The Middle Zone

News From DMS - January, 2024



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Kendra T. - 3

Roman G. - 4

Sawyer C. - 5

Rowan H. - 8

Jade L - 8

Maddox M. - 8

Bella R. - 10

Kinlee H. - 14

Camren K.-F. - 14

Parker S. - 14

Sawyer M. - 15

Elise E. - 17

William P. - 17

Kinley B. - 19

Sawyer H. - 19

Kahlan F. - 19

Layla N. - 20

Grayson S. - 20

Isaac S. - 20

Emily R. - 21

Tyson W. - 25

Josie M. - 28

Kallie O. - 28

Jake M. - 29



REPORT CARDS ARE COMING... REPORT CARDS ARE COMING...

Second quarter report cards will be mailed home at the end of January. If you do not receive your report card, please give the Middle School office a call 935-3307, press #3. Extra copies are always available. You can also view them online in the Parent Portal, call if you want more info.



THE END IS NEAR

The second quarter ends on January 18th. Students - you still have time to raise those grades. Study, and do your homework - every day!! Remember parents, you can keep track of your child's progress, missing assignments, attendance, & food service through Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Call DMS for more information.





BUILDINER CLUB CHALLENGED

From December 6th through the 13th, the DMS Builder Club was challenged by the DHS Key Club to collect socks for Family Advocates of Iowa County. Led by our 8th grade students, who donated 328 pairs, DMS altogether contributed 730 pairs of socks! For the first time, DHS topped DMS 1,090 - 730! Thank you to everyone who donated, your generosity is making a difference!

NO SCHOOL

There will be no school on Friday, January 19th. Enjoy your day off, students! Staff will be involved in professional development activities and grading.



BREAKFAST

211211101	
Regular:	
Daily	\$2.05
Reduced:	
Daily	.30
LUNCH	
Regular:	

Regular:	
Monthly	\$63.00
Weekly	15.75
Daily	3.15
Reduced:	
Monthly	\$8.00
Weekly	2.00
Daily	.40
Milk:	
Weekly	\$ 1.75
Daily	.35

ANY CHANGES??

Please continue to let the DMS office staff know of any changes in residences, home phone numbers or employment numbers. Thanks for keeping us posted. Being able to reach people is very important.

Ms. Jenkins' Counselor's Corner

Hello DMS Families! My name is Ms. Jenkins and I am the School Counselor here at DMS. I hope everyone will have/has had a wonderful winter break!

In December, 5th grade Guidance completed our unit on Stress Management and Healthy Coping Skills. We talked about what stressors we may have in our lives, how they can affect our emotions, bodies, thoughts and behaviors and discussed some healthy coping skills we can use if/when we are feeling stressed. Ask your student what some of their healthy coping skills are!

We also started our last unit on Careers. Thank you again to the family volunteers who came to our classes to share about their careers! When we return from break the students will be working on a career research presentation that they will share with their classmates during the last days we are together. Ask your student what career(s) they might be interested in!

On December 13th, Officer Pepper started the Drug Abuse Resistance Education or D.A.R.E. program with half of the 5th graders. The program has 10 lessons ranging from Drug Information for Responsible Decision Making, Peer Pressure, Bullying, Helping Others and much more! The first group will end at the end of February and then the second half of the 5th graders will start their 10 lessons and all 5th graders will participate in a Graduation Ceremony at the end of May (more information to come)!

In December, we also created a Holiday Kindness Tree in the cafeteria for one of our morning Advisory activities (thank you to Ms. Dueling for creating the tree) where students decorated ornaments and wrote ways they could show kindness during the holiday season. Ask your student what some of their acts of kindness were!

In January we will continue to work on our Academic and Career Planning (ACP)/Xello lessons with 6th-8th grades and will be introducing lessons #3 and #4. The 6th grade lessons will be *Decision Making* and *Time Management*; 7th grade lessons will be *Biases and Career Choices* and *Jobs & Employers*; and 8th grade lessons will be *Transition to High School* and *Self-Advocacy*.

Starting in February, myself, along with Ms. Brogley, the School Counselor at the high school, will start working with the 8th graders on their transition to DHS, which includes conversations about what high school will be like, what classes they will be able to take, and creating their four year plans for high school!

Family Resources

- DMS Counseling (google.com)
- GuidetoSnapchat English.pdf (ctfassets.net)
- Digital Citizenship Resources for Family Engagement | Common Sense Education | KINDNeSS
- We Can All Prevent Suicide: Lifeline (988lifeline.org)





• If families need assistance with food for the weekends, please reach out to me at jjenkins@draschools.org to learn more about the Dodger Food Locker



~ NEWS AT 6 ~

LANGUAGE ARTS

Happy holidays, Dodger families.

I hope you are all doing well and trying to stay healthy. Leading up to break, your child had been working on their Informational Research Project. Not only was this a great opportunity to research, read, take notes, organize those notes, and type an essay, it was a time to develop those "soft skills" of time management, responsibility, perseverance, organization, team work, and more. Some sixth-graders absolutely rocked it, some needed some TLC, and some needed "tough love." A few were shocked that I wouldn't do the work for them! Sixth-graders will use all these skills again in third-quarter when they research and create a persuasive essay. Practice makes it better! Please ask your child to read their essay to you.

When we return from break, Mrs. Spady will be introducing us to Beanstack, a platform that encourages students to enter their read-to-self minutes to earn prizes. Please ask your child about this and encourage them to record their reading minutes.

We will also be moving into our next Amplify unit, *The Chocolate Collection*. Students will learn about cacao beans, where they grow, how they are harvested, how they are made into cocoa powder, and finally, made into chocolate. For one lesson, we will taste test dark, milk, and white chocolate to graph our favorites and write about why we like a certain one better than another. If your child has a food allergy, and is unable to take a taste test, please reach out to me at jfuerstenberg@draschools.org. If you are interested in donating chocolate for the taste testing, that would be appreciated. There are bags of individual chocolates available at our local stores. One writing activity we will have in this unit is persuading a candy store owner about where they should buy their chocolate as not all companies harvest cacao safely. Ask your child about it.

Lastly, please ask your child about our current read aloud, *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus*. Our main character, Aven, is an eighth-grade student who was born without arms. Due to a job change, her family moves from Kansas, where she knows everyone, to Arizona, where she knows no one and must make new friends. She becomes friends with a boy with Tourette's Syndrome, and with a boy with body issues. It really is a heart-warming book. Plus the main character is hilarious!

All my best to you in 2024, Jill

NEWS AT "7"

Stores is Coming!!

The 7th-grade class is about to start the annual STORES project! Soon groups will be formed, managers will be chosen, and interviews will be taking place. We know the students are ready to work hard and begin this exciting unit that challenges them to create and open their own store.

Stores offers real-life learning skills such as making a business plan, creating unique advertising, and producing, pricing, and selling products. This project-based learning unit gives students a chance to work cooperatively with much more responsibility than the regular classroom routine. It has been the favorite activity former students remember from seventh grade.

However, they need your help and are looking for a few donations to help make craft products. If you are able, please consider donating any of the following:

- Gallons of Elmer's glue
- Duct tape (any design)
- Bottle caps
- Large cardboard boxes
- Craft wire
- ³/₄" round magnets
- Flour (for Play-do)
- Embroidery floss in a variety of colors

- Liquid starch (Stayflo)
- Old records
- Cleaned tin cans (soup, veggies)
- Silicone molds for crayon making
- Hot glue sticks (small & regular)
- Craft paint in primary colors
- Craft paint brushes (variety pack)

Join us this year for the STORES project!!

February 29, 2024

8:30 am - 10:30 am

1:00pm - 2:30 pm

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

~ HEALTH ~

Coming Soon: Human Growth and Development Units in Health Education

6th-graders and 8th-graders will have HG&D units during quarters 3 or 4 depending on their schedule. Details about the unit will be shared in a letter included with 2nd quarter report cards and an email through the Infinite Campus app and/or Google Classroom. Please keep an eye out for the HG&D letter to families.

LATEST FROM THE LIBRARY

7th GRADE BOOK TASTING



On December 13th, Mrs. Hottmann and Ms. Spady hosted DMS's first "book tasting" for 7th graders in the DMS Library. Students sampled a variety of books from different genres in a restaurant-style set-up, with a goal of encouraging an appetite for books



might want to read independently. They enjoyed both the atmosphere and the activity! Are



REMINDER UPCOMING AUTHOR VISIT: ERIN SODERBERG DOWNING



Author Erin Soderberg Downing will be visiting our district on **Wednesday, February 7th** to talk about her new middle-grade novel, *Just Keep Walking*. Erin has written more than fifty books for kids, including *Controlled Burn* and *The Great Peach Pit Experiment* series. You can pre-order *Just Keep Walking* (and a selection of Erin's other books) before her visit to **get your copy signed and personalized! Book orders are due by Jan. 17th**, and books will be distributed to students on Feb. 7th. **The book order form is located here** and print-outs will go home with students after Winter Break.

Ms. Downing will also be visiting the independent bookstore, "<u>The Republic of Letters</u>" in Mineral Point in the evening on Thursday, February 8th at 6:30 PM and looks forward to connecting with

some of our students again there.

BEANSTACK WINTER READING CHALLENGE



Start your year off right with a resolution to read more! Students and staff members can log their reading minutes and complete the Winter Reading challenge for January at https://dodgevillemhs.beanstack.com/

Students who logged 60 or more minutes of reading time during December's "Reading Wrap-Up" Challenge were entered into a drawing to win a copy of the new *Diary of a Wimpy Kid book, No*

Brainer and other related prizes from the popular book series. Congratulations to our winners!

BOOK PROMOTION: "Snow" Much to Read

Do you have the winter blues? Raise your spirits with a great book!















~ PHYSICAL EDUCATION ~

PE Gear

What is PE gear?

PE gear is appropriate clothing and shoes for participation in physical education class activities.

PE gear means different clothes from what is worn to school. Students change into those clothes for PE class and then out of them, at the end of class, and back into their school day clothes.

Proper shoes can be any type of clean sneaker or tennis shoe that is safe. Students do not need designated PE shoes. Tennis shoes worn to school may be used in PE.

7th and 8th-grade students have had the expectation to change for class. During the second semester, 6th-grade students will also be expected to change for PE class.

Students have the option to bring their PE gear on a daily basis or to store their PE gear in a locker in the locker room. Students may request a locker and school-issued lock if they want to use a locker for storage versus their backpack.

WOD! AMRAP!

The above are acronyms used in some fitness circles. WOD stands for the workout of the day. On Mondays, students are challenged to complete a short WOD. The WOD for the second semester increases from 2 minutes to 3 minutes.

Students select 3-4 exercises from a list. They perform 5 reps of each exercise and then run 1 lap. This sequence is repeated as many times as possible (AMRAP) in the 3 minutes.

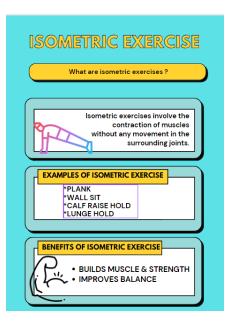
Some students have really dug deep to go further each time. It's exciting to see students beat their previous personal best! It will be exciting to see the students attack the challenge of the increase in time on the WOD.

DMS Physical Education Essential Vocabulary

6th-grade physical education students have been working on defining the essential vocabulary. Students have integrated the vocabulary into practice during physical education classes. The timing of when to do these types of exercises best fit into a fitness routine is emphasized.

Each class begins with a dynamic warm-up. An isometric hold is built into most lessons as well. Classes discuss how to improve recovery through a cool down and static stretching and students are taken through a variety of static stretches.







Second Semester Physical Education with Ms. Day-Nelson

6th-grade PE students with Ms. Day-Nelson will participate in two units: Base Games & Frisbee Skills.

The base games unit will allow students to explore a variety of unique games that involve base running, cooperation, and strategy.

The Frisbee skills unit will work on targeting and disc skills. They will learn and attempt several throws. Students are asked to give some different catches a try. There will also be a few targeting challenges and competitions.

7th-grade PE students with Ms. Day-Nelson will get to play Nitroball as their first unit. Nitroball is a game sometimes called upside-down or inverted volleyball. The game is played with a 3-foot net and the ball must bounce before being played. Nitroball will help students work on 3 contact team play as they transition into the volleyball skills unit. In the volleyball unit, students will focus on basic skills and then be challenged to use those skills in game-like drills.

8th-grade PE students with Ms. Day-Nelson will roll out the mat for some stretching and breathwork in the Yoga unit. The focus is on Yoga movements for fitness and the importance of breathwork for focus and calming the mind. Students will get to experience short guided relaxation and mindfulness exercises. The students will also get to play large group net games like Eclipse and Oval Ball, where cooperation, communication, and fun are key to success.

DMS SPORTS

JOIN THE FUN!!

The Girls' Basketball season and the Wrestling season will begin when school resumes after the winter recess. Girls basketball is open to 7th and 8th grade students. Wrestling is open to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students.

Students - sign up and be part of a team. No experience needed - on the job training provided! Stop in & sign up in the office.

GIRLS BASKETBALL PRACTICE

Seventh grade practice will start on Tuesday, January 2nd from 3:45-5:15 p.m., practices will be Monday-Friday at the DES gym.

Eighth grade practices will begin on Tuesday, January 2nd from 3:45-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday at the DMS gym.

ATTENTION ATHLETES!

Listed below are the items the athletes need to have turned into the office before practice begins.

- 1. Physical card or alternate year card *
- 2. \$15.00 user fee, paid before 1st game/match
- Code of Athletic & Co-Curricular Activities and Concussion, Head Injury & Sudden Cardiac Arrest Acknowledgement and Agreement *
- * forms MUST be completed and turn into office BEFORE practice begins.

WRESTLING PRACTICE

Wrestling practice will start Tuesday, January 2nd. Practices will be Mondays-Thursdays from 3:35-5:00 p.m. at the middle school mat room.















Girls Basketball 2023-24

Date	Opponent	Home / Away	Start Time
Thursday, Jan. 11	Richland Center	Home	4:00 p.m
Tuesday, Jan. 16	Lancaster	Away	4:00 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 18	Platteville	Home	4:00 p.m
Tuesday, Jan. 23	Darlington	Home	4:00 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 25	River Valley	Home	4:00 p.m
Tuesday, Jan. 30	Iowa-Grant	Away	4:00 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 1	Mineral Point	Home	4:00 p.m
Tuesday, Feb. 6	Cuba City	Away	4:00 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 8	Lancaster	Home	4:00 p.m
Thursday, Feb. 15	Platteville	Away	4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 20	Darlington	Away	4:00 p.m









Wrestling 2023-24

Opponent	Home / Away	Start Time
Dodger Invite	Home at DHS	4:30 p.m.
Lancaster	Away	4:30 p.m.
Riverdale	Away	5:00 p.m.
Ithaca	Away	5:00 p.m.
North Crawford	Away	5:00 p.m.
	Dodger Invite Lancaster Riverdale Ithaca	Dodger Invite Home at DHS Lancaster Away Riverdale Away Ithaca Away

THIS AND THAT

DMS Upcoming Events As of 12/21/23 (Subject to change)

December

- No School - Winter Break

January - 2024

- 1 No School Winter Break
- 2 DMS Musical Read Through 3:30-5:00 p.m.
 - DMS Girls Basketball Practice Begins 7th Gr @ 3:45-5:15 p.m., 8th Gr @ 3:45-5:30 p.m.
 - DMS Wrestling Practice Begins 3:35-5:30 p.m.
- 8 No School Professional Development for Staff
- DMS Girls Basketball Home vs. Richland Center 4:00 p.m.
- Music Boosters Meeting DHS 6:30 p.m.
- DMS Girls Basketball Away vs. Lancaster 4:00 p.m. (dismissal 2:30 p.m.)
 - DMS Wrestling Home Dodger Invite 4:30 p.m.
- End of Term 2
 - DMS Girls Basketball Home vs. Platteville 4:00 p.m.
- No School Professional Development for Staff

- DMS Girls Basketball Home vs. Darlington 4:00 p.m.
- 25 DMS Girls Basketball Home vs. River Valley- 4:00 p.m.
- DMS Wrestling Away Lancaster Invite 4:30 p.m. (dismissal 2:30 p.m.)
- DMS Girls Basketball Away vs. Iowa-Grant 4:00 p.m. (dismissal 2:50 p.m.)

February

- DMS Girls Basketball Home vs. Mineral Point 4:00 p.m.
- 5 DMS Wrestling Away Riverdale Invite 4:30 p.m. (dismissal 2:50 p.m.)
- DMS Girls Basketball Away vs. Cuba City 4:00 p.m. (dismissal 2:30 p.m.)
- 7 DMS Author Visit Erin Soderberg Downing 8:30 a.m.
- 8 DMS Girls Basketball Home vs. Lancaster 4:00 p.m.
 - DMS Wrestling Away Ithaca Invite 4:30 p.m. (dismissal 2:40 p.m.)
- No School Professional Development for Staff
 - DMS Wrestling Away North Crawford 5:00 p.m. (dismissal
- DMS Girls Basketball Away vs. Platteville 4:00 p.m. (dismissal 2:45 p.m.)
- DMS Musical at DHS Auditorium 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- DMS Musical at DHS Auditorium 2:00-4:00 p.m.
- DMS Girls Basketball Away vs. Darlington 4:00 p.m. (dismissal 2:35 p.m.)
- DMS 7th Grade Stores Project

March

- 2 DMS Solo Ensemble at DHS (all day)
- No School Professional Development for Staff
- End of Term 3 12:00 p.m. Dismissal for Students
- Dodgeville Music in Our Schools Showcase 6:00 p.m. Auditorium
- No School Spring Break

<u>April</u>

- 1 No School Spring Break
- 2 No School Spring Break
- 3 No School Spring Break
- 4 No School Spring Break
- 5 No School Spring Break
- 8 No School Professional Development for Staff
- DMS Track & Field Away Southwestern Invite 4:00 p.m.
- DMS Track & Field Home Dodger Invite 4:00 p.m.
- 22 DMS Track & Field Away Prairie du Chien 4:15 p.m.
 - Music Boosters Meeting DHS 6:30 p.m.
- DMS Track & Field Home Dodger Invite 4:00 p.m.

<u>May</u>

- 2 DMS/DHS Band and Orchestra Concert 7:00 p.m.
- 6 DMS/DHS Choir Concert 7:00 p.m.
- 7 DMS Track & Field Away Lancaster Invite 4:00 p.m.
- 9 DMS Track & Field Away Richland Center 4:00 p.m.
- No School Professional Development for Staff
- 8th Grade Field Trip The Diary of Anne Frank Overture Center 8:30-2:15

- High School Graduation Ceremony
- No School Memorial Day
 - Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony
- DMS/DHS Fine Arts Awards Night 6:00 p.m.
- 8th Grade Field Trip Wisconsin Dells 8:00a.m.-5:30 p.m.

<u>June</u>

5 - Last Day of School - 12:00 p.m. Dismissal for Students

Middle School Programs at Merrimac + Main: Coming soon!

The new Merrimac and Main Center will begin offering sewing classes and board game nights in February, and cooking/baking and art classes in March, in partnership with DMS and the Dodgeville Library. These classes will be FREE and open to all 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th graders in the Dodgeville area. More information will be available by early-to-mid January through the Merrimac + Main newsletter and on the website: www.merrimacandmain.org/events-programs



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1. NO SCHOOL	2. Cheese Pizza Seasoned Carrots Lettuce Salad Pears SideKick Slushy	3. Hot Dog Tri-taters Baked Beans Pickles Applesauce WG Bun	4. Chicken Patty Mashed Potatoes Sweet Corn Mixed Fruit WG Dinner Roll	5. Hamburger W/Cheese Oven Fries Tomato Slices Pickle Peaches WG Bun
8. NO SCHOOL PD DAY Head Start Dodger Care	9. Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup Cucumbers Applesauce Goldfish	10. Meatballs W/ brown gravy Mashed potatoes Green beans Peaches WG Roll	11. Taco French Fries Shredded Lettuce Diced Tomatoes Refried Beans Strawberries Tortilla Shell	12. Chicken Strips Rice Pilaf Steamed Broccoli Baby Carrots Mixed Fruit WG Dinner Roll
15. Pizza Hut Pepperoni Seasoned Carrots Lettuce Salad Pears SideKick Slushie	16. Chili Seasoned Peas Celery Applesauce Crackers Cinnamon Rolls	17. Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Sweet Corn Mixed Fruit WG Dinner Roll	18. Chicken Alfredo Broccoli Romaine Peaches Garlic Bread	19. NO SCHOOL
22. Mozzarella Dippers Wedge Fries Marinara Sauce Romaine Salad Pears	23. Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes Seasoned Corn Mixed Fruit WG Dinner Roll	24. Mini Corn Dogs Curly Fries Baby Carrots Romaine Salad Peaches	25. Beef Nacho Cheese Sauce French Fries Diced Tomato-Olives Lettuce Applesauce Tortilla Chips	26. Orange Chicken Rice Steamed Broccoli Mandarin Oranges WG Dinner Roll Fortune Cookies
29. Pizza Hut Sausage Seasoned Peas Lettuce Salad Pears SideKick Slushy	30. Cheese Omelet French Toast Sticks Hash Browns Juice Applesauce	31. Pulled Pork Curly Fries Celery Peaches WG Bun	2nd Entrée Choice: Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich Choice of Milk: 1% White, Fat Free Chocolate, Skim	This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Menu subject to change without notice.

WG = Whole Grain

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Happy New Year	NO SCHOOL	BACK TO SCHOOL DMS Musical Read Through - 3:45-5:00 Girls Basketball and Wrestling Practice Begins	3	4	5	6
7	8 NO SCHOOL	9	10	Girls Basketball Vs. Richland Center 4:00 p.m Home	12	13
14	Music Boosters Meeting @ DHS 6:30 p.m.	Girls Basketball Vs. Lancaster 4:00 p.m Away Dodger Wrestling Invite at DHS 4:30 p.m	17	2nd Quarter Ends Girls Basketball Vs. Platteville 4:00 p.m Home	19 NO SCHOOL	20
21	22	Girls Basketball Vs. Darlington 4:00 p.m Home	24	Girls Basketball Vs. River Valley 4:00 p.m Home	26	27
28	Girls Basketball Vs. Iowa-Grant 4:00 p.m Home Wrestling Invite at Lancaster 4:30 p.m.	30	31			