

# WILDCAT NEWS

Central Middle School

December, 2021

Hartford Jt. #1 School

## Principal:

Hello CMS Families!!

We are 4 months into the year and the time is flying along fast. By this reading, students are getting ready to start their holiday break. We have inched into a normal school year this year. We had a traditional Open House, music concerts, field trips, a school dance, and students are rotating back to classes.

***You're off to great places, today is your day!  
Your mountain is waiting, so get on your way!  
- Dr. Guess***

It has been really nice to see the energy from the students encountering a more normal school experience.

When we return on January 3rd, 2022, we will have 5 months left of school. The new calendar year will kick us into gear.

Events to expect in the new year:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Exact Path Diagnostic completion
- 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grade elective registration for the '22-23 school year (February)
- 8<sup>th</sup> graders meet with HUHS counselors @ CMS to discuss high school (February)
- National Junior Honor Society induction (March)
- PTO 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Talent Show
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade school tour to prepare for 6<sup>th</sup> grade
- PTO Color Run (May)

We will continue to push Exact Path, work to close learning gaps, foster positive relationships during Wildcat Strong and help to fulfill our school vision to make school exciting each and every day.

I hope you have a relaxing, healthy holiday with your families! I am looking forward to some rest and relaxation with my family; to rejuvenate, to hit the new year hard, focused, and ready to go.

Happy Holidays!

*Mr. Viste*

## *Calendar of Events*

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- 12/23 – 12/31 – Winter Break
- 1/3 – Classes Resume
- 1/11 – PTO Meeting 6:30 pm
- 1/20 – End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter
- 1/21 – No School/Inservice Day
- 1/24 – Start of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
- 1/25 – District School Board Mtg.  
@ District Office 6:00 pm
- 1/28 – Report cards mailed home
- 2/8 – PTO Meeting 6:30
- 2/21 – No School/Inservice Day
- 2/22 – District School Board Mtg.  
@ District Office 6:00 pm

**For a full listing of  
events, see our District  
Web page.**

<https://www.hartfordjt1.k12.wi.us/central-middle-school/cms-calendar>

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:

### **Stocking Stuffer Ideas:**

“The sixth-grade staff would like to wish all of our students and families a great holiday season. As we return from break and continue our quest for a great school year, we’d like to stress the importance of being prepared. Coming to class with all of your supplies (including pencils, Chromebook and charger, your agenda, and all other materials necessary for the particular class) is a great first step to success. If you are in short supply of items such as pencils and earbuds, restocking your supplies would be a great thing to do over break. Together we can make 2022 a successful year at CMS!”

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade:

With the final week of Rock Transformations, 7th grade students did research on volcanoes. They presented to their classmates and then were able to have their volcanoes erupt outside. The students were able to learn about a variety of volcanoes and the plate boundaries they are on. Students learned about volcanoes near and far. Yes, there are volcanoes in the United States! They told us if they were active, what type of rocks they are made of and their last eruption. Knowing how rocks form is just one of the many wonders of Science that we will explore this year.



## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:

As we look forward to returning to school next month, the 8th graders will be completing their second diagnostic tests. The first week of January students will complete math diagnostics and the following week will be reading and language arts. Remind students to take their time and work to improve their scores. In January, the 8th graders will be exploring careers with the school counselor during math and ELA classes. This will help prepare students for choosing their high school electives courses. It will be helpful to begin thinking of high school registration which will occur in February.

## Applied Fine Arts:

### Art:

**6th and 7th grade** students have been busy working on yearbook cover designs, contour and gesture drawing with figures and self-portraits and now they are finishing up clay projects.

**8th grade 2D art** students created yearbook cover designs, figure drawings and are currently working on self-portraits using charcoal and chalk.

**8th grade Pottery** students completed two different clay projects, a pinch pot animal and a coil pot. They are currently working on a slab box which will be completed before the break. They will be glazing all of these before the end of the quarter.

### PLTW:

**6th grade** - Students have been working on and understanding coding and physical computing using a Microsoft make code and working with a micro bit. The functions are varied based on the inputs and outputs they have attached to their micro bits.

**7th grade** - Students have been working on understanding how different types of science affect their everyday lives. We've experimented with chemistry concepts, explored and tested nanotechnology, and will end the quarter working with the basics of simple machines and physics.

**8th grade** - Students have been studying alternative energy sources. They had a chance to design, build, and test blades of a wind turbine in order to determine the most efficient design. They've also been digging in to studying other energy sources like solar, geothermal, hydrogen, hydroelectric, and biomass.

### Tech Ed:

**7th Grade** - Home Maintenance has worked recently on learning electrical, how to patch a hole in drywall, and now figuring out how to tile a floor. They have continued to build off of the subsection of wall that they have framed out and continued to add pieces of different projects along the way.

**8th Grade** - The woods class has been working on assembling the bases to their stools, countersinking the screws, and plugging those countersinks. We have learned about the band saw and Disc sanders and are preparing to learn about the router and what it can do.

### **Virtual:**

Students are working to complete second quarter principles of Game Development, Fashion Design, Career Exploration, French, and German.

### **Band, Orchestra & Choir:**

The Band, Orchestra and Choir performed the annual CMS Christmas Concert on December 15. It was a wonderful evening of festive music that featured every music student in the school! Sounds of all kinds - strings, winds, percussion and voices - joined to share joyful tidings of the season to the tremendously supportive and appreciative audience. Thank you to the parents and families of the students, and congratulations to over 450 young musicians of Hartford on a fantastic accomplishment! Keep up the GREAT WORK!

## **Updates from Student Services** **(Ms. Morrow and Mrs. Griebenow)**

### **Groups:**

**Boys Lunch Group:** Boys group has concluded for the semester. Stay tuned for more group opportunities throughout the school year!

**Girls Lunch Group:** Girls group will meet twice more in the month of January (1/11, 1/25). So far the girls have built friendships with each other and have worked on skills that help them recognize what healthy friendships look and sound like. We will discuss self-esteem and coping skills for stress in January

### **Community Corner:**

We now have a space filled with extra clothes, gift ideas and school supplies for students in need. This space is available for all students to access with permission from an adult. If you would like to donate items to the community corner, please contact Ms. Morrow at [amorow@hjt1.org](mailto:amorow@hjt1.org) or Zara Radtke at [Radtke@hjt1.org](mailto:Radtke@hjt1.org).

### **Academic and Career Planning**

Students will be completing Xello Lessons in the next few months. These lessons will help students begin pursuing career goals by looking at skills needed for different job occupations and what classes can help prepare them for their future ambitions. We will also discuss skills such as time management, learning styles, and self-advocacy.

### **Schoology Page**

Students can request to meet with Mrs. Griebenow (School Psychologist) or Ms. Morrow (School Counselor) to address academic or personal/peer concerns. The Counseling Schoology page has a Google Form for them to fill out to request a meeting. If you have any concerns about your child that we can assist with, please contact Ms. Morrow or Mrs. Griebenow at school for more assistance.

## Clubs/Activities/PTO:

### Student Council:

The CMS Student Council went to the Leadership day at the Fiserv Forum on December 1, 2021. We did a 3-hour leadership convention with the Bucks, ate dinner in downtown Milwaukee, and then got to experience a Bucks game against the Charlotte Hornets. The final score was Bucks 127 and Charlotte 125. It was a great game, a great day and a great experience.

### Forensics:

The 2020/21 forensics season is well underway. With a couple meetings under our belt, students have each picked out categories to perform in and the pieces that they are excited to start practicing. This year we are thrilled to have the option to perform in person. We even have a meet scheduled here at Central for March 4th. We will be looking for plenty of volunteers. More details will be sent as it approaches. It isn't too late to sign up for those that are interested! We can still take new applicants for the program in early January. Our first meet is tentatively scheduled for February 4th. See or email Mrs. Gierach if you are interested. Be sure to practice those pieces!

### Musical:

We are excited to announce that this school year's musical will be *Annie, Jr!* Stay tuned for a Parent/Student informational meeting and auditions following Winter Break for the show that will be performed in April. It might a *hard-knock life* during rehearsals but by April, the cast will shine *like the top of the Chrysler Building*.



## Community Coordinator:

Central students have been doing a great job utilizing Exact Path as a tool to minimize learning loss and enrich the learning they're doing in the classroom! In the month of November, students spent almost 3,000 hours working on their individualized learning paths, and they mastered a whopping 2,832 skills. An update sharing your child's progress was sent home with students earlier this month.

Each month, as an extra incentive to try their best, students have a variety of opportunities to be rewarded for their Exact Path successes.

- The highest performing Wildcat Strong group in each grade level for the month has been treated to ice cream and dodgeball. November winners were Mrs. Bastien's 6th grade group, Mr. Huckstep's 7th grade group, and Mrs. Lopez's 8th grade group.

- Individual students earn an entry into a grade level prize drawing for each trophy they earn. For the month of November, Rider Kahle, Alex Hoffman, and Jayden Markeland- Bowitz were the winners of a gift card to Sky zone Indoor Trampoline Park! The December winners will be drawn soon after we return from Winter Break.
- Building-wide challenges are set up each month, and all students meeting different levels of goals are rewarded. In November, around 100 students earned a box of candy, an ice cream treat, or a Mineshaft game room gift card. I hope to see that number grow each month!

I encourage you to talk with your child regularly about what they're working on in Exact Path, find out what goals they've set for themselves, and how they're doing earning trophies. Students are also encouraged to work on Exact Path learning paths at home during Winter Break. Exact Path is a great tool to help boost our students' success!

- Mrs. Thurmer  
Community Coordinator

## Get your Yearbook!!

The last chance to order is before Spring Break, so make sure to order now!

# ALL IN THE YEARBOOK

Sports. Dances. Memories. LOLs. The 2022 Central Middle School yearbook is one your student definitely won't want to miss.

**ORDER YEARBOOK** ›

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## SET A REMINDER

Can't order your yearbook now? Set a reminder on your phone to order by Friday, January 28, 2022. You won't want to forget!

**MORE INFORMATION** ›

