

CARMEL



COUGARS

CARMEL MIDDLE SCHOOL

7th Grade Cougar Update — 1.13.23

Mrs. Alison Fisch, Assistant Principal

Happy Friday Cougar Families,

And just like that, the holidays are in our rearview mirror, and the month of January is whizzing by. This is typically the time of year when we see the doldrums start to set in. Our students may get a bit tired of school routines and expectations, but of course, need to abide by them. Please ask any questions you may have regarding our rules and procedures. The 2nd quarter is coming to a close soon. We have next Monday, January 16 off for Dr. King's birthday holiday; on Tuesday, January 17 all missed 2nd quarter assignments need to be submitted. Tuesday morning (8:00) Office Hours are taking place.

We have some new faces in 7th grade! Ms. Kathryn Swaim is our new grade level counselor. She started with us last week and has hit the ground running! Ms. Swaim and I visited classrooms on Monday, so everyone knows she's here. Please read her bio in the Counselor Connection section below.

Ms. Dana Stein and Ms. Amy Roberts have joined our 7th grade team serving as math and math/science teachers, respectively. They have stepped into existing positions and quickly learned the nuances of being a part of our grade level! Ms. Gina Higgins is a new addition to our grade level as an ELA teacher, and she is joining us from the 8th grade team.

Congratulations to our 2022-2023 Carmel Teacher of the Year, Mykellah Green! Ms. Green serves as one of grade level's math teachers and is in her eighth year at Carmel. She's a tremendous educator and colleague in our school community! Our 7th grade team wouldn't be the same without her.

Parent Information Session: ADHD, Depression, Anxiety, and ODD

Dr. Alexandra Dean will be back at Carmel Middle School on Thursday, January 26 from 1:30-3:00 PM for a presentation in the Media Center to parents about the signs and symptoms of childhood mental disorders. She will talk about the diagnostic criteria for disorders like ADHD, Depression, Anxiety, and ODD, as well as the different treatment options available (including school-based therapy). She will conclude with a brief Q & A.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Ms. Woody at jill.woody@cms.k12.nc.us by Monday, January 23.

Washington DC:

Final payments are due by January 19, 2023. Please be on the lookout for an informational packet that needs to be signed and returned. A final itinerary and rooming lists will be sent out at the end of February or early March.

Spain Trip June 2024 with EF Tours: DEADLINE EXTENDED

The deadline for the Spain tour to Madrid, Barcelona, and the Basque Country has been extended to **Tuesday, January 31st**. If you would like more information, please email Ms. Russell at blair.h.russell@gmail.com. We still have a few spots available and look forward to traveling with your students! *This is a private tour and is not vetted, approved, planned, managed, or endorsed by Carmel or CMS.

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 and complete the on-line attendance form. Her email is tanya1.royston@cms.k12.nc.us

Curriculum Updates:

English Language Arts – We have started our third module on The Harlem Renaissance! We are reviewing some historical context and introducing academic vocabulary. Throughout the module, we will learn about the musical *Shuffle Along*, read poetry, and analyze short stories. This module should take all of quarter 3.

Math 7 – Students will continue working with negative and positive numbers, including fractions and decimals during the second half of unit 5. The end unit test is on January 31st. Please continue checking in with your child to make sure they are doing their Delta math homework. All quarter 2 assignments are due January 17. Thanks!

Honors Math 7 – Students are currently in Unit 5 learning how to solve for missing variables in a multi-step or 2 step equation using integers, fractions, and decimals. They will be adding in solving inequalities and testing on Tuesday, January 24.

Math 1 – Happy New Year!!!

Students have taken their midterm (January 18) and are currently finishing work for unit 5, Functions. Students have learned how to write situations using function notation. Additionally, they have learned how to express the domain and the range of a function given as an equation, a table, list of ordered pairs, or a scenario. The unit 5 Functions test will be on Jan. 24, which is the last day of Q2.

Following unit 5, students will begin studying exponential functions. To begin this unit, students will be learning how to use rules of exponents to simplify expressions. They will be multiplying, dividing, and raising powers to powers. They will also be learning what a negative exponent means and how to simplify expressions that contain negative exponents.

Important dates:

- Midterm – January 18 (20% of semester 1 grade)
- Unit 5 Test - Tue. January 24
- Exponent Rules Test - Tue. February 7

Science – We are now completing our Human Body System booklets. Next, the students will complete and present a project on how body systems interact. This will be the second Perform (50%) grade for Quarter 2. Our next unit will be on cells, and that will carry us through January.

Social Studies – Hello Families! We are wrapping up Unit 4 and moving into our Midterm season beginning next week. Students will receive a study guide for the Midterm that they will be allowed to use on the test. Please ensure students have turned in all Quarter 2 assignments before the deadline, January 17.

Counselor Connection

Hello Parents & Families,

My name is Ms. Swaim, and I am the new school counselor for seventh grade. Just to let you know a little more about me, I graduated from UNC-Greensboro in 2019 with my Bachelor of Science, majoring in communications sciences and disorders with a minor in human development and family studies. I also completed my Master of Education in school counseling from Liberty University in December of 2022.

I plan to work with you to serve students by utilizing small groups and individual support services. I appreciate your input on your student as we collaborate in providing a positive and safe environment that fosters student growth.

The best way to reach me is via email. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me at kathryng.swaim@cms.k12.nc.us. I look forward to working with you all soon.

Also, below is a link to our student support services website. <https://sites.google.com/cms.k12.nc.us/carmels-student-services/home>

Dr. Alexandra Dean from Family First Community Services will be back at Carmel Middle School on Thursday, January 26th from 1:30-3PM for a presentation in the Media Center to parents about the signs and symptoms of childhood mental

disorders. She will talk about the diagnostic criteria for disorders like ADHD, Depression, Anxiety, and ODD, as well as the different treatment options available (including school-based therapy). She will conclude with a brief Q & A. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Ms. Woody at jill.woody@cms.k12.nc.us.

Please visit Carmel's [Student Support Services Website](#) learn more about our Comprehensive School Counseling Program.

Other News & Reminders

January 16 - No School (Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday)
January 17 - Last day to submit Q2 assignments
January 18 - Carmel Prospective Family Night (6:00 PM)
January 20 - Carmel SIT Meeting (8:00 AM; Open to all)
January 24 - 2nd Quarter Ends
January 25 - Teacher Workday - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
January 26 - 3rd Quarter Begins; MAP Testing
February 2 - MAP Testing
February 8 - Early Release Day

Free Math Tutoring

Students can access a website called Tutor.com where they can get up to 10 free tutoring sessions with a math tutor online. They just need their Student ID card.

When they go to the log-in page, they will have to type in a Barcode (student ID number), and a PIN (the number on their ID card). Once they are logged in, they can get a tutor anytime from 4pm-midnight. bit.ly/cmsmathtutoring

PTSA News & Announcements









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.

[PTSA Membership & Volunteer Form](#)

[Invest for Success Donation Form](#)

Join the PRIDE and donate to the Carmel PTSA Invest for Success annual fundraising campaign! Our goal is to raise \$40,000 to fund the PTSA operating budget for the 2022-2023 school year. This money is essential to addressing targeted student and staff needs not funded by CMS. We thank those who have already donated. If you haven't done so yet, please make a donation today. Donate here: <http://www.carmelptsa.org/invest-for-success.html>

Your tax deductible donations directly impact the students and staff at Carmel. This year, funds raised will specifically go toward:

-  Science Lab Equipment
-  Fine Arts Department Performance Equipment
-  Supplemental Instructional Resources
-  Staff Appreciation and Staff Retention Events
-  Student Recognition
-  Cougar Cares Program
-  Counseling Programs
-  Tutoring



Thank you!

Next Cougar Update: Jan 27, 2023

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