

CARTER BUZZ

CARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 2020

OWEN'S ORACLE~



Hello Parents and Families,

Attendance:

We have been hit hard with flu the past few weeks. Because of this, we are falling short of our attendance goal which is 95% or better. This cannot be helped when we are hit with unexpected illness. We need you to turn in doctor's notes and /or notes excusing students from absences. Please insist that your students wash their hands often. Eating healthy will also help them fight illness. Parents, only with your help will we reach our attendance goal of 95% or better this school year.

Please click the link below to see more about how attendance impacts student achievement.

<https://www.attendanceworks.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/5-Key-Findings-MG-Final.pdf>

Immunizations for Next Year:

Updated immunizations are required for Sixth graders moving up to Seventh grade. Sixth grade parents, as you take your student to the doctor this spring and summer, please ask your physician to update your child's immunizations. Once you get the immunization record updated, then send a copy to the school.

Parents Beware of the Vape:

It seems like vaping is becoming a fascination for some high school and middle school students. It has been a problem at the high school level for a year or so around the county. Now it is starting to seep down to middle schools, including Carter Middle. The problem is that it appears that it could cause some serious health problems. 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. Please see the link below for more information about Knox County's policy on vaping.

<https://www.knoxschools.org/Page/21567>

Testing:

We are entering that time of year! TN Ready testing will take place in approximately 3 months! It is never too early to express to students the importance of taking these tests seriously and taking their school work seriously. This test can impact students' future class placement and allows us as educators to get a snapshot of our strength and areas to improve. Please talk with your child about the importance of the testing process.

PTSA:

The faculty would like to thank our PTSA for their efforts in raising money to help our school. The amount of time and effort they put forth does not go unnoticed! Thanks to Cruze Farms for being a supporter of Carter Middle School. They have been more than generous with donations and fundraising!!

Jack Owen,
Principal

STANLEY'S SECTION~

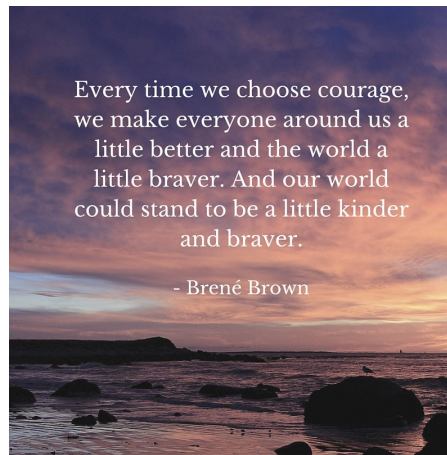
To the 7th Grade Parents/Guardians

February is Black History Month. Carter G. Woodson is known as the "Father of Black History". He started "Negro History Week" in 1926 during the second week of February to commemorate the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglas. This week has now evolved into a month long celebration.

Carter Middle School would like to remember those famous African Americans from the state of Tennessee who have made a contribution to the United States of America: Chris Blue, Judge Joe Brown, The Clinton Twelve, Aretha Franklin, Nikki Giovanni, Rev. Al Green, Alex Haley, Isaac Hayes, Benjamin Hook, B.B. King, Wilma Rudolph, Bessie Smith, Tina Turner, Ida B. Wells, and Oprah Winfrey. These are just a few names to remember.

Please note that Black History Month is American history and should be celebrated 365 days of the year and not just during the month of February.

Jennifer Stanley
7th Grade Assistant Principal



RAMSEY'S REVIEW~

Hello Carter Family,

We are already into the 2nd part of the year and there is a lot happening at Carter Middle school. Please help and encourage your students to attend school regularly and to work hard on their classwork and testing.

For those students going on the 8th grade trip, make sure you are up-to-date on your payments and all candy money is turned in.

Go Hornets!

Joey Ramsey
8th Grade Assistant Principal



"Perseverance is the hard work you do after
you get tired of doing the hard work
you already did".

~Newt Gingrich



GOFORTH'S GAB~

Carter Family,

We don't want your child to fall behind in school or get discouraged. Please ensure that your child attends school every day and arrives on time. We want your child to be successful in school. Let us know how we can best support you and your child so that he or she shows up for school on time every day. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact your child's teacher, principal, or school counselor. Thanks for all you do to support good attendance habits and for supporting Carter Middle School.

Scott

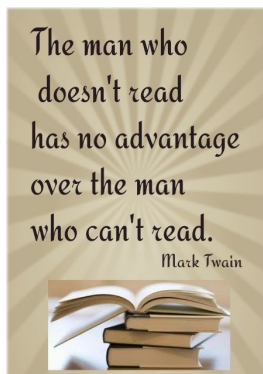
Scott Goforth, MSSW
Social Worker
Knox County Schools
scott.goforth@knoxschools.org

COUNSELOR'S CORNER~

Knox County Schools has created a student led anti-vaping initiative. Students from across Knox County Schools are invited to enter into the Anti-Vaping Public Service Announcement (PSA) Video Contest. Attached to this newsletter you will find information on eligibility, rules, and prizes. In addition, there is a link to the Official Entry Form that must accompany the video. We can't wait to see how creative our Carter Middle School students can be in educating their peers about the dangers of vaping!

Mr. Meade & Ms. Kyburz

Adam Meade 6th grade and 8th grade last names A-L
adam.meade@knoxschools.org 865-932-8149
Beth Kyburz 7th grade and 8th grade last names M-Z
beth.kyburz@knoxschools.org 865-932-8152



A Note from the Nurse~

6th Grade Parents! "Has your Child received their 7th Grade vaccination?" Prior to starting 7th Grade, all students must show either proof of receiving Tdap immunization or provide a letter from medical provider stating medically exempt from receiving vaccine or a parent/guardian letter stating religious exemption. Make appointments now to avoid the rush!!

Thank you,

Nurse Davina Morgan



2019-2020 Carter Middle School Spelling Bee

From left to right:

1st Place~ Hope Piper (6th grade)

Runner Up~ Lillian North (6th grade)

LIBRARY NEWS~

The Spring Book Fair is Coming!!

March 23—March 31, 2020
Information coming soon

Rachel Smith
Librarian - Carter Middle School
[@CarterMSReads](https://twitter.com/CarterMSReads) #CMS_Lib



Student Led Anti-Vaping Public Service Announcement (PSA)

Students from across Knox County Schools are invited to enter into the Anti-Vaping Public Service Announcement (PSA) Video Contest.

Goal

To encourage middle and high school students to submit a video addressing the dangers and negative effects of vaping and ways to avoid peer pressure. The video should be about the dangers of vaping, highlighting at least one consequence that will result from the choice of vaping. Videos will be judged by creativity, content, production, and quality.

Video Information

Movie film, Animation, stop-motion graphics, live-action, interview style, silent film with posters, be CREATIVE! The official entry form must be signed by the student and a parent/legal guardian.

Eligibility

This contest is open to all 6th-12th grade Knox County School students. Students can enter the contest on their own or as a group; however, students may only participate in **ONE** entry. *If a student in any way participates in more than one PSA video, these entries will not be considered for evaluation and prizes.* **All entries must be received by noon on February 21, 2020 to be eligible for prizes.**

Rules

All submissions must have a title.

All submissions must be 60-180 seconds in length.

All submissions must address at least **2 health dangers** (physical, emotional, social, psychological) associated with vaping.

Submissions may NOT include youth or individuals vaping or using tobacco products. No vaping or tobacco products or paraphernalia may be displayed.

Submissions may NOT include ANY copyrighted music, audio/video clips, characters, logos, or other protected material. Videos may include music only if it is considered "open source" music, or if it is composed and played by a student (or students) in the group.

Complete and submit the Official Entry Form, which can be found at: <https://www.knoxschools.org/Page/21587>

Evaluation and Prizes

All submissions will be reviewed by an expert judging panel, with cash prizes going to:

1st 1,000

2nd \$500

3rd \$250

Honorable Mention going to 4th and 5th place

The winning PSA videos will be featured on the KCS website, the SMOKIES Baseball game on May 6 and many other opportunities too exciting to mention!

Questions

Email Ramona Dew - ramona.dew@knoxschools.org



Adventure awaits!

Join Mayor Jacobs and Read City USA as we **Read Around the World** twenty times in 2020! The collective goal? 500,000 hours. For you, that means reading just 20 minutes a day and logging your time. Pick up your Passport at any Knox County library or join the challenge at knoxlib.org/readcity.

Read City USA: ARRIVAL: 2020
Read AROUND THE World

PASSPORT
 Read City USA
 Read City USA
 2020

SKY-HIGH INCENTIVES

- For every 10 hours you read, get a stamp and a small prize
- Every quarter, ten readers who've logged 50+ hours will be selected at random to receive a \$50 Visa card
- At 60 hours (halfway there!), you earn your wings—an airplane keychain
- Complete all 120 hours to earn a toy airplane (kids) or tote bag (adults and teens) and an invitation to our party!

India
WELCOME TO THE CARIBBEAN
BRITISH ISLES
AUSTRALIA & MORE ISLANDS
Let's visit NORTH AMERICA
AFRICA
RUSSIA
Middle East
AMERICA

KNOX COUNTY TENNESSEE
Read City USA
KCS PUBLIC LIBRARY





TRACK YOUR READING TO HELP IMPROVE LITERACY

with Knox County's READ CITY USA

Is reading already a daily habit in your household? Make it count! Log the time you spend reading or listening to demonstrate to our community that you value literacy. Every minute counts—reading to a child, reading for work or school, and reading for pleasure. Details on how to track are below.

TRACKING IS EASY

Beanstack Tracker is a reading app that helps READ CITY USA promote and measure our community's reading goals. Using Beanstack is free and easy. Pick your preferred method—a smartphone, computer, or paper.

If you need one-on-one help, visit any Knox County Public Library location.

Call: (865) 215-8750
Chat: knoxlib.org/chat

GET STARTED!

Log time on a smartphone (or any mobile device)

Download the Beanstack Tracker app from the App Store/Google Play. Select Knox County Library from the list and register your family. (Free)



Logging on a smartphone is not an option? That's okay, try one of these:

Log time on a computer

Visit knoxlib.beanstack.org and register your family. (Free) You may log reading time for individuals or your entire family at once.

Log time on a paper log

Pick up and return a paper log to any Knox County Public Library location. Find a branch near you at knoxlib.org or call 215-8750.

Choose Readers: In the Log, tap the + symbol at the bottom of your screen. Log readers individually, or if you read as a family, select all readers at once. Tap a name(s) to select, then tap Next.

Choose Logging Method: Select "Log a Day, Minutes, or Pages only" at the bottom of the list. Select the date and type number of minutes spent reading. Tap Finish. *Book titles and pages are optional—only your time counts towards the community goal.



For more information call (865) 215-4579 or email Abbey.Harris@knoxcounty.org



Weekly Reading Log

For every 20 minutes you read or listen to a book *at home* or *at school*, mark off one square.

Log your total minutes in the Beanstack Tracker app (see below).

Name _____ Grade _____

	EACH SQUARE = 20 MINUTES													TOTAL DAILY MIN.
Monday														
Tuesday														
Wednesday														
Thursday														
Friday														
Saturday														
Sunday														

Way to go! You have read:

(TOTAL WEEKLY MINUTES)

min.

LOG IN BEANSTACK



Read City USA is counting on you!

Be sure to log your minutes in the Beanstack Tracker app. Download the app from the App Store/Google Play or visit knoxlib.beanstack.org. Create an account with a Knox County Public Library card.



Led by Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs, READ CITY USA is a collaborative initiative to help all Knox County children learn to read early and well. More at ReadCityUSA.com





Yearbooks

Please Note~

The deadline to order names or icons for your yearbook is Friday, February 7th.

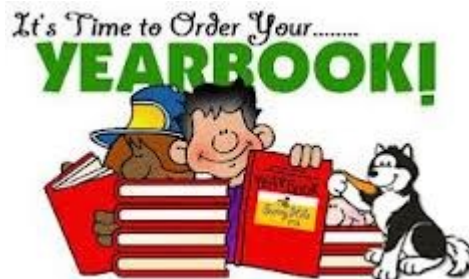
The deadline for ads for the back of the yearbook is February 28th. These can be ordered on the Lifetouch yearbook website link.

ybpay.lifetouch.com
Yearbook ID code:13911720

Price of the yearbook goes up to \$55.00 on March 14th.

Orders can be turned in to the office or for your convenience, you can order online with the Lifetouch yearbook link

ybpay.lifetouch.com
Yearbook ID code:13911720



SORRY,

NO VALENTINE
FLOWERS,
BALLOONS OR
GIFTS WILL BE
ACCEPTED FOR ANY
STUDENT FROM
FLORISTS,
PARENTS, ETC...

Middle Years

Working Together for School Success



Short Stops

Stay informed

Want to connect with your child's school on social media? Make sure to select the official page so you'll know the information is trustworthy. Click on social media icons on the school district's website, or contact the office to ask for links.

Special siblings

A youngster with disabilities can require extra time and energy from parents. To help your other children feel important, too, try to give them some undivided attention each day. For example, you might play a board game in the evening or have a one-on-one talk before bed.

A taste of learning

Encourage your middle grader to "chew on" information he learns—just like he would a tasty snack! For instance, rather than simply memorizing the First Amendment to the Constitution, he could mull over ways he has used his right to free speech or to "peaceably assemble." Perhaps he wrote a letter to the editor or went with you to a rally.

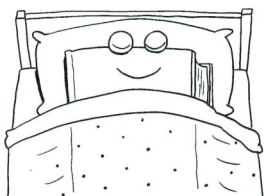
Worth quoting

"It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan." *Eleanor Roosevelt*

Just for fun

Q: Where do books sleep?

A: Under their covers.



Ways to manage stress

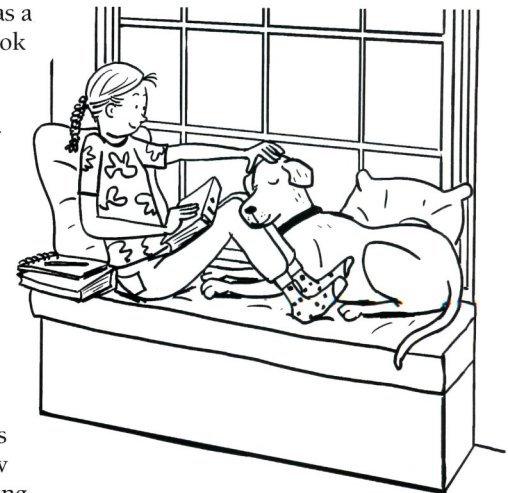
Anna, a typical middle grader, has a lot on her plate: schoolwork, yearbook committee, and sports. While she gets stressed from time to time, she uses strategies like these to cope—and your tween can, too.

Reduce triggers

Encourage your child to make a list of what stressed her out this week. *Examples:* "taking a pop quiz," "preparing for the student council meeting." Suggest that she identify what's behind the stressors (being unprepared, leaving things until the last minute) and plan ways to overcome them. She could review her notes each evening or start getting ready for meetings sooner, for instance.

Offer ideas

Share ways you deal with stressors such as a train delay or a computer problem. Maybe you look at a photo of a loved one or picture a peaceful scene like falling snow. Then ask your tween to name ways she could work through her stress, like taking deep breaths or snuggling with her dog.



Turn to others

Let your middle grader know that she can come to you when she's stressed. Also have her think of other people she could turn to, such as friends, her school counselor, or her coach. She can talk about what's bothering her and learn strategies for dealing with it.

Note: If stress seems to be interfering with your child's daily life, talk to her pediatrician. 🤝

A+ attendance

The first step toward doing well in school is to show up! As the school year continues, encourage your child to keep up good attendance with these tips.

■ **Set expectations.** Weave comments into your conversations that make it clear how important you consider attendance. ("I scheduled your dentist appointment for 3:30 p.m. so you won't miss anything in 7th-period science.")

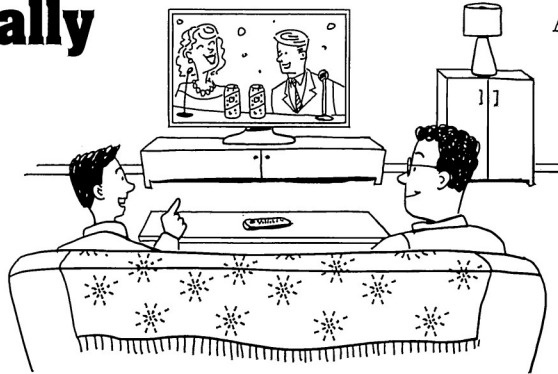
■ **Know school policy.** If your middle grader misses school because he's sick, use the policy to help you decide when he can return. For instance, if he has been fever-free for the required amount of time and feels better, he could go back to school. 🤝



Think critically about ads

Evaluating advertisements is an important part of being a critical thinker and a savvy consumer. Share this advice with your middle grader.

Product placement. When you and your child watch TV or movies, try to spot brand names. Maybe the judges on his favorite talent show always drink a certain brand of soda.



Ask why he thinks that is. Do all the judges just happen to like it? Maybe—but the soda company pays the show to feature the product. Can your tween figure out the unstated message? (If famous people drink it, maybe he should, too!) He'll learn that ads aren't always obvious and start to think more critically about them.

Targeted advertising. Did your tween ever look up a sports team online, then see an ad for game tickets on another site? Web browsers use “cookies” to determine who gets which ads. Your middle grader should consider who the advertiser is (perhaps a ticket reseller), why he's seeing the ad (he's a fan of the team), and what isn't stated (how much tickets are marked up). 👍

Q & A Changing friendships

Q My daughter seems to have a different best friend every week. Is that normal for this age?

A Friendships can change frequently in middle school. It's typical for kids to outgrow relationships and to feel closer to one friend than to another as their interests and maturity levels change.



Let your daughter know that no matter who her “best” friend is, she can remain friends with many people. Mention the various social circles in your own life, such as your book club friends, work buddies, and college roommates.

Also, remind your child to treat everyone kindly, including classmates she may have grown apart from. Remaining friendly will leave the door open for spending more time together in the future. 👍

Practical writing

Writing isn't just something your tween does in school—it's important in daily life, too. Encourage her to practice different types of writing at home with these activities.

To inform

Your child could interview relatives about their jobs. What does a typical day on the job look like? What do they like best about their work? She can write and share a “Who's Who” to help family members learn more about each other. *Example:* “Aunt Cora is an optometric assistant, which means she works alongside eye doctors. Her favorite part of her job is helping patients pick out glasses.”



To entertain

Suggest that your middle grader write a script for a silly skit. She can include dialogue and stage directions (notes that tell actors what to do). Encourage her to consider her audience—if her skit is for younger siblings, what will they find funny? Then, she and her friends could practice the skit and perform it for their audience. 👍

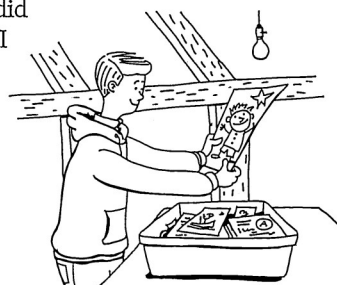
Parent to Parent Take pride in your work

This year, my son Aidan started rushing through his assignments and making careless mistakes. I wanted him to take pride in his work like he did when he was younger, so I had an idea.

I pulled out a storage bin full of papers and projects we'd saved from Aidan's elementary school years. We took a nice trip down memory lane as we

admired stories he'd written, pictures he'd drawn, and tests he'd done well on. Seeing his old papers made Aidan realize how nice it feels to be proud of your work.

Now Aidan has started saving his middle school work, too. I'm not seeing as many careless errors—I can tell he's trying harder. I know we'll enjoy looking through his collection when he's in high school! 👍



OUR PURPOSE



To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

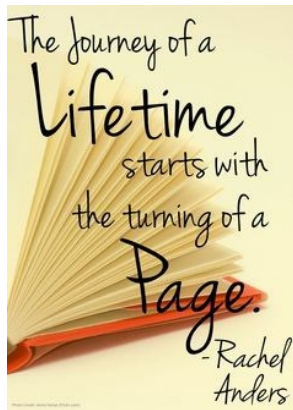
Resources for Educators, a division of CCH Incorporated
 128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630
 800-394-5052 • rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com
 www.rfeonline.com
 ISSN 1540-5540



February 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Super Bowl GROUNDHOG DAY 	3	4	5	6	7 VALENTINE DANCE	8
9 	10	11	12	13	14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i>	15
16	17 PRESIDENT'S DAY STUDENT HOLIDAY IN- SERVICE— STAFF	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Mardi Gras	26	27	28	29 



Congratulations to the
Boy's and Girls Basketball Teams, the
Cheer Team, Dance Team and Step-Dance
Team for a great season!

