

Dear Parents,

I would like to congratulate our Star Students for the month of September: Caitlyn Lamothe, Devin Puccio, Mairead Boulay, Milayel Banerji, Elliot Hurier and Brody Crafa.

Star Students are nominated by any staff member who recognizes a student performing an act of kindness toward another student or staff member.

I am very pleased that our school year is off to a great start.

Picture Day was September 20th and all went well. The makeup day for student pictures is **Friday, November 1st**.

MCAS

Congratulations to the students and staff at the middle school for being recognized by the state as one of the few middle schools to achieve a high rate of growth on the MCAS test. Only 67 schools in the Commonwealth received this recognition. We are very proud of everyone's effort as this was a whole team accomplishment.

Student ID's

All students will be issued new student ID's in the next two weeks. We ask parents to work with us to make sure that the student ID's are worn in school every day. The new ID will be bar coded for students to use at lunch. In addition, we have provided three phone numbers on the back of the ID card, our school number in case the card is lost, a Samaritan Suicide Prevention Hotline and a Substance Abuse Hotline. These phone numbers are listed to provide students and parents any additional supports that may be required.

Chromebooks

All students, grades 5-8, were trained in Chromebook safety and care. Mr. Serino created a 20 minute presentation for students on how to properly care for their chromebooks.

Evacuation Drill

On Friday, September 27th at approximately 8:30 am the Stoneham Central Middle School participated in an **EVACUATION DRILL. This was a practice drill.** In our continuing efforts to provide a safe and secure Stoneham Central Middle School, students, teachers and staff practiced this evacuation drill in conjunction with the Stoneham Police and Fire Departments. This exercise was to practice an evacuation in the event that a situation should occur would require us to evacuate the school. We will continue to run fire drills, ALICE training drills and evacuation drills during the school year.

TALK IT UP TUESDAYS

I hope you enjoyed our first Talk it Up Tuesday that was sent out earlier this month. We will continue to send out Talk it Up Tuesday videos twice a month. The next segment will be sent out on October first. We will video classrooms, students, staff and activities to try to give parents a snapshot into the everyday life of the middle school.

Grade Five News

As part of their Constitution Day lessons, the fifth grade memorized and then during lunch performed the Preamble of the Constitution to the tune of Schoolhouse Rocks.

Grade Six News

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 - October 15) Spanish 6, 6A & 7A have made posters of famous Latinos/Hispanics and their contributions. They are posted between rooms 224 & 226. I encourage all to take a look and mention this to your students.

Grade 7 News

7th graders participated in mock archaeological digs in their Social Studies classes this week. The dig is based off of an actual dig done in Boston during the "Big Dig." Through the activity, students investigated the life of a Puritan family and drew conclusions based on the artifacts they discovered.

LIBRARY

The Central Middle School library is open to all students! We offer a range of materials, from nonfiction books and online databases to help your students with their school work, to a collection of fiction and graphic novels for your child's pleasure reading. There's also work space and a tech lab where classes come during the day to receive instruction on how to best use the library's resources.

Homework Club: The library will be hosting an afternoon homework club for students of all grades! Encourage your children to take advantage of the library's space and resources to get class work done, including desktop computers that can be used to print assignments. The homework club will meet every Tuesday and Thursday in the library from 2:50pm to 3:20pm, starting the first week of October.

Below you will find a description of our clubs and the times they will meet.

Video Explorers	Mr. Daniels	Mondays 2:45-3:45
Tennis	Mr. Beltram	Mondays 2:50-3:50
Walking Club	Mrs. Belanger	Tuesdays, Wednesdays,
Chess Club	Mr. Havican	Tuesdays 2:45-3:45
Jazz	Mr. Simboski	Tuesdays 3:00-4:00
Math Team	Mr. Drago	Thursdays 2:45-3:45
Band	Mr. Simboski	Thursdays 3:00-4:00
Flute	Ms. Sousa	Thursdays 3:00-4:00

The Walking Club will meet on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, depending on the weather. The Makeup Day will be held on Thursday. This is a great way for students to get some fresh air and exercise.

Video Explorers- This class is 10 weeks from 2:45-4:15. The final class will be at Stoneham TV. Each session is limited to 14 students. Students must commit to all sessions . Please see Mr. Daniels for more details.

Intramurals with the exception of Robotics and Video Explorers will run 2:45- 3:45

PLEASE NOTE ON EARLY RELEASE DAYS THE MIDDLE SCHOOL WILL DISMISS AT 11:45am.

PTO NEWS

The SCMS PTO distributes information, the PTO newsletter, and other school news electronically. If you would like to receive this information please sign up at:

<https://www.groupvine.com/stoneham-middle-school/@@apply>.

The PTO could use your assistance at school events and with planning activities this year. There are many ways you can support the SCMS PTO. If you are interested in volunteering please contact us at: <http://stonehampto@gmail.com>

The Stoneham Central Middle School P.T.O. has a Facebook group. This is a closed group for families of current SCMS students. It is managed by the PTO, but open to all current SCMS families: <http://facebook.com/groups/StonehamCentralMiddleSchoolPTO/>

The SCMS PTO would like to thank those who have supported the PTO Donation Drive.

IMPORTANT DATES IN OCTOBER:

Friday, October 11th- **EARLY RELEASE 11:45 DISMISSAL LUNCHES WILL NOT BE SERVED**

Monday, October 14th – No School Columbus Day

Thursday, October 31st- **EARLY RELEASE 11:45 DISMISSAL LUNCHES WILL NOT BE SERVED**

PLEASE VISIT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL WEBSITE TO ACCESS OUR MONTHLY SCHOOL CALENDAR. DAYS TWO and FIVE ARE DAYS THAT BAND AND CHORUS MEET DURING ACTIVITY PERIOD.

Mrs. Fulmer and I will continue to update you via email throughout the year. Please feel free to call us with any questions or concerns.

Christopher Banos

Principal SCMS