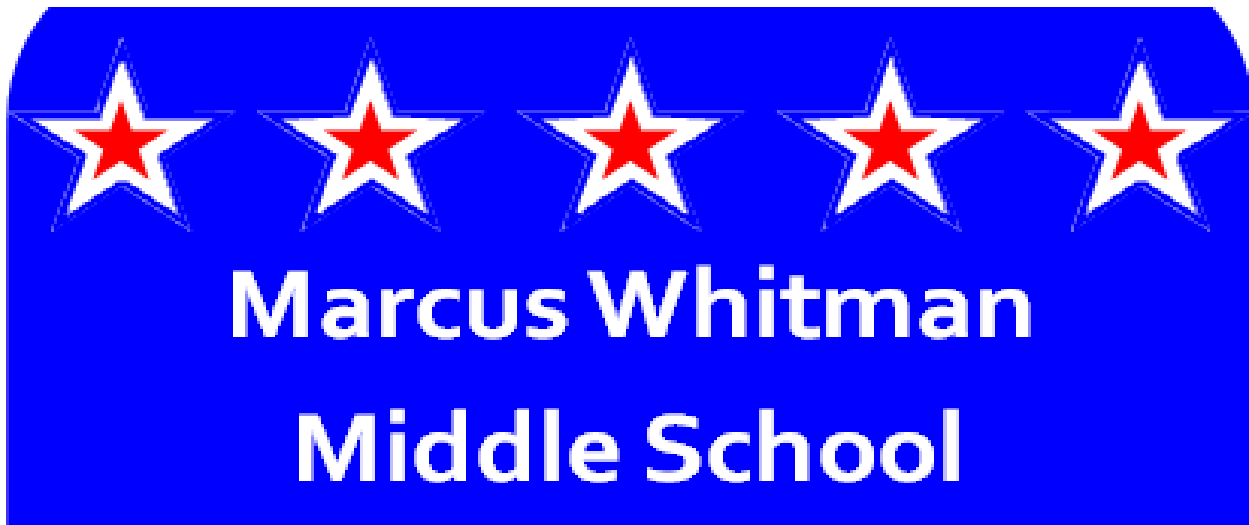
November 2022

MARCUS WHITMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

**We have a few days left to submit a picture for the
Veteran's Day Assembly slide show**

Dear Marcus Whitman Middle School Families,

As a part of this assembly, we are bringing back a tradition of inviting families of students to submit pictures of their loved ones who have served in the armed forces to be presented in a slideshow during the assembly. If you would like a family member to be recognized in our slideshow, please **submit a photo of the family member, their name and rank, and the branch of the military** in which they served, along with the MW student they are related to. Please email these to: windenk@skschools.org no later than **November 3**.



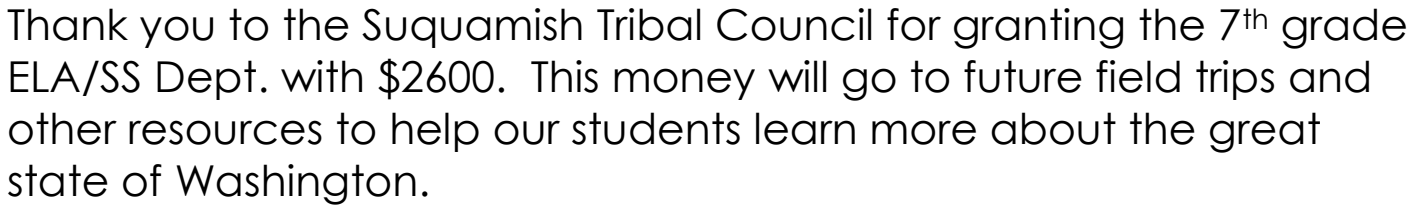
Veteran's Day Assembly

November 10th at 9:08 a.m.

MWMS Gymnasium

Families, Friends, and Community members are invited to join us for
this assembly to educate our students and honor our Veterans
and military families.

PRESENTED BY THE MWMS ASB AND MUSIC DEPTS.



Do you drop off or pick up your student in your personal vehicle? If you do, read on for some helpful tips to keep things moving smoothly!

-Students arriving in personal vehicles are to be dropped off and picked up in the gravel parking lot on the north side of our campus.

-Stay to the right side of your lane except to pass. If you have already dropped off or picked up, you are welcome to drive around other waiting vehicles so long as you can safely do so. Please do not stop in the passing lanes.

-Pull all the way forward in your lane to the front cones before stopping. This helps us get more cars through quicker.

-Be mindful that this is a very active parking lot. Always watch for students crossing!

-Use your turn signal early to help our parking lot helpers know what you intend to do and they can help keep traffic flowing.

A horizontal line of 18 black diamond shapes, each with a white center, used as a section separator.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR STUDENT

CHECK FOR THEIR MISSING SWEATSHIRTS, WATERBOTTLES, ETC.

From the Counseling Office:

Now that the school year is fully underway we wanted to make sure that families are aware of several supports at MWMS that can provide extra help to our students. First and foremost, as a school we want to focus on learning and have a number of ways for our students to get some extra help. There are two tutoring opportunities currently in place for MW students who might need a little extra help with homework, organization, or simply a quiet place to get some school work done. One is called **7th Hour** and the other is **Sammy's Place**.

7th Hour is an onsite opportunity for our students to get a little extra help. Each Tuesday and Thursday students are welcome to drop in to the Library from 2:50-4:00 PM and get homework help, organizational assistance, or maybe just enjoy a quiet place to get some work done. Some things to know:

- 7th Hour is open to all students.
- MW staff are on hand to answer questions and supervise students.
- Students are expected come prepared to work quietly, bringing the materials they need. Desktop computers and books will be available, but its best if students have their own.
- Students will need to sign in upon arrival and sign out when they leave.
- 7th Hour is a quiet place to study so students need to be respectful of others and keep quiet while working.

Transportation is not provided. Students attending 7th Hour must find their own way home as school buses won't be available.

Sammy's Place is a tutoring/mentorship program we utilize in partnership with Port Orchard United Methodist Church. A few details:

- There is no religious instruction, expectation, influence, etc. The church is simply providing members, space and time to work with our kids.
- All tutors/mentors have had background checks and all activities are in a public location.
- This is voluntary. No students are required to participate in this great opportunity.
- Upon arrival at POUMC (around 3PM) kids are provided with a snack and some relaxation time, game playing with a mentor, friendly conversation, etc.
- From 4-5PM time is spent with a tutor/mentor on homework, organization, skill building and practice, checking skyward and more.
- Transportation to POUMC is via school bus, kids should be picked up by 5PM. *Unfortunately transportation to POUMC may be limited. The normal bus route that would take students is already quite full so an alternative means may be needed in the future.

Once a month, if there is interest, the church would like to host a family dinner for our kids and their families.

MWMS Counseling Department

Meet Your Counselors:

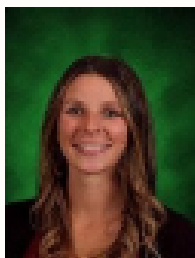


Zack Fogel

Students with last
names A-K

fogel@ekschools.org

360-874-6164



Haley Mishko

Students with last
names L-Z

mishkoh@ekschools.org

360-874-6166

Holiday Support

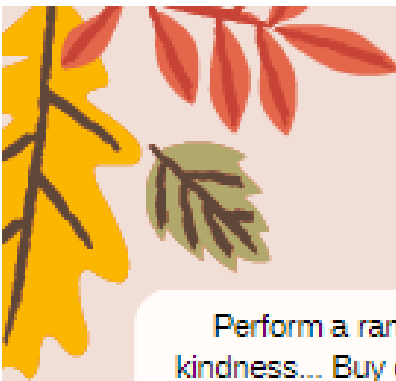
As we near the holidays, your counselors are working with our community to provide holiday support to our families.

If your family could benefit from holiday help, please email your student's counselor. Unfortunately, we can't guarantee that everyone will receive support, depending on the number of resources available and the number of families in need. The earlier we hear from you, the more likely we will be able to provide support!

Food Support

Could your family benefit from extra food support? If so, please fill out the below form to sign them up for our Backpack For Kids program. BPFK sends students home with a bag of easy to prepare meals/snacks every Friday!

<https://forms.gle/xDpUjVdMRIsUWHYs>



Perform a random act of kindness... Buy coffee for the next person in line, rake up the neighbors leaves, Drop off some freshly baked banana bread. Anything that might bring a smile to someones face

Have everyone in your family start a gratitude journal to share all the things that they are thankful for.

Share with your loved ones something that you appreciate about them. Better yet, to do this out of the blue when they are least expecting it.

Travel as a family to visit the natural beauty of Washinton by visiting as state park. November 11th and 25th are free days to visit.

Have a family game night! Play your favorite game or try a new one!

Find a way to honor a Veteran in your community and/or family. Use Veteran's Day as a day of service.

Take a walk with your family to enjoy the fall colors. Bring a few trash bags and on your walk, clean up any trash you find to make your neighborhood or favorite park better!



NOVEMBER

Family Dares



Keep Your Child On Track in Middle School: Pay Attention to Attendance

Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students access learning opportunities and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job. Families can also advocate for resources to help students learn if they cannot attend in-person.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Frequent absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10%, or 2 days a month, over the course of the school year, can affect a student's academic success.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Make school attendance a priority

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.
- Help your children maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and non-Covid-19 related medical appointments during the school day.
- If your children must stay home because they are sick, make sure they have asked teachers for resources and materials to make up for the missed learning time in the classroom.

Help your teen stay engaged

- Find out if your children feel engaged by their classes, and feel safe from bullies and other threats.
- Make sure your children are not missing class because of challenges with behavioral issues or school discipline policies. If any of these are problems, contact school and work with them to find a solution.
- Monitor your child's academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors when necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage your child to join meaningful after-school activities, including sports and clubs.
- Notice and support your children if they are showing signs of anxiety.

Communicate with the school

- Know the school's attendance policy—incentives and penalties.
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not adding up.
- Seek help from school staff, other parents or community agencies if you need support.

Dear Marcus Whitman Families

Kindness Week

Kindness
MATTERS

NOVEMBER 7 – NOVEMBER 10

Join your ASB in helping make
our Kindness Week one to
remember!

Your challenge is to spread
kindness in at least one way
each day.

Family Support Site

Check out the parent support site! This site will be a place you can get upcoming information and answers throughout the year.

<https://sites.google.com/skschools.org/mwmsremote/home>

Parent Supervision Tool for the Internet

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jz02XpVLJ5iGF5stn9RMou8cq64sdjK9Ae62GXQfY0/edit>



Check out **brainfuse!** The online daily tutoring that is offered through Kitsap Regional Library from 1-10 pm daily! Students can get support with any homework assignment or content question as well as get support with editing papers. Use your library card number or the one for Marcus Whitman! **29068008484788**

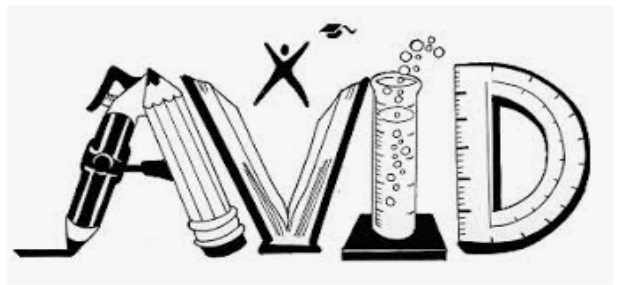
Watch this to find out how to access brainfuse online!

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NI5z3fpocuLe55DGplglynmKzrpPebuN/view?usp=sharing>



Science

8th Grade: We have just wrapped up our Cells Unit and are starting Body Systems, beginning with the Digestive System. We will also cover the Excretory/Urinary System, The Cardiovascular System and The Respiratory System before beginning Project Lead the Way's course of Medical Detectives.



7th Grade: PLTW Magic of Electrons: Snap circuits, DC Motors and Morse Code builds.

6th Grade: PLTW Design and Modeling: Engineering sketches, designing, and testing Skimmers, and 3D Modeling using Tinkercad.

Check out the MW math website!

What should my child do if they are absent from math class?

<https://sites.google.com/skschools.org/mw-math/home>

What are ways my student can get help in math this year?

<https://sites.google.com/skschools.org/mw-math/math-help>

What is new in math classes this month?

Find math updates for the month of November by clicking on the link for your student's grade level. If you have any questions about your student's progress, email or call their classroom teacher.

<https://sites.google.com/skschools.org/mw-math/6th-grade>

<https://sites.google.com/skschools.org/mw-math/7th-grade>

<https://sites.google.com/skschools.org/mw-math/8th-grade>

Emily Fogel

Learning Support Specialist - Math



Math Tips for Families

- Let your child know that everyone can learn math. There is no such thing as a “math person”.
- Let your child know that you think math is important and fun.
- Point out the ways in which different family members use math in their jobs.
- Be positive about your own math abilities. Try to avoid saying "I was never good at math" or "I never liked math".
- Encourage your child to be persistent if a problem seems difficult.
- Praise your child when they make an effort, and share in the excitement when they solve a problem or understand something for the first time.
- Encourage your child to tell or show you how they use math in everyday life.
- Include your child in everyday activities that involve math – making purchases, measuring ingredients, planning trips, etc...
- Play games and do puzzles with your child.



**Ms Jordan's 7th
Grade Marine Science
students showing their
RMS Titanic models and
investigating the steps in
the clean-up process of
ocean oil spills.**

Clint Brown
Auriana Burchard
Aaden Fejeran Barsanti
Bear D. Henderson
Ethan J. Milliron
Maddox Roberts
Laura L. Smith
Nathan M. Snoke
Joseph Suter
Jaxon C. Wells
Delaney K. Wilson





The Chanime Club (Chess + Anime) meets Thursdays, 2:45-3:30 PM, in Room 214 Mr. O'Loughlin is the Advisor. The Chanime Club is open to all Marcus Whitman students who want to learn and play chess and/or want to draw Anime.

The Allies GSA Club: Are you looking for a safe and supportive place to connect and socialize with fellow LGBTQ+ peers and allies? If so, Allies GSA club is for you! Students in the club work together to provide inclusive community experiences for all at Marcus Whitman! Club will meet every Thursday in room 203, 2:50-3:50. Grab a permission slip from Mrs. Bush or Ms. Williams.

The Game Club will begin meeting on Mondays in the Library from 3-4pm. If you would like to play board games, cards or D&D, come and participate! Permission slips for this club are available in the main office. Deputy Brown Advisor

Weight Lifting Club has started. They will be meeting Tuesday and Thursday in the Weight Room. Time is from 2:50 pm to 3:50. Permission slips are at the main office. Advisors Mr. Zappey and Mrs Marshall

STEM Club will begin Thursday, Oct 6th and will continue every other Thursday. STEM Club will meet in Room 112 (Woodshop) and go from 2:45—3:45. Permission slips are at the main office.

Yearbook Club: Any students interested in joining the Marcus Whitman Yearbook please stop by room 111 and see Mr. Lawton for an application.



News from the Nurse

On Nov 1st 2022 vision and hearing screenings will take place. Screenings are an important part of preventive health care in the school setting. Washington State law (WAC 246-760) requires schools to conduct auditory and visual screenings of children each year. Students in 7th grade will be screened, as well as students that meet any of the following criteria: students new to the South Kitsap School District, students receiving Special Education services, or when requested by parent, guardian, or school staff. Parents who DO NOT want their child screened will need to **provide the school with a report or form signed by a licensed healthcare professional** indicating that they have had a comprehensive vision or auditory exam within the previous 12 months. **If your student wears glasses or contacts please ensure they are wearing these for the vision screening.** If you have any questions please contact: Katie Pickard, RN at pickard@skschools.org or 360-874-6179.

Volunteer Opportunities at Marcus Whitman Middle School

Fall 2022



Your student may become more independent at the Middle School level, however, there are still volunteer opportunities such as:

Tutoring students/Assisting the teacher

Band/Choir/Orchestra Assistant

Help with Student Events

Fieldtrip Chaperones

Teacher Appreciation events

Mrs. Sauby would like some helpers/tutors during her 4th period with 6th grade Science. (11:45 – 12:45)

Volunteer applications are available in the Main office and are required to be in place before volunteering. When you stop by, please bring current Drivers License for ID and proof of COVID vaccination. (Exemptions that have been granted will remain in place and new requests will be processed through Jackie Stewart at SKSD Human Resources.)

Mask use is by choice.

Point of contact at MWMS is Ruth Hodges at Munchbac@skschools.org (360) 874-6168 or

At the District level, Amy Miller at Millera@skschools.org (360) 874-7005.



Marcus Whitman is forming a PTO! If you are interested in joining you may contact Brenda Walls at Walls@skschools.org or Andi at andi6977@gmail.com. Meetings will be held here every 3rd Tuesday evening from 6:15-7:15pm. Next meeting will be November 13th.



Girls Soccer Game Schedule

All games start at 3:30 pm

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE
Nov 14	Hawkins	SKHS
Nov 16	Curtis	Curtis
Nov 21	Cedar	SKHS
Nov 22	Sedgwick	SKHS
Nov 29	Mt. View	Mt. View
Dec 5	Hawkins	Hawkins
Dec 7	Curtis	SKHS
Dec 9	Cedar	SKHS
Dec 12	Sedgwick	SKHS
Dec 14	Mt. View	Mt. View

Boys Basketball Game Schedule

All games start at 3:30 pm

Date	Opponent	Place
Nov 16	Hawkins	Hawkins
Nov 18	Curtis	Marcus
Nov 21	Cedar	Marcus
Nov 22	Sedgwick	Sedgwick
Dec 1	Mt. View	Marcus
Dec 5	Hawkins	Marcus
Dec 7	Curtis	Curtis
Dec 9	Cedar	Cedar
Dec 12	Sedgwick	Marcus
Dec 14	Mt. View	Mt. View

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The South Kitsap School District provides equal educational and employment opportunity without regard to race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation – including gender expression or identity, marital status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Equal access to activities, facilities and program is provided to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. District procedure complies with all applicable state and federal laws.

The Title IX Officer and Section 504 Coordinator with the responsibility for monitoring, auditing and ensuring compliance with this policy are:

Compliance/ADA/Title IX Coordinator:
Will Sarett,
Executive Director of Human Resources
2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366
360-874-7071
sarett@skschools.org

Section 504 Coordinator:
Paul Hulbert,
Principal
2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA
360-443-3610,
hulbert@skschools.org