

CARTER BUZZ

CARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

APRIL 2021



OWEN'S ORACLE~

We have entered home stretch for the school year. The calendar is filling up with end of year activities such as choral and band concerts, cheer and dance tryouts, and much more. The highly anticipated TN Ready testing returns this year. The dates are April 21-May 7. Students will take tests on the 4 core subjects of Math, Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. Please see the school website for detailed information, actual test dates, and times for both in person and virtual students. While we want each student to do their best on the test, please remind your student that this is not something they should be stressed about. Tips to help your student during this season are included on page 2 of this newsletter.



The Vape Saga continues. I know it is important to tweens to be in on the current trends but this is one they need to avoid. Aside from being in violation of school policy as well as the law, there are numerous health risks as well.

What are E-cigarettes? According to the Centers of Disease and Control (CDC): E-cigarettes are electronic devices that heat a liquid and produce an aerosol, or mix of small particles in the air. E-cigarettes come in many shapes and sizes. Most have a battery, a heating element, and a place to hold a liquid.

I would encourage you to have a conversation with your student about the consequences of using an E-cigarette or Vape. For parent resources and more information about Knox County's policy on vaping, please see the link below.

[School Culture / Vaping Information \(knoxschools.org\)](https://www.knoxschools.org/school-culture/vaping-information)

Jack Owen
Principal



Good Luck On That Test

Well—Today is the day
You'll be picking your brain
Looking for knowledge
You've tried to retain

Soon you'll be facing
Those questions you dread
And hoping right answer
Match what's in your head

All you can do though
Is to give it your best
Just like you always do
Good luck on that test!

-Louise Hernan

STANLEY'S SECTION~

Spring is a time to celebrate rebirth and renewal. So, let's refocus on the things that Middle Schoolers must accomplish before the end of the year, TCAPs and end of the year testing such as finals. We, the administration and teachers at Carter Middle School, will do all we can to help your child continue to prepare for these important tests. However, we need your help. If you have not seen your child's report card, please log onto parent portal to check your child's grades. Also, please check the Carter Middle School website and your child's teachers' website for upcoming test dates and assignments. The "Middle Years" are hard! Please take time out of your day to celebrate learning with your child. Before you know it, the 2020-2021 school year will be over, spring will be gone, and summer will have begun. If you have additional questions regarding your child's grades, please e-mail your child's teacher or call the school to schedule a parent/teacher conference. It has been a pleasure to work with your student this school year. Have a great remainder of the school year.

Jennifer Stanley
7th Grade Assistant Principal
#HORNETPRIDE



RAMSEY'S REVIEW~

Hello Hornet Family,

It's hard to believe, but once again we are at the end of the year. This summer we will be offering summer learning camp at Carter Middle for rising 6-8 grade students. Camp will be June 1-28 from 8:00-2:00. This will include 4 hours of reading/math, 1 hour of intervention, and 1 hour of physical activity. I want to thank you for making this very difficult year a success. We have overcome many obstacles and this is a testament to your continued support and encouragement.

GO HORNETS!!!!

Joey Ramsey
8th Grade Assistant Principal

TEST TAKING STRATEGIES

As we approach the TN Ready testing window, it is important to have a plan to boost your student's confidence and help her do her best. Here are some test tips to use when taking a standardized test.

1. Reassure your student that he or she does not have to answer all of the questions correctly to pass. Knowing they aren't expected to be perfect will minimize the stress related to test taking.
2. Encourage your student to answer all of the questions and not leave any blank. Share with them to eliminate the answers they know are wrong first because it will increase their chance of selecting the correct answer if they are forced to guess.
3. Remind your student that the test is important.
4. Encourage your student to use their time wisely. Explain that they should not spend too much time on a single question. Make a best guess or place a mark in the test booklet to return to after finishing that section of the test.
5. A good night's sleep the night before and a good breakfast is important before taking the test.
6. Keep the mood light and relaxed the morning of the test.
7. Get your student to school on time the day of the test. Getting them there late will throw off their routine and disrupt testing for other students.
8. Students need to listen carefully to the instructions. Encourage them to read every passage and question at least two times. Slow down, trust your instincts, and give your best effort.
9. Focus is the word of the day. Remain focused on the test even if others have finished early.
10. Encourage your student to mark all of the answers as instructed on the answer sheet. Remind them to stay within the circle and to erase any stray marks completely.

We want the students to do their best on the test but remind them that this is only one measure of their performance in school.

(Essential Standardized Test Taking Tips for Parents; Meador, Derrick, 1/14/20)

April is Autism Awareness Month

Autism, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD), refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication. We know that there is not one autism but many subtypes, most influenced by a combination of genetic and environmental factors.

Additional information:

World Autism Awareness Day is Friday April 2nd

[Light it up Blue in recognition of people with Autism]



Fundraising Opportunity

To Use the Kroger Community Rewards Program: Visit <http://www.kroger.com>. Once logged into your Kroger account you can search for Carter Middle School either by name or BB167 and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a *rewards* card.

*Customers must have a registered Kroger *rewards* card account to link to your organization.

*If a member does not yet have a Kroger *rewards* card, please let them know they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger

REMEMBER, purchases will not count for your organization until after your participants register their *rewards* card.

Participants must swipe their registered Kroger *rewards* card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Kroger *rewards* card when shopping for each purchase to count.



From the Clinic:

Attention Parents of Rising 7th Graders:

Make your appointment now for 7th grade vaccinations!

Rising 7th graders are required to have a Tdap and the 2nd Varicella vaccination prior to the start of 7th grade. This includes all in-person **AND** virtual learners. Vaccinations must be documented on a TN Department of Health Certificate of Immunization form and submitted to the school office. If a student is exempt from receiving vaccinations due to a medical reason, a parent/guardian shall provide a note from the medical provider. If a student is exempt from receiving vaccinations due to religious beliefs, the parent/guardian must provide a written statement.

Please email Nurse Morgan with any questions.

davina.morgan@knoxschools.org

COUNSELOR'S CORNER~

Put Your Child on The Path to a Great Career

TOP
10

Tips for Middle School Parents

Middle school is an excellent time for students to explore their career options.

Here are 10 ways you can help your middle schooler begin to plan for the future.

1. Talk about favorite school subject(s)

Consider the subjects your child enjoys and think about those subjects in terms of possible careers.

2. Identify strengths

Help your child figure out what he/she is good at. Remember, there are many talents that aren't measured in school (e.g., creativity, the ability to work with people, leadership).

3. Talk about values

Ask your child to think about what would be important to him/her in a career. Helping others? Good pay? Independence? Making a difference? Talk to your child about your values, and about how they shaped your career choices.

4. Encourage involvement

Find activities that will help your child develop his/her skills, talents, and interests (e.g., sports, clubs, volunteering, hobbies).

5. Discuss the importance of education

Most careers require education and/or training beyond high school. While there are many factors that will determine the kinds of opportunities your child will have in life, the biggest determining factor is education. Encourage your child to do his/her best in school, and to plan on continuing his/her education after high school.

6. Discuss the importance of soft skills

Employers are looking for people who have good communication skills, work well with others, and are good at problem-solving.

7. Research careers of interest

Visit the Occupational Outlook Handbook online at www.bls.gov/ooh. Look up careers your child is interested in. Find out what these careers entail, how much they pay, and what kind of education they require.

8. Talk about your career path

Talk to your child about what you wanted to be when you were his/her age, and how your mind changed over the years. Encourage your child to also ask other family members about their careers. What do they do? How did they prepare for their career? What do they like/dislike about their career?

9. Arrange a job shadow

Help your child find someone to follow around and observe at work. This can be you, a family member, a co-worker, or a friend.

10. Consider an interest assessment

If your child would like some help figuring out what career areas might be a good fit for him/her, taking the short interest test at careeronestop.org may give your child some ideas.

At this point in your child's life, career exploration should be something you can do together that's interesting and fun. You're not trying to find the "perfect" career—you're just identifying career fields to learn about and investigate.

beth.kyburz@knoxschools.org 6th grade
7th grade M-Z

tanya.france@knoxschools.org 8th grade
7th grade A-L

Library News -

Nonfiction reading: The real deal

What can your tween learn from nonfiction?

- A. Information to use in school
- B. How to reach personal goals
- C. Ways to handle tough situations
- D. All of the above

The answer? D! Here's how your child can take advantage of what nonfiction has to offer.

Explore school subjects

Suggest that your middle grader check out nonfiction library books related to topics she studies in school. She might find a travel guide to a place she's learning about in history or a book of fun chemistry experiments to try at home. Reading these books will put facts in context and deepen her understanding of topics.

Learn new skills

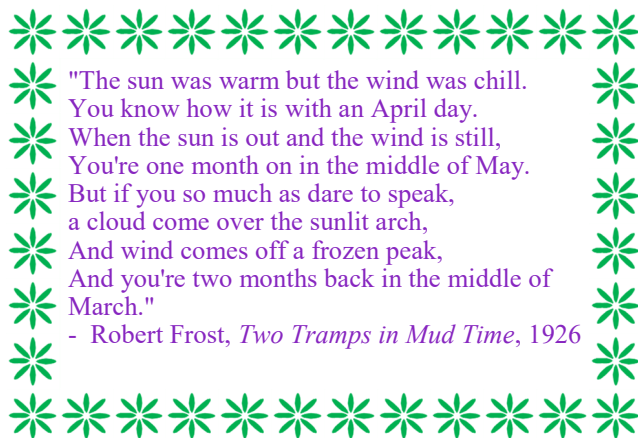
Maybe our tween dreams of becoming a singer or wants to learn how to quilt. Visit the library, and let her find how-to books that will help. She could discover vocal exercises to improve her range or step-by-step quilting instructions with photos.

Gain perspective

A friendship dilemma, a divorce, the loss of a pet... no matter what your child goes through, there's likely a book that can make a difference. Search the library database together, or ask a librarian for recommendations. Your child might read a self-help book for tweens or a biography of a famous person who faced a similar situation.

Bonus: Reading nonfiction will give your tween plenty of new things to talk about during conversations.

—Middle Years, April 2020



@Your School Library
**Everyone
Belongs**
APRIL IS SCHOOL
LIBRARY MONTH
www.ala.org/aasl/slm



National Poetry Month

April 2021 marks the 25th annual celebration of poets and poetry.



There are also a ton of new ebook titles available through MackinVIA. Visit the Library page of the CMS website or the library Canvas course for access to all the books and more!

Rachel Smith
Librarian - Carter Middle School

FOOD  CITY

SCHOOL
Bucks
Challenge



Link your ValuCard

and EARN

\$CASH

for your school



NEW

**CHECK YOUR POINTS
ONLINE!**

Link your account online at
foodcity.com/schoolbucks





* Please note, linking at checkout
is no longer available.



April 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Good Friday No School	3
4 	5 Inservice Day Student Holiday	6	7	8	9 Holocaust Remembrance Day	10
	12 Drop Everything & Read Day	13 Spring Picture Day 	14	15 Last day to pay using a personal check	16 National Librarian Day	17
18	19	20 Chorus Concert 6th @6:00 7&8 @7:15	21	22 Band Concert 6th@6:00 7&8@7:00	23	24
		*****TN READY TESTING*****				
25	26	27 School Bus Drivers Day	28	29	30	
*****TN READY TESTING*****						

**World Autism
Awareness Day**

April 2, 2021

