

CARMEL



COUGARS

CARMEL MIDDLE SCHOOL

7th Grade Cougar Update — 12.11.20

Mrs. Alison Fisch, Assistant Principal

Hello Cougar Families,

This is our last Cougar Update before winter break. Please take some time to rest and relax!

As a reminder, Monday, December 14 will be the last day for our students to submit late work for the 2nd quarter. Please double check with your 7th grader to ensure they are up to date with their schoolwork. If you'd like to meet with your child's teachers, please contact our grade level counselor, Jill Woody at jill.woody@cms.k12.nc.us, to set up a January conference.

Below you will find revised information regarding our transition back to in-person learning.

[Revised Timeline for In-Person Instruction](#)

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education voted at its December 8 meeting to return to remote instruction until January 19 for students in kindergarten through grade 12. Carmel Middle students now begin in-person attendance rotations on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. You will receive bus transportation information in the mail along with a second semester welcome letter before then.

Schedule Changes

All students and families should check PowerSchool after December 31 for any Elective class changes that have been made. With the rebalancing of attendance groups and tweaking the master schedule with staff constraints, several students in each grade-level will have their Electives changed. These changes cannot be avoided, as we schedule new students into in-person attendance rotations and the Full Remote Academy.

Students Switching In/Out of the Full Remote Academy

For families that submitted a request to switch in or out of the Full Remote Academy for second semester, if it is necessary for your child to have a schedule change that impacts their core-content classes, we will email you to confirm the change has been made and direct you to PowerSchool to access their new schedule for second semester.

This is only for students who have made a switch in or out of the Full Remote Academy and will largely impact those in sixth grade because of staffing constraints.

Attendance Rotation Notification

CMS will be sending out Connect5 messages on December 14, January 5, and January 15 to notify and remind families of their child's second semester attendance rotation (In-person A,B,C or FRA). This will also confirm second semester attendance changes that were submitted by those wishing to switch in or out of the Full Remote Academy.

Unless there was an egregious error made, these attendance rotations cannot be changed.

Be sure to sign up for PTSA's **Cougar News**, which has important information on all things happening at Carmel. To sign up, [click here](#).

Important Dates

- December 21 - End of Quarter 2
- December 22 - Teacher Workday - No classes for students
- December 23 - January 4 - Winter Break - No School for staff or students
- January 4 - Teacher Workday - No School for students
- January 5 - 2nd Semester Begins

Curriculum Updates

Language Arts: We've been looking at poetry from the Harlem Renaissance with a focus on structure and theme. Our students will show us what they've learned on Monday by taking a test! ☺ Happy Holidays to you!

Math: Math 7 Standard: Students are finishing up Unit 4 on Proportional Relationships and Percents. We will have our End-of-Unit Assessment on Thursday, 12/17. All missing or late assignments for Quarter 2 need to be completed by Monday, 12/14. After winter break, students will begin a unit on Rational Number Arithmetic.

Math 7 Honors: Students are wrapping up their latest unit on linear relationships. They will be assessed before winter break and will start their next unit on inequalities and equations in January.

Math 1: Students are currently learning about linear inequalities, systems of linear inequalities, and scatter plots. We will begin preparing for the midterm early next week and students will take the midterm on Thursday, 12/17. The Math 1 midterm is 20% of the students' first semester grade.

Science: Hello families, so we have come to the end of the second quarter and much of our unit on human physiology. The last few weeks we completed a choice lab on one of three body systems; digestive system, respiratory system, circulatory system. Most students took this time to develop a better understanding of their pulse, while others observed how mechanical digestion helps our body digest food more efficiently. Few learned about their lung capacity and the importance of breathing appropriately through the nose and out the mouth. Moving forward, we are going to go deeper into the nervous, endocrine, and skeletal/muscular systems. We want to wish all of you a wonderful winter recess and know that our units of study also focus on the immune system and how we can all learn more about COVID and antibodies. Thank you for your continued support.

Social Studies: Important reminders! This Friday and coming Monday, the students will be taking their Social Studies midterm. This grade will appear in the Quarter 3 grading period. Monday, December 14th is also the last day to submit late work for Quarter 2. Please make sure your student is all caught up with their assignments. In our classes we have been investigating The Scientific Revolution and The Enlightenment (Age of Reason). When we return from break, we will begin to explore political revolutions, including the American, the French and Latin American. We hope everyone has an enjoyable and safe holiday break.

Counselor Connection

Students continued with the Caring Schools curriculum to learn about social and emotional topics such as the importance of sleep. In the coming weeks, students will learn about cultural awareness and healthy friendships. Carmel's Student Services Department team has been analyzing data from the school-wide (social and emotional) Panorama survey to plan for how we will provide additional support for students that indicated a need in this area.

As always, do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Have a wonderful holiday!

Your Student Services & Support staff looks forward to seeing students as they return to the building beginning January 19!

Please visit [Carmel's Student Services & Support Website](#) for lots of resources and information that can assist with the well-being of families and students.

Other News & Reminders

SEL Time

"Mindful Mondays" and "Finish-Up Fridays" occur each week during our SEL block. This is time allotted for students to have additional opportunities to finish any asynchronous work from the week and to ask their teachers questions. Caring Schools lessons are delivered on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of each week during SEL time. Students in ACE PE and Learning Lab will still attend these classes during this time.

- **Canvas:** Parents can access Canvas! Click [here](#) to find directions on how to create a parent account.
- The CMS English Language Learner (ELL) department is available to assist any family needing support. Click on the links below for more information.
English Learner Parent & Community Outreach Website
<https://sites.google.com/cms.k12.nc.us/el-parent-community-outreach/home>

K-12 English Learner Remote Learning Website
<https://sites.google.com/cms.k12.nc.us/remote-english-learner/home>

Thank You

Thank you to the 56 families who helped us to celebrate the holiday season today with gift cards, white elephant themed gifts, cookies, and hot chocolate! Your generosity is much appreciated! Have a safe and happy holiday!

Next Cougar Update: January 15, 2021

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