

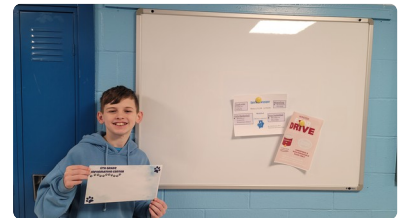
# WMS Paw Print 2024.02.09

Bringing you the middle school scoop...

## Principal's Message

February 9, 2024

For students school can feel overly adult directed. Middle School is the place where this can, should, and does shift for students. We put a lot thought into our planning so that students begin to feel more autonomous. Our teachers have been purposeful in incorporating choice into learning opportunities. This can range from a choice in research topics to flexible areas within a classroom for students to decide which is best for their learning.



Dr. Cowles and her students have created a classroom space that encourages creativity. Students are encouraged to arrange and utilize the space to collaborate and work productively on fun and enriching projects. See below for more.

In addition, students who are part of The Principal's Leadership Group are taking ownership over their space by creating information centers. From the conception of the idea to its actualization, students are developing ways to display and share important information. We applaud these students for collaboratively focusing on executive function skills. The skills of being organized and collaborating are sometimes as important as academic skills.

As the PLG Students are learning, leadership means starting with a blank canvas and painting a picture that takes a vision to realization.

**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.**



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**[CLICK HERE: Older Versions Of The Paw Print Are Archived On Our Webpage](#)**

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## A glance at the upcoming week...

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### Week of 2/12-2/16

#### Monday - Day E

- 2:15-3:15 pm: Peer Tutoring (Math)
- 2:45-4:00 pm: Science Olympiad

#### Tuesday - Day F

- 2:15-3:15 pm: Peer Tutoring (Chess)
- 2:30-3:15 pm: Meistersingers
- 2:30-4:30 pm: Science Olympiad

#### Wednesday - Day A

Weekly  
**Bulletin**

- 2:15-3:15 pm: Peer Tutoring (ELA)
- 2:20-3:20 pm: Environmental Club
- 2:30-3:15 pm: Jazz Club
- 2:45-4:00 pm: Science Olympiad

#### Thursday - Day B

- 2:15-3:15 pm: Peer Tutoring (Social Studies)
- 2:30-3:15 pm: Yearbook

#### Friday - Day C

#### Upcoming Dates:

**February 19th-23rd: School Closed for Winter Recess**

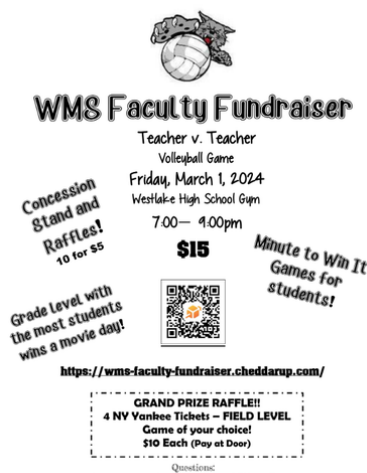
**March 1st - 6:30 pm: WMS Faculty Fundraiser**

**March 5th - 7:00 pm: WMS 8th Grade Trip Parent Meeting**

## Important New Information, Upcoming Events, and Reminders

### March 1st at 7:00 p.m. - Volleyball Fundraiser

It's Teacher vs. Teacher! Join us for a fun game of volleyball, with concession stands, games for students, and raffles.



**WMS Faculty Fundraiser**  
Teacher v. Teacher  
Volleyball Game  
Friday, March 1, 2024  
Westlake High School Gym  
7:00 - 4:00pm

**\$15**

Concession Stand and Raffles! 10 for \$5

Grade level with the most students wins a movie day!

Minute to Win It Games for students!

<https://wms-faculty-fundraiser.cheddarup.com/>

**GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE!!**  
4 NY Yankee Tickets - FIELD LEVEL  
Game of your choice!  
\$10 Each (Pay at Door)

Questions:  
Contact Anna Nazarik at [nazaruk5@gmail.com](mailto:nazaruk5@gmail.com)

### May 17th - WMS PTA Baseball Night

The PTA welcomes you to a great fundraiser, featuring The New York Yankees vs. Chicago White Sox!



## March 18th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. - Mt. Pleasant Visual Arts Festival

Get ready for one of the greatest events of the year. We look forward to a spectacular display.

Get a sneak preview on some of the amazing art. Thank you Dr. Cowles!



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

### 6th Grade Artists - African Masks

6th grade are focusing on a Black History Month celebration by recognizing the influence of African Masks on the black African Diaspora in the USA by studying black artists.



### 7th Grade Artists - Dare To Dream

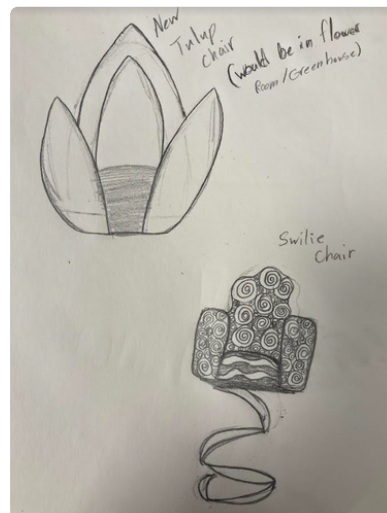


7th Grade will be creating work on the theme of "Dare to Dream." They will imagine a future that is inclusive, free of prejudice and peaceful. This is a partnership with the community Lions Club and is celebrated with parents and students at the end of the year.



## 8th Grade Artists - Modern Chair Design

8th graders are becoming designers to consider how to create an aesthetically pleasing environment by inventing and designing a modern chair. So far the designs are very interesting.



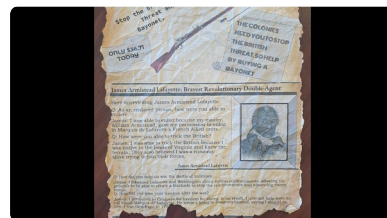
## 8th Grade Course Selection Process

This week, our 7th graders engaged in meaningful discussions regarding their course selection process for next year with the help of their Math and Science teachers, Guidance Counselors, and a student panel of 8th graders who visited Math 7 classes to share their own personal experiences. 8th graders in both Regents and grade level math and science courses discussed their own decisions and the factors that played a role in them. They shared details about the differences in the courses, challenges, and strategies they found helpful for success.



## 7th Grade Revolutionary War Newspapers

7th grade students are examining Black Americans contributions to the Revolutionary War. In their current project they are to creating a newspaper. One aspect of this newspaper is an article where they interview a Black American, woman or Native and their contribution to the war effort.



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## Save The Dates and Flyers

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# WMS BASEBALL NIGHT

**NEW YORK YANKEES VS CHICAGO WHITE SOX**

**YANKEES**



**VS**

**WHITE SOX**



**\$70 PER TICKET**

**TICKET PURCHASE INCLUDES A FOOD & DRINK VOUCHER AND A YANKEE BACKPACK**

**FRIDAY, MAY 17TH 7 PM  
YANKEE STADIUM**

TICKET AVAILABLE AT [HTTPS://WMS-PTA-YANKEES-FUNDRAISER-COPY.CHEDDARUP.COM](https://wms-pta-yankees-fundraiser-copy.cheddarup.com)



# THE CAVE

Located in Bethel, CT

For Grades 6, 7, and 8

FEBRUARY  
**21st**

Join us for mini-golf, laser tag, ropes course, bumper cars! Each participant will receive a \$10 game card!

The bus will leave the Mt. Pleasant Community Center at 10am and return at 4pm

Resident Fee: \$60

Non Resident Fee: \$72

Activity #: 911234 A

Scan to register!



Register with the Mt. Pleasant Recreation Department!



Registration is now open for the following:

Tee-Ball 5 & 6 (Co-Ed)

Baseball AA/AAA 7 & 8

Minors Baseball 9 & 10

Majors Baseball 11 & 12

Softball 8U, 10U & 12U

Please visit [Shermanparkll.com](http://Shermanparkll.com) to register

Early Bird discount ends 1/15/24

Registration closes 2/24/24

## **Westlake Middle School**

CLASS OF  
**2024**

*Save the Date*

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Moving Up Dance**

Sponsored by the WMS PTA

#### **Club Infinity**

404 Irvington Street  
Pleasantville

June 25<sup>th</sup>

**7:00-10:00**

*Full Buffet Dinner*

**&**

*DJ*





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## 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](mailto:sbaumann@mtplcsd.org)

Maria DiNota, Athletic Secretary at [mdinota@mtplcsd.org](mailto:mdinota@mtplcsd.org)

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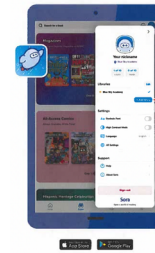
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## Sora Access

Keep reading! Sora is a digital reading option that all students have. Students can access Sora through Classlink or by following these instructions. Thank you Ms. Rotanelli.



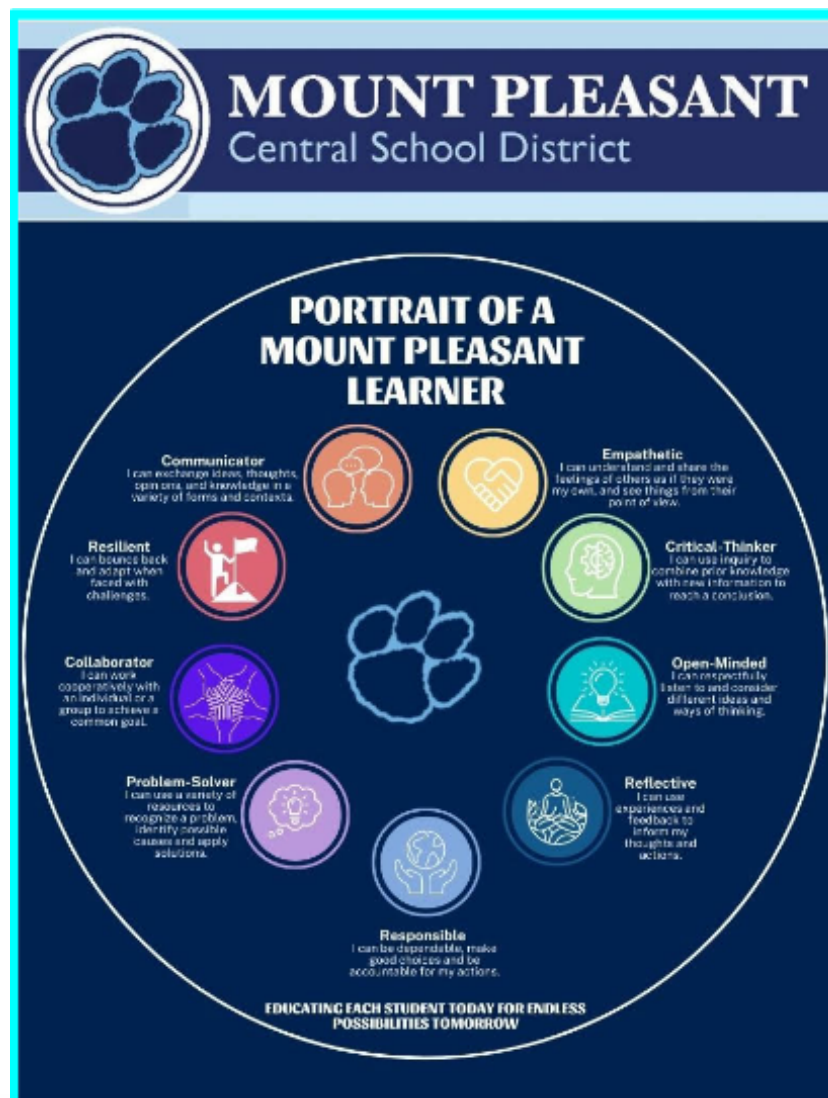
Sora offers the ability for students to explore age-appropriate digital books from NY Reads



- 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.

## Westlake Middle School Website

## Mount Pleasant Central School District Website



**Anthony Mungioli**

Anthony is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

