MARCH 2017

STMAR MIDDLE SCHOOL Parent Newsletter

From the Desk of Ms. Wesolowski:

FINISH

The third quarter will close on March 27, 2017. We have had a very successful school year thus far and have high expectations for continued success as we close out the third quarter. As we plan for the final marking periods of this year, our focus will continue to be academic achievement, personal responsibility, and career readiness. It is an important time for students to remain focused and continue to put forth their best efforts in all classes. As you review your child's progress reports encourage them to seek assistance in any classes that they are not achieving success. If you think that a conference with your child's teachers would be helpful please contact Mrs. Muir, School Counselor as soon as possible.



Eighth graders will be taking the new Maryland Integrated Science Assessment March 21-22. The Next Generation Science Standards Curriculum has been fully implemented statewide in 2017-2018. Please impress upon your children the importance of this testing and that they do their very best. Your support and encouragement will make a tremendous difference in their efforts and performance. Testing will conclude each day by 11:00. We strongly encourage you to make appointments around the testing schedule. Being present each day is first and foremost the best advantage a student can have. Having to do the make-up testing in isolation is difficult.

Westmar Students ROAR to Excellence

Faculty and staff recognize students consistently demonstrating the ROAR Rules with paw stamps on their Wildcat Cash Card. There are 30 stamp spaces per card. After accumulating a minimum of 15 stamps, students are eligible to purchase raffle chances for prizes each quarter or use them to purchase incentives from the ROAR store. The minimum requirement for entering the store is 15 paw stamps.

ROAR Celebrations

Students can earn the privilege of attending the ROAR Celebration each quarter if they are "Referral Free", have no failing grades and have no more than 4 unexcused absences starting from the day that the quarter begins until the day the quarter closes concludes. This quarter we are taking them Bowling.

WILDCAT Cash Cards

Staff members at Westmar Middle School have the discretion to distribute Wildcat stamps to students who consistently demonstrate the qualities of ROAR in all areas of our instructional program. Students may use their Wildcat Cash Cards to purchase items in our ROAR Store (every other Friday), a-la-cart items in the cafeteria or place them in quarterly raffle drawings, and/or a visit to the Principal's Treasure Chest. The more stamps that students earn, the more items they can purchase or chances they can submit to the drawing for a better chance of winning.



MARCH Character Trait Good Judgment

Good judgment - making a constructive decision in a challenging and/or dynamic situation - requires many positive character traits. Some may wonder if young children are capable of good judgment. We believe they are, and depending on their age and maturity, we believe they can make decisions that solve problems, help others, and lead to other positive results, such as collectively creating a school environment that is peaceful, welcoming, and encouraging.

It is the lives we lead as adults that instruct our children. As they watch us, they learn to stop and think, accept responsibility for our actions, and make good choices - or not and suffer the consequences. We must teach them the value of good character, and they will develop the gift of good judgment.

MARCH EVENTS

<u>March 6</u>

In an effort to raise awareness about the growing opioid crisis gripping the region, Allegany County Sheriff Craig Robertson has again joined forces with members of the Allegany County Health Department Addiction and Recovery team to host student assemblies for students in grades 8-12.

March 8

All County Band Concert Fort Hill H.S. 7:00

<u>March 9</u> All County Orchestra Concert Fort Hill H.S. 7:00

March 14 St. Patricks Day Dance

March 15 Schools Closed

March 16 Choral Adjudication FSU

March 21-22 Grade 8 MISA

March 28 3 Hr. Early Dismissal

March 29

-ROAR Celebration-Bowling- Rainbow Lanes -Quarter IV Begins

March 30 B & B Hoagies Delivered