



TRAILBLAZER NEWS

November 2023

MARCUS WHITMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

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

As we are approaching the month of November, we are beginning to compile a slideshow of our Trailblazer Veterans for our November 9 assembly. If you would like to include a picture of your family member(s) please do the following:

Email picture(s) to windenk@skschools.org NO LATER THAN NOV. 3rd

1. Include Veteran's name and Military Branch as well as rank if you are able
2. Include Student's name and relationship to Veteran

Please direct any questions to windenk@skschools.org Than you!

Marcus Whitman Middle School

Veteran's Day Assembly

November 9th, 9:08 AM

MWMS Gymnasium

Family 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 MW ASB and Music Department



Learning Support Specialist - Math



Dear Marcus Whitman Families,

Marcus Whitman is excited to share that we will be celebrating World Kindness Day on November 13th. This day was started in 1998 and it promotes the importance of being kind to each other, to yourself, and to the world. We will also celebrate Kindness all week 11/13-11/17. Students and staff will put kindness into action to make everyone feel happy and cared for. Your student will have a kindness challenge and there will be a kindness themed spirit week. Being connected is the Trailblazer Way! We hope you can join in at home and talk to your students about the power of kindness. There are questions below you can use to spark a conversation with your family. Let's all put kindness into action, not just for this week but every day!

Warm wishes,

The Marcus Whitman Climate Team

1. What did you do for Kindness Week at school?
2. Can you tell me about something kind you or your friends did this week?
3. How does being kind to others make you feel?
4. Did you learn new ways to be kind this week?
5. Why is being kind important?
6. How will you continue to be kind every day, even after Kindness Week?
7. Did you talk about kindness with your friends? What did they say?
8. Can you share a time when someone was kind to you, and it made you happy?
9. What other ways can we be kind and friendly at school throughout the year?

11/13 - MW is powered by KINDNESS!
Wear your favorite superhero t-shirt or costume
(no weapons or full face masks)

11/14 - Let KINDNESS shine!
Wear sparkles, shiny things, or neon colors!

11/15 - MW is crazy for KINDNESS!
Crazy hair and/or socks day!

11/16 - Team KINDNESS!
Wear your favorite sports team gear!

11/17 - KINDNESS is the Trailblazer way!
Wear your MW Trailblazer colors!
6th - yellow
7th - green
8th - white
Staff - MW gear



New from the Nurse

On November 16th 2023, vision and hearing screenings will take place at Marcus Whitman. Screenings are an important part of preventative 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 K, 1, 2, 3, 5, and **7 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 a parent, guardian, or school staff.**

If students wear glasses or contacts they should bring/wear these to school on November 16th for the screening.

Parents who **DO NOT** want their child screened at school will need **to provide the school with a report or form signed by a licensed healthcare professional** indicating that the student has had a comprehensive vision and auditory exam within the previous 12 months. Please note that these screenings are to help pick up on vision or hearing deficits which could affect your child's learning and are in no way diagnostic. School screenings should never take the place of a comprehensive exam by a licensed specialist.

If you have any questions regarding the screening process or the results of your child's screening, please contact me.
Thank you,

Katie Pickard, RN
360-874-6179
pickard@skschools.org

Successful Track Season

This year's track season started with over 70 students completing in all the events. We were able to use the new track for a home meet and then hosted the West Sound Championships at South Kitsap High School. Thank you to all of our parent volunteers and school volunteers. Special Thanks to Broadus Brooks, Charlotte Shepardson, James and Jennifer Williams, Amanda Mayberry, Jennifer Larson, Linda and Mike Murnane and Joanne Warren for helping at the meets and making them such a success. For making the end of the year party great, Charise Jappert, Heidi Buchner, and Mrs. Barnum for the plates and clean up!

Congratulations to our team members who made it to the championship; Deven Kennedy, Callie Straight, Leyaniel Perez, Alejandro Barrera, Addy Powell, Autumn Garcia, Mia Billings, Breanna Brown, Jayden Bradley, Randy Naumu, Evan Stewart, Amara Jappert, Anna Larson, Hayden Mayberry, Tyler B. and Tabitha Riley.



Submit Your MEAL APPLICATION TODAY

Benefits for eligible students



Free & Reduced Pricing On Meals

Reduces Food Insecurity



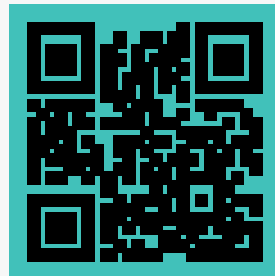
Discounted Pricing For Some Services

Waived or reduced fees for college applications, Advanced Placement, SAT & ACT exams, and some internet services

**Increased Funding And Resources
For School Programs & Services**

including supplemental services such as academic specialists, tutoring & and intervention services, and family engagement.


**SUBMIT YOUR MEAL
APPLICATION TODAY!**



[HTTPS://LINQCONNECT.COM/](https://linqconnect.com/)


For more information on the SKSD Free & Reduced Lunch Program, visit:
<https://www.skschools.org/fna> or contact us at (360) 443-3664 or by email at
laxsonk@skschools.org

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.




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



NOVEMBER

SPIRIT

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER

22

DRESS UP LIKE YOU ARE
IN A ZOOM MEETING!
WEAR A NICE SHIRT WITH
LAZY PANTS.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER

13

POWERED BY
KINDNESS-
MAKE AN OUTFIT THAT
INCLUDES YOUR
FAVORITE CHARACTER
OR SUPERHERO!

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 14

LET KINDNESS SHINE-
WEAR SPARKLY OR
NEON OUTFITS!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER

15

CRAZY FOR KINDNESS-
WEAR CRAZY SOCKS
AND/OR CRAZY HAIR

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 16

TEAM KINDNESS-
DRESS UP AS YOUR FAVORITE
SPORTS TEAM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

TRAILBLAZERS ARE KIND-
WEAR SCHOOL COLORS SORTED BY
GRADE LEVEL!

6TH GRADERS- YELLOW

7TH GRADERS- GREEN

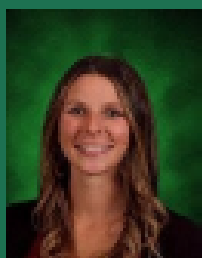
8TH GRADERS- WHITE

MWMS Counseling Department

Your MWMS Counselors:



Zack Fogel
Students with last
names A-K
fogel@skschools.org
360-874-6164



Haley Mishko
Students with last
names L-Z
mishkoh@skschools.org
360-874-6166

HOLIDAY HELP

Before you know it, we will be gearing up for the holiday season... and maybe some of you have already begun your preparations. The holidays can certainly be a wonderful time for family and friends to come together and celebrate, and we wish the best for all of you. However, for many in our community this is a difficult time of year: missing loved ones, not being able to celebrate as you'd like, struggling to give your family the time, energy, care and gifts you'd like to give.

The counseling team at MW has some resources available to help families but, unfortunately, the deadline to request that help is fast approaching. If your family needs some extra help for the holidays this year please reach out directly to your students counselor by either phone or email. **The deadline for Thanksgiving support is November 6th, and for Christmas the deadline is November 22nd.**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Marcus Whitman Middle School participates in a program called Backpacks for Kids. The school is identifying students to have the opportunity to take home a pack each weekend filled with easy-to-prepare foods and snacks.

Please let us know if you would be interested in having your child participate in the program by signing the form below and returning it to the school. Your child's name will be held in strictest confidence so that other students will not be aware of his/her involvement in Backpacks for Kids. Packs will be delivered each Friday, and your child may pick them up then.

Thank you in advance for allowing your child the chance to participate in Backpacks for Kids. We hope this is helpful to your family.

School Year 2023-2024

If your child is participating in the Backpacks for Kids program, this form needs to be filled out and signed by parent/guardian before backpacks will be sent home.

Child's Name _____ Teacher _____

_____ Yes, I would like for my child to participate in this program.

_____ No, I am not interested in my child participating at this time.

If you have more than one child, we can send one full meal pack with one child and snack packs with the other children. Please indicate whether this is a full meal pack or a snack pack:

_____ This is a full meal pack.

_____ This is a snack pack.

Do you have the cooking arrangements to use the meal items (such as mac and cheese, pancakes and tuna helpers)?

_____ Yes

_____ No, but I have access to a microwave.

_____ No, and I do not have access to a microwave.

FOOD ALLERGIES

Does your child/family have any food allergies? _____ YES _____ NO

If yes, please list all _____

Parent Signature _____



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.

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.

Can You Dig It! Dive into the world of green wonders with our new garden club-Can You Dig It! Join us for hands-on learning, where students cultivate friendships along with a diverse range of plants. Discover the joy of sustainable living, teamwork, and environmental stewardship. Let your curiosity blossom and be a part of our green revolution! Since it is our rainy season, we will meet once a month to start building ideas. Come Spring we will meet more often for planting and care of our new flowers and plants. Adult Volunteers Needed and Welcome.



Marcus Whitman is forming a PTO! If you are interested in joining you may contact Rhiannon McCarthy or Holly Cruz at mwhitmanpto@gmail.com . The next PTO General Meeting will be **November 6th** from 6 - 7 PM in the Library.



Please come join and help support the students and staff at



Volunteer Opportunities at Marcus Whitman Middle School



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

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.

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



Intramural Basketball start time **3:30** Modified Round Robin Format

Date	Opponent	Place
Nov 17	CH & JS	Marcus
Nov 21	CH & JS	Sedgwick
Dec 1	CH & JS	Cedar

Intramural Soccer start time **3:15**

Date	Opponent	Place
Nov 16	Cedar	Cedar
Nov 21	Sedgwick	Marcus
Nov 30	Cedar	Marcus
Dec 6	Sedgwick	Sedgwick

Girls Soccer Game Schedule

All games start at 3:30 pm

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE
Nov 13	Hawkins	Hawkins
Nov 15	Curtis	Marcus
Nov 20	Cedar	Marcus
Nov 21	Sedgwick	Sedgwick
Nov 28	Mt. View	Marcus
Nov 30	Hawkins	Marcus
Dec 4	Curtis	Curtis
Dec 6	Cedar	Cedar
Dec 11	Sedgwick	Marcus
Dec 12	Mt. View	Mr. View



Boys Basketball Game Schedule

All games start at 3:30 pm

Date	Opponent	Place
Nov 15	Hawkins	Marcus
Nov 17	Curtis	Curtis
Nov 20	Cedar	Cedar
Nov 21	Sedgwick	Marcus
Nov 30	Mt. View	Mt. View
Dec 4	Hawkins	Hawkins
Dec 6	Curtis	Marcus
Dec 8	Cedar	Marcus
Dec 11	Sedgwick	Sedgwick
Dec 12	Mt. View	Marcus



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 98366
360-443-3610,
hulbert@skschools.org

Gender Inclusivity Compliance Officer:

Dr. Tom Edwards
Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement
2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366
360-874-7003
edwards@skschools.org