

CARMEL



CARMEL MIDDLE SCHOOL

6th Grade Cougar Update — 3/10/2023

COUGARS

Teresa Peterson, Assistant Principal

Cougar families,

The weather does not look good out this weekend. It might be a great time to check powerschool and complete any missing work before the quarter ends. All Late/Missing work is due by next Friday.

Important Dates

- 3/17 Last day for students to submit Quarter 3 assignments
- 3/27 Teacher workday
- 3/20: Spring Panorama survey
- 3/24: Q3 ends
- 3/27: Teacher workday
- 4/7-14: Holiday, Spring Break
- 4/18: Spring MAP test, Math
- 4/24: *Seussical the Musical* begins
- 4/25: Spring MAP test, Reading

Student Surveys

In March, two CMS student surveys will be administered:

- Our annual CMS Student (School Climate) Survey, which will be administered from March 6 – 17, 2023 and the
- Panorama SEL Screener which will be administered on March 20th, 2023.

The CMS Student (School Climate) Survey is administered to students in grades 5-12 and is mandatory. However, we will allow students to abstain from taking the survey should they choose. We will not solicit opt-outs but allow students to abstain. Families will have a preview period next week to view the survey questions on the CMS website. Questions will be posted in multiple languages. A message will come out from our Communications Office informing families of this option.

The Panorama SEL Screener is administered to all students in grades 3-12. Parents and guardians will have the opportunity to preview the Panorama survey questions on the CMS website starting on March 1, 2023. To officially opt out a student from participating in the spring Panorama survey, parents or guardians should contact their students' Homeroom teacher directly.

PI Day

The 6th grade math classes will be celebrating Pi Day on Tuesday, March 14, 2023. We will be introducing the concept of Pi in reference to circles with several hands-on activities. In order to make this a successful day for your child, we need your help! Below is Sign Up Genius information for all of the 6th grade math classes. Please go online and sign up to donate at least one item. The items need to be brought into school on Tuesday, March 14 by 9:00am. Thank you in advance for your support!

Ms. Butler, Mrs. Gregg, Ms. Hess, Mr. Pratt & Mrs. Rosado are all using the bit.ly below:

bit.ly/PiDayCarmel

(The link is case sensitive)

Office Hours, 8:15am start time

To ensure more teachers with childcare conflicts are available to support students right away Tuesday mornings, we will begin Tuesday office hours at 8:15am going forward.

Doors will open a few minutes prior to 8:15am each Tuesday for tutoring. We will also be alerting students of this change.

Suicide Prevention lesson

Parent Information for the Middle School Suicide Prevention Lesson

These lessons will be delivered to homeroom students in March & April by Carmel's Student Services Department

In an effort to support student mental health, we wish to inform you that a CMS District Suicide Prevention Lesson will be taught to all 6th graders at Carmel Middle School during the 2022-23 school year. With the three steps Recognize-Act-Say, anyone can learn to help prevent suicide. The mission of the lesson is to reduce suicidal behaviors and save lives by providing innovative, practical and proven suicide prevention training. Students will learn the warning signs of suicide and depression and how to reach out to an adult for help.

Classes will be taught during the students' homeroom block and will start March 6th.

New ACE Intervention Cycle

Our next 8-week intervention cycle during A.C.E. (2:22-3:02) begins Monday, 2/13. Using current student achievement data, students are regrouped into tiers that support their growth in math or language arts. Other groups meeting during this cycle are Peer Buddies/Adapted PE, the cast & crew of *Seussical the Musical*, EC & ML Learning Labs, Battle of the Books, Yearbook, & Math 2. We will conclude this cycle at spring break.

End-of-Year Dates

5/17-18: Spanish I Final (Listening/Speaking)

5/23-24: Spanish I Final (Reading/Writing)

5/25: **8th grade Science EOG** *[proctor sign up](#)

5/29: Memorial Day (Holiday, no school)

5/30: Last day for students to submit quarter 4 assignments

5/31: **Reading EOG** *[proctor sign up](#)

6/1: **Math EOG & Math I EOC** *[proctor sign up](#)

6/2: 7th Grade Math EOG (Only 7th grade students currently taking Math I)

6/7: 8th grade awards (Families of those students receiving an award will be invited to attend)

6/8: 8th grade breakfast (AM) & social (PM), yearbook distribution

6/9: Last day of school

EOG/EOC Proctors Needed!

Would you be willing to help serve our school community as an EOG/EOC test proctor? Please [sign-up here](#) to assist Carmel students, teachers, and administrators during end-of-year testing. More information can be found in the above link regarding the dates and times. We appreciate your consideration!

PE t-shirts

Students can purchase their shirt anytime [online](#) and it will be hand delivered. Every Friday morning at the beginning or end of 1st block Ms. Jones will accept cash payments and an all-call will be made for students.

Join us in supporting the Best Buddies Friendship Walk!

This year, we are participating in the Best Buddies Friendship Walk to raise money to support Best Buddies' programs of inclusion for people worldwide with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Help us build a more inclusive world by joining our team or making a donation today — every dollar makes a difference!

Counselor Corner

The Student Services & Support Department will be providing all 6th graders with a suicide prevention lesson beginning next week. See more information in the parent letter attached.

Join Mental Health America - Central Carolinas' Board Member, Duane Butler, to learn more about MHA of Central Carolinas' free programs and services, as they help to normalize the conversation about mental health and discuss ways to promote mental wellness. Bring your own coffee; they'll provide resources and inspiration as an MHA Storyteller shares a story of hope and recovery. Register [here](#) for this free online/virtual event on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 from 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Free short-term counseling is available for youth and adults in Mecklenburg who don't have insurance or have insurance but cannot afford their deductible or copays, To learn more about eligibility, contact MHA's Care Coordinator Rachel Rosenfeld at 704-899-1839.

Cougar Cares

We would like to thank the generous Carmel families who stocked the Cougar Cares closet with snacks, toiletries, backpacks, and other essentials. And a huge shout out to Hope Community Church in Olde Providence for their donation and ongoing support. Cougar Cares is a school-run program that provides extra support to the underserved students in our Carmel community. If you are interested in learning more, or would like to be contacted with at-once needs, please reach out to Kelda Rericha, keldarericha@gmail.com or (503) 757-1728. We will also periodically share opportunities to support Cougar Cares in this newsletter.

Daily Attendance Matters!

Consistent student attendance is critical to students' learning. We are making a concentrated effort this school year to encourage our students to be present every day. Please remember to contact Ms. Royston, our attendance secretary, whenever your child is out of school. Her email is tanya1.royston@cms.k12.nc.us

Subscribe to the Cougar News

Each Wednesday the school will send out an electronic bulletin called "The Cougar News." This weekly bulletin is designed to help everyone stay informed about our school. To subscribe, please follow [this link](#) and fill out the opt-in form.

Cell Phone

Student use of personal cell phones and electronic devices is prohibited during the school day. Please refrain from repeatedly calling and/or texting your child during the school day. Carmel has ample school phones available for student use. Students may not use cellular telephones, or other electronic devices (e.g., laser pointers and attachments, personal digital assistants and other devices designed to receive and send an electronic signal, Ipads, etc) during the school day for personal use. Students arriving to their homeroom at 8:55am until dismissal at 4:15pm constitutes the school day. This policy applies, but is not limited to, restrooms and common areas, such as the gymnasium and cafeteria. Students and parents/guardians are expected to read and understand the policy regarding the use of cell phones and electronic devices. School personnel will not be responsible for conducting a search for lost or stolen cell phones or electronic devices.

Consequences for violation of cell phone policy (CMS Code of Conduct, Rule 5; UB: Cell Phone Use)

1st Offense: Verbal warning by staff member

2nd Offense: Cell phone confiscated for parent pick-up in main office

3rd Offense: Cell phone confiscated for parent pick-up in main office. Student "checks in" cell phone upon arrival in the main office for the following week

4th Offense: Student not permitted to bring personal technology on campus for the remainder of the academic year. Office referral, In-School Suspension 1-3 days

5th Offense: Student not permitted to bring personal technology on campus for the remainder of the academic year. Office referral, Out-of-School Suspension consideration.

Join and Support Carmel PTSA!

Join the renowned [Carmel PTSA](#) to stay engaged and informed on what's going on at Carmel Middle! To receive the weekly Cougar News please sign-up here! The Cougar News is our weekly publication of all school-wide updates, announcements, and celebrations. The PTSA has integrated the use of [Pay4SchoolStuff](#) to streamline the process of filling out your back to school paperwork, as well as order and pay for all of your back to school items together. By moving this process online, it is easier for parents, teachers, and the PTSA volunteers to get these orders processed. Note, the blue form is still required to be turned back into your homeroom teacher so the school has a hardcopy.

It's time to re-link to Harris Teeter's Together in Education! The program runs August 1st-May 31st. This can be done online or at the store. The school number for Carmel Middle is 1576. If you shop on Amazon, switch to <https://smile.amazon.com> and choose PTA North Carolina Congress Carmel Middle School PTSA. They will send our school a check for 0.5% of purchases! Shop for Carmel!

Counselor Connection

We are happy to announce that 96% of 6th graders are successfully registered for 7th grade! Thank you to those who completed your child's course selection card and who's child turned it in on time. Students that did not have a completed & signed card were instructed to fill out a paper copy indicating that they did not meet the deadline and are, therefore, not guaranteed their top choices.

The "Programs for Exceptional Children" will host the *Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Resource Fair* for students with disabilities. The fair will be held at the East Mecklenburg High School Cafeteria on Thursday, March 16, 2023 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. The purpose of the Resource Fair is to inform parents, students and educators of the services available in Mecklenburg County for persons with disabilities.

Content:

Math

Standard: Students have been learning how to use inverse operations and substitution to solve one-step equations. Next week, students will translate word phrases into algebraic equations. The Unit 6 Test will be next Friday, March 17th.

Honors: Students have been learning all about Inequalities this past week. This was a very short unit, so the students took an LMQ about Inequalities today, in place of a test. This will be a Rehearse grade instead of a Perform grade. Next week, students will begin exploring Area and Circumference of circles in terms of Pi. They will have a test on circles which will be on Friday, March 24th.

All classes will be celebrating Pi Day next Tuesday, March 14th! This week, math teachers sent home a yellow slip to parents/guardians asking for donations for our celebration. Please go online to the [bit.ly](https://bit.ly/PiDayCarmel) below and sign up for any items you would be willing to donate! All donations need to be brought to school by Tuesday, March 14th at 9:00am. Thank you!
bit.ly/PiDayCarmel

Social Studies

In Social Studies, students have progressed through the Roman Empire into the Middle Ages, also known as the Dark Ages in Europe. Students are working on a DBQ comparing Feudal knights versus Samurai. Next, we will be moving into the Rise of Islam and African Trading Empires. See key dates listed below:

Unit 5 Test: 3/21A and 3/22B

Science:

Hi Cougar families! This week we are finishing up the quarter and just finished our Ecosystems tests. We will be doing retakes the week of March 20- 24 for our first 4th Quarter grade. Then we are starting our last unit of the year, "Earth and the Universe!" Please make sure all Q3 grades are complete and turned in. If a student completes late work please have them tell/ email their teacher directly so that we know to put those grades in. Let's finish strong!

ELA:

6th Grade ELA is hard at work with our last essay of Module 3 - an Argumentative Essay. Thus far, students have written Compare and Contrast Essays (Module 1) and Problem and Solution Essays (Module 2). This Argumentative Essay will be their third style of essay. They are using their novel, *Two Roads*, to support their opinion (argument) about the main character. The essay and all of the planning for it is being completed in class and does not have to be completed at home, but if parents wish to check out their child's writing, they can visit noredink.com with their child.

Our last project for Module 3 will begin next Monday, 3/20. That week, students will be creating "audio museums" to share their growing knowledge of Native American Boarding Schools. They will read from primary sources written by students who attended the boarding schools in order to learn more about this period in history. They will present their findings to their group members by the end of the week.

Thank You

Thank you for your ongoing support as our partners in learning. Our success would not be possible without your engagement and collaboration in the educational journey our children embark on.

