

news

Menlo Park Academy
Grades 5-8

Upcoming Field Trips & Events:

1/27--Mrs. Theiss' Advisory will be starting a clothing drive. More information will come soon!

1/31 - Kennedy/Weber Trip to Cleveland Food Bank

2/2--6th-8th Grade Math classes will be traveling to see the play "Eureka!"

2/6 - Kiddey's Advisory to volunteer at Medwish International (Service Learning)

2/21 - Invention Convention!

- The convention opens to parents and friends from 3-4:30 at St. Mel's Hall. The award ceremony promptly begins at 4:00pm. Please plan on allowing your child to stay until 4:30.
- More information will be sent home with your child Feb 3.

1/18- Power of the Pen

Congratulations to the following students who placed at the district meet:

Claire Forrestal - 6th place

Emily Carroccio - 14th place and Best of Best Winner

Jasmine Hannah-Funk 18th place



Menlo Park Academy
Developing the Potential of Gifted Learners

Teacher Talk:

LANGUAGE ARTS:

- **Mrs. Belko** -
- News - Miss Bethany Spirakus, a CSU student, will be completing her student teaching experience with Mrs. Belko's 6th grade language arts classes. More information about Miss Spirakus is forthcoming.
- **6th grade** is currently reading *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, a memoir by William Kamkwamba.
- **7th & 8th** grade students engaged in performance -based exploration of William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*.
- **High School English** - Students are exploring the dystopian and speculative fiction of William Golding in *The Lord of the Flies*.
- **Ms. Shuder**
 - Science fair background reports are due January 22nd. Please use the long weekend to help your child edit their paper. Rubrics will also be sent home to ensure all requirements are met.

MATH:

- **Mrs. Theiss**
 - Fifth Grade
 - This week, students are continuing to find different measures of central tendency. They will begin to interpret and represent data beginning next week.
 - Sixth Grade
 - This week, students began to represent three-dimensional figures using nets made up of rectangles and triangles, and used the nets to find the surface area of these figures. They then applied these techniques in the context of solving real-world and mathematical problems.

Advisory News:

Mrs. Eby's advisory could use clean #6 plastics for making recycled art

Mrs. Weber's advisory please make sure to turn in your permission slips for the Food Bank. - Due ASAP

Mrs. Belko's advisory will be going on a field trip to Cuyahoga Valley National

Mr. Burton

- 5th grade
 - Will continue to work on measures of Central Tendency and look at displaying them in graphs
- 7th grade
 - Students will begin to look at perimeter and area of geometrical shapes
- 8th grade
 - Will begin to work with functions and graphing/Supplemental materials accompany Singapore math
- Geometry
 - Geometry will continue to work on similarity in and have a quiz

Park on Feb. 19th and 20th. Please look for permission slips and volunteer forms to come home this Friday.

Mr. Kiddey's Advisory:

There are two forms going home for our MedWish trip:

- (1) MPA's Parent Permission Slip, and
 - (2) MedWish's Liability Form
- Please have both returned to Mr. Kiddey by Tuesday, Jan 28.

Projects:

5h Grade Language Arts
(Shuder)-Science Fair Background
Research Reports Due

Weber 7/8th Social Studies - Test on
Chapters 11, 12 and 13 will be 2/4

Service Learning

Trimester Two Service Projects :

Belko - Cuyahoga Valley Nat. Park
Burton - Shoes & Clothes for Kids
Cook - Men's shelter goods drive
Eby - Cuyahoga Valley Nat. Park
Kennedy - Cleveland Foodbank
Kiddey - Medwish International
Kneidel - Shoes & Clothes for Kids
Macey - Cuyahoga Valley Nat. Park
O'Donnell - Laura's Home Drive
Theiss - Laura's Home Drive
Weber - Cleveland Foodbank

Please keep your eye open for field trip permission slips. Advisory teachers will send them home with students to have signed. Each will detail the logistics of the trip. If you want to learn more contact your child's advisory teacher for trip details.

MPA's Service Learning Program is designed to empower students to use their gifts/talents to be the change they want to see in the world. Each advisory will choose a new service project to work on each trimester. Students also learn the deeper reasons

- Algebra 2
 - Will finish working with radicals and functions and take a test
- Math club
 - We will hold our in school math competition for MATHCOUNTS in preparation of the upcoming competitions.
 - Students will be able to compete in MATHCOUNTS on 2/15
 - Students Will also be able to compete in GCCTM math competition 5 and 6 on 2/22 and 7 and 8 on 4/8

Social Studies:

- **Ms. Shuder**
 - All Egyptian Projects should have been turned in. They will be graded and returned to your child by early next week.
- **Mrs. Weber**
 - 7th/8th Grade American History:
 - This week the students have been studying how foreign affairs impact our young Nation
 - Students will be ask to advise the Presidents (Adams, Jefferson, Madison, and Monroe) on Foreign Affairs and the directions they should take.
 - Upcoming Assignments: TEST on Feb. 4th
 - Study guides will go out Monday (1/27)
 - Test will cover Chapters 13, 14, and 15
 - 9th Grade American History:
 - Students have begun studying the 1920s popular culture
 - Duke Ellington, Bessie Smith, Flapper Culture, Babe Ruth just to name a few.
 - Students will also be learning how to do the Charleston.
 - Students had their first Reading Check on wednesday to see how well they took notes. Score will be out of 26 points, and be on progress book by the end of the week.

SCIENCE

- **Mrs. Eby**
 - 5th & 6th Grade Science:
 - We are beginning a new unit on energy transformations and renewable vs. nonrenewable energy sources. This unit will teach students the principles of energy generation and spark discussions about America's energy future. The unit will culminate in a wind turbine project where students will be making and testing their own blades for a wind turbine.
 - Biology:
 - We are finishing up our unit on evolution and launching into classification of living organisms.
- **Mr. Kiddey**
 - **Grade 7 & 8 Science:** Students have been studying properties of element as described on the periodic table. We have started our discussion on co-valent bonding and will begin constructing molecules next week. This will lead into ionic bonding and chemical reactions over the next few weeks.

and misfortunes behind the causes of their projects. For more information or project ideas please contact Ryan Kiddey at ryan.kiddey@menloparkacademy.com.

- **Invention Convention:** Please make sure to follow the pacing calendar. Student have should be finished with their guiding questions, possible solutions (SWOT), and now are working on their draft plan, materials list, and instruction list. **They must begin tinkering around with construction this weekend.**

- *IC Workshops are held EVERY TUESDAY during second trimester, except days school is closed. Please have your student take advantage of this.*

- **Engineering:**
 - Students are constructing robotic arms. They are learning the basics of how robotic arms work as well as the their connection with human arms.
- **Entrepreneurship (ENT):**
 - Students will determine which product to sell this week. In addition to that they will decide which charity to donate their net profits to. We will begin working on marketing campaigns next week.