



Tomah Middle School



April 2021 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Spring is finally here, and the 3rd quarter has come to an end. With all the students back in school and spring sports in full swing, we are excited for the many opportunities for our students. Parents of 6th and 7th grade students, information will be coming home very soon regarding registration for next year.



We have so many great things taking place at TMS. To the left is an image of our back-to-back State Championship for vocabulary words mastered. We are working on a three-peat! It is nice to see the kids outside enjoying our spring weather and learning.



It is always a great time in 7th grade math classes when they have a little fun with PI (3.14)! The activity is educational, challenging, and includes winning a pie. Check out Wyatt's excitement as his smile says it all.



With the 4th quarter upon us, we look forward to making the rest of this school year fantastic while planning for next year. Parents of 8th grade students, we thank you for all you have done along the way and wish you and your children all the best as you look to begin their high school journey.

Again, we want to thank you for all the support you have provided your child through this historic year in education. If you ever have a question regarding your child's success at TMS, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or our offices so we can assist you.

Sincerely,

Michael Chapes
Principal

Amy Langner
Assistant Principal

NEWS FROM THE TEAMS

Northstars (Team 6-1) Mr. Kirschbaum

April is a very busy month for the 6th graders. This month we are all together, and we are all adjusting to the new normal. During April, the students will be spending time on the Forward exam. Please remind your child to charge their chromebook each night. The teachers and students will be working together to finish this last quarter successfully. We will be working on cooperative projects and in class participation which will enhance their learning. If you have any question or need information about your child's school experience, please email the teacher with whom you need to communicate.

Sky-High Learners (Team 6-2) Mrs. Rabe

April showers will bring these topics of study for our students.

Math—Dividing fractions leading into the study of ratios

Our Forward exam is the week of April 12th.

Social Studies—1920's and Great Depression

ELA—Book Clubs

Our Forward exam is the week of April 29th.

Science— Chemistry, and Matter

If you child does not have earbuds, please purchase a pair for State testing. They do not have to be expensive. Students may also bring a healthy snack for the testing times.

Leading the Pack! (Team 7-1) Mr. Manke

Math: We will be starting Unit 5: Proportional Reasoning and ending the month taking the math portion of the Forward exam. We learned how to write and solve multi-step equations and inequalities. In April, we will be learning how to solve problems involving percent, percent change, and percent error, as well as understanding probability. We will be taking the math portion of the Forward exam this month as well, so please have students bring earbuds/headphones to school with them.

ELA: We learned how to turn pros and cons into an argument essay. In April, we will be starting our historical fiction book clubs.

Science: We finished our work on cells and will be adventuring into the fields of genetics. We will then explore the human body systems. In May we look forward to working with plants.

Social Studies: Students concluded their study of geography and are now on the verge of the transition to civics and government. In 4th quarter, they will explore the influential documents, colonial decisions, and construction of our U.S. Constitution. They will also explore the three branches of government and how they work.

The 72'ers (Team 7-2) Mr. Ewers

Hello and Happy Spring!

The school year is flying by and the final quarter has begun! We have a great end of the school year planned with projects, activities and (hopefully) fieldtrips. The month of April will be a busy one as the science classes will be learning about the immune and digestive systems, Social Studies will be investigating the American Revolution and colonial influences on the governmental system, and Math and Language Arts will be completing the state testing. Forward testing for ELA will conclude March 31st, and math testing will be April 19th-22nd. Once testing is completed, math classes will be working with geometry and ELA will finish year with Historical Fiction Book Clubs.

The 22Pushup Challenge for April

Did you know there are so many combat veterans struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) that approximately 22 veterans lose their lives to mental health issues each day. The #22PushupChallenge was started by the veteran empowerment group Honor Courage Commitment. The group's movement works to build a community of support for veterans and raise awareness for the mental health challenges they face.

Mr. Brieske is nominating Tomah Middle School to take on the 22 Pushup Challenge in April. We will complete 11 pushups to start each day and 11 to end each day. However you do them – perfect plank form taking your whole body down together, or the elevated push against a chair or table is fine. You can even do more than 1 set if needed as long as you do them.

We will begin on Thursday, April 1st and continue thru Friday, April 30th. You are also encouraged to share this with others at home what you are doing and why you are doing it. Maybe even nominate mom, dad, brother, sister or neighbor to do this with you!!!

Finally, have fun with this challenge. This is a simple and fun way to get the word out about a matter more people need to be aware. These brave men and women put their lives on the line to protect our freedoms. They are not alone and let's show them.

Finally, Mr. Ewers will be hosting a meeting on Wednesday, May 12th at 6:00 p.m. in room 220 at Tomah Middle School regarding the 2022 summer Florida Science trip. If you are interested in more information, please contact him at 374-7938.

Thank you for working with us to create a great end-of-the-school year.

Steve Ewers (Team Leader), Jeff Brieske, Cathy Brookman, Stephanie Hove

The Rockin'Roosters (Team 8-1) Mrs. Hruska

It sure is great to see so many students filling our classrooms! We are working hard to provide the safest learning environment for everyone, and we appreciate your trust. April is a busy month with state testing. Please be sure your 8th grader is getting plenty of rest.

Here's what you can expect to hear about when you ask about what's going on in class:

Math: We are going to be exploring systems of linear equations and reviewing how to graph lines. We are going to learn that we can solve them algebraically or by graphing them.

Science: Students will be working in pairs while they complete what is called the "Chromobug Project" for the genetics unit. Students will be learning about mitosis/meiosis, genes, Punnett squares and how the environment may affect a species through adaptations. Students will then begin discussing and learning about how we as humans impact the environments we live in.

Social Studies: Students will be learning about and exploring Middle Eastern geography and history.

ELA: Students will be reading and writing poetry. They will end the unit by creating a book of their favorite poems.

The Survivors (Team 8-2) Mr. Balz

The first few days of 4th quarter have been quite an adjustment for students and teachers alike. We hope everyone enjoys their spring break, and students come back refreshed and ready to finish out the year strong. This is a reminder that April is when students will be taking many of their state Forward tests. Please be sure our child gets a good night's sleep, eats breakfast, and charges their Chromebooks every night. Also, please keep updated on their grades. As we like to remind students, the way they end 8th grade sets the tone for how they begin freshman year of high school. We want students ending the year strong, with all of their work turned in, so they carry over those habits into high school and beyond. Please reach out to the team if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you!

COUNSELORS' CORNER



TOMAH MIDDLE SCHOOL
APRIL / 2021

APRIL AWARENESS DATES

4/2: World Autism Day
4/8: Holocaust Remembrance Day
4/12-16: National Youth Violence
Prevention Week
4/22: Earth Day
4/23: Day of Silence

Alcohol Awareness Month
Child Abuse Prevention Month
Counseling Awareness Month
Drop Everything and Read Month
Month of the Military Child
National Autism Awareness Month
National STD Awareness Month
School Library Month
Sexual Assault Awareness and
Prevention Month

APRIL 2021

Your school counselors:

- Ms. Windl: 6th grade and 8th graders last name A-K.
- Ms. Hayes: 7th grade and 8th graders last names L-Z.

During the month of March, our 7th graders explored career paths. They took personality inventories that matched them to their potential career interests. Students spent time learning about different pathways available after they graduate from high school and various biases (race, gender, ability, class) in careers. Career-educational classroom lessons with 6th graders will be occurring in April.

We are still collecting donations for our "Summer Love" book drive. Our goal is to donate 60 Summer Love bags and 211 books for our 2021-22 incoming 6th grade class. If you have any questions, please reach out to Autumn Hayes at 608-374-7887 or AutumnHayes@tomah.education. We will be running our campaign through May 6th. Learn more about our campaign and contribute:

["Summer Love" Book Campaign Link](#)

Thank you for all do you!

Paula Stevenson-DiBenedetto (TMS Library Aide) & Autumn Hayes (TMS School Counselor)



Resources:

[Kids' Mental Health Tech Tools for Suicide Help, Coping Skills, and Professional Support](#)

APRIL 2021 EVENTS

Note: Please verify dates and times for sporting events on the website as they are subject to change.

Thursday, April 1

Early Dismissal 1:18 p.m.

Friday, April 2-
Tuesday, April 6

No School – Spring Break



Wednesday, April 7

School Resumes

Thursday, April 8

Bridging Brighter Smiles here

Thursday, April 15

Consider wearing **purple** – Month of the Military Child
Bridging Brighter Smiles here

Monday, April 19

Track & Field 6th-8th Dual @Westby High School 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 20

Boys' Tennis vs. Aquinas @THS Schroeder Field - 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 22

Bridging Brighter Smiles here
Boys' Tennis @Onalaska Middle School 4:30 p.m.

Friday, April 23

8th grade Softball vs. Viroqua @THS Schroeder Field - 4:45 p.m.
7th grade Softball vs. Viroqua @THS – 4:45 p.m.

Monday, April 26

Track & Field vs. Sparta – THS 4:00 p.m.
8th grade Softball @Onalaska 4:30 p.m.
7th grade Softball @Onalaska 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 27

Boys' Tennis vs. Aquinas @Green Island Tennis Courts 4:30 p.m.

Friday, April 30

End of 4 ½ week classes
8th grade Softball vs. West Salem – THS 4:15 p.m.
7th grade Softball vs. West Salem – THS Schroeder Field – 4:15 p.m.