

ILLING MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Today's Learners,
Tomorrow's Leaders

The Illing Connection



Illing Middle School Parent Newsletter March/April 2014

Words from Welch...

Winter can be difficult on our kids and all of us for many reasons. If you are a skier or like to ice-fish, or merely hike on snowy paths, this season is a wonderful time. But when that "cabin fever" finds its way into our heads (and hearts) and attitude, watch out! No matter what, the warm spring sun is not far behind these cold days and nights. But before the nice temperatures arrive, the March Science CMTs make their way to Illing Middle School for eighth graders. The new SBAC testing will be our newest addition to technology-based assessments in March as well. The information from the NWEA tests, SBAC, and CMT will invariably help classroom teachers and administrators to revise and update curricula.

Thank you for those parents and their families who plan to attend *March Madness: Family Fun Night* this month. *Black History Month* was recognized in February with trivia contests, morning announcements read by students honoring famous African Americans, and relevant information was presented in classes recognizing the contributions of famous African Americans. The month of March is *Women's History Month*. Obviously, the focus is on the holistic women's movement through time.

Lastly, *Chromebooks* are coming to Illing Middle School. As we sift through the parameters of student use and rollout of this technology, we will share information as it gets finalized. How exciting for all of our kiddos! The learning never stops at Illing Middle School!

Sincerely,

David A. Welch, Principal

FROM THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE



If your student is feeling ill or needs to be absent or late for any reason, PLEASE contact our attendance secretary,

Mrs. Barbara Stufflebeam, at 647-3413

SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF

School Counseling Center

Ms. Zalewski Guidance Counselor	Team Central and Tufts	647-5087
Ms. Petito Guidance Counselor	Team Cornell and UCONN	647-3418
Ms. Scholtz	Guidance Secretary Registrar	647-3417
Ms. Cody		647-5085
Mr. Anger Social Worker	Team URI and Dartmouth	647-3420
Ms. Owen Social Worker	Team Princeton and Syracuse School	647-3421
Angella Manhertz	Psychologist	647-3414
Sharon Goodwin- Griffin	Community Outreach Counselor	647-3400
Loren Conlon	Community Outreach Counselor	647-3400

EMERGENCY CARD

If you have an e-mail address, phone number or mailing address that is on file that needs to be updated, or if you would like your information added, please contact the registrar, Sabrina Cody at scody@manchesterct.gov. This will also allow teachers to contact you directly via your e-mail address.

Team Tufts



The Smarter Balanced assessments and student conferences are going to make March one of the busiest months of the year. Team Tufts thanks you ahead of time for making sure your child gets a good night's sleep and eats a healthy breakfast each day. We look forward to seeing parents and sharing the educational experience with you at the conferences. Your children are very proud of their work and your support fosters their continued success.

Our Family History Museum Night is quickly approaching. (Team Tufts will inform parents as soon as the date is confirmed.) Please continue to work with your children at home on their family history projects. Students will be creating poems, stories, and presentations to share the evening of the event, as well as projects to take home. Family History Night is always a special evening that brings teachers, students, families, and the school community closer together. Team Tufts looks forward to seeing you and celebrating our diverse families.

Please continue to check your student's planner daily. We appreciate all you do for your students. Students need to make sure that they continue to practice the Illing STARS behaviors and dress according to Illing school dress code. Thank you again for your support.

Social Studies – Mrs. Dudzik, “Konnichiwa!” It won't take long for Team Tufts geographers to fall in love with Japan. With the exception of Japan's 240 day school year, students are usually very impressed with Japan's awesome technology, rich history, and very, very fresh food. They will be busy making connections between samurai loyalty and the modern Japanese work ethic. Did you know the samurai compared themselves to cherry blossoms? Through an exploration of the way of the samurai, students will continue to increase their comprehension of historical, non-fiction texts and discover the beauty of the Japanese culture.

Math – In math class, Mrs. Peralta's students are finishing up the geometry unit. Students have worked on finding surface area and volume of a rectangular prism, triangular prism, and cylinder. In Pre-Algebra students are working on slopes, y-intercepts, graphing and writing equations. Students will continue to work on their multiplication/division facts through Madd Minute Mondays. Each student needs a hand sharpener for Math class. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Mrs. Peralta at b25sbori@manchesterct.gov.

Science – Mr. Watson and the Team Tufts scientists will be wrapping up their study of the human body. Students did a wonderful job at completing an investigation of what might cause a change in heart rate. This was typed as a

formal lab report using Microsoft Office tools to create data tables and graphs. This spring our scientists will be studying the earth's changing surface. We will also be looking at earthquakes and volcanoes. Students will investigate the *Circle of Fire* and how it relates to earthquake/volcano locations.

Plans are in the works for our trip to Lake Compounce Amusement Park in June. More details will follow soon.

Integrated Language Arts – During the month of February, students in Miss Gill's class were engaged in test preparation for the field test of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium test, set to occur during the testing window commencing March 15. They finished reading Mildred Taylor's *The Well* and then began work on learning how to develop in-depth argumentative essay pieces grounded in research and evidence. Students have also begun writing family stories based on their own personal experiences and their familial background as part of the larger Family History Museum project. In March, the students will be involved in a literature circles project which emphasizes cooperative small-group work. They will also continue their study of Greek and Latin word roots throughout the month.

Mrs. Bombria's classes are continuing their studies through fiction, non-fiction articles and their SIR novels. Using these texts as a foundation, we are examining literary elements, figurative language, and making connections. We will continue our most recent unit of study, "Reading Informational Texts and Argument Writing" in the coming months. One way to assist your child with this unit is to practice this skill - in and out of the classroom – is asking students to use evidence to support their arguments.

Just a reminder: there is homework every night in Integrated Language Arts. In addition to other assignments, your child is required to read over 20 minutes every evening. Students are taught that part of an effective strategy to test taking is to build your stamina/endurance to sit and stay focused. If students read each night for 30-60 minutes without losing concentration, they will be that much closer to being ready to succeed at the many tasks ahead that require focus and stamina. Your assistance in providing quiet reading areas and encouragement continue to be greatly appreciated.

Team Dartmouth

"The Big Green"

Despite the snow and cold weather, we were able to successfully complete our NWEA testing. There was a

large improvement in students' scores. We are excited to put this snow behind us and get back into our regular routine. Please remember students still need to bring their agendas and IDs, as well as wear their uniforms to school. While you are checking your student's agenda, don't forget to sign it for Planner Points every Friday. Now is also a great time to stock up on more pencils! In Mrs. Avakian's class, we welcome our awesome student teacher, Mr. Jerrod Greider from Eastern Connecticut State University. Mr. Greider will be with us until May. In social studies we had a highly competitive team-wide competition to qualify for the school-wide competition. Congratulations to our Team Dartmouth finalists: Cameron Barry, Emily Gonzalez, Wilkens Guadalupe, Chaz Jackson, and Kaleb Melonas. In Language Arts, we are studying argument writing techniques with various controversial topics as well as pursuing an interdisciplinary unit with social studies on Sudan.

In literature circles, we will be reading *A Long Walk to Water*, the memoir of Salva Dut, one of the famed "Lost Boys," who escaped war-torn Sudan during its civil war. Our Battle of the Books team, is preparing for the next battle, which will occur in early March. In Math, we are finishing up our unit on two and three-dimensional geometry. Next, we are moving into ratios, proportions, and percents. This unit is exciting with real-life applications. Ahhhh Science! It is everywhere. So parents, encourage your children to get out there and learn all they can on this subject. It will surely enrich their lives forever. On that note, we are beginning our study of the human body. Quiz your little scientists on the bones, muscles, and other internal organs inside of them. **Hey, their epidermis is showing!** You can't be too nose-y to ask them how their day went and what they are presently learning. It is your right to know and your job to prod them along to do their very best. Thanks for all your support.

Team URI



In Language Arts, we are beginning our "Argument Unit." Students will be required to research a topic, formulate an opinion and use evidence to support a position. This unit will allow students to explore current issues related to their generation and use critical reading and writing skills to develop a structured argumentative essay.

In Math, we are finishing our unit on geometry. Students will be moving into ratio and proportions. Included in the next unit, will be a review of fractions, decimals, and percentages.

In Social Studies, students are continuing their unit on Southeast Asia, in particularly China and Japan. They will enhance mapping skills, basic geography skills, and learn about the basic economy and government systems that prevail in that part of the world. Students will be taking their second assessment in social studies that deals with informational text, summarizing an article, and author's point of view. Mr. E-M would like to congratulate the following students for winning the classroom "Geography B": Darian Jackson, Hailey Rodgers, Jacob St. Laurent, Wesley Ott, Jillian Turner, and the overall URI team winner, Eamon Grady.

In Science, students are participating in a curriculum-embedded performance task called "Feel the Beat" that is designed to be used as part of a learning unit about the human body systems. The performance task includes two investigations; one provides some structure and direction for students and the second investigation allows students the opportunity to operate more independently. The goal is to increase students' independent questioning, planning, and data analysis skills. Students will finalize the project with a typed formal lab report.

Team Yale



LEARNING L.A. WITH THE DARING MR. DIAZ

In Mr. Diaz's 7th grade Language Arts classes, students are reading non-fiction texts. Students are continuing to work on identifying the topic, main idea, and supporting details of an article. They are also practicing how to take effective reader notes through the use of outlines and graphic organizers. This past month our class has been exploring the lives and legacies of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X while comparing and contrasting the ideas they shared in their most famous speeches. In the coming weeks, students will be working on formulating persuasive arguments and supporting them with textual evidence.

In Mr. Diaz's shared 8th grade Language Arts class, students have just begun a new unit with an emphasis on reading nonfiction texts. Students will be learning how to

identify the topic, main idea, and supporting details of an article as well as how to take effective reader notes through the use of outlines and graphic organizers. Students are currently reading about Affirmative Action and will be researching this policy in preparation for a debate on the issues surrounding the policy's implementation. In the coming weeks, they will be working on formulating persuasive arguments and supporting them with textual evidence.

LEARNING SCIENCE WITH THE BODACIOUS MISS BROWN

In science our 7th grade students are traveling through the human body and discovering how organisms are structured to survive!

Our 8th grade scientists are finishing up their Astronomy unit with seasons and moon phases, and will be venturing into heredity and reproduction within the next few weeks!

LEARNING MATH WITH THE WONDERFUL MRS. WEBSTER AND THE FANTASTIC MRS. FISHER

Ms. Webster's 7th grade math classes are exploring Geometry, including the area of shapes and relationships of angles. The kids enjoyed watching *Flatland*, a mathematical movie, about shapes and the three dimensions and hearing the adventure story of Sir Cumference, Lady Di Ameter and their son, Radius. The 8th grade is exploring Geometry too. We have been using a computer program to learn relationships of angles, translation, reflection, rotation and dilation. Ask your child about how the "Cha Cha Slide" relates to math. Keep practicing the math facts!

LEARNING L.A. WITH THE POIGNANT MR. PARKER

What's up Yale fam! I just want to start off by giving a shout-out to all of my industrious students and wonderful parents! We are just about at the halfway point and it's been an amazing school year! In Language Arts, students continue to practice a variety of reading strategies while actively reading a variety of text. We have also been zeroing in on paraphrasing, identifying main ideas, summarizing and providing text support in our written responses to literature. We recently finished a novel titled *We Beat the Street* and will soon begin our deep study of the Holocaust while zeroing in on building research skills and strengthening our ability to write argumentative essays. In addition, students will be studying roots and new vocabulary to assist in strengthening their reading comprehension. As we move forward I encourage parents to stay in contact with me so that we can work as a team to provide the best education for your child. Feel free to e-mail, text or call me. I would also like your help in encouraging students to read every night for at least 35

minutes, to use their agenda to stay organized, and to recognize the strong connection between education and future success. Before I sign off I leave you with this quote:

"We are not afraid of struggle. We welcome it because we know it makes us stronger."

Peace. Love. Parker.

LEARNING SOCIAL STUDIES WITH THE VIVACIOUS MR. VICKERS

In 7th grade we are touring the exotic countries around India: Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, and Bangladesh. Soon we will be looking closely at Mt. Everest and the economics of tourism. After that we will be turning to the most populous country in the world: China.

In 8th grade we are deep into our study of the Constitution. After we have completed our examination of governmental framework for our great nations we will look at industrialization and America's move west. Next stop, my home state, Texas.

Team Central



I hope this newsletter finds us all under a nice thaw. I love snow, but enough is enough! I am happy to report that many students aced the two-for-one bone and muscle quizzes! We continue our journey into the human body, focusing on the circulatory, respiratory, and digestive systems. We also tackle the big "Feel the Beat" assessment during which your children will investigate the effect of exercise on pulse rate. This activity will turn into a formal lab report. Please continue to monitor your child's planner and help them study for those quizzes! Mrs. Werner.

Mrs. Kalt is preparing her students for the new SBAC test which replaces the CMT this year. For the first time, students will have to complete a Performance Task. This will require that students view different media on a non-fiction topic and write an argument essay based on the materials provided. They have already completed an essay in which they had to argue whether, or not, bottled water should be banned in schools. We will review those essays, write more and have debates in preparation for the test in

March. A good way to practice the skills required for argument is to ask your student about a topic in the news. What do they think? Why? Can they give reasons for another point of view?

I apologize in advance! Why? Mr. Morsbach's Language Arts classes are moving forward into a unit revolving around the Argument Essay. Many of your students are already skilled in the art of argumentation in a verbal sense, so translating that into a clear and logical written argument is the goal. Our class is full of debate. Students are being asked to come up with clear reasoning for their arguments. They are researching evidence to reinforce those reasons. While we work on our argument unit, we are also taking time to work on every student's favorite subject... grammar! Students learn to identify common errors, and fix them. Not the most exciting subject in the world, but if you have ever had the privilege to see your child's text messages, a needed one! So, if your child comes up to you over the next few months correcting your grammar, arguing for a greater allowance with solid reasoning and evidence, and predicting and refuting your counter-argument before the words even come out of your mouth... tell them I'm proud!

Mr. Morsbach

Hello again. I hope you enjoyed the winter break and all the snow we received. I can't believe the total accumulation, and there is still more to come. I guess it is one of those many benefits of living in a humid continental climate. We have just started to immerse ourselves in the physical and cultural geography of the island of Japan and the peninsula of the Koreas. I anticipate your child is going to have a grand time learning about the rich history of this region. Students always seem to like the technology and innovation this region has to offer. As the spring season approaches, keep encouraging your child to strive for success. Until next time, Mr. Menefee.

Team Princeton



Princeton Tigers Rock!

Algebra is finishing up their study of functions and patterns and will soon be spending a great deal of time on

rational exponents, polynomial expressions and equations. Connected Math students are finishing up their unit on symmetry, congruence, and similarity and will then be diving into linear relationships with a focus on solving and graphing linear equations. All students have been working very hard; great job so far Team Princeton!

The American Revolution has begun in Mrs. Francoeur's American History classes. We are investigating what seemed to be an impossible undertaking. A group of determined patriots will find a way to organize, supply, and train an army prepared to fight the strongest military in the world. The colonial militias proved to be a formidable opponent that the British greatly underestimated. In addition to organizing the military defense of their liberty, unwavering patriots will work to unify the thirteen colonies together under the common goal of independence. The sheer guts, resolve and perseverance of these individuals make us stop and realize the real sacrifices made by our first patriots that made the formation of our country possible.

In Language Arts classes we will be focusing on the skill of argument. Although many of the parents may believe their children already argue very well☺, the kind of arguing we will teach requires students to read several sources of information and devise logical arguments using support from those sources. Students will be taught to refute arguments as well, which is a difficult and highly advanced skill. Trust us, we are not trying to make things more difficult at home, but if students begin petitioning for their right to stay up later, play video games more often or have more freedom, be happy they are learning something in class.....and you can blame us if you'd like.

Please continue to check your son or daughter's planner and The Team Princeton web page on the Illing web site. Homework is assigned three to four nights a week.

Team Syracuse



Team Syracuse is counting down to spring and the many 8th grade activities on the horizon. We are proud of our outstanding students who shine all around our community - on our Illing Honor Role, in team sports, our many Illing clubs, and other extra-curricular activities. Research

shows that these experiences bode well for future success in and out of school. As transitions to high school loom in the not-so-far-away future, we are supporting the upcoming changes by increasing our expectations for independence and timeliness in work completion. Homework is no longer accepted after the due date, and all class assignments and projects must be turned in on time (unless, of course, other arrangements have been made). And as always, we continue to expect a high level of rigor and effort in all aspects of our school day, both academically and behaviorally. We are looking forward to the many new and exciting experiences afforded by the 8th grade Washington, DC trip, but those who stay behind will participate in a variety of enrichment activities that parallel our curriculum.

As the weather improves and spirits rise, it will be important for us to remain on task and focused on having the best year possible and on enjoying the many end-of – the year activities. Please take advantage of your Team Syracuse Google web page and the home access to all grades for each of your students. Any of our team teachers are available by telephone by calling the IMS Main Office or by email. Thank you for sharing your children with us. They are our reasons for coming to school every day!

Team Cornell



Mrs. Gohla's and Mrs. Botting - Language Arts classes are working on argument writing. Students are learning about claims and how to argue effectively. In order to have a good argument, students must use evidence to prove their claim. Evidence can come from texts, videos, charts, etc. Students will incorporate what they've read and seen into their argument piece and learn how to cite correctly. This unit will improve writing skills and teach students how to read for a purpose while making an argument. We continue to study Greek and Latin roots to build vocabulary and independent reading is still homework every night. We are also preparing to transition into our spring Holocaust novels unit. This unit is a center point of the 8th grade curriculum each year, with a focus on research, non-fiction text, and deeper understanding of this pivotal period in world and cultural history. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions of resources that we could use, please feel free to contact us!

SCIENCE Our new unit is about us! **Biology** is the study of life: and we all started as one cell. Therefore, we study the workings of the cell (Look for a challenging cell project); learn about DNA, and genetics (what makes you, you) and then we learn about how we came to be in human reproductive physiology. Please check the Cornell website because there is **nightly** homework posted. Websites, PowerPoints, and many of the worksheets are also posted. **Please contact Mrs. Schneider with ANY questions/comments (b21vschn@manchesterct.gov).**

There is so much to learn, our students are lucky to have the chance to learn how Science is important in their everyday life.

Mr. Bebyn Social Studies - Students are exploring the underlying causes of the American Revolution. We will look at the components of what makes a Revolution. Students will continue to work on the same reading and note taking strategies that we have been working with all year as we prepare for what lies ahead at the High School!

Math Corner- Greetings Readers, we are in the midst of concluding the unit of Congruence and Similarity. We have our fair weather to thank for prolonging its length of study. Our scholar's next unit of study is Linear Relationships, which entails a greater degree of Algebra than our previous units. Despite their moaning and groaning, when presented with such problems this year, they have responded commendably, noted by an improvement in their scores in operations and algebraic thinking. Consequently, we are hopeful that this positive point of reference serves as nourishment to their confidence as we progress in the unit. As always thank you for your time and support.

Team UCONN



In Mr. Kienle's Language Arts classes, we are in the middle of our Holocaust unit, and have started reading the novel *Night* by Elie Wiesel. Students will be exploring the book using Literature Circles, which will be worth a substantial amount of their final grades. Make sure to come prepared on meeting days to avoid late penalty. Also, with all of the snow days we have had make sure to be aware of where you grade stands to avoid surprises at the midterm.

Although the abundance of snow days this winter has hampered out progress Social Studies classes on Team UCONN, students continue their exploration of the birth

of America. Students have begun the first of two projects involving the analysis of primary source documents, and the completion of a position paper. Social Studies classes will look next at the Declaration of Independence, one of America's most influential documents, as well as examining the important outcomes of the American Revolutionary war. We would like to welcome Demetri Voukounas to the team as a Social Studies student teacher from Eastern Connecticut State University.

On Team Uconn in Science class we are finishing up our Unit of Technology with the construction of trusses. We will soon be able to test the three forces of compression, tension and torsion on each of the three trusses that we have constructed from balsa wood. This is always a fun finale to our unit. After the Science CMT, we will kick off the next unit, Heredity and Evolution, with a fun and interesting DNA extraction lab. Following this opener, students will be able to explore some amusing and unusual personal inheritable traits to launch us into the study of genetics.

Mrs. Brisee's classes are working through our scheduled curriculum which is in alignment with State Common Core Standards. Algebra students are finishing the unit on functions, and will be moving on to polynomials and quadratics. Connected Math students have finished the transformations unit and are on to the algebra unit. This includes solving multistep equations as well as graphing and interpreting linear equations. All students will be taking the SBAC test during March. These tests have replaced the CMT's for math and language arts. As with the CMT's, we ask that your student gets a good night's sleep and has a good breakfast before testing. Please encourage them to do their best!

After finishing our Non-Fiction unit, Ms. Cocola's class is now working on our argument writing unit. We are reading *The Freedom Writers Diary* and working on our argument essay writing and debates. Students will learn how to find a particular argument in multiple texts and write their own arguments to support specific claims. After our argument unit we will begin our Holocaust unit. This unit will most likely take us through the end of the year!

Art Department



We are now in the middle of our third marking period and we hope our students are enjoying art class as much as we enjoy having them with us. Winter has proven to be a

challenge for us all. Between scheduled days off and snow days, we have hardly had any full weeks. We all do our best to take it all in stride and keep the stream of learning flowing through the Art Department.

The 8th grade students have experienced the joys of working with perspective and have made the connection with elements of design. At this point, some students are exploring the realm of Folk Art with the creation of Wind Chimes that are both utilitarian, as well as a decorative addition to any porch or tree limb. These creative beauties are inspired by Face Jugs Pottery from the great Smokey Mountains. Starting with pinch pot, faces are then sculpted on them. Metal tool copper is added to catch the wind. These glazed works of art will stand the test of time.

The 7th grade students are focusing on the art and culture of Asia. Students will experience making a connection with several cultures and create projects that are influenced by these cultures. Learning new techniques and working with the elements of design will give them the tools to have a successful art experience. Mr. Lafontaine's students are finishing up their discussions on Japan and the very important Tea Ceremony. They are now constructing their own tea bowl and decorating them with simple, but beautiful designs. Mr. Atkins is exploring the Japanese and their love for the Gold Fish or Koi with lovely watercolor/collage of these colorful beauties. Exploring the world can take many forms and use many media.

Mr. Atkins is offering Art Cub on Tuesday afternoon from 3:00 – 4:00pm. Come and enjoy discovering you creative side.

The Art Department returned to an old tradition last school year with our annual Student Art Show. Mr. Lafontaine and Mr. Atkins will be saving art work throughout the year to be displayed at the Art Show. This exciting event will take place in the final weeks of the school year to give us the opportunity to squeeze all the creativity we can out of our students. Please be patient with us if we retain your students work. All art work will be returned after the art show. Students need to retrieve their work from the Art Department.

Computer Technology



Computer Technology is in its second semester. Thus far, students have learned the ins and outs of Chromebooks and are now masters at using them efficiently for academic purposes. The students have explored Google's

Education Apps, and learned the Pros and Cons to Google's tools vs. Microsoft Office's. The students collaborated to create professional presentations that they delivered to their classmates. Students also spent some time learning ways to properly format papers to high school standards, create eye catching cover pages for their work, determine website reliability, and explored several presentation tools (and delivered professional presentations).

There are several more topics to cover such as designing complete websites, crafting personal blogs, learning photo editing strategies, video editing, media for expression (digital music composition, video game designing and coding, etc.), and online research techniques.

We are very thankful for the opportunity to present this course to our students, and appreciate all of your support.

Family and Consumer Science



The students in Family and Consumer Sciences are learning how to apply critical thinking skills to real-life situations. These skills include following and interpreting written directions, applying basic fraction and measuring skills and working independently. Every recipe we make is a chance to build on these skills. Each recipe has specific directions as to ingredients, measurement, technique, time and temperature. All must be followed exactly for satisfactory results.

Time management is another skill that can be applied to all areas in our lives. Whether you are a student, a teacher or a parent, good time management can be the key to success. Our students have learned more about being accountable for their own time management as they endeavor to complete assigned projects in given time periods, work as a team, and learn new skill sets.

The Illing Healthy Chef Cook-off contest will be held the last week of February. We have 6 teams of students entering a variety of tasty recipes, check them out:

- One Pot Pasta Wonder
- Veggie Panini with Yogurt Parfait
- Mango Steak Taco with Mango Slushie
- Mango Tart
- Guacamole with Veggies
- Avocado Smoothie

*Check out the next newsletter for the winning recipes!

During February, the Multicultural Club celebrated the Chinese New Year by inviting our own Ms. Xian Shen. This year Ms. Shen showed our students how to make Dumpling Soup, which is usually served during the New Year holidays. Ms. Shen demonstrated to the students how to make the filling and then instructed them on how to make the dumplings. The hot chicken based dumpling soup was a welcomed treat during the cold days of February! Check out the pics on the Illing Website under the Caught on Film tab – FACS Club celebrates the Chinese New Year with Wontons.

The Multicultural Club also made Baked Apples as a treat during the month. Students constructed the baked apple and then wrapped it in foil to bake at home. Several students, when they saw how easy it was, made extras for their family members. A copy of this and the Dumpling Soup recipe follow.

In March the Multicultural Club will be inviting Mr. Paul Rippington from the Media Center to explain how the English celebrate Shrove Tuesday (March 4th). We will be making English pancakes and trying some Treacle or Golden Syrup (English style) instead of maple syrup (American style). We also made the filling and dough for Jamaican Beef Patties that we will complete and eat in March.

DUMPLING SOUP

- 8 Cups Chicken Broth
- 1 Tablespoon of Soy Sauce
- 1 Scallion, Chopped
- 1 Pound of Ground Chicken
- A Pinch of Salt
- Wontons or Frozen Dumplings – 1 package

In a small bowl mix the ground chicken, the soy sauce, the scallion and the pinch of salt. Place 2-4 tablespoons of filling into the wonton/dumpling and, using the instructions on the package, wrap the filling in the wonton/dumpling.

Place 8 cups of chicken broth into a sauce pan and boil. Once boiling, lower the dumplings into the hot broth. Cook approximately 2-3 minutes.

BAKED APPLES

- 4 Large Baking Apples such as Rome Beauty, Golden Delicious or Granny Smith
- 1/4 Cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoons nutmeg
- 2 teaspoon butter
- Optional – raisins, walnuts or pecans

Wash and core apples, then remove a 1 inch strip of peel around the middle of each apple. Place in a shallow baking pan.

Combine brown sugar, cinnamon and nutmeg in a small bowl. Fill the center of each apple and dot each with 1/2 teaspoon of butter****

Add just enough water (or apple juice) to baking dish to cover the bottom of the dish. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for about 30 minutes or until apples are tender. Baste with juice occasionally.

****We will be wrapping the apples in foil for you to take home and bake!

Music Department



Dear Parents and Students,

There are several exciting performances that I know that you will want to make note of in the months ahead!

On Friday, March 28th, The *Illing Singers* will be performing “God Bless America” at the Wolfpack game against the Springfield Falcons at the XL center beginning at 7:00. There will be a performance by the Girls’ and Boys’ Choirs beginning at 5:45 in the Atrium. There is a flyer included to order tickets if you would like to sit in the Illing Section on Illing Night at the Wolfpack!!!! Please return ticket orders and money to me! (You don’t have to be in choir to attend the game!!!!)

On April 10th, The *Illing Singers* will be performing at the Townwide Choir Concert. The concert will be held at MHS and begins at 7:00 pm and will include an Elementary Honors Choir, the Bennet Choir, the Illing Singers, and the MHS Roundtable Singers.

On May 8th, all *Illing Choirs* will perform in our annual spring concert. That includes the 7th Grade, 8th Grade, Girls,’ Boys’ Choirs, and Illing Singers. It also includes the Community Choir of Manchester. That performance will also take place at MHS and begins at 7:00 pm.

On May 2nd, the 8th *Grade Choir* will travel to Massachusetts to perform in the Great East Festival and Six Flags Park. (There is still time to get permission slips in for that trip and for the After School Choirs’ trip to Boston on May 30th.)

Please contact me if you have any questions on the above information. (b21chilt@manchesterct.gov) Please note schedules for after school rehearsals on the website!!

Thank you and looking forward to seeing you at one of the performances!!!

Cheryl Hilton

Hello String Families—

I am very excited about the upcoming performances as we get ready to enter the **Spring Concert Season!** Please mark your calendars for **Tuesday, April 8th, 2014** at 7:00 p.m. for the Townwide Orchestra Concert. This performance is for the 8th grade Orchestra only. Seventh graders, you will shine next spring. This performance is a tremendous opportunity to see where your child has come from, and what they have to look forward to as they progress through the Manchester Orchestra Program.

Tuesday, May 6th, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. will be the Spring Instrumental Concert. Make sure your calendar is marked correctly! A reminder that concert attire is white tops with black pants/skirts. The **Orchestra Parents Organization** is getting back up and running with big ideas for the 2014-15 school year. If you are interested in joining this group, please let me know.

As always, grades are updated in Home Access regularly. Please check these grades for your students. If you see 0% for any of the homework assignments, copies are available in my room as well as attached to this grade in Home Access. Students can always make up the assignments for late credit up to one week before the close of the quarter. If you have any further questions, please send me an email to b57hsica@manchesterct.gov or call 860-647-3400.

I look forward to seeing you all in April or May!

Ms. Sica-Leonard

Science Club



Due to the weather, Science Club has missed a couple of Thursdays. Anyone interested can stop by room 226 and fill out a membership form and come on a Thursday when they can. One of the latest activities was building air cannons (<http://pbskids.org/designsquad/build/air-cannon/>) and launching them. Many designs were created. Below are some of the pictures from that Thursday's activity. Thasfia Rifa, Anthony Grasso, and Brian Michaud can be

seen constructing. Daniel and Denardia Amfo, Anthony, and Thasfia are waiting to launch after Brian's turn.



Spring field trips:

- Saturday March 22 Seal watching and counting, Avery Point, CT.
- Thursday in April Bird Banding during migration at Hockanum River Park at 7:30 a.m. (when birds are most active).
- Thursday May 29 Project Oceanology (leaving school at about 12:30, learning to be an oceanographer Avery Point, CT).



Illing Middle School's Science Bowl Team

Saturday, February 22, thirty two middle school teams from around Connecticut descended on the University of Connecticut in Storrs to participate in the Middle School Regional Science Bowl competition. The Illing team competed for the chance to travel to Washington, D.C, to participate in the national competition and also bragging rights among their peers. Although the team was competitive, it did not win; it was exciting and the students made Illing PROUD!

This year is the Science Bowl's 9th competition and also marked UConn's 8th time hosting it. (<http://mssb.uconn.edu/>) The competition, coordinated by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science, consists of two contests: an academic, fast-paced, question-and-answer, "Jeopardy-style" tournament, and a model lithium battery car competition, in which students design, build, and race model cars.

Students participating in the "car" section of the competition were **Chad Hahn** and **Bruce Fultz**, 8th graders (Team Cornell); supervised by Mr. Vic Berard, one of Illing's Technology Teachers.

Members of the Quiz competition were 7th grader **Denardia Amfo**, Team URI; 8th graders **Paige Tyler**, Team Cornell; **Bella Cavaleri** and **Lexi Bell**, Team UConn; and **Brian Michaud**, Syracuse, supervised by Mrs. Ginny Schneider, Team Cornell Science Teacher.

World Language

Sra. Alejandro, Sr. Blanco, and Sr. Ramos are delighted to work with your children.

7th grade exploratory students will count to a million, tell the time & date, discuss the weather, and describe themselves. In 8th grade Spanish exploratory, the students will simulate preparing themselves to become exchange students, learning about the Spanish speaking countries, identifying the clothing and necessary items they will pack, making trip plans and details for their travel, and even writing a letter of presentation. The 8th grade High School Spanish 1 classes are working on units covering the school, after school activities, food, and leisure time activities through April.

To succeed in class, students need to be on time and prepared. They should have a **pocket folder** to keep their work, a **notebook** to take notes, and a **pen and pencil** to write with. They should each have a **Spanish-English dictionary** to help them with vocabulary. It makes a great holiday gift! At home, they should have glue, tape, and scissors. In addition, **B207827317** is the access code for our online text at www.glencoe.com.

We look forward to meeting you, the parents and guardians, during the Parent Conferences and urge you to take the School Climate survey which will be made available in MARCH. Please be sure to set aside April 22 for the International Fun Fest. See the flyers in the newsletter.

¡Hasta luego!

8th Grade Trip Class Trip

We are definitely getting closer to spending three fabulous days touring Washington, DC with our friends and classmates. Final payments have been made and roommate forms have been turned in for the room selection process.

Health Forms will be distributed in April.

Just a reminder, the dress code for the trip is strictly adhered to. Absolutely NO JEANS may be worn on May 14th or 15th. All students must wear **khaki/tan** pants, shorts or capris on both Wednesday, May 14th and

Thursday, May 15th. Students must also wear the uniform dress polo shirt on those days. The guidelines are as follows:

- **Wednesday, May 14th** – Khaki/Tan pants/shorts and the BLUE Illing polo.
- **Thursday, May 15th** – Khaki/Tan pants/shorts and the GREEN Illing polo.
- **Friday, May 16th** – Students will be given a T-shirt to wear on that day. They may wear jeans on this day provided they are clean, without holes, fit properly around the waist, not skinny jeans, and have no writing on them.

With only a few months left to plan, please make sure all students have the proper attire for this educational trip. A quick reminder to our 8th graders and their families, that there is a mandatory parent meeting for all students attending this trip on April 29th at 7 pm in the Illing Café.

Summer Camp, Classes at MHS

MHS is collaborating with the town's Parks and Recreation on a new, inexpensive program that gives students ages 13-15 chance to take enrichment classes at the high school and/or be part of a 'teen camp' program that also will be held there.

The cost per week is just \$55 (for full days) or \$30 (half days). The program runs for six weeks, from June 30 to Aug. 8.

Among the enrichment classes being offered: forensics, martial arts, cake decorating, sewing, pottery, Japanese art, coastal ecology, technology, jump rope, drama, running, and cooking.

The Rec Department summer camp, which includes a variety of activities and games, has been around for years but had never offered a half-day option. This year, students can mix-and-match to spend part or all of each day in either the camp program or enrichment classes. Free lunch will also be available at MHS and anyone who registers for full day enrollment is eligible for special field trips each Friday.

Fliers are available in the main office at Illing and there is information available at the MHS website, which is at www.MHSRedline.com.

MANCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Manchester Public Schools is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. Manchester Public Schools does not

discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability (including, but not limited to, intellectual disability, past or present history of mental disorder, physical disability or learning disability), genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or federal nondiscrimination laws. Manchester Public Schools does not unlawfully discriminate in employment and licensing against qualified persons with a prior criminal conviction. Inquiries regarding Manchester Public School's nondiscrimination policies should be directed

to:

Terri Smith, Human Resources Specialist/Title IX
Coordinator

Manchester Public Schools
45 North School Street
Manchester, CT 06042
860-647-3595

Shelly Matfess, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil
Personnel Services

Section 504 Co-Coordinator
Manchester Public Schools
45 North School Street
Manchester, CT 06042
860-647-3452

or

Suzanne Valade, Coordinator of School Health
Services

Section 504 Co-Coordinator
Manchester Public Schools
45 North School Street
Manchester, CT 06042
860-647-3324

Congratulations to Sierra Petro!

It is with great pride that Illing Middle School nominates Sierra Petro for the 2014 MLK Award recipient. Many of our students demonstrate core values which are embraced by Martin Luther King Jr's dream. It is a select few who can boast that these same values are intertwined in the very essence which defines a person - Sierra is that unique student who highlights the good in all. She demonstrates courage through her daily persona. She is one of the school's morning announcers – always prepared to address our students with special moments in history or merely a compassionate word for students who practice STAR behavior, connected specifically to our PBIS STARS process.

Sierra can be caught practicing acts of kindness throughout the days, weeks and months she has been at Illing. What is most remarkable is she acts without prompting from adults and it comes from within her heart. She, herself is an inspiration to others as she reaches across gender, color and ability; her “sight” only sees a peer or teacher in need of help. Whether counseling another player on the Girl's Basketball Team or singing on stage with the Illing Singers, Sierra strives to do what is right, what is best, and what is necessary. Some may refer to her as compassionate, but she epitomizes integrity – working for the good of her fellow student, her family, and our school.

Sierra is a leader without the fanfare. She conducts herself in a manner which we deem as professional. However, her work with Student Council and eventual induction into the National Junior Honor Society proves her worth and inspiration to so many.

I.M.S. National Junior Honor Society Awarded the MLK Award!

Congratulations goes out to our MLK winners this year – for our group recognition, special thanks to Mike Pohl and congratulations to the National Junior Honor Society represented by at the MLK Award Night held at Manchester High School on January 16, 2014. Students receiving the award for the NJHS were:

Co-Presidents: **Lauren Diana and Taylor Keyt**

Co-Vice Presidents: **Kyle Smith and Maxwell Toth**

Co-Treasurers: **Ashley Resto and Joey Pearl**

Co-Secretaries: **Joana Topanxha and Han-yu Chung**

and the Co-Chairs for the Holiday Sharing Drive - **Haley Zalcman and Alyssa Link**

It is an honor to nominate the Illing Middle School National Junior Honor Society for their Inspirational spirit, as we commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

This year's theme, *How Would you Change the World*, is epitomized by this high-achieving group of students who view each day as a new opportunity to help others, strive for excellence, and create positive changes for the good of so many people. These students are actually changing our world one action at a time.

The Illing Middle School National Junior Honor Society focused on the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life for the first time in 2013. These 13 and 14 year olds from the NJHS became our inspiration as we first began our efforts *to honor* one of our own Illing teachers who was diagnosed with cancer last year and battled gallantly until his passing in March. We could have remained stuck in our grief, but these young people embraced the moment and inspired us all as to what we should do when we lose someone. Rather than dwell in the past, these young scholars held the light of inspiration as they lead us back from our loss. They rallied around the children and spouse of the teacher we lost, embraced our own survivors and led all Manchester schools in raising over \$6,000 to help the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event in the spring.

NJHS is raising money for the MACC for the Food Share, collecting supplies for students in Cameroon, and for the second year, is involved in shining the spotlight on racism as the NJHS is one of four student organizations that participate in *Stand Against Racism* with the YWCA.

This isn't about a teacher doing any of this valuable work – this is about students making contributive and valuable decisions and taking action. They are the beacon of inspiration and I have no doubt that they will continue to lead the way as did Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. himself!

student of the Month



Central	Caroline Christopher
Dartmouth	Zach Faccin
Tufts	Tiana Rawlings
URI	Anthony Grasso
Yale	Toyin Cousins
Cornell	Tim Rowe
Princeton	Vanessa Phillips
Syracuse	Vito Botticello
UCONN	Jessica Bell

Central	Andrea Calderon
Dartmouth	Cecelia Klotzer
Tufts	Faryal Taseer
URI	George Asiedu
Yale	Matias Barilari
Cornell	Lauren Barrett
Princeton	Joey Pearl
Syracuse	Sophie Chadwick
UCONN	Marissa Mazzett



We are so proud of our Students of the Month! They strive for success everyday and shine as stars each month. Congratulations to their parents as well.

Illing Middle School S. T. A. R. S. Award Winners



Congratulations to the following students who received a **STARS Award** at Illing Middle School over the past few months:

Bryan Rodriguez, Christopher Mager, Raymond Osbourne, Aliyah Prymus, Ama Karikari, Vaibhav Parmar, Sophia Snow, Hyunseo Lee, Esai Vazquez-Marentes, Dayjah Hicks, Jhaki Gunter, Micheal Pelletier, Ny'chzieanna Brown, Aylin Saydam, Kamila Zadroga, Amanda Baranowski, Mitchell Bouchard, Octavia Miller, Chastity Rivera, Ryan Stewart, Josiah Lewis and Tasnim Ahmed.

Did You Know?

Below is our demographic data for Illing Middle School. We boast an ethnic richness that is very special:

Hispanic: 208
 American Indian: 13
 Asian: 60
 Black: 246
 Native Hawaiian: 9
 White: 482

Special Parent Events at Illing Middle School

Mark Your Calendars

Topic/Activity	Date	Time	Location
<i>March Madness: Family Fun Night</i>	Wednesday, March 26, 2014	7:00 p.m.	Kelley Gym
<i>Muffins for Moms on a Monday in May</i>	Monday, May 12, 2014	7:15 a.m.	Faculty Dining Area

Family Fun Night at Illing Middle School!

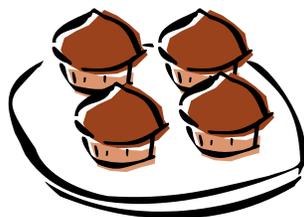
It's *March Madness*, not only with the NCAA, but at Illing Middle School. No, we are not alluding to behavioral concerns, rather to our second annual *March Madness: Family Fun Night* to be held **Wednesday, March 26, 2014**. The program begins promptly at 7:00 p.m. in the Kelley Gym where families will receive instructions for the evening's festivities. There will be relay games and specialty games for fun and sport. As famous sports commentator, Dick Vitale would say, "It's gonna be wild, baby!" So, Mom and Dad bring the kids and compete with them, or against them, as our school matches more than wits.



Illing Middle School's

Muffins for Moms on a Monday Morning in May!

Monday, May 12th, 2014 is designated as a morning for our students' moms and the Illing Middle School Principal to have some light breakfast and just chat a bit. In its second year, this is a spin-off of *Doughnuts for Dads with Dave in December*. Moms demand equal rights and muffins are the answer! Principal Welch invites his school moms to the Faculty Cafeteria (adjacent to the student cafeteria) anytime between 7:15 and 8:00 a.m. with an agenda that merely asks moms, "Whatdya think?" and "Whatup?" Come on in moms and have a muffin (or two) on a marvelous Monday morning in May with me (Dave).



LITERACY CORNER

Nancy Ahlquist, Danielle Maguire, and Claudia Millette

CONNECTICUT STATE
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION



The Coaches' Corner

Working with the "Instructional Shifts:" What Parents Can Do to Help their Children Learn

The Common Core State Standards ask teachers to make twelve major instructional "shifts" (or changes) in their classroom—six shifts in English language arts/literacy and six shifts in mathematics. These changes may be tough at first as students and teachers adjust to higher expectations. As a parent, you can help and learn more by talking with your child about what they are learning. Ask open-ended questions about what they learned in school each day, read their homework, and attend school events to learn about what their teachers expect.

This document explains some of the ways that your child's classroom is changing and how you can help; for more information, visit Connecticut State Department of Education.

The "Instructional Shifts"

English/Language Arts and Literacy	Mathematics
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read as much non-fiction as fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In each grade, study fewer concepts, but in greater depth
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn about the world by reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Build skills and knowledge across grade levels
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read more challenging material	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop speed and accuracy in simple calculations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talk about reading using "evidence" from what has been read	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop deep understanding beyond getting the answer correct
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write about texts using "evidence" from what has been read	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Think fast AND solve problems through understanding
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Know more vocabulary words	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use math to solve problems in the real world

To view more details regarding expectations for students and ideas for parents with regard to these shifts in Math, English Language Arts and literacy in other subject areas visit [www.http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/student_as](http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/student_as).



Italy

Colombia

Puerto Rico

India

Jamaica

Canada

Illing Middle School World Language Dept. Presents:

International Fun Fest

**-International Food Fair
-Talent Show
-Raffle to benefit Latin Dance Club**

Why : To showcase IMS' international diversity

When : Tuesday, April 22, 2014 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Where : IMS Cafeteria ----- Free entry

Students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian

**BRING CAN
DONATION
TO BENEFIT
MACC**

¡Gracias! Merci! Arigato! Grazie! Danke!

INTERNATIONAL FUN FEST

We are looking for international dishes to be sampled at each of the country displays.
Please fill out this form and return it
to your child's World Language teacher by April 1, 2014.

Name: _____ Country _____

Name of dish: _____

Ingredients: _____

¡Gracias! Merci! Arigato! Grazie! Danke!

Share your ethnic cuisine at the

INTERNATIONAL FUN FEST

We are looking for international dishes to be sampled at each of the country displays.
Please fill out this form and return it
to your child's World Language teacher by April 1, 2014.

Name: _____ Country _____

Name of dish: _____

Ingredients: _____

¡Gracias! Merci! Arigato! Grazie! Danke!



Illing Middle School Night!!

Friday, March 28th 2014 at 7:00pm!

Come out and support the kids as they sing in the XL Center Atrium before the game and God Bless America after the 1st Period! Tickets are only \$13 and \$5 per ticket goes to Illing Middle School for every ticket purchased!

Please contact Cheryl Hilton to order!

**Payments are due by
Wednesday, March 19th 2014**

Any questions contact:
Cheryl Hilton 860-647-3400 or Email:
B21chilt@manchesterct.gov
<mailto:butzy2@comcast.net>

Name: _____ **Event:** Hartford Wolf Pack vs. Springfield Falcons

of tickets X **\$13** =Total \$ _____ **Payment method** CHECK or CASH

***Please pay by cash or make checks payable to Illing Middle School**

Order your

Illing Middle School yearbook!!!

Dear Parents and Students,

The 2011/2012 Illing Middle School yearbook is in FULL COLOR and is packed full of the memories you never want to forget.

Order **NOW**, before they sell out!

Ordering Options:

Option 1: Fill out the form below and return it with your payment enclosed, to your child's teacher.

Option 2: Order Online, and avoid having to send cash to school with your child. Go to www.JostensYearbooks.com, find (your school name) and place your order easily and quickly!

Book Price: \$25.00



Order NOW, don't get left without a book.

Yearbooks have sold out in the past, so make sure you get yours!

Fill out this form and return the envelope, with your payment enclosed, to your child's teacher ASAP.

*Student Name: _____ *Homebase Teacher: _____

Grade: _____

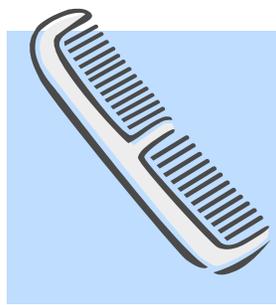
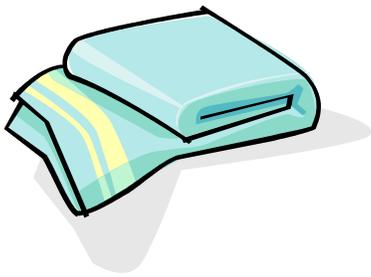
TEAM NAME:

Order Info:

Yearbook: Qty _____ @ (Price) \$25.00 per book

Total Enclosed _____

*REQUIRED INFORMATION



“Health Kits for Hope”

Please donate:

- * Hand Towels
- * Washcloths
- * Wide-Tooth Combs
- * Nail Clippers
- * Soap, bath size
- * Toothbrushes

Collection Ends March 17, 2014

Please drop items off in Illing Cafeteria.

Cash donations to help cover the \$2 per kit shipping costs may be brought to the school office. Make checks out to “Illing Middle School — Health Kits”.

**Illing Middle School
Marking Period Schedule
2013-2014**

Please mark your calendar with the following dates for marking periods, progress reports and report cards.

Dates are based on original schedule set according to the school district calendar

Note: dates below are **pending snow days or other unanticipated closures:** In the event of a closure we will go to the 'plus system' where the **deadline date(s)** will adjust one day/per to accommodate closure.

Dates below are to-date and reflect our current "PLUS + 5 snow days"

1st Quarter August 28, 2013 to October 31, 2013

- September 27, 2013 Progress Report quarter closes
- October 2, 2013 Progress Report deadline to enter grades/comments by 3:00 p.m.
- October 31, 2013 Report Card quarter closes
- November 4, 2013 Report Card deadline to enter grades/comments by 3:00 p.m.

2nd Quarter November 4, 2013 to January 21, 2014

- December 5, 2013 Progress Report quarter closes
- December 10, 2013 Progress Report deadline to enter grades/comments by 3:00 p.m.
- **January 3, 2014 (Snow Day 1)**
- January 21, 2014 Report Card quarter closes
- January 24, 2014 Report Card deadline to enter grades/comments by 3:00 p.m.

3rd Quarter January 22, 2014 to April 4, 2014

- **February 3-5, 2014 (Snow Day 2 & 3)**
- **February 13-14, 2014 (Snow Day 4 & 5)**
- March 5, 2014 Progress Report quarter closes
- March 10, 2014 Progress Report deadline to enter grades/comments by 3:00 p.m.
- **March 12 – 13 Parent Conferences**
- April 4, 2014 Report Card quarter closes
- April 9, 2014 Report Card deadline to enter grades/comments by 3:00 p.m.
- **April 14 -18 Vacation (barring snow storms)**

4th Quarter April 7, 2014 to June 18, 2014

- May 13, 2014 Progress Report quarter closes
- May 16, 2014 Progress Report deadline to enter grades/comments by 3:00 p.m.
- **May 26 Memorial Day Weekend**
- June 13, 2014 Report Card quarter closes
- June 18, 2014 Report Card deadline to enter grades/comments by 3:00 p.m.
- **June 19, 2014 Graduation per superintendent**

***Last Day of School (pending snow days): June 19, 2014 * NOTE* Official last day is adjusted.**