

THE TRAILBLAZER

Collinsville Middle School's Newsletter



From the Principal's Desk

CMS Families,

What a difference a month can make! We have come into a time like no other and each are doing our best to get used to our new normal. I am proud of the way that the Collinsville Middle School family has handled this crisis, this includes parents, students and staff. Teachers quickly worked to provide materials for students and parents/guardians have done a phenomenal job of implementing e-learning at home. Although it may feel as though we are walking blindly in the dark at times, the collaboration and hard work of everyone has resulted in a good plan and path for our students in the days to come. Thank you for all of your patience and diligence in partnering with the school to make this happen.

As we continue moving forward with our learning at home, please be aware that we have moved from disaster days into official e-learning days which means that grades now count again. If you are struggling with any aspect of the process with your student, please make sure you are reaching out to their teacher(s) for assistance. The goal is to present material to students that can be learned independently or with minimal help from adults, but we also know that there will be times when there are struggles. This is very normal and our teachers are here to help. You will also find that Youtube has a number of instructional videos that may help explain the material as well.

One of the critical concerns that I have during this time is the mental health of all of us, especially our kids as we go through this difficult time. In talking to my own kids, there is a lot going through their minds in terms of fear of the unknown and how this epidemic has brought death to the front stage of many of our lives. We have amazing social workers on staff that can provide great tips in opening up these vital conversations with our kids. They want to talk about it, they need to talk about it and it is our responsibility to make sure they have a way to do so. As you are discussing what is going on with your kids, if you have deeper concerns about their wellbeing, please do not hesitate to reach out to our social workers for resources.

We will get through this together!

Sincerely,
Dr. Jackson

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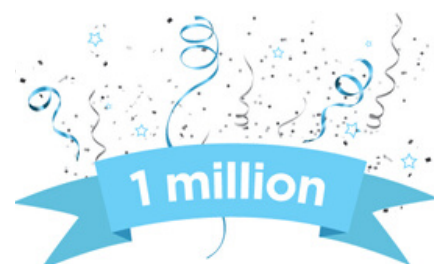
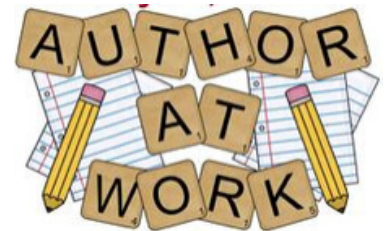
Additional Info

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ITEMS TO NOTE AT CMS

- Congratulations to the CMS Drama Club who were recently awarded \$100 from the Collinsville Women's Club. They plan to use this award to purchase a cabinet for the amazing donated costumes from Tribouts in Belleville. The club was formed this year and is sponsored by Mrs. Juelfs and Mrs Voss.
- Congratulations to CADENCE BISSONTZ, CMS 8th grader, who won both on the local and state level in the annual YOUNG AUTHORS CONTEST. Cadence's book was about monsters and was dedicated to Dr Jackson.
- All yearbooks must be ordered before April. If school does not resume this spring, books will be mailed to students at home from Jostens. If you moved this school year after purchasing your book, be sure the school district is aware of your new address. Extra books will be sold by Mrs Juelfs in the fall when school starts again. If school resumes, we will distribute the books at school through English teachers as we have in the past, with extras available in Mrs. Juelfs' room, C123.
- Million Word Readers as of March 16th: Brian Castro, Jack O'Hara, Adrian Manley, Danajah Willis, Chloe Linton, Rollin Armes, Danielle Lee, Brian Slesinski, Shyne Allen-Starwalt, Logan Boedeker, Karley-Jo Jackson, Octavia Wagner, Caleb Burkard, Lily Rawson, Dustin Taylor, Alexis Gassman, Ashlyn Austin, Kailey Stauthammer, Karley Calandro, Kendrick Davis, Karen Barbosa-Barron, Kimberly McQuay, Hayden Myers, Livia Montgomery, Dominic Horras, Logan Branstetter, Madeline Mueller, Alanah McHone, Jim Kruta, Elliott Schusky, Isabel Perez, Ana Barron-Martinez, Jennifer Rodriguez, Nora Johnson, Selah Hart, Aiden Wiley, Priscila Solano-Cenovio, Luke Jones, Lane Ferguson, Ian Yakstis, Kaylee Cooper, Diana Hernandez, Brayden Patterson, Alexis Clair, Aidan James, Hayden Barrera-Kite, and Sophie VanMiddendorp.



ITEMS TO NOTE AT CMS

- SIUE Educational Outreach Summer Camps 2020- For more information go to: siue.edu/educational-outreach or call 618-650-3210.
- Students in art class should be working on their Elements and Principles vocabulary assignment. They were given a packet and can check via email or google classroom for some classes for an informational review. This project includes 16 vocabulary title words, definitions and sub definitions as well as illustrations for each word. They should also be working on an illustration for the full title box ("Art a Personal Journey") and they should be working on a separate box pertaining to the color wheel, with labels and titles. A theme is also a good idea to use throughout. All of these should include color. Our hopes and dreams are to return to school and put these together and do a poster. Please stay in touch and perhaps even send photos to Ms. Simon and/or Ms. Ellington via email. Stay safe!
- Please join our CMSART8 Instagram page, student work is posted there!
- All 7th graders, be on the lookout for your invitation to apply for membership in the 2020-2021 CMS NJHS group. Mrs. Goeken just received quarter 3 grades this week and will be sending out invitations to apply through school email. We would expect to have those out by April 6th, 2020.
- Also, ask your math teacher about the 2020 IXL Spring Showdown Contest. It starts on April 1st. (more info. on next page!)
- Washington DC Trip! There is still time to sign up for the DC Trip. If you would like more information, please contact Ms. Goodson at mgoodson@cusd.kahoks.org or Mrs. Digirolamo at sdigirol@cusd.kahoks.org. To sign up:
Online: www.worldstrides.com/signup use TRIP ID# is: 185206.
By phone: Call WorldStrides' customer service team at 1-800-468-5899. You can view the complete trip flyer on the CMS web page.





PHOTO BY

Math Skills 3rd Gr & up

1. May only master a skill once during contest period
2. Mastery = Smartscore of 100
3. No more than 50 ? in a skill will be eligible
4. Student must master at least 3 skills for any ?'s to count
5. This is a class/team competition



April 1-30

STUDENT WORK CELEBRATIONS!

Mrs. Kirk's 7th grade Science classes made an Ecology BINGO. Below is a poem written by Billy Pruitt (with a little help from his mom):

Ecology is...

Ecology is the study of organisms and how they interact with each other

Hope nobody studies how I always fight with my brother

Ecology can affect our day to day lives

It tells us what we need to know to keep communities alive

Abiotic or Biotic it doesn't matter

Ecology studies it all and makes life better

Biology, Earth science, and geography

Are all branches of Ecology

Ecology is a science that helps us learn so much more about our surroundings, covers a wide variety of topics, and hundreds of subsections, but I'm just rounding.

It is Ancient with construction workers from Greece, Hippocrates and Aristotle laid down the groundwork for Ecology

It was nameless for centuries

In 1866 Haeckel named it Ecology

Ecology focuses on the science and study of a certain community

Someday they'll use it to study shut-ins like you and me.



Awesome diorama by Hanna German!
(Mrs. Kirk's class)



Amazing biorama by Henry Bauer!
(Mrs. Jones class)

FREE student meal service is provided to **ALL** children in the CUSD 10 community during the COVID-19 pandemic closure. We encourage families to take advantage of this offer to ensure all of our children are fed.

Meals are made by our Sodexo food service staff and are distributed once a day in brown bags that include: one student lunch and a grab & go breakfast item for the following morning.

On Monday, March 23, 2020, we will begin providing a brown-bag lunch service via drive-thru pick up at selected locations and bus delivery routes.

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN MEAL PICK-UP SITES AND TIMES:

- Collinsville High School (back of the school by the dock): 7:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Fairmont City Community Center: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Fairmont City Kinder Park: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Iglesia De Cristo Miel Getsemani (3068 North 61st Street, Fairmont City): 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

BUS STOP DELIVERY:

Brown-bag meals will also be delivered to certain student bus stop locations starting at 9:30 am on Monday, March 23, 2020.

It is anticipated that bus stop times will vary as a result of the delivery of food. If you need assistance locating a bus stop to receive a lunch, please contact **First Student Bus Company at 618-346-8605.**

Important Update to Grading:



As of March 31st, the days we are out of school are to be counted as "Remote Learning" days instead of "Act of God/Natural Disaster" days. With this change, students will begin receiving grades for assignments. Please continue to encourage your child(ren) to check for school work and turn in their assignments. Again, as of March 31st, **ASSIGNMENTS COUNT FOR GRADES!!!**

April Snapshot

Let's Talk Social Distancing!

SOCIAL DISTANCING: What does it mean?

Social distancing means reducing close contact between people to slow the spread of infectious diseases.

Slowing the spread of the virus will help our hospitals be able to care for patients. If too many people get sick at once they might not be able to care for everyone who needs help.



AVOID	USE CAUTION / LIMIT <small>wash hands or use hand sanitizer after, keep space from others</small>	SAFE TO DO <small>keep space from others, wipe down plastics and wash hands after touching packaging</small>	
Playdates	Grocery Stores	Watch TV or Movie (at home)	Video Chat
Playgrounds	Take Out Food	Read a Book	Take a Class Online
House Parties	Pick Up Medications	Play Video Games	Virtual Tour a Museum
Bars	Contact a Neighbor, Friend or Relative to ask if you can drop off groceries/medication at door	Listen to Music	Paint
Non-essential travel		Game Night	Cook
Museums, Arcades, Malls		Yard Work	Offer Your Skills to Others Electronically
Church Services		Take a Walk*	Be Creative
Sleep Overs		Go for a Hike*	
Concerts, Sporting Events, Theater		Play in your yard*	
Gyms			
Group Hangouts			
Weddings			

* Do these things alone or with members of your household

THESE EVENTS ARE ALL SUBJECT TO CHANGE/CANCEL DUE TO COVID-19

- April 2: NJHS Virtual Meeting @ 1 p.m.
- April 8-10: Spring Break (No School)
- April 12: Easter Sunday
- April 13: Open Gym Softball Practice
- April 15: Open Gym Softball Practice
- April 16: Track @ Waterloo
- April 20: Open Gym Softball Practice
- April 21: Boys Track @ Alton
- April 22: Girls Track @ Alton
- Open Gym Softball Practice
- April 27: Open Gym Softball Practice
- April 28: Track Regionals @ Mascoutah
- April 29: Open Gym Softball Practice
- NJHS Induction Ceremony Practice @ 3:30 in Commons
- April 30: NJHS Induction Ceremony @ 6:15 in Commons

Tote Me Home

In collaboration with the Collinsville Food Pantry, CMS is happy to offer families with the Tote Me Home program. Tote Me Home provides families with additional grocery assistance over the weekend. Students involved in the program are given a bag of groceries to take home on Fridays.



For more information please contact our CMS social workers.

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mwhite@cusd.kahoks.org

(618) 343-2191 / (618) 343- 2190

