

Clark Lane Connects

Clark Lane Middle School

November 2023



GLOW:

Our students have done well during the last two fire drill procedures and practices!

GROW:

Please review the expectations in the <u>Bathroom</u> section of the **PRIDE matrix** with your student(s) to support all learners.

Hello CLMS Parents and Guardians!

Thank you for your continued dedication and collaboration with all things **CLMS**. There is so much to celebrate and to look forward to this month. Please enjoy this issue of **CL Connects** and all the happenings in our **CLMS** community. We appreciate your support and dedication to our students daily!

Mr. Sachs & Mrs. Howard



James M. Sach



Tomeka K. Howard Assistant Principal



CONTACT US

Clark Lane Middle School

Main Office, Press 1 Report Absence, Press 2 Nurse (Health Office), Press 3 School Counseling Office, Press 4 Assistant Principal, Press 5



To reach teachers by email: first initial, followed by last name @waterfordschools.org

For example: jsachs@waterfordschools.org

To view Clark Lane's **staff directory**:



NOTE: To report your student's absence, you can also email: clms-attend@waterfordschools.org

REMINDER for ALL STUDENTS!





Bring your school-issued device with you to school **EVERY DAY!** Be sure to charge your device or bring your charger with you! Also, don't forget to bring a refillable water bottle with you to school *daily!*

Thank you for your attention! 😊

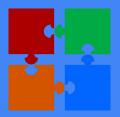


UPCOMING EVENTS!

Mark your calendars!

Tues., November 7 – Prof. Dev. - **No School** Fri., November 10 – Parent Conferences - **No School** (info included)

Wed., Nov. 22 - Fri., Nov 24 - School Holiday, No School



Connecting with Parents

November 2023



Parent Conferences



Clark Lane Middle School will be hosting parent-teacher conferences on Friday, November 10th throughout the day from 7:45 – 2:30 pm. This is not a school day for students.

These conferences are one way in which you have the opportunity to meet your child's teachers and to learn about his/her progress to date. Generally, conferences can be scheduled with any individual teacher with whom you would like to meet. In addition, if you would like a conference with more than one teacher, a team conference (or partial team conference) is sometimes available on these days, time permitting.

We are asking parents who would like a conference to please **email your conference request**. If you are interested in a short conference (approximately 10–15 minutes) with an individual teacher, please email that teacher directly to schedule a time. If you are interested in meeting with one or more of your child's teachers, please email your child's homeroom teacher indicating with whom you would like to meet. In your email, please identify a range of time that you are available.

Teachers can be emailed by using first initial + last name@waterfordschools.org (e.g. James Sachs: jsachs@waterfordschools.org). If you do not have access to email, you may call the school at 860-443-2837 to leave a message for the teacher with whom you would like to meet. We hope to see you on November 10th!

Drop off Procedures/Times

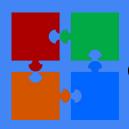
Parents may drop off students <u>no</u> <u>sooner than 7:15am.</u> Students wait in the cafeteria before proceeding to Homeroom.

Students who arrive after 8 am MUST be signed in at the Main Office (in the back of the building) by a parent/guardian. Please accompany your student into the building.

Early Dismissal Procedure

We ask that you make every attempt to NOT dismiss your student after 2:15 pm, unless a note was given in the morning. It is a disruption to the end of the school day and traffic management.





Connecting with Parents

November 2023

At the beginning of October, all students participated in PRIDE lessons here at Clark Lane. These lessons were to remind students of the behaviors and expectations we have for them in the different areas of our building like the hallways and bathrooms, and in various situations like on the school bus, for instance. The expectations at the top of this chart (in the gray box) represent those expectations which we at Clark Lane Middle School consider to be the non-negotiables and include: no cell phones, no hurtful or abusive language and no rough-housing or horseplay, to name a few.

For a more clear copy of our expectations, you may refer to the **Clark Lane Student Handbook**, which all students were given a copy of on the first day of school. Should you have questions, we encourage you to reach out to our Administration.

Expectations across all locations at CLMS; all staff will reinforce these expectations:

- . Hoods down, hats/visors off anything that covers your face
- Cell phones, smart watches, devices, headphones/ airpods off and away, except for clearly-defined classroom use
- · No hurtful or abusive language; no swearing
- · No rough-housing/horseplay
- . Lunch Students should go to the cafeteria, unless they have a pass from a teacher.
- · After homeroom, only water is allowed outside the cafeteria.

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	Homeroom	Bathroom	Cafeteria	Hallway	Bus	Assemblies/Field Trips	Evacuation Procedures
Pride in our Behavior	Stay in homeroom from bell to bell. Be seated in a chair. Listen attentively to announcements. If you need breakfast, go directly to the cafe upon arrival.	Wash your hands with soap. Keep phones out of the bathroom. Avoid horseplay.	Remain seated Put trash in cans. Use quiet voice and respectful language. At adult signal, stop and listen. Obtain permission before leaving cafe.	Walk on the right. Keep voices to a quiet volume during passing times. Be considerate of your own and others' personal space.	Remain in your seat. Use appropriate language. Keep volume at conversation level. Follow directions and expectations of driver. Use technology appropriately and respectfully. Keep hands and feet to yourself.	Follow directions quickly. Participate with respect. Clap at appropriate times. Wait patiently and quietly during transitions.	Walk quietly on the sidewalks. Find your homeroom teacher; line up alphabetically. Stand silently in line. Re-enter building with you homeroom teacher.
Pride in our Learning	Homeroom is a class. It sets the tone for the rest of the day. If you come in late to school or from breakfast, come in quietly. Bring materials for first class.	Sign in and out from classroom. Return to class promptly.	Make healthy food choices. Return to class quietly in hallway.	Use quiet voices and respect for classes in session. Get to class promptly. Avoid gossip; speak kindly. Remove headphones/earbuds. Keep belongings completely in your own	Ensure safety for yourself and others.	Listen attentively. Allow others to listen and learn.	Return to class quietly an promptly. Ensure safety for yoursel and others.
Pride in our Community	All food and beverages need to be finished and cleaned up by the end of homeroom. Be respectful during the Pledge of Allegiance.	Respect privacy of others. Flush. Keep the area clean. Use trash cans. Report any graffiti or vandalism to teacher.	Respect all staff. Be kind and inclusive. Avoid intentionally making a mess. Clean up your area.	locker. Close and lock your locker. Use respectful language. Take turns with your locker neighbors. Keep hallway traffic moving. Keep hallway free of clutter. Consume food and beverages in designated areas of the school only.	Keep conversations considerate and kind to all who may be listening. Keep your area clean and damage-free. Be respectful of bus driver and the driver's responsibilities.	Enter/exit by walking quietly. Stay with your group. Use restrooms before the presentation. Have an attentive posture. Represent our school with a positive attitude.	Be respectful of emergency personnel. Listen for further instruction.



Connecting with Parents

November 2023

High School Options Presented to Eighth graders at CLMS

Waterford High School Principal Kirk Samuelson shares, "Waterford High School is a progressive, contemporary, public high school that offers each of its students a safe and rigorous secondary experience. Core and elective courses provide a full complement of academic experiences. Exceptional fine arts, music, and athletic programs are available to all of our students.

At Waterford High School the development of well – rounded young men and women who will be contributing members in our democratic society is our charge. Respect, compassion, and integrity are at the core of all we do."











On October 10, 2023, representatives from Ella T. Grasso Technical High School, Ledyard Agri-Science & Technology High School, Norwich Technical High School and Waterford High School came to Clark Lane Middle School to speak to our 8th grade students specifically about what their high schools have to offer.

Waterford High School BECOME PART OF LANCER NATION!





Open House at Ella T. Grasso Tech is on November 2nd from 5-7 pm. Open House at Ledyard Vo-Ag is on November 2nd from 6-8 pm.

DID YOU KNOW... there is a \mathcal{R} eflection

Gorden at Clark Lane Middle School dedicated to former math teacher, Mrs.

Jane Randall.

Mr. Sachs has a koi pond out there as well. Students and teachers use this area in warmer weather.





Connecting with Parents

November 2023

New Leadership Elective Offered at Clark Lane

The special **Leadership** class is an elective class offered to **8th graders** this year that helps develop students' leadership skills and abilities. **Ms. Dinatali** (who co-teaches the class with **Ms. Barnes**) reports, "Our hope is that these students can help create and execute a variety of initiatives to improve our school culture and climate." Some of the activities thus far have included: greeting students as they enter our building, sharing treats with teachers to show our appreciation, "tattooing" 6/7th graders with positive messages, showing our appreciation to our bus drivers with a muffin/cider cart and organizing activities for students on Halloween during the lunch waves. **Keep up the good work, leaders!**



Photos courtesy of Ms. Barnes





Trimester One ends on Monday,

December 4th!

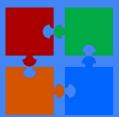
morning announcements are broadcast **LIVE** every day? Is your student featured on the morning announcement crew?

it out!

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Misplaced something?
Think you left it at school?
Check the LOST & FOUND table in
Clark Lane's cafeteria!





Connecting with Parents

November 2023

CLMS Girls Soccer Team Wins Eastern CT Middle School Conference



The Clark Lane
Middle School girls
soccer team fought a
tough match against
Groton and secured a
1-0 victory to bring
home the trophy,
remaining undefeated
at 11-0 to close out
the 2023 season.

Congratulations, girls and Coach Fink!

Championship MVP was awarded to 8th grade student, Brianna Regalado!
Fantastic job, Brianna!

Congratulations, Coach Ghiglial What a wonderful honor! Mr. Ghiglia is a 6th grade Math teacher at Clark Lane Middle School, but also coaches Waterford High School Girls soccer. Congratulations, Mr. Ghiglia!

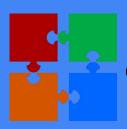


Congratulations

two of our Clark Lane Middle School scholars that were in attendance of the 42nd Annual Dinner for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Trust Fund Awards Ceremony on October 19, 2023. During this ceremony, twelve 2023 MLK Scholars from Southeastern, CT earned a \$25,000 scholarship. One of those scholars happened to be Waterford High senior, Alexa Collins!







Connecting with Parents

November 2023

Coach McNeil shares, "On Monday October 31, 2023, the Clark Lane Middle School Cross Country Teams competed in the Conference Championship at Harkness Park. The athletes proudly represented our school and themselves. Only the Top 6 boys and top six girls made it to the championship from each school." Great job, runners!

The CLMS Boys Cross Country Team includes: James Zimmermann (17th), Keanu Chapman (24th), Declan Fagan (31st), Tyler Gamble (32nd), Bryson June (33rd) and Cooper Koczajowski (41st). The boys team came in 7th place overall at the championship meet! Awesome job!

The CLMS Girls Cross Country Team includes: Madalitso Vincent (4th), Rhyan Sousa (7th), Maria Pirruccello (8th), Ava Motzko (12th), Avery Gallerani (20th) and Audrey Westkott (22nd).



The **CLMS Girls Cross Country Team** came in 1st place winning the championship and were undefeated the entire season! Way to go, girls! Congrats to Coach McNeil and Coach Landeck!





Photos above courtesy of CLMS parent, G. Sousa



Photo courtesy of Mrs Rochester

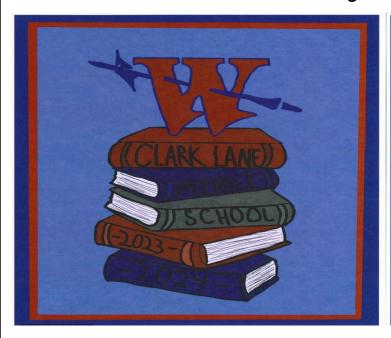
Thank you to School Resource Officer Lane and the other Waterford PD officers who greeted students at parent drop off Halloween morning with a sweet treat. Special guest **Hodges** even participated in the festivities, dressed as Batman! What fun!

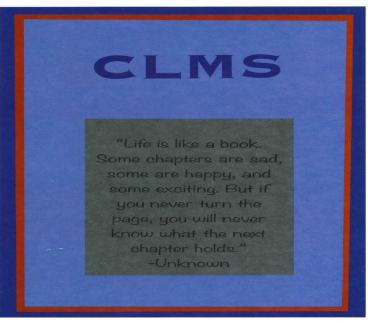


Connecting with Parents

November 2023

The winner of the 2023-2024 Yearbook Cover Design Contest is 6th grade student: **Keira Kasse**! **Congratulations**, **Keira!** Pictured below is her design. Thank you to all the students who participated. Thank you to all our students and teachers for voting on your favorite! **Great job**, **Keira!**





BUY A YEARBOOK NOW!

There's nothing else like your school yearbook!

ORDER YOURS TODAY!







DID YOU KNOW...you can buy a **CLMS WATER BOTTLE** in the Main Office for only **\$3.00?** See Mrs. Rochester to get yours **TODAY!** Don't miss out!



DID YOU KNOWNovember is National Native American Heritage Month?



DID YOU ALSO KNOW that the names of many U.S. states are derived from Amerindian words, like **Connecticut**, for instance?

Click the code to learn more.





Connecting with the Community

November 2023



CLARK LANE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN SAFE FUTURES 4K

On Sunday, October 22, 2023, several Clark Lane Middle School students participated in the 4K Safe Walk sponsored by Safe Futures. Safe Futures is dedicated to helping victims of domestic violence in the Eastern Connecticut region. Way to go!



Photo courtesy of CLMS parent, M. Vonachen

Clark Lane Middle School would like to say

THANK YOU

to all the veterans in our community.

Happy Veterans Day to all!



CLARK LANE!!



In collaboration with WYFS, help us feed those in need this holiday season!
6th-8th graders are being asked to donate cereal & oatmeal; however any food items are being accepted!
Donations are due to your homeroom by Wednesday, November 8th!

Connecting with Clark Lane Middle School's

School Counseling Office

November 2023

In 7th grade, the school counseling lessons focus on **college and careers**. In September, Mrs. Dolce talked to students about potential careers based on the results of interest surveys they completed in Naviance. Naviance is a college and career readiness software that provides students with college planning and career assessment tools. During upcoming lessons, students will begin to gain awareness of their personal strengths and interests and try to align those to possible future career paths. In March 2024, 7th grade students will participate in Career Day at **CLMS** and will be able to listen to current professionals talk about their careers. Career Day date TBD. Stay tuned for more information!

Parent Resources: We're here to help!

Looking to access your student's grades on PowerSchool? Click the QR code to a slideshow to help you access the Parent Portal!

Need help accessing your child's Google **Classroom**? Curious what's happening in your child's class? Want to know if your student has homework...or not? Is there a quiz coming up? Click the code above to access a slideshow to help you navigate Google Classroom! These resources are available to you on the School Counseling page on our school website!

School Counselors Help Parents by ...

- Exploring ways to help your child succeed
- Improving parent to child communications
- Supporting home to school connections
- Understanding your middle school child
- Navigating the middle school environment

ASK THE COUNSELORS... WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER, WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GREW UP?

Ms. Dolce wanted to be a teacher and a coach.



Ms. Dinatali wanted to be a lawyer. \triangle



Ms. Chen wanted to be an attorney for disadvantaged youth.

Need to see your counselor?

Stop in the School Counseling Office and set up an appointment with Ms. Abate.



Connecting with Clark Lane Middle School's

Health Office of

Making Healthy Connections between home and school

November 2023

Reminder from the Health Office In an effort to help keep our school healthy,

please...

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing/sneezing.
- Wash hands frequently. §
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.



Also, students should be **fever free** for a full **24 hours without medication** before returning to school! **Thank you!**



Don't forget! If your child has any injuries, please make sure you report it to the Health Office.



What you need to know!

If your child needs a yearly physical, a sports physical, health care, vaccines or flu shot (available starting October 1st), we have a School Based Health Center. Check out the webpage by clicking on the QR code below:







To directly contact the School Health Office, call: 860-437-6977

Confidential faxes may be sent directly to the Health Office 860-437-2179



Attention Parents

Scoliosis Screenings for 7th grade girls will begin in November.
Please call the Health Office with any questions.



Literally connecting us all...

News From F

November 2023

especially for Clark Lane Middle School



Having trouble with your Chromebook?

Clark Lane Middle School students should ask the classroom teacher first to see if they can assist. Students who have a broken device will bring the device to the school library where they will be assigned a loaner device for the day. Staff will enter a ticket in Incident IQ for the broken device on behalf of the student. The IT **Department** will pick up broken devices at the end of the day and assess any damages, apply any fees and make repairs. Depending on the severity of the damage, students may be assigned a different device. Students will be called down to the library to pick up the replacement device as soon as possible.



Students are REMINDED to bring their devices to school every day, preferably **charged and ready to go!** There is a <u>limited number of Chromebooks for students to borrow</u> throughout the day on a *first come*, *first serve basis*.

Students who need to borrow a Chromebook should go to **library after checking in at homeroom!**

Public School's
One-to-One Device Program, click
on the QR code here:

For information about Waterford

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION:

9s there a fee to replace a lost charger?

YES! The Student Device Protection Program does not cover lost chargers, so there is a fee. With or without Device Protection, the current replacement cost is \$22. Replacement chargers must be supplied by the school system to ensure proper fit and correct wattage for the device. If your child loses a charger and needs to purchase a replacement, visit the Technology Store in MySchoolBucks to purchase one online. Once payment has processed, the charger will be delivered to your student's school. Please allow for processing and delivery time.

FYI: District-owned Chromebooks must never be taken to an outside computer service for any type of repairs or maintenance.

Problems with your Chromebook?

techsupport@ waterfordschools.org

NOTE: Mrs. McKenna is available for tech support at CLMS on <u>Tuesdays</u> & Thursdays.

Attention Parents



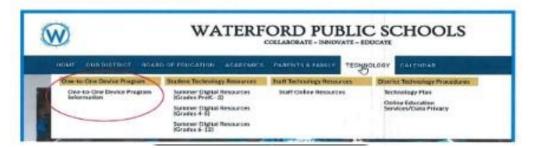
Parents and Guardians.

The Waterford Public School district is excited to announce its partnership with Securly in safeguarding our students, your children. Securly was chosen because we shared a vision of a safer, more productive digital world for our students. From web filtering to device management to self-harm detection, Securly is dedicated to keeping young minds healthy, engaged, and inspired. Additionally, we chose Securly for its strong adherence to data privacy and management laws.

Securly protects more than 10 million students across the US at school and at home, plus has over 2 million parents engaging in their child's activity on school devices. Now parents of students in grades 4-12 can get the same peace of mind when school devices come home. See your child's online activity during after-school hours, pause your child's device, and turn off online access.

Through this partnership, the students of Waterford will be protected everywhere, on any school-issued device. You will be receiving a welcome email in the coming weeks that will provide you with instructions on how to download the app and connect with your child's online activity, so be on the lookout! Further information about Securly Home can be found on our WPS district website (Technology > One-to-One Device Program Information). There are resources there to help you become more familiar with Securly Home and how to use it.

https://sites.google.com/waterfordschools.org/wps-one-to-one-device-program/securly-home-parent-portal



Exciting News from our Coral Team teachers

On October 17th and October 27th, the **Coral Team** had a field trip to *Avery Point* in *Groton, Connecticut.* The trips involved discovering Long Island creatures in the critter bins and a squid dissection in the lab. Then, students completed the Introduction to Oceanography program onboard the boat, which is one of Avery Point's most popular and versatile offerings! Students literally *and figuratively* got their hands wet as they investigated the living and nonliving components of Long Island Sound, while participating in Avery Point's flagship Environmental Monitoring Program aboard the R/V Envirolab. The students studied the living organisms in the stern of the boat by hauling a trawl net, doing a plankton tow, and even sorting through a mud grab. In the bow of the boat, they learned how to use a wide range of oceanographic equipment as they investigated physical and chemical aspects of the estuary, including temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, pH and CO2. Woul Thank you for sharing, Mr. McNeil!

DID YOU KNOW...Project

Oceanology provides more than 20,000 students and adults annually with opportunities to learn about the ocean through firsthand exploration and experiences? Nurturing interest and inspiring enthusiasm for science and for our planet's marine environment from our year-round waterfront facility in Groton, Connecticut, our vision is to be the center of excellence for inquiry, and place-based science and marine education serving the evolving needs of our global community.







Coral Team's trip to Project O



November 2023



















Photos cowitery of Mr. McNeil

Connecting with our 6th grade

TO TOTAL



November 2023





Bring or

The **Egret Team** will be going on a field trip on Thursday, November 9, 2023 from 8:45 - 11:15 am to **Spare Time Bowling** in Groton. Permission slips went home last week. We'll be focusing on team building and also celebrating the huge success of all our students for successfully transitioning from elementary school to **Clark Lane Middle School!** The Egret teachers are proud of you and are looking forward to this fun activity with their students!

6th Grade Science News

"Students have been learning the scientific theory about how the solar system formed. They are showing what they know through performances such as game shows, songs, skits, news reports, etc. I've never seen them more engaged in their learning!"

Way to go, Egrets! Thank you for sharing, Mrs. Venditti.



Connecting with our 8th grade









The **Sea Star Team** will be going on a field trip on November 3, 2023 (with a rain date of November 9). We are headed to Fort **Griswold** and **Fort Trumbull**. Students should dress for being outside and will need to bring a lunch.

Students will attend their \underline{F} period class upon returning. They know that they are responsible for any missed assignments.











Connecting with Clark Lane Middle School's

Art Department

November 2023

Art News

The CLMS Community Murals located in the M-Wing of Clark Lane Middle School is a dedicated space for 8th grade students and staff to purchase an individual mural space for \$10.00. The donation helps to offset the costs of paint and materials involved in preparing and producing this mural.

Our **Community Mural** provides an opportunity for our 8th **graders** to design and paint a mini-mural before they move up to high school, *leaving a visual legacy* at **Clark Lane Middle School**. Contact Mrs. **Provo-Parker** at CLMS for details.



CLMS Art Department Wish ListGift certificates for paints and painting

supplies are always welcome!

Science & Art

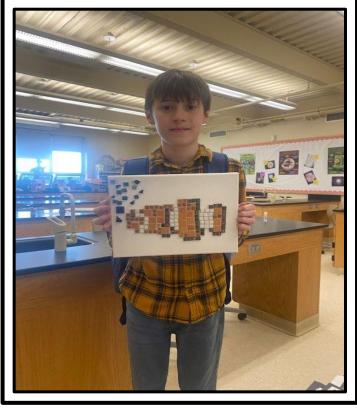
Connecting Science to the Arts

Here is 7th grade student, Alexander Stasko, and his clownfish that he freehanded with tiles. Alex created this piece in the special elective offered by 7th grade Science teacher, Mrs. Quiles.

Amazing work, Alex!

Thank you, Mrs. Quiles, for sharing!

Students interested in learning more about this class should **speak** to their school counselor!



Connecting with Clark Lane's



Music Department



November 2023

Spread the word!

Clark Lane Middle School's

Jazz Band meets on Tuesday mornings before school. If you play a band instrument, guitar, piano or bass, see Mr. Robarge for more information!



CLMS Band Visits Coast Guard

On Tuesday, October 31st, the Clark Lane 7th and 8th grade bands traveled to the Coast Guard Academy in New London to participate in an educational concert by the US Coast Guard Band. Several of the CLMS Band members have parents who are in the Coast Guard Band and it was a terrific event overall.





Photos courtery of Mr. Robarge



ATTENTION MUSIC STUDENTS!



See your music teacher for

Eastern Regionals Audition Music



Winter Concert for Grades 7 and 8 is on Tuesday, January 30th

Winter Concert for Grade 6 is on Wednesday, January 31st

More information will be shared as those dates get closer:

Connecting with Clark Lane Middle School's

Physical Education Department November 2023

A message from the PE Team at Clark Lane

Students in PE class just completed their fall "practice" mile. Throughout the school year, students will participate in a variety of warm-up programs and fitness activities to increase their cardiovascular endurance. Classes will run the mile again in the spring as part of the **Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment**. Clark Lane's fastest runner was 7th grader, **Eli Ramos** with 5:57!! **Congratulations**, **Eli!**

PE classes have been hiking at **Stenger Farm Park**, located across the street from **Clark Lane Middle School**. Students have been building their cardiovascular endurance while observing nature and enjoying the beautiful fall weather!

-PE Team

Ms. Shannon, Mrs. Livingston & Mr. Lloyd



Photos cowitery of the PE department

Clark Lane WORLD LANGUAGE NEWS





Connecting our corner of the globe to yours November 2023



Dans la classe de français

6th graders have just learned numbers, up to #31, so we can start our calendar unit this week, where they'll be learning days of the week and months of the year, as well as holidays celebrated in France! This is always a fun unit! They'll learn about *La* Toussaint, a holiday celebrated on Nov. 1st in France and Saint Nicholas, to name a few. They've also just completed reciting two tongue twisters in French! Please ask them to share with you!

7th graders are now in Unit 2, which focuses on verbs, as well as activities and sports. They have learned how to conjugate regular -er verbs, which will be our focus all year! Ask them to sing you the -er verb song!

8th graders graders have just learned the irregular verb avoir, as well as some useful expressions, and will be learning physical characteristic vocabulary over the next couple weeks. They should be able to describe how someone looks, including themselves! Be on the lookout for a self portrait!







A classe linguae latinae

ompleting a project for a story they read in class. They are now diving back into the text to create a comic strip slideshow for the events that took place, all in Latin! In the process they have learned about Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Mt. Vesuvius, and the importance of these towns for archaeologists today.

7th graders have just finished learning about subjects, direct objects and verbs, and the role they all play in sentences. They have also learned about the typical Roman house - the layout and uses and names for the various rooms. They will now begin discussing Roman meal-time norms and foods. They will be creating their own villas at home using the medium of their choice!

8th graders have completed learning about the perfect and imperfect tenses and their uses in Latin. They have learned about the beginnings of the Trojan War, and are now beginning our Iliad unit where students will read a modified version of the ancient story and learn about the various characters involved.



En la clase de español

6th graders have just finished learning the about Spanish speaking countries and are now learning numbers in spanish. They will use the numbers to talk about how old people are and how many items there are. In our next unit they will numbers to talk about the calendar and birthdays.

7th graders are finishing up their first unit and are now ready to learn adjectives to describe people's personalities. It sounds simple but this involves a good understanding of the gender of Spanish nouns and agreement! We will explore a few famous people from Spanish speaking countries too.

8th graders have learned more details about the celebration Día de Muertos. They should be able to tell you how this celebration is not the same as Halloween!

We will then resume working with the verb 'SER' to describe things in the singular and plural forms. Eighth graders will learn new adjectives and will review agreement to describe nouns in Spanish.

After School Clubs @ Clark Lane Middle School

November 2023



The Connections Program offers a variety of afterschool clubs for students here at Clark Lane Middle School. These clubs offer students the ability to get involved in activities they enjoy after school and to meet new people and connect with the school.

Generally, club meeting days & times are announced over the morning announcements; however, there is also a bulletin board outside of the Assistant Principal's office where staff members post club flyers! Students: be sure to check this out!

Clark Lane Players (Clark Lane's own Drama Club) meets from mid-October through early April. Listen for announcements or

see Mr. Barry in L102 for more

Information!

Flyer enclosed with audition dates!



Clark Lane's Gaming Club?

This club meets on Mondays in **Room M101**. *Come find out what it's*













Join Corn Hole Club on Mondays! See Mrs. Long or Mr. Nevins for more information!

After School Clubs @ Clark Lane Middle School

November 2023

French Club Opdate



The French Club has met a couple times so far this school year to plan activities for National French Week, which we'll be celebrating November 13th-17th at Clark Lane. Students have planned trivia questions to be read on morning announcements, made displays for around the school, have organized dress-up days and will be hosting a Paint Event after school on November 15th with CLMS Art teacher, Mrs. Provo-Parker, who will be leading us in a painting by Henri Matisse. To participate in this event, see Mrs. Deojay in L200. Space is limited! **Information is** included in this edition!

Perler Bead Club meets on (most) Tuesdays. The upcoming meeting dates are:

November 14th, December 5th & December 12th

Did you know the verb perler (in French) means to bead?





Come join us! Sign up in L200.



CLARK LANE UNITED is a new after school club for learning about student-focused diversity and equity issues. In this club, you'll learn about various cultures/backgrounds found at Clark Lane Middle School and work on your empathy and perspective-taking skills through adult guided discussion and multimedia

projects. See Mr. Nemeth for more information!



Meetings are Wednesdays after school in S106.

Late Buses...What you Need to Know

Late buses run Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays unless there is a faculty meeting, which is typically the first Monday of the month. If late buses are not running on a particular day, it will be announced. Students take the late bus that goes to their area of town. Students will be issued a bus pass from the adult they are staying after school with, or they can get picked up in lieu of taking a bus. Late buses arrive at school at 3:40 pm.

After School Clubs @ Clark Lane Middle School

November 2023



Come join Rubik's Cube Club!



MATH COUNTS







Join Mrs. Joyner for MATH **COUNTS!** This club meets on Tuesdays after school in S105. Competition coming up in February.

Stay tuned for more information!

This club meets Mondays after school. Currently, we are working on the mosaic in the lobby. Come join us!





Feeling Stressed?

Stress Free Club meets every Wednesday in the back of the library through the first week of February. Students have the options of reading, coloring, listening to music and doing puzzles. We also do art projects! See Miss Koning for more information!

The **STUDENT COUNCIL** is a group of students elected by their peers to address issues of concern and organize student events and activities. Ms. Barnes reports, "This year, so far they have drafted an outline of events for the year, have organized the Wall of Honor for Veterans Day, have drafted a spirit day schedule for December and are currently assisting Waterford Youth Services with their efforts to **Stuff the Bus**."

Co-Presidents – **Logan Couture**, 8th grade & **Ivanka Hugo**, 7th grade

Treasurer – Jack Bassett, 8th grade

Secretary – Ella Woznicki, 7th grade

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 8th to count donations!

After School Clubs @ Clark Lane Middle School

November 2023

Baking Club Opdate



The first meeting of the CLMS

Baking Club was held on October

23rd. Mrs. Loguidice reports that
participants had a chance to become
familiar with our kitchens and to
prepare a festive fall treat...

Candy Corn Cookies.

Meetings will be held approximately twice a month so students should listen to the announcements for sign up information. Space is limited; sign up is on a first come first served basis.







Clark Lane's GSA Club meets every other Tuesday after school for the entire school year. Mr. Higgins and Mrs. Heller are co-advisors. The GSA Club members carved pumpkins after school on October 24th and will likely have their annual "Friendsgiving" feast in November. Stay tuned for more information on the morning announcements to participate!





Photos cowitery of Mrs. Heller



After School Clubs @ Clark Lane Middle School

November 2023

Students from the Spanish Club offered a variety of activities to celebrate Hispanic Heritage at Clark Lane Middle School





Students had the opportunity to play games that kids their age play in Spanish speaking countries











Other students learned how to make *calaveras de azúcar* (sugar skulls) after school with **Señora Dearborn**.







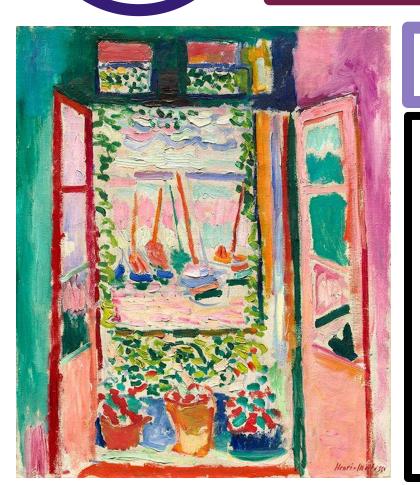


On celebration of National French Week Come Paint with US!

After school on November 15, 2023 until 4:30 Students will need to arrange transportation home!

IN
ROOM
M117
All supplies provided!

SPACE IS LIMITED. SIGN UP WITH MME. DEOJAY IN L200! FREE to CLMS students \$10 for adults



Proceeds to benefit the National French Junior Honor Society

Re-create your own Henri Matisse, (French, 1869-1954), *Open Window*, Collioure, 1905. Oil on canvas.

> Led by CLMS Art teacher, Mrs. Provo-Parker

Clark Lane Players

Our 2023-24 Theatre Production

AUDITIONS

MUSIC CLASSROOM L102

Tues. Nov. 14, Mon. Nov. 20 | 2:45 PM

Informational Meeting will be held Tuesday, October 31, after school in the Music Classroom.

Students auditioning will be asked to read from scenes and/or sing songs. No preparation needed. You only have to attend one day of auditions.

See Mr. Barry for more information.



Connecting with staff

November 2023



In each of our monthly issues, we'll introduce you to our staff here at **Clark Lane Middle School** and give you a little *up close and personal*. In this issue, you'll also meet the following **NEW** staff members:

Patrick Barry, Chorus/Music teacher (& new Drama Coach)

Lynne Hietala, CLMS Building Substitute

Megan Joyner, ESSER Tutor **Bryce McIntire**, Special Education teacher

Shannon Murphy, School Psychologist

DID YOU KNOW...

the hallways in Clark

Lane (starting in the back of the school, which is near the Main Entrance) go: C, then L, then M and finally S, which is the hallway or wing that runs parallel to Clark Lane? For visitors and new students, it's nice to point out that the hallways spell C-L-M-S! Who knew??

This month's



Ms. Shannon PE teacher

This is Ms. Shannon's 6th year in WPS. Ms. Shannon loves skiing in the winter and being on the water (either on a jet ski or a boat) in the summer, coaching soccer in the fall and lacrosse in the spring, playing soccer, working out, cooking and spending time with her family and friends. She's traveled to around 16 states in the US, but has been to 11 different countries including ones in Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania!

Wow!

She grew up in Waterford, CT, so that means she's a Lancer through and through!

Some of her other favorites: Favorite Subject in Middle School: PE...of course!

Favorite Candy? KitKats

Favorite Season? Fall

Favorite Book? The Nightingale

Favorite Food? Homemade pulled chicken

tacos and guacamole

Connecting with staff

November 2023

This month's



Mr. Robarge

Band L103

Mr. Robarge has been in WPS for eight years and grew up in Norwich, CT. He enjoys running, woodworking, boatbuilding, gardening, reading. His favorite book, in fact, is "The Overstory" by Richard Powers. Mr. Robarge is looking forward to "The TOTALLY AMAZING CLMS Band" this school year!

Some of his favorites:

Favorite Day of the Week? Friday

Favorite Candy? Raisinets

Favorite Season? Fall

Favorite Food? **Chinese**

Favorite Subject in Middle School?

Woodworking



This month's



Mr. McNeil

7th grade, Science M116

This is Mr. McNeil's 23rd year as a teacher in WPS, not including the twelve years he spent here as a student himself! Mr. McNeil grew up in the Pleasure Beach area of Waterford and enjoys hiking, traveling, wood carving, archery and cooking. When asked about his favorite book, Mr. McNeil shared, "It's hard to choose. I read 18 books this summer!" Along with reading, Mr. McNeil traveled to the Pacific Northwest and Canada over the summer. He's actually been to 48 of the 50 states! Wow!

Some of his favorites: Favorite Candy: Toblerone Favorite Day of the Week? **Friday** Favorite Season? He says, "I like them all; however, summer is pretty great." **Favorite Subject in Middle School?**

Science, of course! 🧘



Connecting with Staff

November 2023





Mr. Barry

Chorus/Music teacher L102

Mr. Barry attended the **Tisch School of** the Arts at New York University. This is Mr. Barry's **first year** in WPS although, he grew up in Waterford. Mr. Barry shares, "I attended Clark Lane back when it was a junior high school for grades 7 and 8. I was very fortunate to have the opportunity to explore many subjects I enjoyed: music, cooking, sewing, woodworking, metals and French."

Other things to know about Mr. Barry: **Favorite Book? THE GREAT GATSBY** Favorite Food? Pizza!

Favorite Hot Beverage? Caramel apple

cider



Favorite Candy: Mr. Goodbar



Miss Murphy

School Psychologist M₁₀5

Miss Murphy is thrilled to be here at **CLMS**. She shares, "I know Waterford Public Schools values a quality education for students and nurturing positive relationships with students and families. CLMS is a supportive community of dedicated educators and professionals." Miss Murphy grew up in Preston/Canterbury, CT and over the summer, traveled out of the country for the first time to Italy and Scotland! She spends time with her cat

Chubbies, who is 19 years old, reading, traveling, going for walks and crafting with her Cricut machine.

Her other favorites include: **Favorite Holiday? Christmas** Favorite Hot Beverage? Coffee **Favorite Subject in Middle School?** Health class



Connecting With Staff

November 2023



Ms. Hietala

CLMS Building Substitute

Ms. Lynne, as she is referred to by students, is in her first year at Clark Lane Middle School. She grew up in Westerly, Rhode Island and spent the summer going to the beach and museums with her family and spending time with her Goldendoodle, **Jaxson**. Ms. Lynne enjoys studying astrology, cooking and traveling. When asked what she is looking forward to this school year, she says, "Inspiring and learning." Welcome to Clark Lane, Ms. Lynne!

Some of her other favorites include: Favorite Day of the Week?

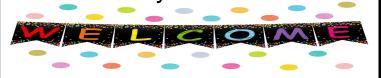
SATURDAY

Favorite Candy? Cadbury fruit and nuts bar

Favorite Season? Fall

Favorite Food? Spicy Thai dishes

Favorite Holiday? Easter







Mr. McIntire **Special Education teacher M119**

Mr. McIntire is in his first year at Clark Lane Middle School, but was in Madison for ten years. He grew up in West Chester, PA and has actually lived in 10 different states and traveled to too many to name! Wow! Mr. McIntire, or Mr. Mac, if you prefer, spent his summer traveling and shuttling his kids around. Interestingly enough, his hobbies include anything his kids are doing!

His other favorites include: Favorite Holiday: Memorial Day Favorite Book: Welcome to the

Monkey House by Kwit Vonnegut

Favorite Candy: Anything sour (sour patch kids/warheads)

Favorite Day of the Week: FRIDAY **Favorite Subject in Middle School:**

Social Studies

Welcome to Clark Lane, Mr. Mac!

Connecting with Staff

November 2023

Waterford Public Schools is hiring!

If you know someone who is interested in learning about job opportunities, they can look at job postings listed on AppliTrack via:

www.applitrack.com/waterfordschools/onlineapp

Waterford High School Sports

Assistant Girls Basketball Coach (.5)

Assistant Boys Swim and Dive Coach

Assistant Fencing Coach

Assistant Girls Lacrosse Coach



- Special Education Teacher Avery Point
- Tutors
- Maintainer
- Paraprofessionals
- Van Drivers
- Lunch and Recess Aide OSW & QH
- Playground Aide / Lunchroom Monitor GN
- Substitute Secretary
- Substitute Teachers
- Substitute Paraprofessionals
- Substitute Custodians
- Substitute Food Service Workers
- Substitute Courier
- **Building Substitute WHS**



Miss Joyner

ESSER Tutor S117

Miss Joyner joins us this year, after having graduated from Franklin Pierce University in Rindge, New Hampshire. She shares, "I am new to the district. However, I was drawn to Waterford because this is where I went to school and I admire the community." This summer, Miss Joyner spent most of the summer at Totem Pole Park in Freedom, NH on Lake Ossipee, but she also enjoys skiing and going swimming at the beach and spending time with friends and family. Miss Joyner is looking forward to Spirit Week, and seeing all of the students/staff dress up and support their grade/school.

What fun!

Her favorites include: **Favorite Holiday? Christmas** Favorite Book? Midnight Library **Favorite Subject in Middle School?**





Meet the Explorer's Café Crew

Making connections through food...

November 2023

In this edition of the Clark Lane Connects, you'll "meet" some of the students from the Explorers Program and **Explorers Elective** who help make **The** Explorers Cofé such a HUGE success at Clark Lane Middle School.



My name is Nadine. I have been working in the café for: TWO YEARS! My favorite job is cleaning and setting the tables. My favorite part of café is decorating for the holidays! What fun!



My name is Fiona. I have been working in the café for two years. My favorite food to make **and eat** in café is blueberry muffins! 😂

My favorite job is being on the cash register.

Stay tuned to meet more of our "staff" in upcoming editions of the Clark Lane Connects!

Interested in visiting or learning more about our café?

Please reach out to Miss Sullivan.







Hi, my name is Adam. I'm verv new to the Explorers Café, but I love being a waiter and serving my teachers food. My favorite thing to make in the café is pancakes. Yum!





My name is Cristin. This is **my first year** in the café. My favorite thing about the café is delivering food and working in the café. My favorite thing to eat is **bacon!**



My name is Carmine and I've been working in the café for three years. My favorite job is taking phone orders. My favorite thing to make is pancakes. 🍩 My favorite part of the café is when I get to eat with my family.



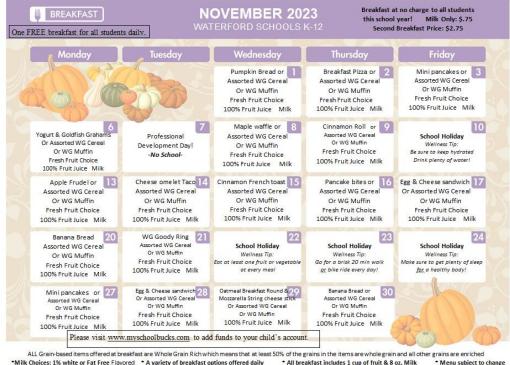
My name lis Griffin. This is

my first year working in the café. My favorite job is being chef. My favorite thing to make is the boxed breakfast. My favorite thing to eat is bacon or tater tots. My favorite part of the café is when we get to eat leftovers!!

In what's cooking? &

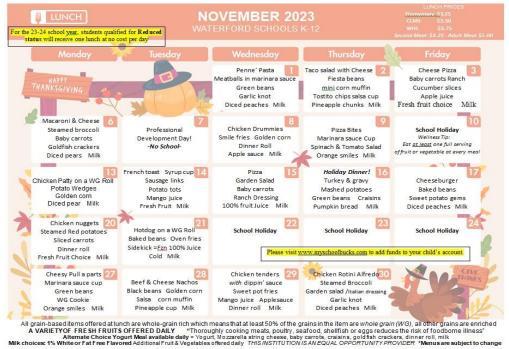
in Clark Lane Middle School's cafeteria

November 2023



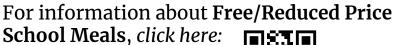
**Like Grain-Deade inters fortered a dreamast are whole crain is known, market at least 500 of the grains in the reference inches grain and outer grains are enriched.

*Milk Choices: 15s white or Fat Free Flavored ** A variety of breakfast options offered daily ** All breakfast includes 1 cup of fruit & 8 oz. Milk ** Menu subject to change This institution is an equal opportunity provider "Thoroughly cooking meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish or eggs reduces the risk of foodborne illness"



Students riding the bus who want breakfast in the morning **should** report directly to the Old Gym once they get off the bus and then immediately head to Homeroom for attendance. If your student is a parent drop-off in the morning, those students wait in the cafeteria until the bell and can get breakfast there as they come in before Homeroom.

Breakfast is **FREE** for all students.











Join the CLMS PTO

Connect with us!

November 2023

Thank you to everyone who came to our first PTO meeting and to those who purchased items through our first merchandise pop-up store of the year! More merch sales with our new vendor - Matt Fiano, CLMS parent and owner of North Swell in Mystic, will be coming later this year. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. We appreciate your support of the CLMS PTO!

~Kate McDonald, President kste78@hotmail.com

Please make sure to **like** our Facebook page for the most updated information about events, fundraisers and volunteer needs.



🌉 CLMS Basket Bonanza

We are looking for people to join the Annual Basket Bonanza Planning Committee. The BASKET BONANZA is held in late March and brings in a significant portion of the CLMS PTO budget. It is always a great night with lots of support from the CLMS and Waterford communities. We need volunteers to help with donation solicitation, basket assembly, day of logistics and more. Please contact Jen Juliani at jlwo973@vahoo.com



Our biggest need for help right now is assistance on Monday, November 20th to sort/distribute the Lyman Orchard Pie & Cookie Dough orders. There are slots beginning at 9am and running through 6pm to accommodate as many people/schedules as possible. If you are available to help, please visit the sign up genius link below.





8TH GRADE COMMITTEE

Our 8th grade Committee plans to get started earlier this year to plan the 8th grade dance, promotion and other end of year activities. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact

Therese Foss at:

maytherese@gmail.com



Our next meeting is
Tuesday, November 28th
at 5 pm
CLMS Library or

on Zoom