DECEMBER 2021

WINDSOR MILL MIDDLE
FAMILY NEWSLETTER

#THEWINDSORMILLDIFFERENCE

ADMIN UPDATES

Greetings Windsor Mill Family,

I hope that each of you had a great Thanksgiving holiday and a restful break! While we are still dealing with COVID and it’s variants, our students continue to persevere! During the first quarter, we had 218 honor roll students. 7th and 8th grade had the most students on honor roll with 83! The students who were on our Quarter 1 Honor Roll will be highlighted on Thursday, December 16th! Please continue to push your students to be #thewindsormilldifference! This means trying their very best each day academically and behaviorally! As always, please feel free to reach out to me if you have any glows or grows!

-Dr.Hobbs

**Basketball Tickets**: No tickets will be sold at the door.**
Tickets can be purchased for $4 at: https://events.ticketpicket.com/agency/abc3e898-7010-4cd2-9060-750f1e168355
6TH GRADE NEWS

As we enter this holiday season, we want to take this opportunity to say thank you to our 6th graders. They have been doing a great job of becoming more comfortable and confident here at WMMS. By now, they have received their 1st quarter report cards. For those who have made honor roll, we want to say “Congratulations” and can’t wait to celebrate your efforts soon. We are now in fourth week of the 2nd quarter. We have seen growth in participation, understanding of content and love of learning! These are huge things to celebrate. Continue to put forth your best effort and be sure to reach out to your teachers if you are struggling. They are here to help you. Take this time to submit any missing assignments. The 6th graders also participated in their first PBIS event—a block party, where they were able to play football and basketball and socialize with their friends during their specials. We are continuing to learn to be responsible for all our work, classes, and selves and we are becoming more independent and accepting ownership. So far, we are doing a great job!

7TH GRADE NEWS

As the weather gets colder, please keep in mind the uniform policies on jackets. A solid color (black, white or light blue) sweater with no hood. Students may also wear long sleeve shirts of any color under their uniform top. Jeans, jean jackets, and open-toed shoes of any kind are still not permitted. Students were also reminded during our quarterly family meeting that they should be bringing their own mask plus an extra one to school. This month we introduced our LiveSchools PBIS program which allows students to earn points for positive, international Baccalaureate related behaviors. Our grade-level goal is that the 7th grade earns the most points of the 3 grades! The 7th grade team would also like to wish the entire Windsor Mill community safe and happy holidays.

8TH GRADE NEWS

Below is the schedule for 8th grade coach classes. Please contact the teacher for additional information!
DEPARTMENT NEWS

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS/READING DEPARTMENT

Grade 6: In the unit, "Facing Fears and Dealing with Disasters," students will read a variety of informational texts and view some media resources on the topics of fears and phobias as well as dealing with disasters. They will engage in careful analysis of these texts in order to regularly connect the concepts learned in class to their own experiences. Students will also engage in the research process to gain information on a self-selected topic. As part of their studies, students will be introduced to the elements of non-fiction texts as part of a focus on key ideas and details used to develop each text.

Grade 7: The unit, "Analyzing Poet's and Playwright's Choices" is designed to help students understand that writers of poetry and drama have structural elements that govern their craft. Poets and playwrights use these elements masterfully to share their ideas, tell their stories, and develop their themes. In the first half of the unit, students will read several poems to identify and analyze the structural elements that were used. In the second half of the unit, students will read several short plays to identify and analyze the elements of drama that were used.

Grade 8: In the unit "Living in a Divided Nation," students will read a variety of text sets, both fiction and non-fiction, to compare and contrast the development of central ideas with a focus on word choice and structure. They will study texts in various forms including film clips and print/visual texts, as well as shorter and longer texts of both fiction and non-fiction. Texts will frequently be presented as "sets" to encourage students to compare and contrast the way different authors express similar themes or ideas.

WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

World Languages has been working hard to use Spanish in real world scenarios in many different ways. Students have been having conversations about many different aspects of life, entirely in Spanish!! Ms. Brahmbhatt has been working diligently with our 6th graders to discuss their families and who is important in their lives while Ms. Guiglio has been having students create different representations of their childhood fears and how to overcome them. Señor Johnson and the intermediate Spanish students have been designing vision boards to represent their ideal life as well as comparing and contrasting their boards to classmates and bloggers. Our next units are looking to be very engaging and fun for students of all levels! Vamos a perseverar!

MATH DEPARTMENT

Our Math Department has worked hard the past first quarter and we will continue this commitment for the remainder of the school year. Its December and our timeframe is 3 weeks and 3 days of instruction, then we begin our Winter Holiday break. Our Math Teachers would like our parents/legal guardians to continue "teaching and learning" at home with their children during this break....... Now you are probably pondering/wondering well my children need a break too!!! We agree, but the request involves having fun and learning too! Let's get together with our children and turn off those devices and mobile phones and....... let's play board games!! Monopoly is still one of the most challenging board games for family members to play... money, balancing funds, counting, multiplying, adding, subtracting and you really must remain focused or before you know it, Board Walk has 3 hotels on it! Dominos now that's a great math game you can play for hours with each other! Please take a few pictures and email them to our Math teachers if you like! Have a great Holiday and see you next year!!! Your Superheroes at WMMS!!! Math Teachers!!!
SPECIAL AREAS DEPARTMENTS

The music and dance department are continuing to build skills and performance techniques with all the performing ensembles. We are still planning on hosting a winter virtual performance that will showcase all of the performing arts. It is our hope to have a live performance in the spring.

Students are expected to be taking instruments home to practice. Although dance students do not have to change or purchase anything, students are still encouraged to participate each class period. Students are also encouraged to schedule coach classes with their teachers for additional assistance.

All Physical Education classes have now transitioned into their Health curriculum.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Currently the Science department is heading into the winter months with units of study in the following:

- 6th Grade - states of matter and measuring liquid volumes
- 7th Grade - levels of organization in the human body and how they work together
- 8th Grade - fossils, dinosaurs, and evolution

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

8th Grade (Mrs. McGuire and Mrs. George-Collins)
Last month 8th grade classes participated in a program called JA Inspire which allows student to explore different careers and meet virtually with a variety of business vendors. Currently students are working on early United States history and have completed the Declaration of Independence and are in the Revolutionary War.

7th Grade (Mr. Crouse and Mrs. McGuire)
Students are wrapping up the first unit in the 7th grade world history curriculum and are beginning the second unit by looking at the feudal system and manorialism. Charlamagne and William the Conqueror will be featured as well before they start talking about feudalistic Japan.

6th Grade (Ms. Miller and Mr. Kline)
The 6th grade classes are in the middle of the foundational civilizations starting with ancient Babylon and looking at the first forms of writing, cuneiform. Students will actually be given chance to learn and create cuneiform tablets in class with Play Doh and a stylus. Our next stop will be in Ancient Egypt.

WINDSOR MILL MIDDLE DIFFERENCE MAKER OF THE MONTH

Our Windsor Mill Middle Difference Maker for the month of November was: Mrs. George-Collins! Mrs. George-Collins is an 8th grade Social Studies teacher and serves as an 8th grade team leader!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position/Class:</th>
<th>Grade 8 American History (Grade 8 Team Leader)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education:</td>
<td>BS History &amp; Secondary Ed. – Towson University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hobbies:</td>
<td>SPORTS, Love Food!, Traveling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Favorite Quote/Author:</td>
<td>“Happiness can be found in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light.” –JK Rowling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Thing you Missed Most About Teaching in School:</td>
<td>My students and creating those relationships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Favorite Team:</td>
<td>Baltimore Ravens (LET'S GOOOOOOOO!!!)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fun Fact:</td>
<td>My best friend and I have the same first name! (Kelsey/Kelsey)</td>
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</tbody>
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MAGNET/IB MYP NEWS

Windsor Mill Middle School students are making #thewindsormilldifference by exhibiting the IB Learner Profile Traits in their classes! Each week, the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade teachers are nominating one student from their grade level for demonstrating one of these traits that week. Our IB students are: caring, balanced, inquirers, thinkers, risk-takers, knowledgeable, principled, communicators, open-minded, and reflective. The students chosen are given an award for their work as the excellent IB learners that they are! Our students are award-winning here at Windsor Mill Middle School!

8th graders who applied for high school magnet programs- make sure to review your assessment dates. If you do not complete the assessment on the date that you selected or were assigned, you will automatically be disqualified from obtaining a seat in the program. Good luck to all of you that have your assessments in December!

PBIS NEWS
(POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS)

On Thursday November 18th, students participated in their first PBIS event, a Fall Block Party! We look forward to our next event after 2nd quarter. Students have begun to receive points for positive behavior in a new system called LiveSchool. In the week, students and parents will both receive login information so that they can monitor the points students are earning from teachers.

COUNSELING CORNER

In the month of December:

- Academic Advisement Conferences (Deficiency List) 6th, 7th and 8th grade
- High School Registration for 8th grade
- 6 Year Plan Individual Conferences for 7th and 8th graders

Windsor Mill Middle School
8300 Windsor Mill Road
Baltimore, MD 21244
443-809-0618

School Contacts:

Principal: Dr. Rodrick Hobbs
Assistant Principal (6th and 7th-A-J): Ms. Campbell
Assistant Principal (8th and 7th-K-Z): Mrs. Ridley
Dean of Students: Mrs. Benesch

School Counselor (6th and 7th-A-J): Mrs. Taylor
School Counselor (8th and 7th-K-Z): Mrs. Thomas-Aulu
School Nurse: Mrs. Cothorne
Magnet Coordinator: Ms. Magin