

WILLARD 6-8 NEWSLETTER



As spring is quickly approaching, the pace of instruction has picked up as many teachers are focusing on important tests. Students will be taking the OST (Ohio State Tests) in reading (6-8), math (6-8), and science (5 & 8). Please check with your child daily to see what homework they have and what tests are coming up. Remember attendance at school is very important, and each day students are not here valuable instruction is missed. You may also check ProgressBook to review your student's grades in each class. If you forgot your username/password, please call the school so we can give you your information.

Again, thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions please call the school so we can help.

Carly Polder
6-8 Pod Principal



March 3—6th Grade to WGH, Mini Trade Expo

March 5—Kindergarten Registration @ Willard

March 8—Daylight Savings Time Begins

March 13—End of 3rd Nine Weeks

March 19—Spring Begins



March 27—Academic Awards

School Counselor SPOTLIGHT

During the entire month of March, students in grades 6-8 will be participating in lessons that focus on conflict resolution as part of their Second Step curriculum. Learning and practicing these skills is especially important for middle schoolers. Research has shown that conflict resolution programming within schools helps to reduce the amount of teacher time spent on conflict, improves student self-control and problem solving skills, and improves overall school climate.

Here are some steps to take when trying to model conflict resolution skills with your child at home:

1. Calm Down - Give each other a chance to take a breather and find out what the other person needs
2. State and Understand the Problem - Encourage honesty and using "I-statements"
3. Apologize Well - Encourage each person to come up with a good apology; writing it down first may help
4. Promote Finding Solutions - Empower children to come up with their own solutions to the problem
5. Follow Up - See how children are getting along after and if their solution is working

STEM Class

Sixth grade STEM is completing the Compass drug and alcohol prevention program. They are also learning about the design process and will be using it to create their own products.

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BAND NEWS

This year OMEA SOLO AND ENSEMBLE will be on Saturday, March 21st at Struthers High School. There will be seven students participating this year and they are: Jailiany Hernandez Rivera, Matthew Marksberry, Kansas Peyatt, Porsche Allen, McKenna Murphy, Amir Haywood, and Isaiah Williams. Good luck to all!!

Please mark your calendars! This year the 5-8 Spring Band Program will be on Thursday, May 14th in the school cafeteria. This program will start at 6:00 p.m. All students will stay throughout the entire program. They are working hard and we hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Feeney at 330-675-8700 ext. 1301.

**WILLARD 6-8
CARLY POLDER PRINCIPAL**

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Language Arts

Grade 6 Students will be composing their first argumentative essay as middle school students. We are excited for them to apply everything they have learned about persuasive techniques from this past nine weeks. The essay will center around their essential question: Is modern technology harmful or helpful to society? They will determine a claim and cite textual evidence and logical reasoning to support it. Please keep checking in on their grades and homework completion. Sixth grade did a fantastic job on their NWEA MAP assessment- we are so happy to see continuous progress.

Grade 7 The month of March is a very important month in the final preparation for the State Test in April. The students are concluding their unit in Persuasive Writing and they will be entering their final unit in Narrative writing.

Lessons the students will participate in are: theme, point of view and dialogue just to name a few.

The essential question in the unit will be: "How do we overcome obstacles?" which fits perfectly in our SEL program.

Homework is given Monday thru Thursday and by some chance students aren't given homework please have your child read for at least 15-20 minutes per night.

Grade 8 In 8th grade, we are finishing up our work on argument and moving into our narrative unit. Students will be reading the story "Flowers for Algernon." They will also be taking their Ohio state tests at the end of the month. Please check with your child to see when their test date is - a good night's rest is important for concentration! Remember to reinforce the WARREN acronym at home: Work ethic, Accountability, Responsibility, Respect, Effective Behavior, and No excuses

Grade 6 During the month of March, 6th grade math students will revisit the topic of Rates. Students will learn how to calculate rates and discover how changing one event will cause a change in the other. There will be plenty of real world applications throughout this unit, as we investigate speed vs time or time vs. money earned. Students will be using this knowledge to create tables, graphs and algebraic equations. This is an important topic as it lays the ground work for future math classes.

Grade 7 During the month of March, 7th grade students will use algebra tiles to compare two expressions on Expression Comparison Mats. Students will also discover the legal moves that allow you to simplify expressions. Finally, students will determine which expression is greater or if they are equal and they will also learn how to record solutions to inequalities using number lines with boundary points.

Grade 8 As we move in to March, our 8th graders will be working with data and graphs. We will start off with circle graphs and comparing two sets of data. We will move into scatter plots and finding a line of best fit, so we will be revisiting some ideas about slope and $y = mx + b$. We will be interpreting data in tables and graphs and using slope as a rate to make comparisons and predictions on a graph. We will also be preparing for our upcoming state test. In class, all students will have access to our e-textbook on our class laptops. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at the school at 330-675-8700 ext.1108 or at valerie.thomas@neomin.org

Compacted Math In 7th grade compacted math, students will be working on finishing up their unit on algebra basics. We will be moving on to distance, rate and time as well as percentages and proportions. Students will be preparing for our Ohio state tests in April, so please remind them to come to work prepared with all homework completed and materials for class. Remember to reinforce the WARREN acronym at home: Work ethic, Accountability, Responsibility, Respect, Effective Behavior, and No excuses.

Social Studies News

Grade 6 Students will be taking an in depth look at Ancient Egypt. They will be exploring the development along the Nile River and the rich farmland that provided plenty of food for the Egyptians. Students will also be exploring the trading highway of the Nile. Through their exploration, students will see how both farming and trade encouraged the development of a great civilization in Egypt.

Grade 7 In 7th grade social studies we are looking at the explorers from Europe who landed in Africa and the America's and the effect that had on all places and people. Including the exchange of new foods and animals. The sickness and destruction of Native Americans and the enslavement of Africans. After this we will explore the enlightenment and the and how reason became more important than just listening to what the church had to say. We will then look at how these ideas influenced our leaders and documents such as Thomas Jefferson and the Declaration of Independence.

Grade 8 The U.S. History students will be focusing on the actions of early U.S. presidential administrations established a strong federal government, including: Assumption of state debts, creation of the national bank, ending the Whiskey Rebellion, negotiating the Jay Treaty (Washington Administration); Creation of the Navy Department, maintenance of neutrality (Adams Administration); Expansion of U.S. territory with the Louisiana Purchase (Jefferson Administration); Waging the War of 1812, (Madison Administration); Winning the McCulloch v. Maryland decision, negotiating treaties to secure U.S. borders, instituting the Monroe Doctrine (Monroe Administration)

Grade 6 Welcome to March! Our sixth grade scientists are finishing up our cell unit. We are learning about cell organization and reproduction. The students have really been enjoying learning about cells. After this unit, we will be done with our life science, and moving into our physical science unit. The scientists will begin the unit by calculating speed and looking at graphs.

Grade 7 Seventh grade science will be studying currents and climate patterns as they pertain to weather. In addition, students will apply the common units of measurement when collecting data. Several scientific careers such as meteorologists, climatologists, and hydrologists will be examined and how society relies on the information these careers provide. Students are urged to check progress book regularly for updates concerning their science grade as well as missing assignments.

Grade 8 "Hello Raider Families! During the Month of March, your student will be learning about Evolutionary History. Per the Ohio State Standards for 8th grade Science, our students must learn about Darwinian Evolutionary Theory and the Origin of Species. While there are other theories out there, this aligns with the state curriculum, and therefore your student will be exposed to these ideas. However, in our classroom discussion, we will discuss other species origination theories, and how they compare to Darwinian Evolution.

Towards the end of the month, we will switch gears and begin reviewing Cell Theory from 6th grade, as well as various cellular reproduction methods (i.e. Meiosis and Mitosis; and Sexual vs. Asexual reproduction). The Ohio State Science Test for 8th grade is fast approaching, so we will be preparing daily to improve our work ethic and in-class knowledge to hopefully rock that test!

Thank you for your involvement at home, and once again, GO RAIDERS!"

Art News

8th grade- Students have begun the process of learning how to draw things that look much more realistic. They will be studying shading, color mixing, and proportion to better their artworks.

6th grade- Students will be working on proportions and how to more accurately draw objects. They will also be transitioning into printmaking toward the end of the nine weeks!



The Willard Raider pantry is available to all students who are in need of assistance. Thank you to Second Harvest Food Bank and The United Way for keeping the pantry well stocked. We would also like to thank those individuals who have donated food and toiletries items to the pantry this year. Your generosity is appreciated!



Yearbooks

The 2019-2020 yearbooks are on sale now. If you would like to purchase one, the cost is \$16.00. Please send money in an envelope with your child's name on it and what class and grade they are in. Cash, checks, and money orders are accepted. Please make checks payable to Herff Jones.

Books will be delivered in the month of May. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Feeney at 330-675-8700.

Supper @ Willard

Students enrolled at Willard PK-8 can receive a free supper immediately after school in the cafeteria Monday through Thursday at 4:00 pm

Bus riders must provide their own transportation home.



SPRING BREAK

FRIDAY, APRIL 10 THROUGH FRIDAY, APRIL 17
STUDENTS RETURN ON MONDAY, APRIL 20