

CARMEL



COUGARS

CARMEL MIDDLE SCHOOL

8th Grade Cougar Update

Mr. Jonathon Welsh, 8th Grade Administrator

Welcome to the 8th Grade! Can you believe it? I am delighted to be the administrator working with your child this year. I am looking forward to a very successful year and know you are too. During the first two weeks, I watched our students reconnect with each other, and also make new connections with new members of our Cougar Family. My wish is for our students to be filled with curiosity, wonder about the future, and finish Carmel Middle School on a high note. I have high expectations for your child and will do all I can to help achieve those high expectations. My main goal is to work with your child, our teachers, and community to help all students become prepared for High School. Please take the time to read below in its entirety, as important information is provided.

OBX Trip Information:

- The trip is 4 days, 3 nights and \$649 per student.
- We depart Carmel on Tuesday May 3 at 6:00 AM and return Friday May 6 at about 8:00 PM
- We stay at the Hilton Garden Inn, Nags Head (on the beach) with overnight security guards
- We will visit the following sites on the trip:
 - Morehead Planetarium, Chapel Hill
 - Jockey's Ridge State Park Sand Dunes
 - Currituck Beach Lighthouse
 - The Outer Banks Center for Wildlife Education
 - Jennette's Pier (3 fun science programs)
 - Wright Brothers National Memorial
 - Fort Raleigh National Historic Site
 - The Lost Colony of Roanoke
 - North Carolina Aquarium

- Roanoke Island Festival Park
- Souvenir Shopping at Wings Souvenir Stores
- Somerset Plantation

In addition to the overnight security provided by the company, Carmel will have staff representation as well. If additional chaperones are needed, more information will be provided regarding parents/guardians coming on the trip. Please feel free to contact Mr. Mahoney with any additional questions. Below is the link to OSP for Payments. Spots are LIMITED and filling up fast!
(<http://bit.ly/CarmelOBX>)



We are so excited to announce Carmel Middle School's partnership with Hawthorne's New York Pizza this school year. Students will have the opportunity to participate in the Hawthorne's Read a Slice, Eat a Slice Challenge. This is a monthly reading challenge to get students excited about reading books that peak their interest. When students meet the requirements by reading their monthly page goal, showing their comprehension of the text, and designing a book review bookmark, they will earn a free Hawthorne's large pizza at the Carmel Road or Rea Road location. Parents will get involved by discussing their child's reading selections and signing their book reviews. Student book reviews will then be displayed in the school to spark the interest of their classmates as well. To get all of the details, please check out the video using the link below. A big thank you to Hawthorne's Pizza for providing our students with this opportunity!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OUfVT0uYdY8>

Invest Campaign:

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

New Cell Phone Policy:

Student use of personal cell phones and electronic devices is prohibited during the school day. ALL of Carmel Middle School is a **RED ZONE**. Consequences for violation of cell phone policy is stated in the CMS Code of Conduct Rule 5; UB: Cell Phone Use.

Curriculum Updates:

ELA: The students have hit the ground running in ELA. Reading their first novel, *Summer of the Mariposas*, the 8th graders have begun analyzing differences in character and narrator point of view and how it affects us, as readers. They have also worked on identifying strategies to determine the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary. In the coming weeks, we will dive deeper into the book, looking at emerging themes and analyzing characters more closely. Our first Mid Unit Assessment will be on September 16th, focusing mainly on points of view and using context to decipher meaning.

Math 8: Students are studying rigid transformations--these are translations, reflections, and rotations. Students are explaining how to perform rigid transformations as well as recognizing which transformations have occurred. Students will be exposed to a few different strategies they can use when explaining that two figures are or are not congruent. Math 8 students will be expected to explain what it means for a figure to undergo a rigid transformation both verbally and in writing. *Make sure your student is completing their week x week before every Friday on Delta Math.*

Assessments: Mid Unit 1 Test-Tuesday, September 20 and Unit 1 Test-Thursday, September 29

Math 1: Welcome back for the 2022-23 school year! Right now, math 1 students are

working on Unit 1 - One-Variable Statistics. They have been learning about measures of center (mean and median) and variability (IQR and standard deviation). Additionally, they have learned how to represent data in histograms and box plots. We have also been practicing how to solve equations over the past few classes. On Sept. 19 we will begin Unit 2, Linear Equations and Inequalities. In this unit, students will be writing and solving equations to model relationships

Important Dates:

- Unit 1 Test - Fri. Sept. 16
- Equations Test - Wed. Sept. 21

Social Studies: The first two weeks have been off to a great start in 8th grade Social Studies! We kicked off the year by reviewing map skills and using historical thinking skills like 'sourcing' and 'contextualization' in preparation for the content we will be covering for the year. Using map skills and content taught on the geographic regions of North Carolina, students will be creating a map of the state that highlights our three unique regions and some of the key features of each. These maps will be due in the coming week and will be our first Perform grade. Our first unit will begin next week covering Native American tribes of North Carolina and early colonization. Our first test will be September 29th (A day students) and 30th (B day students).

Science: In science classes, we are off and running with content! We are wrapping up our introductory mini-unit on Healthy Living (NCSCOS Standard 8.L.5), and ready to begin Chemistry (NCSCOS Standard 8.P.1) next week! We will begin with the properties of matter and ways that matter interacts, and then move towards the periodic table of the elements and the ways it is organized and used by scientists. Our plan is to continue with the method of students EXPLORING content first, where they may be confused, but they can figure things out together, and then EXPLAINING, so students can make connections to what they've already experienced. Chemistry will take up most of first quarter, so if you or your student have any questions about content, please reach out to Mr. Mahoney, Ms. Carter, or Ms. Shurig right away. As always, your science teachers are available for Office Hours on Tuesday mornings, so please be sure to ask if you have questions!

IMPORTANT DATES

September 12, Map Testing

September 15, Map Testing

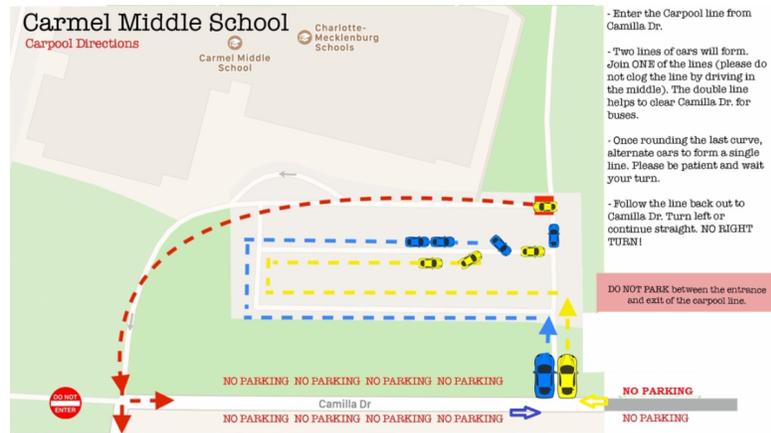
September 19, Picture Day

September 21, Early Release Day

September 26, No School

October 11, Curriculum Night

Carpool Pattern



Parents who drive or pick-up their children should adhere to the carpool lanes during arrival and dismissal. Please follow [Carmel's unique carpool route](#) during morning and afternoon dismissal. If you do not follow the established traffic pattern, you will not only cause a delay in traffic flow but will also put our children in danger.

Parents who drive or pick-up their children should adhere to the carpool lanes during arrival and dismissal. Please follow Carmel's unique carpool route during morning and afternoon dismissal. If you do not follow the established traffic pattern you will not only cause a delay in traffic flow but will put our children in danger. Below is a graphic of this traffic pattern can also be found under the Carpool tab on the [Carmel Middle website](#).

Please do not park along Camilla Drive or adjacent streets to pick up your child in the afternoons. This is unsafe for our walkers, and you cause disruptions to our dismissal. If you cause unsafe disruptions to our afternoon dismissal your child will not be allowed to walk off-campus and you will pick them up through the established pattern.

[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

Carmel's Student Services & Support Team would like to recognize our students and families for a great start to the 22-23 school year! The 8th graders have done an awesome job navigating their way through the school building, advocating and supporting our 6th and 7th Grade Students.

Our team is striving to plan and coordinate activities and lessons to meet the needs of our students and ensure everyone feels a sense of community at Carmel. We administered a student needs survey on Tuesday, September 6th and will follow up with our Fall Panorama screener on the 19th. This data will provide us with valuable feedback regarding our students' social and emotional well-being so that we can begin meeting with individual students and groups to provide support. We will also use this information to plan future student recognition activities.

Please check out our website [here](#) and reach out to me [here](#) if you need anything.

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.

