What’s New from the Principal?

Happy Friday! Please enjoy this issue AND the three day weekend! :)

The start of our second semester starts Tuesday, January 22. For some students, that will mean that they will have some new elective classes. If you are uncertain of your schedule, be sure to see your counselor.

Report cards will be handed to each of the students in their 7th hour class on Monday, January 28th. Please ask for them that evening. Don’t forget that you can always check their grades and progress regularly through Parent Connect.

Starting the week of January 28th, every student at Stevenson Middle School will be taking the NWEA map assessment. This assessment will run through February 8th, where students will be taking content specific tests in Language, Reading, Science, and Mathematics. This is an adaptive test, which measures all students and scores against other individuals, regardless of their age or ability. During the assessment period we ask that parents and students stay mindful of the amount of rest they are receiving and to keep up on their attendance.

Here is a very helpful link for parents to use for additional support and information regarding the NWEA assessment format and how to help your student succeed.

https://www.nwea.org/parent-toolkit/

This year, to encourage our students to always do their best, we are going to compete against Franklin Middle School. The Middle School with the highest percentage of students that have met their growth goal will win an Indoor Field Day. Additionally, SMS students who improve on their scores will be entered into a raffle for prizes such as free movie passes, Airtime passes, gift cards, and much more fun stuff! GO SAINTS!!!

On Wednesday, January 9th, Stevenson MS had their annual Spelling Bee competition. Congratulations to our winners who will go on to compete at the district level on February 7th!

7th Grade:
1st Place - Omolola Ayangbayi
Aleena Bender
Christian Carrithers
Gabriella Buchanan

8th Grade:
1st Place - Rachel Calhoun
Evie Booth
Christian Gonzalez
Alyssa Lawrence

Sincerely,
Principal Doman
Quote of the Week:

“It’s not what happens to you, but how you react to it that matters.”

Birthdays!

January 18-25th:

Lon’Dyn A.
Diane J.
Ethan M.
Ethan A.
Devin F.
Dylan K.
Nathan Y.
Kamryn J.
Christopher U.
Christopher W.
Octavio A-M.
Madalynne M.
Austin R.
Aaron Z.
Nicholas B
Allison D.

Watch the WSMS Student News

If you want to watch the Stevenson Daily News, the same news the students watch, please email Mr. Wagner at Wagnerb@wwcsd.net. This may give you a chance to see your child on the news!
Yearbooks!
Do you want to have a lasting memory of the school year? The Stevenson Yearbooks orders are on sale now. This would make a great gift for the Holidays. Please visit ybpay.lifetouch.com to order a yearbook. Prices start at $24 and can be upgraded to include a personalized cover as well as hard cover. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Cosgrove.

SMS families, make your voice heard. Please take this Communication Preference survey.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScoZt32usyXkIIS9au2YZagqsd8vDvlhEg_VwZWVOdQ0lDNA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Helping Children Manage Fears
When young children get scared, their first thought is usually to look for mom or dad to come to the rescue. We don’t want our kids to feel afraid, but instead of reassuring them for the umpteenth time that, no, there is nothing creepy in the closet and thunder, or bugs, won’t hurt them, it will help them more to learn to manage those fears on their own.

This week on childmind.org we take a look at how to help kids learn to handle ordinary childhood fears, step by step, by developing skills that will serve them well as they get older and face more daunting challenges.

Your Input is Important to Us
Please take a moment to fill out the following surveys
Communication Preference: https://goo.gl/forms/4Kbd6JiJHlhAFyT92
Parent Volunteer Questionnaire: https://goo.gl/forms/QTAfNn3tGKC1jaN53
Parent Resource and Follow Up

John Glenn High School will be holding an 8th Grade Parent Night

When: Feb 6th / Time 5:30 - 7:00
Where: John Glenn

What will be discussed: There will be three sessions that cover the following topics.

- Credits and Graduation Requirements
- Educational development Plans and Accelerated Courses
- The Role of the Counselor

Parents will have an opportunity to attend all three sessions. The sessions will not last more than 1 hour (approximately 15 min per session). After that time, they will have the opportunity to peruse the Elective Expo. This event will showcase many of the Electives John Glenn has to offer.

7th Grade Course Selection

7th Grade students will have the opportunity to select their 8th grade course electives starting on January 29th. See your counselor for additional details and questions.

Coffee With the Principals

Each month we will provide our parents with an opportunity to sit with our Administrators. At these meetings you will have the opportunity to meet other parents and staff. We encourage you to take this time to discuss any topic of your desire. The goal behind each meeting is to make sure your voice as a parent is heard.

This list makes up a tentative schedule for the rest of the year.

- Feb. 26th at 9:30 am and 7:00 pm
- March 26th at 9:30 am and 7:00 pm
- April 30th at 9:30 am and 7:00 pm
- May 21st at 9:30 am and 7:00 pm

If you have any input on topics or time changes please email our Parent Coordinator at greenshieldsn@wwcsd.net. You may also use this email to receive any information from meetings you may have missed or cannot attend in the future.
Battle of the Books 2019

The battle of the books is hosted by the Westland Library. Students must have their own transportation to and from the Westland Library. It will be Thursday April 25th from 6:00-7:30 pm at the Westland Library. Dinner will be served for participants and their families. There will be teams from Stevenson and Franklin competing for the trophy and the prizes by answering questions in a buzz in trivia fashion.

The books that will be used this year are…..

- **Ghost** by Jason Reynolds
- **Crossed** by Kwame Alexander
- **Artemis Fowl** by Eoin Colfer
- **Stargirl** by Jerry Spinelli
- **Westing Game** by Ellen Raskin

Ms. McComb has gone to many ELA classes and has a list of students who showed interest in participating and will be calling them down the week of January 14, so they can pick their groups. Up to five people may be in each group. If I have missed anyone that is interested please have them come see Ms. McComb at the Library to get their name added to the list.
"Tips for Communicating With Your Teen"

"What Are the Symptoms of Depression in Teenagers?"

"Mental Health Disorders and Teen Substance Use"

**Ok2Say References and Resources**
If you were unable to attend our Ok2Say seminar, please help yourself to this Google Drive containing useful resources that were given out last Tuesday.
https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8YCCLXZ99n1aFdICnp2TmQ5OURjLxESULk5N01Ra2lDSXdZ/view?usp=sharing

**** Don't forget to like us on Facebook****
Just look for Stevenson Saints Middle School or follow this link:
https://www.facebook.com/stevensonsaints/
This Edition of the SMS Newsletter was Written by Mrs. Doman & the WSMS Team!