

CARTER BUZZ

CARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

MARCH 2020



OWEN'S ORACLE~

It's Time to Show What We Know!!!

Parents it is that time of year! On April 15th, students will be taking the writing portion of the TNReady testing! That will be followed by the TNReady test which will begin on April 20th and end on April 24th. It is important that we emphasize the importance of this testing with our children. How can you help? Talk to your children about the need to do their best as it will provide us with data that will be used for future decisions about their educational needs.

Report Card Nights!!

On March 24th, we will have an 8th grade night for students and parents. This is an important night as we will share information about ACT testing and the results of the Pre-ACT testing results. In addition, we will share results of the Pre-Vocational testing that students took just a few months ago. This test shows careers in which students showed interest and matches careers to the students' aptitude.

On March, 26th we will have a 6th and 7th grade night where parents may talk to teachers and receive report cards. Please plan on joining us on these evenings.

Attendance:

Our school goal is to have a 95% attendance rate for the year. Research shows that students that miss a lot of school will have gaps in learning and are at a higher risk of failing. Right now we have an attendance rate of 93 %. I know there is a lot of sickness this time of year and I do not want a child at school that is truly sick, but please make sure students make it to school if they are healthy. Every day counts!

With the recent focus in the news on the coronavirus, the school district has released the following statement:

Superintendent's Message:

Dear Knox County Schools families,

Given recent information released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), I wanted to make you aware that Knox County Schools is having ongoing discussions on how best to prepare in the event of a possible case of COVID-19 (a novel coronavirus) in our schools and community.

As with any public health concern that may impact our students or staff, we work closely with the Knox County Health Department for guidance. And while there are policies in place that guide the district, we continue to work to ensure that we are planning appropriate precautionary steps.

The CDC has stated that the immediate risk of this new virus is currently low; however, we are asking for your help by taking standard health precautions to help avoid illness, such as:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Use a tissue when you sneeze or cough and then throw it in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Stay home when sick. If with fever, stay home and be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medication, for at least 24 hours before returning to school.

The well-being and health of our students and staff are always a top priority. We appreciate your continued support of Knox County Schools and your cooperation in maintaining a healthy school environment.

For more information, please visit: Knox County Health Department at <https://www.knoxcounty.org/health> and CDC at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html>.

Sincerely,
Bob Thomas
Superintendent
Knox County Schools



Thank you for allowing us to serve your children! Go Hornets
Sincerely,
Jack Owen

"Be who you are and say what you feel because those who mind don't matter,
and those who matter don't mind."

~Dr. Seuss

STANLEY'S SECTION~

Hello Parents,

Read Across America is being observed on Monday, March 2, 2020. Carter Middle School supports literacy in our school by encouraging every student to read. We ask every student to bring a book to his or her classes. After students have completed their classroom assignments, teachers allow students to read a book. This encouragement allows students to develop their vocabulary. Parents, we want you to continue encouraging your child to read at home every night for at least 20 minutes. It does not have to be a novel. It can be a newspaper, magazine, or some type of high interest read that will hold your child's attention.



Thanks!

Jennifer Stanley
7th Grade Assistant Principal



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



RAMSEY'S REVIEW~

Hello Carter Family,

February is already over and spring break is fast approaching. May will be here before we know it. Please remember 8th grade parent/teacher night will be on March 24th from 5:00-7:00. We will be sharing important information about how your child did on the Pre-ACT, so please make plans to attend. Following parent/teacher night, we will also have a mandatory meeting for students going on the NY/Washington trip. As always, I want to thank you for your continued encouragement and support.

Go Hornets!

Joey Ramsey
8th Grade Assistant Principal

in the middle of every
difficulty lies
opportunity.
albert einstein

GOFORTH'S GAB~



It is amazing how quickly the school year passes! We have almost made it to Spring! With that in mind let's not forget to stress the importance of good school attendance. Lots of important work is being done by the fine teachers at Carter Middle School to prepare your student for transitioning to the next grade or moving on to Carter High School. If your student is not present, their grades could suffer and they might miss important skills that they will need for the next grade level. Also remember that their absences whether excused or unexcused will affect our chronically absent numbers. Remember bring notes for absences since unexcused absences could lead to court involvement for truancy.

As the weather changes, do not forget that Knox County Schools has a wonderful resource for needy families called the Clothing Center. They provide brand new socks and underwear and good used school clothes that are seasonally appropriate. The service is free. It does require a voucher from the school (contact the School Social Worker 257-5819) and an appointment with the center. The center also takes donations of good new and used clothes (contact the Social Worker for details). The clothing center is a great place to donate because Knox County provides the office space and pays the employees, so 100% of the money and clothing donated goes to the children. It is an awesome resource! Have a great Spring and Go Hornets!
Scott

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

865-257-5819



LIBRARY NEWS~



The Spring Book Fair is Coming!!

Our spring Scholastic Book Fair will be here the week we return from Spring Break, March 24-31. Online shopping begins while we are on Spring Break and runs March 19-April 1. There is a link on the library page in the Carter Middle website.

Students will be visiting the book fair with their SCIENCE classes.

As always, students may shop the Book Fair during HOMEROOM, as long as they have permission from their Homeroom teachers and can prove that they have money to spend.

Book Fair will be open for Parent Nights on March 24 & 26.

Students will also have an opportunity for last minute purchases during their ELA classes on Monday, March 30.

Final shopping opportunity will be during Homeroom on Tuesday, March 31.

At the fair, there will also be presales for *The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes* (the new book in the Hunger Games series), *The One and Only Bob* (sequel to *The One and Only Ivan*), and the new book from the Diary of a Wimpy Kid world, *Rowly Jefferson's Awesome Friendly Adventure*.

Rachel Smith
Librarian - Carter Middle School
@CarterMSReads #CMS_Lib



COUNSELOR'S CORNER~



The Counseling department is busily working to put together schedules for next year. We are also planning transition events for current 5th grade students who will be joining us next year, and current 8th grade students who are moving on to high school. Here are some upcoming events:

March 4 & 5 - 8th grade students will be visiting Carter High School

March 9 - Carter High School Parent Night 6pm

March 10, 11 & 12 - All students will select their related arts courses for next year.

CHS Counselors will be here to answer questions about high school classes on the 12th.

There are videos loaded onto the Aspen parent portal that will explain more about student course registration. Please let us know if you have any questions!

Mr. Meade & Ms. Kyburz

2020 KNOX COUNTY MIDDLE HONORS CHOIR



Congratulations to our 8th Grade Honors Choir (from left to right)

Bryce Thomas
Jasmine Glover
Kelsey Lindsey
Matthew Black
Pressley Buckner
Emma Phillips
Walker Williams



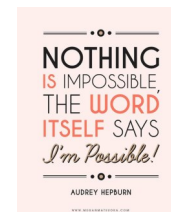
Middle School Honors Choir from all 15 middle schools in Knox County Schools

"Think left and think right and think low and think high. Oh, the thinks you can think up if only you try!"

~from the book, *Oh the Thinks you can Think!* by Dr. Seuss

Women's History Month~

1. Women's History Month is in line with International Women's Day on the 8th March.
2. The legacy of Women's History Month can be traced back to the first International Women's Day held in 1911.
3. By February 1980, U.S. President Jimmy Carter issued a presidential proclamation declaring the week of the 8th of March, 1980, as National Women's History Week.
4. By 1986, 14 states in the US had declared March as Women's History Month. This action was used as the rationale for Congress to declare the entire month of March 1987 as National Women's History Month.





March 2020

Carter Middle School
Thomas Watson, Principal

Middle Years

Working Together for School Success



Short Stops

Illustrated notes

Your middle schooler has probably heard the phrase “A picture is worth a thousand words.” It’s good advice that she can apply to note taking. Suggest that she incorporate sketches into her notes. She’ll include more detail in a shorter amount of time, and seeing a drawing may help her remember the information more easily.

Let your child be himself

Your tween is likely to face disappointments that you went through at his age, like not making a team or the end of a friendship. Listen to his feelings before sharing yours. He may have a different reaction than you did, and taking cues from him will let him process the experience in his own way.

DID YOU KNOW?

In a disturbing trend, more tweens and teens are “cutting”—meaning they’re cutting their skin in an effort to “feel something” and cope with overwhelming emotions. Signs of this include small, straight cuts on the arms and legs or wearing long sleeves and pants on hot days. If you see any evidence of cutting, call your child’s doctor right away.

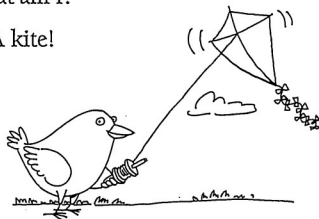
Worth quoting

“Deal with the faults of others as gently as with your own.” *Chinese proverb*

Just for fun

Q: I have a tail but no head.
What am I?

A: A kite!



Responsibility all around

Taking care of what needs to be done lets your middle grader accomplish his goals and be a good citizen. Help him become more responsible in these key areas.

Self

Encourage your tween to take responsibility for his actions rather than blaming others. Say he gets a low quiz grade and complains that the teacher didn’t explain the material clearly. Ask what he could do the next time he doesn’t understand something. He might raise his hand or talk to the teacher after class. He’ll learn that he’s in charge of his own success.

Others

Have your middle grader find a way to follow through on his responsibilities to others. He could use his planner, a calendar, or an electronic alert to remind himself about his drama club fundraiser or his weekly video call with his grandparents. Then before he makes



new plans, he should check to see if he’s available.

Community

A responsible community member obeys laws and takes care of shared property. Look for opportunities when you’re out together. While driving, you might point out how you move over when you pass a cyclist. Or at the grocery store, your tween could return a cart someone left in the middle of the lot so it doesn’t dent a car. 👍

Ready for standardized tests

Springtime brings warmer weather—and, for your middle schooler, standardized tests. Help your child prepare with these tips.

■ **Know the dates.** Ask your tween to print out two copies of the testing schedule and highlight the tests she will take. She could post one copy on the refrigerator (so you’re in the loop) and keep the other copy in her backpack.

■ **Be supportive.** Tell your middle grader that you know she’ll do her best. Offer to look over her completed practice tests. Remind her to pack sharpened pencils with erasers, and a water bottle and healthy snack if permitted.

■ **Keep it in perspective.** Encourage her to take the tests and any practice tests seriously—but not to stress. Remind her that the results are only one measure of her performance in school. 👍



Use your (academic) words

Your tween may not text the word *derive* to her friend or say *foreshadow* in everyday conversation. But words like these are important in school and will give her a richer vocabulary for the future. Suggest these fun vocabulary boosters.

Make profiles. Have your child create pretend social media profiles for vocabulary words. On paper, she could include an “About me” section describing the word’s meaning. For



analyze, she may write “I love to carefully examine things.” Under “Friends,” she might place related words and phrases such as *evaluate* and *break down*. Perhaps she’ll include a “Photos” section with drawings showing the concept, such as a detective looking at evidence.

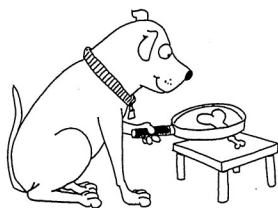
Play I Spy. In this version, the goal is to see how many ways you and your middle grader can use school vocabulary in daily life. She might talk

about the *perimeter* of a building as you walk by it, hear someone *clarify* an answer during dinner, or notice an *abstract painting* in a waiting room. 👍

Up-close science

How do magnifying glasses work? Your middle grader can discover the science behind them by making a curved lens out of gelatin. Share these steps with him.

1. Bring 1 cup water to a simmer on the stove or in the microwave.
2. Pour a 3-oz. packet of light-colored gelatin into a bowl. Add the hot water, and stir constantly for 2 minutes.
3. Let the gelatin cool for 10 minutes. Then, put 1 tbsp. on a plate in the refrigerator for 4 hours until it hardens.
4. Measure 1 tbsp. water into a short, clear glass. Carefully place the hardened gelatin (flat side down) in the glass.



5. Now try to read a book through the gelatin “lens” by moving the glass over the text. The lens bends, or refracts, light, so the words appear larger—just like with a magnifying glass. 👍



Q & A Nutrition for my tween

Q My son is always hungry, and it seems like he eats constantly. Unfortunately, he doesn’t always make the best choices. What should I do?

A Your child is growing faster than at any other time since infancy, so it’s normal for him to feel hungry.

Since your son is likely to reach for what’s most readily available when his tummy rumbles, stock up on snacks that are nutritious and filling. Examples include Greek yogurt, nuts (if he’s not allergic), hummus, avocados, lean turkey slices, and bananas.

Also, busy tweens may be tempted to skip breakfast, but a healthy morning meal will keep him full until lunchtime. A complete breakfast might include eggs, whole-wheat toast, fruit, and a glass of fat-free milk. Help him plan his meal the night before—or he could meet friends for a nutritious breakfast at school. 👍



Parent to Parent “My mom is so embarrassing!”

My daughter Charlene and I were always close, so I was hurt when she started acting like I was an embarrassment in public. As we headed into her sports banquet, for instance, she walked 10 steps behind me.

I mentioned this to my neighbor who has older kids. She reassured me that this is a normal part of Charlene becoming independent from me. She said that letting her kids

walk apart from her seemed to make them less resistant to going places with her. She also tried to avoid doing things that embarrassed them most, like hugging them in front of their friends. Eventually, she said, this phase will end.

I still don’t enjoy Charlene thinking I’m embarrassing. *But I’m glad she’s becoming her own person, and I know it won’t last forever.* 👍



OUR PURPOSE

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

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MARCH 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 Read Across America Day	3 HOLIDAY NO SCHOOL	4	5	6 Robotics Team goes to State!!	7 Turn clocks back 1 hour before you go to bed!
8 Daylight Savings time. "Spring Forward one hour"	9	10 	11	12 Track Meet @ Austin East HS	13	14 PI Day (3.14)
15 	16	17	18	19	20	21
Spring Break March 16-20 Schools Closed						
22	23	24 5th Grade Visits 8th Grade Report Card Night	25	26 7th and 6th Grade Report Card Night Track Meet @ Central HS	27	28
BOOK FAIR! March 23 - March 31						
29	30	31 Track Meet @ Halls HS				



Carter Middle School 2020 Track Teams

Girls

Ivey Jones
 Kyara Ellis
 Annajane Underwood
 Sophia McCammon
 Isabella (Izzy) Wright
 Lucy Fourman
 Kylie Hancock
 Danielle Cohen
 Alyssa Allen
 Ansley Williams
 Lillian North
 Emily Kirby

Riley Smith
 Maggie Messer
 Teddi Appleberry
 Sarah Jarnagin
 Tessa Buckner
 Brooke Truax
 Emily Taylor
 Laken Catron
 Macy Oconnor
 Maddie Lewis
 Marah Yao
 Kelsi Lindsey
 Kelsey Russell

Boys

Matthew Black
 Kaiden Wilson
 Collin Abbott
 Kristian Huston
 Jaxson Stuffle
 Julianne Wampler
 Carson Lewis
 Lawson Branch
 Zach Davis
 Blake Jackson

Robert Jolley
 Ty Atchley
 Roman Webb
 Isaiah Webb
 Grant Countiss
 Levi McCarter
 Hunter Evans
 Mike Atkins
 Elijah Clark
 Zach Brown
 Chase Clabough
 Leland Brown

