

MARINER NATION NEWS

Murdock Middle School

17325 Mariner Way, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

941.255-7525 Attendance: 941.255-7525

Hours Operation: 8:35 A.M- 4:20 P.M.

Administration

Principal: Lyman Welton

Assistant Principal: Jamie Verwey

Assistant Principal: Jake Monteleone

Counselor: Sandra Tavares

Counselor: Kim Ceballos

ESE Liason: Shelly Kramer

School Resource Officer: Officer Morse

Principal's Message

Mariners,

We are in the final quarter of our 2023-24 school year. Usually, I write to you about the challenges we face during the final weeks. The challenges are certainly coming. Being a school, the challenge for each student is academic, to earn grades and test scores. For our 8th grade students, this is particularly important as their accomplishments and failures will determine whether they progress to high school and expand or contract their career pathway options. While the immediate impact on 8th graders is greater, the influence on 6th and 7th graders is still significant. The doors that open and close for students at this time of year are many. This is the point of my Newsletter Principal's Message.

Students, these next few weeks are important to your future. There are times in your life when your decisions can point your life one way or the other. Now, you have an opportunity to influence your future. What will you do?

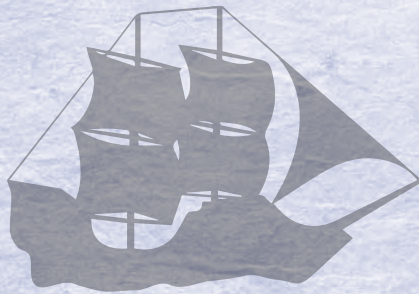
As your principal, I want to remind you that you are valuable. I cannot think of anything more valuable than a human life. Can you? The Constitution and Bill of Rights of our beloved country both speak to the dignity and value of every human life. They are specific and list that race, gender, religion, etc. do not add to nor detract from the basic value of the individual. You matter. Beyond your value is your ability to matter to others.

We each influence the lives of those around us. That influence can be for their good or demise. Not only are you valuable beyond measure but what you do with your life also has tremendous importance to those close to you. The path you walk in this life will not just affect you, it will affect the lives of family, friends, classmates, coworkers and even strangers. A simple example is our common experience of being treated with respect and kindness by a total stranger. Similarly, we know what it is to be treated with disrespect and cruelty even by someone we do not know.

...continues on next page

ISSUE 2 VOLUME 5

April 2024



Principal's Message

continues...

The reason I point out our value and the impact of our behavior is to ask you this question, "What will you do with your valuable life?" The reason a principal of a middle school asks this question is because education prepares the student to have a better life and equips them to have a more powerful positive influence on others.

For example, your education directly influences your ability to make money. Money is not the most important thing in life, but it is important. Earning money allows you to provide food, shelter, clothing, health care and opportunities for yourself and your family. None of those things come cheap.

Mariners, the 4th quarter of middle school gives you the opportunity to improve your life and the lives of those you love by learning. Learn whenever you have the chance. Do your best to prepare for your future by being determined to learn. Your future is worthy of your best effort.



Annual PBIS Staff Easter Egg Hunt

Each year PBIS, led by Mrs. Gentile, puts on an easter egg hunt for the staff. There were over 300 eggs, with one egg being the golden egg.

This year, with it only being his first year at Murdock, the teacher who found the golden egg was Mr. Perna. Therefore, he received the golden egg basket, which is the best prize.

This is an event that several of the staff here at Murdock look forward to. It is always fun, and a great way to start the day.



Susan F. Williams, M.D. P.A
PEDIATRICS
 17928 Toledo Blade Blvd
 Port Charlotte, FL 33948
 (941) 743-7337 (PEDS)

New Patients Welcome!

Slack
ORTHODONTICS

Maura Stanchak, DDS, MS
 Specialist in Orthodontics


941-249-9193
 18334 Murdock Circle • Port Charlotte, FL 33948
www.SlackOrthodontics.com

CHARLOTTE
CBHC
 Behavioral Health Care

Services for children, teens, & adults:

- Individual Therapy
- Teleservices
- Bullying
- Trauma Therapy
- Case Management
- Group Therapy
- Psychiatric Services
- Parent/Child Conflict
- Anger Management
- Substance Use

(941) 639-8300
 1700 Education Avenue, Punta Gorda
 21500 Gibraltar Drive, Port Charlotte



Mariner Nation News
 April 2024
 Published Four Times Per Year
 Charlotte County Public Schools
 1445 Education Way
 Port Charlotte, FL 33948
 Issue #2

Rewarding Academic Growth & Success

We are extremely excited to announce that Murdock Middle School will be holding a Field Day on the last day of school (May 24th, 2024). The focus of the event will be to celebrate and reward students who showed growth on the Math and ELA PM3 FAST tests that will take place at the end of the year, as well as those who get a passing score on the Algebra, Civics, and/or Science End-of-Course Exams. There will be concessions, competitions, bounce houses, and other fun activities going on that day! We take academics seriously here at Murdock, and we want to make sure our Mariner students get the praise they deserve for giving it their all and making strides in the classroom!



Winners of the Rotary Club Essay

- First place: Sofia England
- Second place: Annacarys Justus
- Third place: Jinayah Duncan




DELICIOUS PIZZA GELATO EUROPEAN TREATS



Delicious European Pastries, Gelato, Coffee, Milkshake and more!

2320 Tamiami Trail | Port Charlotte | 941-979-5377

From the School Nurse



Hello parents,

If your child is 10 years old or over, they will need to get a TDAP (Tetanus Booster) vaccine. This vaccine is given when children are young, and the booster is required before they enter 7th grade. Tetanus occurs when a severe injury happens, and bacteria enters the blood (blood poisoning). This can be fatal. 7th grade students cannot start school without their booster shot. Please call your local Health Department and get the vaccine before August. All vaccines for children are free at the Health Department.

We always answer...Never Voicemail

License No. CAC1817187




We service and install most leading brands of AC equipment
941-677-5835
Free estimates on new AC systems
24/7/365 EMERGENCY SERVICE

Rx FLORIDA FAMILY PHARMACY

Free Delivery
Special Discounts

14889 Tamiami Trail
 North Port, FL 34287
 (Located in Shoppes of North Port Plaza)

941-444-2215

HOOURS: Monday - Friday: 9:00am - 6:00pm • Saturday: 10:00am - 2:00pm

www.FloridaFamilyPharmacy.com

\$25 In-Store Credit with your transferred prescription
 FLORIDA FAMILY PHARMACY • 941-444-2215
 Restrictions apply. One per client. With this coupon.

CAMP BOW WOW
 DOGGY DAY CARE & BOARDING • GROOMING

FIRST DAY FREE!

- ✓ LIVE WEB CAMS
- ✓ INDOOR & OUTDOOR PLAY YARDS
- ✓ SPACIOUS CABINS
- ✓ SOCIALIZATION WITH OTHER DOGS



CAMP BOW WOW® PORT CHARLOTTE
campbowwow.com/port-charlotte
 941-875-9410

*LEGAL WOOF: Offer valid only at above location. New customers only. Camper must meet entrance requirements. Other restrictions apply.

We Need You
 to bring this newsletter to press

Your advertisement helps fund the newsletter and at the SAME TIME your business gets community recognition and exposure.



Help Murdock Middle School by advertising in the Mariner Nation News!

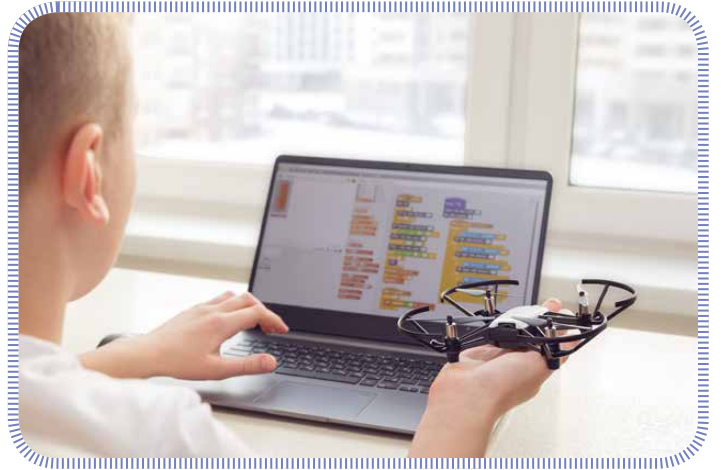
Brianna Rogers • brianna.rogers@yourcharlotteschools.net

New Drone Program Coming to Murdock

We are excited to announce the launch of this innovative drone program in collaboration with Florida Power and Light (FPL) and Drones in Schools. This groundbreaking initiative aims to introduce students to the world of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) while fostering skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). FPL, a leading energy company, recognizes the importance of STEM education and is proud to support initiatives that inspire the next generation of innovators.

Drones in Schools, a renowned educational organization, will provide curriculum support and resources to ensure the program aligns with educational standards and B.E.S.T practices. Their expertise in developing engaging and comprehensive drone programs for schools will enhance the learning experience for students at Murdock Middle School.

"We are thrilled to launch this exciting drone program in partnership with Florida Power and Light and Drones in Schools," said Mr. Hoyle, Tv Production & Drone Pilot Instructor. "This initiative will provide our students with hands-on experience in cutting-edge technology and prepare them for future careers utilizing a multitude of UAS." The middle



school drone program will offer students the opportunity to learn about drone safety, flight mechanics, navigation, and applications in various industries. Students will develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and teamwork skills through hands-on activities, simulations, and projects.

The launch of the middle school drone program reflects Murdock Middle School's commitment to providing innovative and engaging educational opportunities for its students. By partnering with industry leaders like FPL and Drones in Schools, the school aims to empower students to become future leaders and innovators.

For more information about the middle school drone program, please contact Murdock Middle School at 941-255-7525.

YOU ARE THE MISSING PIECE!

Help **Murdock Middle School** by advertising in the *Mariner Nation News!*

Your advertisement helps fund the newsletter and at the SAME TIME your business gets community recognition and exposure.

If you can help us out by advertising or would like more information, contact the school today!

Brianna Rogers
brianna.rogers@yourcharlotteschools.net



Murdock Middle School Mariner Athletics



It has been an exciting year for Mariner athletics. Most recently, we took part in the first interscholastic county soccer tournament in over a decade. Soccer has been gone from middle school sports for quite a while, but Charlotte County decided to bring interscholastic soccer back in a pilot season where there were three weeks of practice and then a round-robin style tournament. Murdock finished 3rd in Boys' Soccer (by only one goal!) and our Lady Mariners took 2nd place! Coach Roca and Coach de Paula with the boys, and Coach Bettis and Coach Theriot for the girls were such an instrumental help to our program and our students; we couldn't be more fortunate.

With soccer in the rear-view mirror, we have now shifted our focus to wrestling. With the first week and a half of practice in the books as this is being written, more students have come out for wrestling this year than ever before in Murdock's history. We could not be more excited to see this group of Mariner student-athletes give it their all and compete for the first ever Murdock wrestling county championship! Coach Crane and his crew of high school student-coaches allow for our wrestlers to work on fundamentals in small group situations and get more individualized attention and coaching. Every year under Coach Crane, our wrestlers improve vastly from the short time they start the season until it ends. Now, with more students than ever before, the sky's the limit, and we hope to continue this amount of participation and success on a year-to-year basis!



As always, we hope for and practice for athletic excellence, but we always aim for education, growth, and fun. As Mariners, we hold fast and stay true-Gooooooo Mariners!

8th Grade Science Bootcamp

Calling all Mariners! 8th grade science bootcamp wants YOU! Enlist in a day of assessment review to test your skills in a series of mini-labs, games, relay races, and escape rooms. Meal provided for all recruits. Raffle tickets can be earned for prizes. Recruitment date: Saturday, May 11th.



Civics EOC Bootcamp

The Civic EOC bootcamp is at Murdock Middle in G-Pod on Saturday, May 11th from 9am-12pm. This bootcamp is intended to help students who will be taking the Civics EOC succeed. There will be multiple ways of reviewing such as using Gimkit, Gateway, review cards, Weebly, practice EOC tests, etc. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to review and ask questions.



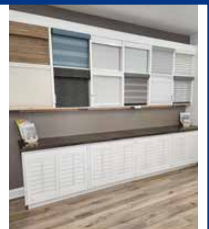
Are you getting the fiduciary advice for your retirement that you deserve? Call us for a no-obligation review.

www.hibiscusinvestments.com
(941) 391-8140

Landsberg Bennett Private Wealth Management ("LBPWM") is an SEC registered investment adviser with its principal place of business in Punta Gorda, Florida. Investing involves risk, including risk of loss. For additional information about LBPWM, please request our disclosure brochure as set forth on Form ADV using the contact information set forth herein.

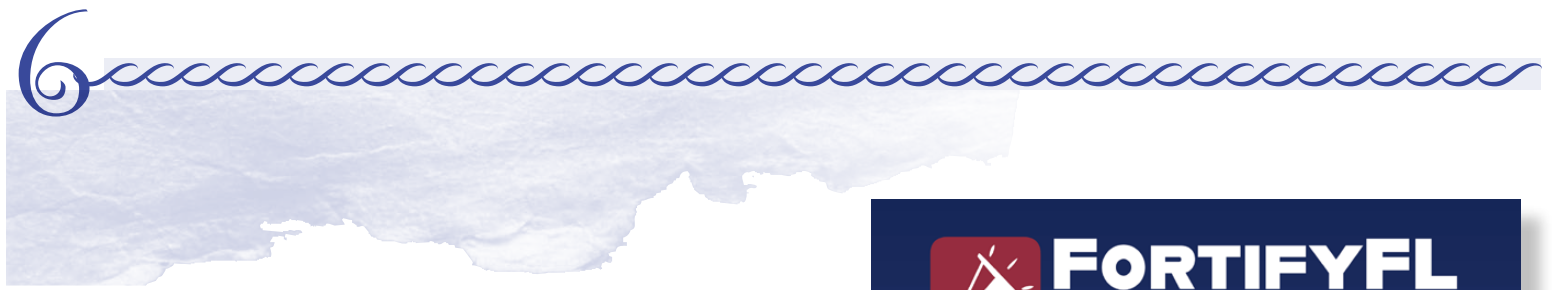
**Blind
Spot
Etc**

1810 El Jobean Road, Suite 5
Port Charlotte, FL 33948



Custom Blinds & Window Treatments
SHUTTERS MANUFACTURED ON-SITE

blindspotetc.com • 941-743-2646



Anti-Bullying Policy

Charlotte County Public Schools does not tolerate bullying, which includes cyberbullying. Throughout the school year, our schools do a variety of classroom, large group, and small group lessons on bullying and bully prevention.

Though we teach all of our students that bullying is wrong, it still occasionally occurs. And, while we would like cases of bullying to be reported to the administration, they are not always reported.

Parents - if you have a bully (or cyberbullying) concern please let us know. If your child is a target and is being bullied or if you believe

your child bullies others, please let us know. Open and consistent communications with the school will not only help your child but will help many others and the school. Unfortunately, some bully situations take a number of interventions before it subsides. Please continue to communicate with the school and provide any additional information that will help the school put an end to the situation.

It is important to note that investigation of cyberbullying can occur regardless of whether the bullying was conducted using public or private property (cell phone, computers, etc). Please reference Florida Statute 1006.47

Report bullying by filling out the Bully Report form which can be found on the district website at: <https://www.yourcharlotteschools.net/Page/11977>

You can also find a "Bully Button" on our website to report bullying.

Landsberg Bennett

PRIVATE WEALTH MANAGEMENT

landsbergbennett.com
(941) 391-8000

APEXNETWORK
PHYSICAL THERAPY

Your local neck and low back pain specialists.

Schedule An Appointment Today!
941-888-5192
apexnetworkpt.com

14899 Tamiami Trail • North Port, FL 34287

FORTIFYFL
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

QUICKLY AND EASILY SUBMIT A TIP
By accessing FortifyFL, students can provide a description of the threat, share pics and videos and optionally submit their contact information.

- Anonymous or Non-Anonymous**
You decide whether you want to include your name and contact information.
- Convenient**
Submitting a tip is quick and easy using our mobile app or website.
- Include Photos and Video**
You can also include photos or video with your tip report.

QUICKLY SEND TO AUTHORITIES
FortifyFL automatically routes your tip report to the appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

- Your School Officials**
The tip report goes to your local school officials when submitted.
- Local Law Enforcement**
Your local police department or sheriff office receive copies of your tips automatically.
- State-Level Officials**
State-level officials also have access to your tips to make sure proper steps are taken.

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. FortifyFL was created and funded by the 2018 Florida Legislature as part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.

#FORTIFYFL
GETFORTIFYFL.COM

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Summer Pre-Enrollment

\$100 off!*

*Offer expires 5/31/24, at this location only.

Make Mathnasium part of your summer plans! Your child can avoid the math learning loss that typically happens over the break by attending summer sessions at Mathnasium. Start the new school year with confidence. **Contact us today for a free assessment!**

Mathnasium of Port Charlotte
(941) 432-MATH • mathnasium.com/portcharlotte
1808 Tamiami Trail, Unit B4, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

MATHNASIUM
The Math Learning Center

School Calendar



2024



	Grading Period Dates
	Students Off/ Teachers Work
	Everyone Off/Unpaid
	Everyone Off/ Paid Holiday

APRIL '24						
M	T	W	Th	F	SD	TD
1	2	3	4	5	145	159
8	9	10	11	12	150	164
15	16	17	18	19	155	169
22	23	24	25	26	160	174
29	30				162	176

MAY '24						
M	T	W	Th	F	SD	TD
		1	2	3	165	179
6	7	8	9	10	170	184
13	14	15	16	17	175	189
20	21	22	23	24	180	194
27	28	29	30	31		196

- 24 Last day for Students/
End of Qtr 4
- 27 Memorial Day
- 28 Teacher Work Day
- 29 District PD Day #3
- 29 Last Day for Teachers

JUNE '24						
M	T	W	Th	F	SD	TD
3	4	5	6	7		
10	11	12	13	14		
17	18	19	20	21		
24	25	26	27	28		



**Essential
Constructs**

**WE STREAMLINE THE BULKY AND TIME
CONSUMING PUBLIC BIDDING PROCESS**

We **Work with Local**
and **Owner Preferred Contractors**

**CONSTRUCTION
DONE IN THE SAME
CALENDAR YEAR**

Robert J. Warholic
c: 607-760-2350 • Rob@EssentialConstructs.com

EssentialConstructs.com





Murdock Middle School

17325 Mariner Way
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Orlando, FL
Permit# 2346



Inside this Issue

Information from
the School Nurse

New Drone Program

Rotary Club
Essay Winners

and more!

