

Go MUSTANGS!

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Mountain Meadows

August 2023-January 2024



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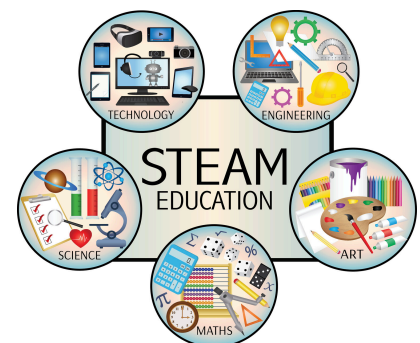
A Note from Ms. Johnson, School Principal

Hello Mountain Meadows!

Happy New Year! I hope that you and yours enjoyed a restful and fun Winter Break. The first half of this school year has been an exciting and busy time for our students, staff, and families. Our Mountain Meadows students continue to make academic gains in all content areas, as well as socially and emotionally. Our strong academic programs, with social emotional learning (SEL) integration throughout the school day, keep our focus on connecting with each of our students everyday, while providing a learning environment where all students thrive in safety. All students are participating in the “Specials”- Music, Art, PE, and Library and all students also have access to our Teaching and Learning MM Garden, and the Wellness Center. Thank you for your communication, support and attendance at our school events. Our partnership is vital to your child's success. Thank you for all you do! Seeing your child(ren) happy to be at school and trying their best is a joy daily.

We are continuously refining and improving our safety protocols, and I assure you that the MM Staff does our very best to keep all students safe, following protocols successfully. We appreciate your support of our procedures, practice drills and for reporting anything that seems unsafe. Please remember, “See or hear something, Say something immediately.” MUSD is installing a new buzzer system on the entrance doors to the front offices at all the elementary campuses. This means that anyone entering the school through the front office will need to push a button, which will buzz inside the office. The door will remain closed and locked until office staff identifies the person and activates the door to unlock. We thank you in advance for your patience as we implement this new safety protocol in our front office.

Our PTA and parent volunteers continue to provide wonderful experiences for our students and community. Thank you!! We enjoyed an amazing Fall Book Fair and Movie Night. Additionally PTA funds field trips, classroom supplies, assemblies, our PE and Art programs and much more. ***This year PTA is also helping to fund the opening of our new STEAM Lab! (Science, Technology, Engineering Art, and Math)*** Students will have access to comprehensive STEAM education. Activities include coding with Ozobots and Dash bots, STEM building projects, 3D Printing, Little Bits Engineering, Computer Animation, and a Maker's Space. ***Recognition belongs to our very own Ms. Stein, 2nd grade teacher, who has led the committee in the organization of the MM STEAM Lab, including designing the***



space, choosing materials/equipment and providing resources/lessons/activities for teachers of all grade levels to utilize with their students. Thank you to all who have helped to make the STEAM Lab available for our students! It will be open for classes after Jan. 19.

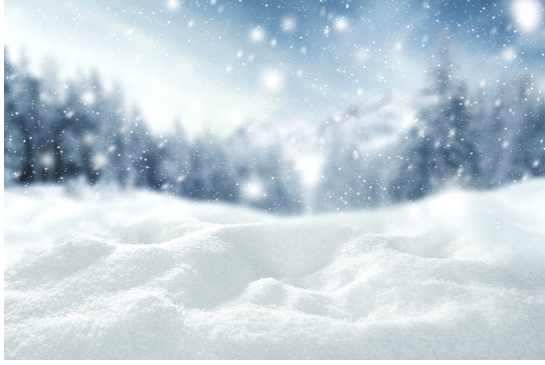
We continue to celebrate our amazing students, recognizing Students of the Month in our Friday assemblies. The Kiwanis Club continues with their Terrific Kids program for 3rd-5th graders and 5th grade Honor Roll recipients are recognized each trimester. Families of the award recipients are invited to attend as well. **We LOVE celebrating our Respectful, Safe, and Kind students!**



Our students enjoy their recess time, and we have been working hard to ensure that they have plenty of positive and healthy activities to choose from. In addition to field and court games like soccer, handball, basketball, we have added yard games this year. Students in 1st-5th grade can check out games to play during recess (giant Chess/Checkers, Bean Bag Toss, giant Connect Four, Toss Across and others). Additionally, both our playgrounds have new equipment (bikes in the Kinder yard, balls, hula hoops, etc.) Please note that per school policy, students are not allowed to bring toys or balls/playground equipment from home. If they need it for after school activities, then the item needs to remain in the backpack during the school day. This ensures that students are playing with school approved equipment and also prevents personal belongings from being damaged or missing.

Important Reminder: Students bringing a cell phone and/or a smartwatch to school must keep it on silent and in their backpack for the entire time that they are on campus. Phones and smartwatches are not allowed to be used at all while on campus. If a student needs to call home, they will use the school phone in the front office or the classroom phone as permitted by the teacher. We understand that some students need their phones/watches before and/or after school, which is why they are permitted on campus, but only to be kept in the backpack and not used during the school day. If a student is wearing their smartwatch or has a phone out, staff will ask the student for the phone/watch and turn it to the front office to be picked up by a parent/guardian. Your support and cooperation is appreciated.





The Snow Show is January 25! We hope to see you all at our first musical performance, taking place at Moorpark High School in the Performing Arts Center in the evening. All students have been practicing and are invited to perform in this inaugural “*Snow Show*” led by our Music teacher, Mrs. Leininger. Detailed times are in the Music Section of this Newsletter. See you there!

Let’s keep the exciting momentum going. Here’s to a great second half of the school year ahead, filled with learning, growth, and endless possibilities!

Sincerely,

Ms. Johnson

Front Office

Attendance Phone Calls: When your student is absent, please call the Attendance Line at:

(805) 378-6306 Ext: 9905. In the message, please give a reason for the absence. If we do not hear from you, they are automatically marked as Unexcused.

OR

email your student's name and the reason for absence to:

kdingbaum@mrpk.org OR rmoraorozco@mrpk.org

Thank you for your support !

LOST and FOUND located IN FRONT OF THE MPR. Please remind your students to check for any lost sweaters!



Health Office

Wishing You All A HEALTHY New Year



-Covid tests are still available in the front office
-Please return any clothes that your student may have borrowed



Every student. Every day.

Attendance Matters! It is important that every student is in school

EVERY DAY and ON TIME.

Student Council

This year, Student Council has been working hard to support our school and the Moorpark community. Our lunchtime activities and Spirit Wear Fridays have raised our school spirit and brought out so much Mustang Pride on our Mountain Meadows campus. We love to see that blue!

Also, a huge thank you to everyone who donated to our November Canned Food Drive. Our school donated 1,192 cans to our local Moorpark Pantry Plus, going above and beyond what we expected. It was amazing to see how excited our Mountain Meadows students were to help others in need during the holiday season.

We are looking forward to many more fun Student Council events in the New Year!

-Ms. Sheller

Music

Happy New Year Mountain Families!

We are pleased to announce the first ever SNOW SHOW choral performance by our K-5th grade students! (TK students will be doing something different this year, so stay tuned for more details regarding that!)

We will have 3 different evening performances with two grade levels performing at each time. The shows will be about 20-30 minutes in length. After each performance, we will empty the theater and then there will be space for the next group of families. We want to make sure that our families of students performing receive seating as a priority! Doors will open for families 10 minutes before showtime!

Thursday, January 25th, 2024

Location - MHS Performing Arts Center

5:30 Show - Kinder and 3rd Grade (please have them be in theater by 5:15)

6:15 Show - 1st and 4th Grades (please have them be in theater by 6:00)

7:00 Show - 2nd and 5th Grades (please have them be in theater by 6:45)

CHORUS STUDENTS - You will find out more information from Mrs. Leininger!

NOTE: You may be standing outside and waiting in between shows - wear jackets! The lobby in the performing arts center is **SMALL** and will not accommodate many people! Please plan accordingly!

It would be wonderful if students could wear white on the top, and dark pants on the bottom for the performance. Dark solid color shoes if you have. Students are encouraged to wear beanies, earmuffs, scarves for the show, but leave jackets with parents in the audience. We cannot wait to watch our students perform!



Hello Mustangs!

Happy New Year 2024! Time sure is flying by. During the month of October we came together to raise awareness and increase understanding



about bullying prevention. MM stands together and continues to work hard in making students feel safe, welcome, and treated respectfully. Thank you for joining us on October 18, 2023 in wearing the color **ORANGE** for **UNITY DAY**. This color and day helped us promote kindness, acceptance and inclusion to prevent bullying. Let's continue to encourage our students to be Upstanders and help others. Talk about how to identify bully behavior, report to trusting adults, and Stand together as a MM community to prevent bullying.

A big thank you for also participating during our **Red Ribbon** week and encouraging students to make POSITIVE and HEALTHY choices.

November was also a month full of opportunities that allowed us to come together as a school community and reflect on a lot of things that we are thankful for. As the school year continues, we will learn more about emotions, empathy, and kindness. This is a great time to talk about big emotions with your child. It is important for your child to feel heard and to have a safe space to talk about their feelings. Please feel free to check out the following list of books that talk about big feelings:

[The Boy with Big, Big Feelings](#)

[In My Heart: A Book of Feelings](#)

[A Little Scribble SPOT: A Story About Colorful Emotions By Diane Alber](#)

[Feelings Need Feelings Animated A Little SPOT Song](#)

Please be on the lookout and help us celebrate **Kindness Week** during the week of **February 12th-February 16th**.

The Wellness Center has come a long way ! Students have the opportunity to utilize this space to help them calm down, talk about feelings, and make new connections with other peers. Feel free to also explore Moorpark's virtual Wellness Center:

[Moorpark Unified School District Wellness Center](#)

Thank you,
Cristina Naranjo



Events coming up . . .

January 15, 2024	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No School
January 19, 2024	5th Grade Honor Roll Assembly
January 22, 2024	Inservice Day- No School & District Enrollment Begins
January 25, 2024	Snow Show Music Performance at MHS
January 25, 2024	School Tour
January 26, 2024	3rd-5th Grade Student of the Month Assembly
February 2, 2024	Tk-2nd Grade Student of the Month Assembly