

WMS Paw Print 2023.12.15

Bringing you the middle school scoop...

Principal's Message

December 15, 2023

When middle school is going well, the line between fun and learning is blurred. Scroll down for some fun literacy, art, music, and other things going on throughout the school. As we head toward the break remember that learning never stops. We encourage students read over the break. See below for details about a reading challenge.



Thank you to those always brightening the hallways and making them festive. This interactive board is growing with some great selfless wishes.

As a reminder, we have an Early Dismissal next Friday. Buses will depart Westlake Campus @ 11:15 a.m.

KEEP THE PAW PRINT BOOKMARKED!

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

CLICK HERE: Older Versions Of The Paw Print Are Archived On Our Webpage

A glance at the upcoming week...

Week of 12/18 - 12/22



Monday - Day D

- 2:15-3:15 pm: Peer Tutoring (Math)
- 2:25-3:15 pm: Spanish Club
- 2:30-3:30 pm: Elf Jr. Music Rehearsal
- 2:45-4:00 pm: Science Olympiad
- 3:30-5:00 pm: Elf Jr. Acting Rehearsal (Select Group)

Tuesday - Day E

- 2:15-3:15 pm: Peer Tutoring (Chess)
- 2:30-3:15 pm: Meistersingers
- 2:30-3:30 pm: Elf Jr. Music Rehearsal
- 2:45-4:00 pm: Science Olympiad
- 3:30-5:00 pm: Elf Jr. Acting Rehearsal (Select Group)

Wednesday - Day F

- 2:15-3:15 pm: Peer Tutoring (ELA)
- 2:20-3:20 pm: Environmental Club
- 2:30-3:30 pm: Jazz Band
- 2:30-3:30 pm: Crew Meeting Elf Jr.
- 2:45-3:15 pm: Student Council
- 2:45-4:00 pm: Science Olympiad
- 3:00-4:00 pm: Elf Jr. Dance Rehearsal (Select Group)

Thursday - Day A

- 2:15-3:15 pm: Peer Tutoring (Social Studies)
- 2:30-3:30 pm: Elf Jr. Music Rehearsal (Select Group)
- 2:30-3:30 pm: Crew Meeting Elf Jr.
- 3:30-5:00 pm: Musical Elf Jr. Acting (Select Group)

Friday - Day B -

- Winter Olympics and Winter Festival
- Early Dismissal - Buses will depart Westlake Campus @ 11:15 a.m.
- Ugly Sweater Day-Wear an Ugly Holiday Sweater

Upcoming Dates:

- December 25 - January 2: Winter Recess - School Closed
-

Important New Information, Upcoming Events, and Reminders

December 22nd - Winter Olympics

On Friday December 22nd, students will enjoy hot chocolate from the PTA, some holiday activities in their individual classes and last, but not least, the 2nd Annual WMS Winter Olympics in the gym. Many fun and festive games are planned! You can see from last year's festivities, we're in for some fun.



December 22nd - Ugly Sweater Contest

The holiday season is not complete without an Ugly Sweater Contest. We'll be on the lookout for the ugliest of the ugly. Thank you to our Student Council.



Sora Reading Challenge

The digital reading App called SORA has thousands of eBooks, audiobooks and magazines for each student to check out digitally.

Each student will submit a book review based on an eBook from Sora/ or an actual book using the form attached below (click on the picture or use the QR Code) and submit it to Ms. Rotanelli at rotanelli@mtplcsd.org, or print it out and drop it off in a basket in the library.

Each book review will entitle a student to enter for a chance in the raffle (multiple reviews will increase chances) with only one chance to win a prize.

Prizes include: Blank diaries, pens, markers, door decorations, and many more. Donated prizes are welcome too!

Sora Access

Students can access Sora through Classlink or by following these instructions. Thank you Ms. Rotanelli.

Sora Reading Challenge

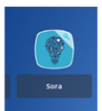
How many books can you read during Winter Recess?

Read at least 2 books or more **and** complete a book review for each to be entered into a raffle.

There are thousands of eBooks to read on Sora!

Many prizes will be given out, but you can only win once!

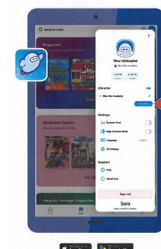
Sign in to Sora through Classlink.



Scan the QR Code to access the book review template.



Sora offers the ability for students to explore age-appropriate digital books from NY Reads



- Here's how to access titles from this State-wide collection through Sora:
1. In Sora, sign into Southern Westchester BOCES with your school district credentials.
 2. Click or tap menu icon and select Add library.
 3. Use the search box to find and select NY Reads.
 4. Find and select your school district to continue.
 5. Sign in with your school credentials.
 6. Now when you search for books, it will look in both collections. When browsing, you can choose which collection to look at.

June 25th - 8th Grade PTA Dance - Save The Date

The PTA will be having the 8th Grade Moving Up Dance on June 25th at 7:00 p.m. Parents are encouraged to attend, help out, and make the event safe and fun.

Westlake Middle School

CLASS OF
2024

Save the Date

8th Grade Moving Up Dance

Sponsored by the WMS PTA

Club Infinity

404 Irvington Street
Pleasantville

June 25th
7:00-10:00

Full Buffet Dinner

&
DJ

Toys For Tots

A drop box for new, unwrapped toys is located in the lobby of Westlake Middle School.

Westlake Middle School
High Needs Toys / Gifts

Age 0-2	Age 3-5	Age 6-10	Age 11-12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rattles Blankets Baby Toys Strollers High Chairs Art Sets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Books, E-books Games Comics Art Sets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Books, E-books Games Comics Art Sets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Books, E-books Games Comics Art Sets
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****A drop box for new, unwrapped toys is located in the lobby of Westlake Middle School.****

For other ways to donate to Toys For Tots, please see below.
Please make checks payable to "Toys For Tots" and mail to:
Toys For Tots
PO Box 1207
White Plains, NY 10602-1207

QR CODES:

SOCIAL MEDIA: [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#)

WMS PTA Standard Membership Raffle

Win a \$50 gift card to Wood & Fire in Pleasantville. To be entered to win all you need to do is sign up to be a member of the WMS PTA Standard level or make an open donation amount of \$25 minimum. All you need to do is join the WMS PTA (if you haven't already) for a chance to win the gift card.

All WMS PTA standard memberships or open donation amount of \$25 minimum collected by December 31, 2023 qualify for the raffle drawing. Please follow this link to become a member or to make a donation: <https://wmspta18-19.memberhub.com/store>

The winner will be announced January 5th, 2024!

Joining the WMS PTA helps us offer educational and cultural programs to students. Membership dues support programs such as cultural arts, field days and ice cream socials, grants for Wellness Day, teacher and staff appreciation, additional supplies and resources for the classrooms, class trips/scholarships, and Woo Hoo Welcome, to name a few.

DON'T MISS OUT on the WMS PTA Membership Raffle! Join Today!



January 10th at 6:00 p.m. - PTA Book Study - Save The Date

We met this week and discussed strategies for helping student use their power of looking ahead to manage satiations, helping them bounce back from mistakes or failure, and helping them be comfortable with who they are and accept differences.



The book study team will be summarizing some of the most important things we learn and sharing them with you later this spring in an interactive way. Stay tuned. All are welcome to join the next session in January. We will be discussing Chapters 6, 7, and 9.

Principal's Leadership Group - Snapshots of What's Happening

6th Grade Grade Winter Concert

Another amazing night of performances. Congratulations to the 6th Grade Band, 6th Grade Chorus, and 6th Grade Meistersingers.

Thank you Ms. Sica!

Thank you Mr. Appel!



Book Tasting

Ms. Rotanelli, librarian, and Mrs. Anastasiou, WMS teacher, hosted a Book Tasting Party for some students in the middle school. Students were able to sample a variety of books as well as some deserts. At the end, students selected two of their favorite books to check out.



Two Peas In A Pod

Idioms are an important part of language acquisition and



Cat Got Your Tongue

Being aware of idioms can help a student with comprehension



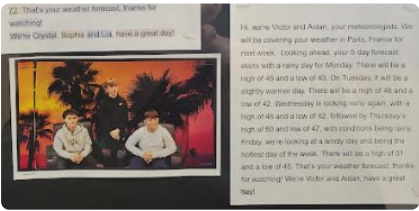
Laughing My Head Off

Drawing pictures of idioms helps emphasize this point

reading fluency. There are tens of thousands of idioms in the English language.

of complex literature that they will see in secondary school.

(and it's fun). Thank you 6th Graders!



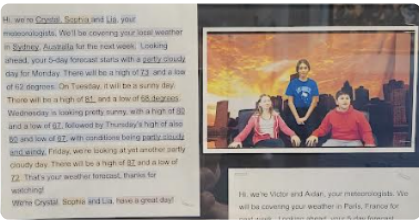
6th Grade Multimedia Presentations

In Science, students researched weather in another area of the world, focusing on how landforms factor into weather.



We Video Weather Reports

They wrote scripts and practiced using we video to create a multimedia presentation.

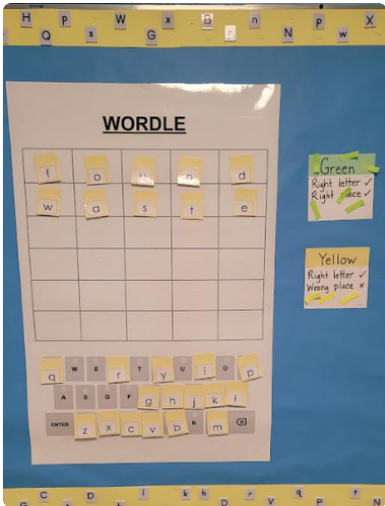


Using The Library's Green Screen

And recorded their weather reports in the library with the help of Ms. McFarland and Ms. Rotanelli.

Wordle Wall in The Hall

Better language skills, competition, stress relief, and fun with interactive Wordle in the hallway.



Save The Dates



Westlake Wildcat Sports

Please check the Westlake Wildcats Sports Calendar for ANY updates or changes.

CALENDAR: <http://www.westlakewildcats.org/calendar>

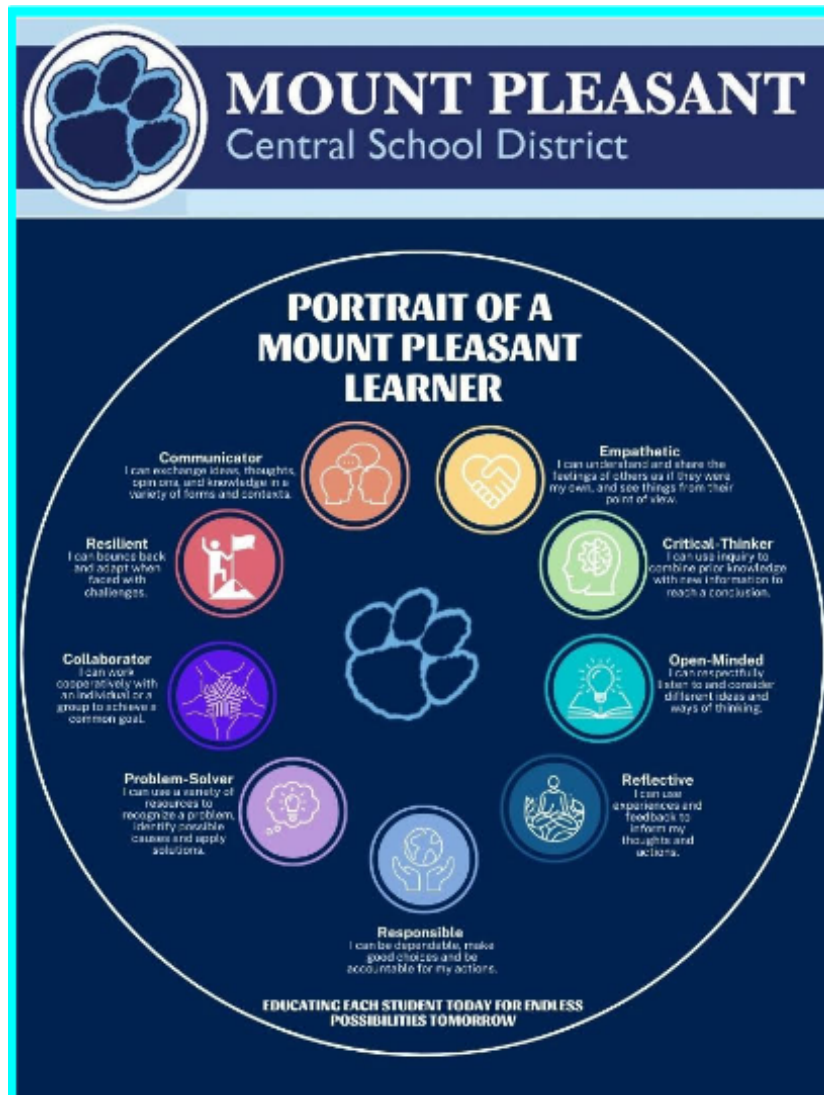
Athletic Office contacts:

Shawn Baumann, Athletic Director at sbaumann@mtplcsd.org

Maria DiNota, Athletic Secretary at mdinota@mtplcsd.org



Westlake Middle School Website



Anthony Mungioli

Anthony is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters