# WMS Paw Print 2023.0616

Bringing you the middle school scoop...



# Principal's Message

June 16, 2023

Dear Westlake Middle School Families,

We are finishing strong!

It is an honor to work with so many great educators who pour their hearts into planning educational, celebratory, and fun events for students. We have trips, field days, end-of-year celebrations and more happening.

The smiles on the faces of our students, faculty, and staff help tell the story.

#### **WMS Calendar Link:**

https://wms.mtplcsd.org/quicklinks/calendar

#### **KEEP THE PAW PRINT BOOKMARKED!**

Once you have access to the document it will update automatically, so go back at any time to see the latest version.

Older versions will be archived on our <a href="https://wms.mtplcsd.org/">https://wms.mtplcsd.org/</a>

Important New Information



# 8th Grade Moving-Up Ceremony

Information about parking and accessing the bleachers and the field was sent to students an families, including access for people with mobility concerns. If you have any specific questions or needs you can call the main office.

As a reminder, for the integrity of the new turf field - **no pointed heels please.** 

# Principals' Leadership Group - Snapshots of What's Happening at WMS



## 7th Grade Field Experience

On Tuesday the entire 7th grade got to enjoy a newly opened historic site in Yonkers, Philipse Manor Hall. There, they were able to investigate history hands-on, by reading, listening, touching, and even smelling!

Students also visited two science sites right on the Hudson River - the Center for Urban Resources at Beczak (CURB) and the Science Barge.







#### Investigate

Exhibits incorporate the journeys of the Philipse family, the Indigenous people from whom the Philipse lands derive, and enslaved Africans, from whose work and trade the Philipse family prospered during the pre-Revolutionary era

#### Agriculture

Students got to see firsthand how to grow food sustainably in different ways, like hydroponically and aquaponically.

#### **Explore**

At CURB, students explored natural life in and around the Hudson River, identifying plankton and fish, bird spotting, and visiting turtles who live in the Hudson.



## Young Authors

Last Tuesday, June 6th, eight students from Westlake Middle School participated in a Young Author's Colloquium at Putnum-Northern Westchester BOCES. Three other middle schools also attended. The students could choose two learning sessions where they interacted with other young writers in the county and learned about creative writing. At the end of the event, each student was given the opportunity to share a writing piece with the group during an Open Mic event.



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#### Community Leadership Project

The leadership abilities of our students were on full display this week.

CLP (Community Leaders Project) is a class taken by 8th graders. Eighth-grade students participate in a project where they give back to the community. The community can be right here at school, the town they live in or the county. At the beginning of the school year students start to research the type of project they would like to engage in. Some students will choose a project that can benefit the school community and others look to help organizations in their town. Some Projects included murals, lost and found Google Slides posted for parents, and beautification of the grounds. Some outside organizations students helped were Paws Crossed, local food pantries, and Blythedale Hospital. By mid-year students start to work on their projects and by April students present to their class what they have done for their project.







#### **Upcoming Dates**



#### June - End of Year Schedule

June 14th - June 22nd are early dismissal days for all students.

Students are dismissed at 11:15 a.m.

#### June 14th:

- 7th Grade Field Day
- Living Environment Regents in the afternoon

#### June 15th:

- 6th Grade Field Day
- Algebra Regents in the afternoon.

#### June 16th:

- 8th Grade Moving-Up Ceremony Rehearsal <u>PLEASE</u>
  <u>NOTE THE CHANGE OF FIELD DAY DATE</u>
- 8th Grade Yearbooks Distributed

June 19th: Juneteenth - School Closed

June 20th: 8th Grade Moving Up Rehearsal and Breakfast

June 21st: 8th Grade Field Day

**June 22nd:** 8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony at 9:30 a.m. **June 23rd:** 8th Grade Moving Up - Rain Date at 9:30 a.m.



## June 22nd - 8th Grade Moving Up Dance

The PTA is hosting a dance for 8th Graders. Ticket information was sent to families.

# Looking Ahead - Save The Dates



Summer!