



Newsletter

Outlook Academy

March 2024



Women's History Month is a dedicated month to reflect on the often-overlooked contributions of women to U.S. history. From Abigail Adams to Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth to Rosa Parks, the timeline of women's history milestones stretches back to the founding of the United States.

The actual celebration of Women's History Month grew out of a weeklong celebration of women's contributions to culture, history and society organized by the school district of Sonoma, California. In 1978, presentations were given at dozens of schools, hundreds of students participated in a "Real Woman" essay contest and a parade was held in downtown Santa Rosa. Years later, the idea caught on within communities, school districts and organizations across the country.

In 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8th as National Women's History Week. The U.S. Congress followed suit the next year, passing a resolution establishing a national celebration. Six years later, the National Women's History Project successfully petitioned Congress to expand the event to the entire month of March.

International Women's Day, a global celebration of the economic, political, and social achievements of women, took place for the first time on **March 8, 1911**. Many countries around the world celebrate the holiday with demonstrations, educational initiatives, and customs such as presenting women with gifts and flowers.

The United Nations has sponsored International Women's Day since 1975. When adopting its resolution on the observance of International Women's Day, the United Nations General Assembly cited the following reasons: "To recognize the fact that securing peace and social progress and the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms require the active participation, equality and development of women; and to acknowledge the contribution of women to the strengthening of international peace and security."

Student Reminders:

Student ID Procedures:

students are required to wear their OA ID. Students are not allowed on campus without an ID. If you lose your ID, you must report to the main office to purchase a temporary ID. Students are not allowed in the hallway without a school ID.

Ventra Cards:

Lost, stolen, or damaged Ventra cards require new paperwork and a \$10 replacement fee. Please see Mr. Valant and/or Mrs. Verdin.

Attendance:

All student absences and/or early dismissals should be reported to the OA Main Office at 708-225-5875.

Our Truancy Department and Officer Owens conduct daily attendance checks. Questions about attendance should be directed to Officer Owens at 708-225-5871.



CONNECT WITH US

brower.loribeth@district205.net

708-225-5875 or 708-225-5879

Upcoming Events

For information, questions, and/or concerns regarding attendance, please contact Truancy Officer Owens at 708-225-5871.

- Remember to call the office when your student is going to be absent at 708-225-5875 or 5869.
- Please visit our webpage at www.district205.net/domain/315 to view pictures, download forms, get access to other links, and much more.

Parents/guardians of students may access attendance, grades, and assignments using one log-in at: <https://powerschool.ttdistrict205.net/public>

District 205 Credit Recovery 2023-2024

Mrs. Patricia Malopsy-Fortier
District Credit Recovery Program
Administrator

If you have any questions regarding Credit Recovery, please contact your Home School Counselor and/or credit Recovery Building Coordinator or visit the district website: www.district205.net/areasofinstruction/creditrecovery

Outlook Academy
Mr. Josh Folsom
OA Credit Recovery Coordinator
folsom.joshua@district205.net



ACCESS Testing for English Learners which assesses proficiency in the domains of reading, writing, listening, and speaking will be approaching quickly in January.

If you need assistance in your classes, please reach out to me in 3495 or email me at cwest@ttdistrict205.net

We will have another Honors and Attendance Awards Celebration in March and I hope students are aiming to be a part of it!

Look for information coming soon on a Girls' Group to meet for mentoring, discussion, and support.



March

2024

From: Patricia A. Malopsy Fortier, Program Administrator

Happy March Everyone:

March is Women's History Month—a time dedicated to honoring and celebrating the contributions and achievements of women throughout history. It is an opportunity for us to reflect on the remarkable women who have shaped our world, often overcoming significant obstacles and barriers along the way.

Throughout history, women have played vital roles in every aspect of society, from science and politics to art and literature. Yet, their stories have often been overlooked or marginalized. Women's History Month gives us a chance to shine a spotlight on these often-unsung heroes and recognize their invaluable contributions.

From trailblazers like Marie Curie, who revolutionized our understanding of radioactivity, to activists like Rosa Parks, whose bravery ignited the civil rights movement, women have made immense strides in shaping our world for the better. Their courage, resilience, and determination serve as inspiration for us all.

Women's History Month is not just about celebrating the achievements of the past; it is also about recognizing the work that still needs to be done to achieve gender equality. Despite the progress we have made, women continue to face barriers and discrimination in many areas of society. It is up to all of us to challenge these injustices and work towards a more inclusive and equitable future for everyone.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
					End of Session 3	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Session 4 Begins	Mr. Davidson's Birthday	Board of Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		SAT Day			Spring Break Begins	Mrs. Garza's Birthday
31						



Outlook Academy

STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Academic Support

In other news...

SAT is an Illinois and District 205 graduation requirement. All OA SAT Testing Students must be in **ATTENDANCE AND TEST** during all school testing in the Spring 2024. **Your D205 Diploma Will Be Delayed if you do not test with us.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please see me in office 3481 or email me ASAP. pmartin@ttdistrict205.net



Mrs. Martin's Counselor's Corner

Students Who Have Not Taken The SAT, will test at Outlook Academy

- **Our SAT Digital Test Day will be Tuesday, March 26, 2024**

For more information, go to:

DIGITAL SAT SUITE OF ASSESSMENTS

Sign in: <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/>

- **Digital SAT Practice and Preparation**

From free practice tests to a checklist of what to bring on test day, College Board provides everything you need to prepare for the digital SAT.

- **SAT Studying and Practice**
- **Official SAT Practice**

SAT Practice on Khan Academy® is free, comprehensive, and available to all students. With personalized plans, practice tests, and more, Khan Academy is good preparation for any test in the SAT Suite.

[Go to Khan Academy](#)

- **Preparing for the SAT**

From free test prep to a checklist of what to bring on test day, College Board provides everything you need to prepare.

- **Get Ready for Test Day**

Martin's Motivation:

"Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced."

~ James Baldwin,
American Writer and Civil Rights
Activist

Announcements and Reminders

Students, remember to access your PowerSchool by:

- Username: your ID #
- Password: Hit the reset/forgot my password button to make your own password.

Your password can only be reset, using your Chromebook.



From the Desk of Ms. Cheryl West

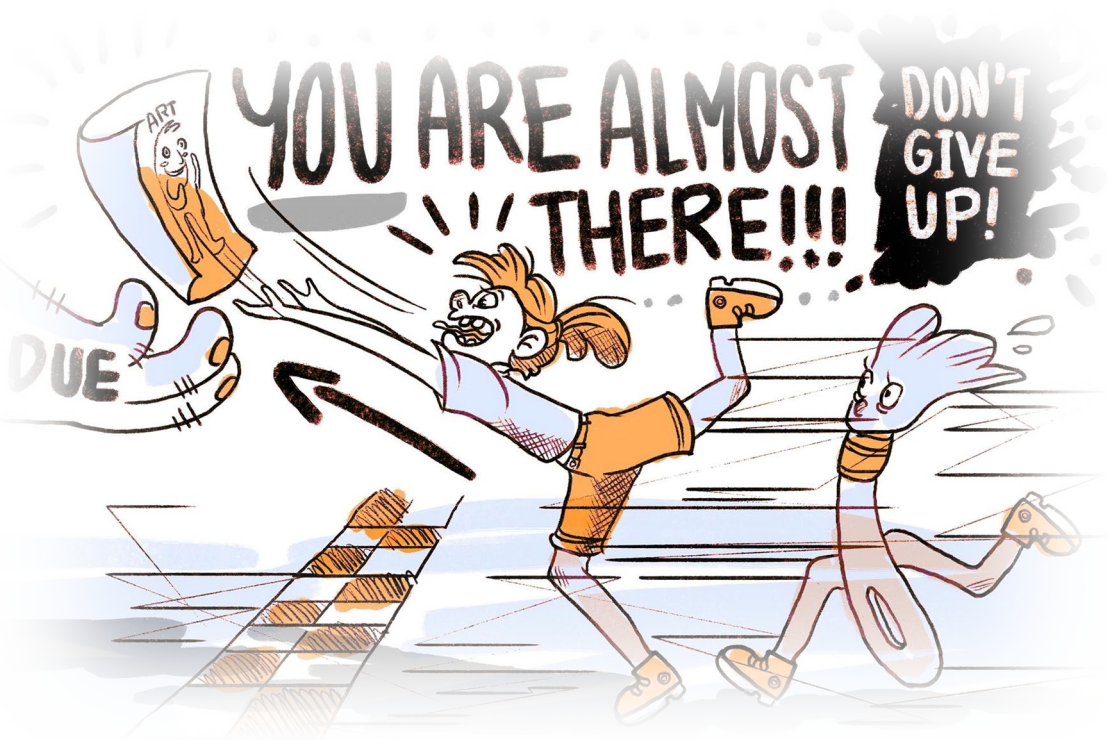
As we wrap up February and head into March, we are in the home stretch of the school year. Juniors are trying to get to the necessary 18 credits to return to their home schools and seniors are approaching the end of their high school career. Students have been working hard in their classes and are planning for end of school year celebrations like prom and graduation. I have been encouraging our students to stay focused on their goals and to finish out the next few months in a strong fashion. We have encouraged them to manage their time wisely as many of our students work and have outside responsibilities. Many students and I have set up ways to manage time with lists, calendar reminders, and prioritizing while keeping tasks realistic and attainable.

Every student I see each day does a grade check and plans with me to be successful in their academics. We work hard to meet the needs of each student as each of them brings unique strengths and circumstances to their education. Staying organized and on schedule and being aware of stress levels and how to cope is a focus when working with our students.

We continue to see students doing positive things every day and being rewarded with Outlook P.R.I.D.E. awards. We are looking forward to celebrating our third term High Honors, Honors, and Perfect Attendance Awards in March. Selena Dorsey was the winner of an Amazon gift card from our 2nd term raffle in

which all Outlook P.R.I.D.E. recipients were entered.

With spring upon us and the fast pace of the end of the year, I encourage students to stay on the course and see their hard work coming to fruition. They can reach out to any staff member for assistance and will be directed to the appropriate resource if needed. We are approaching my favorite time of year as I see students enter their final term and reach their goals, but it is important to not stop short. We are here to support them as they enter the last quarter of the school year and look forward to seeing them be successful in all they are doing.



WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP?

Financial Aid Department

*From the Desk of Ms. Briana Holmes
College and Careers*

Students must use District Gmail to gain access to Google Classroom.

Completion and Confirmation of FAFSA and South Suburban College Application is REQUIRED for Graduation from Outlook.

COMPLETE FAFSA

BEGIN the 2023-2024 FAFSA TODAY!
Enrollment has opened! South Suburban College CODE: 001769

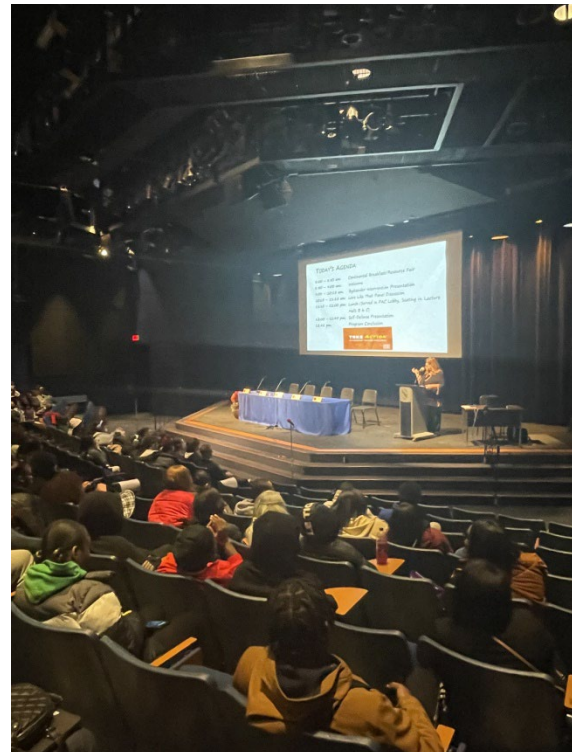
<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

FAFSA Instructions

<https://www.ssc.edu/admissions-registration/financial-aid/>

If you have any questions or concerns or call regarding your FAFSA please email at: 708-596-2000 ext. 3575 or email bholmes@ttdsitric205.net

OA students were invited to attend a panel of women from Building Beyond Violence and Abuse (Take-Action), sharing stories and giving advice to our students about how to handle a violent situation when in an abusive relationship. Some of our students felt comfortable enough to ask questions and seek advice about situations they are currently in. Students from several school districts participated in discussions and then had lunch together. The entire day focused on unity, compassion, understanding and safety.





Math Department

From the Desk of Mrs. Garza



It is hard to believe another session is coming to an end. Throughout this quarter, students in Mrs. Garza's class have been learning at their own pace, receiving immediate feedback, finding, and learning from their mistakes, receiving individual instruction via their teacher, fellow classmates, or via videos. Students have also been working to learn and learning to work. It has been amazing to see students building their confidence and investing and engaging in their education.

As we wind down, students have been displaying their learning by participating in a variety of games. One game students have enjoyed playing is a math version of the game Hedbanz. Hedbanz can help with different aspects of cognitive development such as communication skills, deductive reasoning, critical thinking, vocabulary building, and social skills.

From the Desk of Mr. Bailey

As March begins, we are putting the finishing touches on Statistics Semester 1. We have worked through our lessons on graphing and data. The students have been able to explore the concept of a normal distribution. We have searched distinct types of data and have been able to identify which types of data form a normal distribution. We will finish the quarter with some basic concepts about probability. This will lead into the second semester and merge probability with a normal

distribution. We will finish with a project on the probability of the color of ducks.

If you have any questions concerning their grade, please email me at: rbailey@ttdistrict205.net

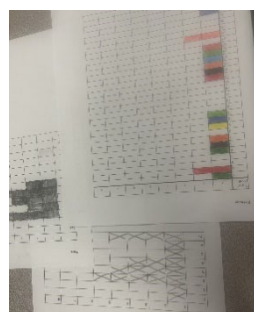
The second semester of statistics will bring more concepts about normal distributions. The students will explore Z-scores and probability under the curve. Students explore frequency tables with cumulative and relative values.

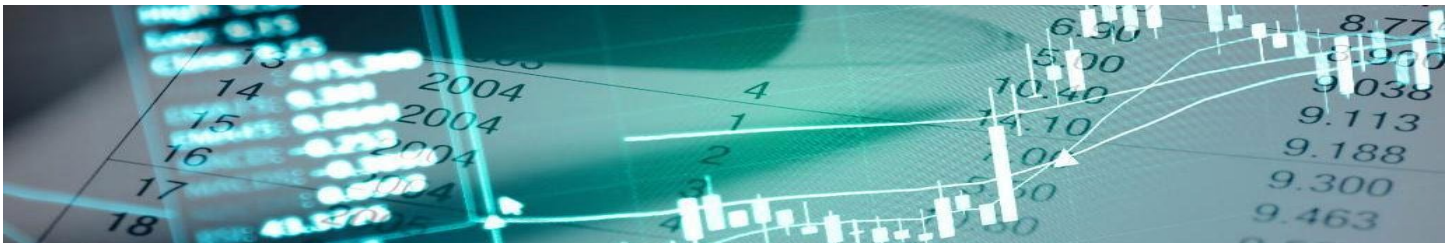
3rd Quarter

Week 9 – 3/4 to 3/8 - Review and Semester 1 Final

4th Quarter

Week 1 – 3/11 to 3/15 - Statistical definitions and Vocabulary
 Week 2 – 3/18 to 3/22 - Vocabulary Assessment and Plinko Demonstration
 Week 3 – 3/25 to 3/29 - Central Tendency



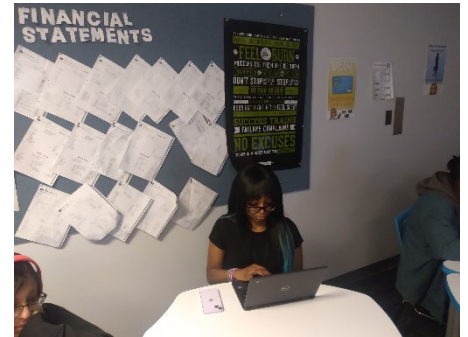


Business Department

From the Desk of Ms. Digiacomo

In **Accounting Session 2** the students are so excited to be learning about how to prepare payroll. They can calculate hourly wages, salaries, commissions, royalties, and piecework pay. They can differentiate between gross pay versus net pay. They can calculate income taxes for state and federal and FICA taxes.

In **Accounting Session 1** the students are learning about banking services and calculations. They can prepare checks, keep a running log of a check register, and balance a checkbook.



Final Project for Accounting Semesters 1 & 2:

They will research companies that have experienced accounting fraud such as Enron, Mattel, Lehman Brothers, etc. In this project, they will give information about the actual fraud, the key players, how it was discovered, and what the outcome was. The student will present it to the class and answer questions from the other students.

From the Desk of Mr. Arrington

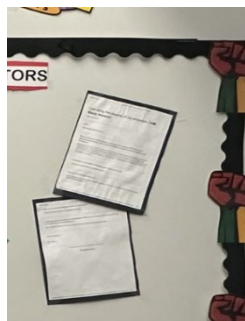
During the 3rd Session, 15 additional students passed the Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) certification exam. Outlook Academy students can receive a MOS certificate in MS Word, PowerPoint, or MS Excel. Students are then required to complete a personal resume. Students can use their certification and resume to apply for a good paying job or to enhance their college application. Currently, Outlook students have attained over 60 certifications during the 2023 / 2024 school year.





Science Department

From the Desk of Ms. Anderson



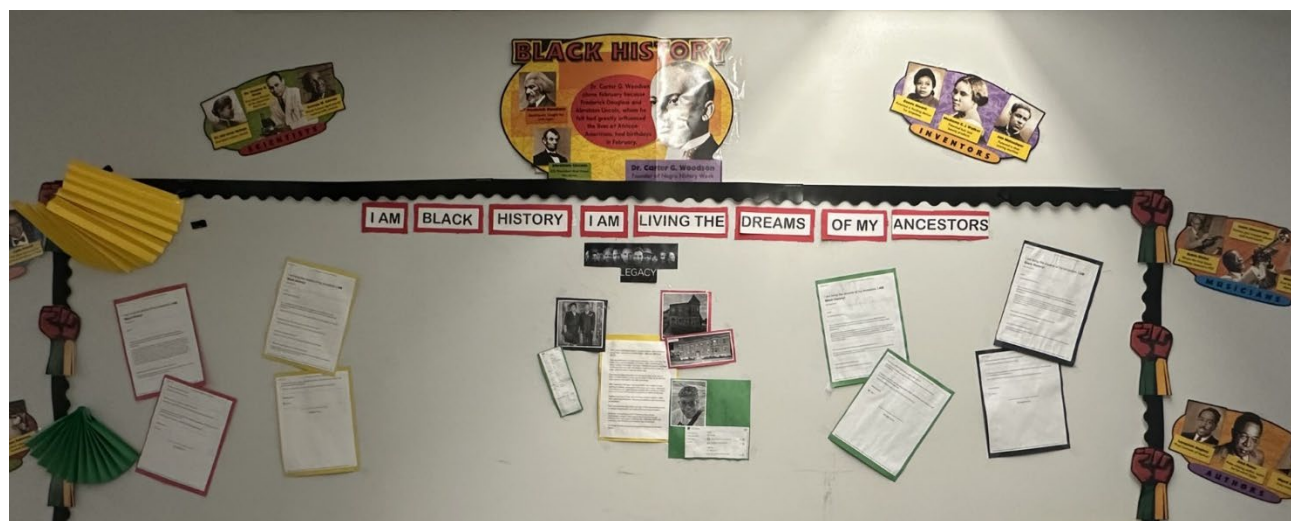
Students in the Integrated Science – Science in Cinema class are completing the unit on

Environmental Science. This unit focuses on how humans impact the environment. Movies or this unit

include **Erin Brockovich**, Deepwater Horizon, and The Lorax. Students were tasked with creating fictional pollution stories.

Students in the Forensic Science Semester 1 course are studying what is evidence and how it is processed. This month the students' blood evidence, including blood typing blood spatter, and DNA. This portion of the course concludes with a study of forensic pathology.

The Afterschool Clubs sponsored a Black History Month Contest entitled "I AM Black History". Students were asked to complete a Google form about someone in their family who inspires them and why. Student submissions were entered into a drawing for two \$50.00 gift cards. Janiyah Hill and **Melkiyah Johnson** were our winners.



SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies Department

From the Desk of Mr. O'Leary



As the 3rd quarter has come to an end, we also end our Black History Month Celebration. As the end of Black History Month was approaching Ms. West and I felt we should do something to prepare our female students for their "MARCH into Women's History". We felt that the best way to achieve this was using pull-out enrichment groups/activities.

Ms. West divided up our female students into smaller groups that she could pull out of class for enrichment activities. The goal for the young ladies was to identify famous women's quotes to display on the Women's History Month bulletin board. Under Ms. West's guidance, the groups created a list of quotes, and then collaboratively as a whole, they agreed on what quotes to use and decided on the presentation style. The girls were able to decide which quotes to use and should be in the same font and on green and purple card stock (Women's History Month Colors). Feel free to visit the 3300 hallway and check out the bulletin board. It'll be completed and ready for viewing by Tuesday, 03/05/2024.



We must always remember It is important to celebrate Women's History Month because it allows us to honor

and recognize the countless contributions and achievements of women throughout history. For far too long, women's stories and accomplishments have been overshadowed and dismissed, leading to a lack of representation and recognition in the history books. By dedicating an entire month to celebrating women's history, we can shine a spotlight on the often overlooked and underappreciated women who have shaped our world.

From the Desk of Mr. Martin

In US History, we have been covering the Industrial Revolution.

The Learning Objectives include:

- Identify how the Industrial Revolution impacted American society.
- Identify the conditions of factories and the working class.
- How the conditions of the workers impacted the growth of the Labor Movement.

Students began this unit by completing a Study Guide with inventors, major strikes, and major vocabulary words.

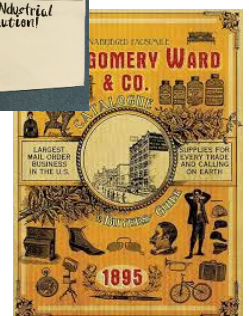
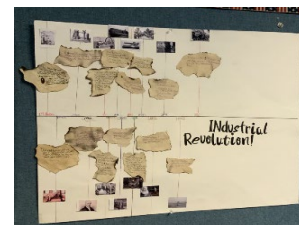
We discussed how the Industrial Revolution impacted American society with the creation of new inventions such as the sewing machine, barbed wire, and the Kodak Camera.

One of the most interesting discussions we had was how most of the 19th Century retailers started as mail order Catalog stores that became giant retailers like Marshall Fields, JCPenney, Montgomery Ward, and Sears & Roebuck.

The students watched "Self-Made: Madam CJ Walker." They learned how this poor Wash woman rose up from

poverty to create hair care products for African American women while advocating for Civil Rights by taking an active part in the newly formed NAACP.

We discussed how one singular idea can become successful if you work hard and overcome the "Nos."



Welcome to Visual Arts

We are at the end of Term 3 and will be starting Term 4 soon. Students have finished completing their clay dragons by painting them and finishing with a gloss coating. It is amazing to see how creative the students get with painting their dragons. The next art projects were inspired by contemporary African American artists Reggie Laurent and Faith Ringgold. Reggie Laurent is a Chicago native that is known for his Abstract artworks. Faith Ringgold is a legendary African American female artist that works with a multitude of art mediums that is focused on her life experiences growing up in Harlem, New York. Faith is an activist that devotes her art to communicating the challenges of breaking through the art world not only as an African American artist, but more importantly a female African American artist. Faith Ringgold is best known for her story quilts which are multimedia artworks that capture memories as a child growing up, her challenges in the art world and political activism that is close to her heart. As we celebrated Black History Month, students created their own art works inspired by the artists Reggie Laurent and Faith Ringgold.

Term 3 art class students had the opportunity to work with many different art mediums while learning about Chinese New Year, and African American artists that have made and continue to make great contributions to the art world. Students were challenged to grow and learn about the visual arts, and they did an excellent job of expressing their creativity in their unique artworks.

I look forward to the start of Term 4 where students will be creating art pieces that are more three dimensional. In the meantime, enjoy the artworks created by the students from Term 3.



Visual Arts

Student Class Work





From Our Social Worker



National Social Work Month is an annual observance held every March to highlight and celebrate the invaluable contributions of social workers across the United States. During this month, organizations, communities, and individuals come together to recognize the dedication, compassion, and professionalism of social workers who tirelessly strive to improve the lives of others.

The month-long celebration aims to raise awareness about the critical role that social workers play in supporting individuals, families, and communities in times of need. It provides an opportunity to acknowledge their efforts in addressing a wide range of social issues, including poverty, mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, homelessness, and more.

National Social Work Month also serves as a platform to advocate for the advancement of social work profession and the promotion of social justice and equality. It underscores the importance of investing in social work education, research, and practice to ensure that social workers have the necessary tools and resources to effectively meet the evolving needs of society.

Throughout the month, various events, activities, and initiatives are organized to honor social workers, educate the public about their roles and responsibilities, and foster dialogue on pressing social issues. These may include conferences, workshops, seminars, community service projects, media campaigns, and recognition ceremonies.

Overall, National Social Work Month provides an opportunity for society to express gratitude to social workers for their tireless dedication, empathy, and commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of others. It serves as a reminder of the profound impact that social workers have on individuals, families, and communities, and encourages continued support for their essential work.

Social Emotional Tip of the Month: Healthy Stress Management Strategies

1. **Prioritize Self-Care:** Make time for activities that promote relaxation and well-being, such as exercise, hobbies, or spending time with loved ones. Taking care of yourself is essential for managing stress.
2. **Practice Time Management:** Break tasks into smaller, manageable steps and create a schedule to organize your time effectively. Prioritize tasks based on importance and deadlines to reduce feelings of overwhelm.
3. **Develop Healthy Habits:** Maintain a balanced diet, get enough sleep, and limit caffeine and sugar intake. These habits can support your physical and mental well-being, helping you better cope with stress.
4. **Stay Active:** Regular physical activity can help reduce stress levels by releasing endorphins, which are natural mood lifters. Find activities you enjoy, whether it's sports, dancing, or simply going for a walk.
5. **Utilize Relaxation Techniques:** Practice deep breathing, meditation, or progressive muscle relaxation to calm your mind and body when feeling stressed. These techniques can help you manage anxiety and promote relaxation.
6. **Express Yourself:** Find healthy outlets for expressing your thoughts and emotions, such as journaling, talking to a trusted friend or family member, or engaging in creative activities like art or music.
7. **Set Realistic Expectations:** Avoid setting unrealistic goals for yourself and learn to accept that it's okay not to be perfect. Be kind to yourself and celebrate your accomplishments, no matter how small.
8. **Limit Screen Time:** While technology can be a valuable tool, excessive screen time can contribute to stress and anxiety. Set boundaries for how much time you spend on devices and take breaks to disconnect and recharge.
9. **Seek Support:** Do not hesitate to reach out for help if you're feeling overwhelmed. Talk to a trusted adult, school counselor, or mental health professional who can provide guidance and support.
10. **Engage in Relaxing Activities:** Make time for activities that bring you joy and relaxation, such as reading, listening to music, or spending time outdoors. Taking breaks to do things you enjoy can help reduce stress and improve your overall well-being.



Outlook Academy

Assistant Program Administrator

From the Desk of Mr. Valant

As March approaches, the South Suburbs are gearing up for a pivotal moment in local governance with the upcoming elections. Residents across the area are preparing to cast their votes and make their voices heard on matters that directly impact their communities. With issues ranging from economic development and infrastructure to education and public safety, these elections are key in shaping the future of the 13 communities Thornton Township H.S. District 205 serves.

Candidates vying for positions at various levels of government have been actively engaging with constituents, attending town halls, and participating in debates to articulate their visions and policy proposals. From mayoral races to city council seats, there is a diverse array of candidates offering their perspectives and solutions to address the challenges facing the South Suburbs. As voters weigh their options, they are encouraged to research candidates' platforms thoroughly and participate in the democratic process to ensure their voices are heard.

Beyond the candidates themselves, voter turnout will be a critical factor in determining the outcome of the March elections. Encouraging community members, particularly the young, to register and vote is essential for fostering a representative democracy. Outlook hosted a voter registration drive in hopes of getting students to realize the important role that they play as active voters. We hope that not only our students, but all potential voters get out and make a difference this March. Voting is not only your civic duty but will also determine what direction our communities will head in the future.

YOUR VOTE MATTERS.

**VOTE
TO IMPROVE YOUR
COMMUNITY**



ADULT TRANSITION PROGRAM



Program Director

From the Desk of Mrs. Wayne

The Adult Transition Program for young adults has been busy. College students are at midterms. The trainees are still working at St. Coletta's, South Suburban College, and Thornwood. We are redeveloping the program for next year for the young adults to be more successful. Last week, one group attended the Safety Seminar that discussed Dating Violence and Bystander Intervention Training.

From the Desk of Ms. Neita

The Adult Transition students completed a unit on personal hygiene. After completing the unit, the students took a field trip to Target in Homewood, IL, and did a scavenger hunt for personal hygiene products. The students had to locate personal hygiene products and the cost of each item.

