

Freedom Middle School



in the middle

November 2024



Hello and welcome to the “*In the Middle*” monthly newsletter. Enjoy reading about all of the great things happening here at Freedom Middle School!

GO IRISH!!!!

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Important Dates:

Friday, Nov. 1	12:30 dismissal; PM inservice
Monday, Nov. 4	End of Quarter 1
Monday, Nov. 11	MAPSS meeting 5:00pm; Veterans Day Program 1:00pm
Monday, Nov. 18	School board meeting 6:30pm
Tuesday, Nov. 26	Appleton Christmas Parade
Thursday, Nov. 28	No school Thanksgiving break
Friday, Nov. 29	No school Thanksgiving break

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Important Reminders:

- ★ School starting time is 8:00am. Ending time is 3:21pm. Students should be in their 1st hour class no later than 7:55am.
- ★ Turn in all appointment notes to the office. This will help in regards to the 5 and 10 allowable absences from the state.
- ★ Early release time is 12:30.

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Dr. Methner

Hello FMS Parents and Guardians!

You may have heard your children referring to "IRISH HOUR" over the past few weeks. Irish Hour is a time when all students have access to additional instruction from their core teachers. This is a time for reteaching, preteaching, targeted skill development, and enrichment.

Regardless of your student's GPA, Wisconsin Forward test score, or our local screener Fastbridge, all students need extra help from time to time. Irish Hour provides that structure and adds a time for enrichment in fun, engaging activities. I am proud of our staff who have jumped into Irish Hour with both feet!

If you aren't already doing so, please take a look at our Homework Hotline. This is a great resource that is updated daily on our school website.

The Homework Hotline will indicate upcoming assessments as well as daily homework, and is a great way to engage in academic conversation with your student. Here's a link to the page:

[Freedom Area School District - Homework Hotline](#)

To our students and staff: I continue to be impressed with your dedication to learning and school spirit. You are what makes Freedom Middle School a great place to be!

I encourage parents and guardians to reach out to me or to teachers with any questions or concerns. I can be reached via email at gmethner@freedomschools.k12.wi.us, or by phone at 920-788-7945 ext. 2309.

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6th Grade News

Social Studies: We just finished learning about the Paleolithic and Neolithic Ages. The students learned how people went from being hunters and gatherers to herders and farmers. Now we are learning about the early river valley civilizations such as Mesopotamia and Babylon. We will learn about how people of that time lived, their family life, their system of government, and their great achievements that impacted people for hundreds of years, such as the system of writing known as Cuneiform and Hammurabi's Code. Students are showing what they are learning through a Pixton comic. The next stop ahead will be Egypt!



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7th Grade News

7th Grade Writing

As students wrap up the writing of the autobiography, they will watch the life story of Ruby Bridges to help transition into our informative writing unit. Prior to writing our first informative piece as a class on the American civil rights movement, students will look at a number of sample essays on various topics to become familiar with the structure that accompanies this mode of writing. As we continue with our Patterns of Power Work, students will be working with compound sentences and semicolons. After completing the semicolons packet, students will take an open notes assessment on the first four Patterns: subject, predicate, compound sentence, and semicolon. A review will be done in class the day prior to the test.

7th Grade Reading

We are excited to be starting our new Nonfiction Reading Unit. During this unit, we will be reading *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James Swanson together as a class. The students will also be choosing a nonfiction narrative of their own for reading. This unit will emphasize getting students to think and write critically about complex texts. Students will work on developing their skills in reading narrative nonfiction texts, looking at the central idea development, thinking critically about nonfiction text structures, and analyzing key ideas, concepts, and events.

7th Grade Science

Greetings from 7 th Grade Science. We are currently in our chemistry unit. OpenSciEd calls this unit, “Chemical Reactions and Matter” We started out talking about matter, states of matter, substances and mixtures. We then moved in to discussing different properties of matter such as melting point, solubility and hardness. We used these properties of matter to develop several scientific principles which are the really big ideas. We are just starting the next part of this unit, chemical reactions.

BIRD OF THE MONTH: White-throated Sparrow. Yes there are several different kinds of sparrows and none of them are actually called “Sputzies” or “Little Brown Jobs”. This bird is migrating through Wisconsin right now after breeding in the Nicolet National Forest and further north to the tundra. Watch for a small brown bird with a white throat patch. Sometimes you can make out a small amount of yellow above each eye. It is most often seen on the ground around bird feeders. It has a very distinctive call. Some people think it is trying to sing “Oh, Canada, Canada, Canada”. Others hear, “Oh Sam Peabody Peabody Peabody”. Get outside and enjoy our wildlife!!!

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7th Grade News

7th Grade Social Studies

Hello Freedom Families!

Fall is finally here, and we will be a quarter of the way through the year in no time. How did that happen? In 7th grade Social Studies, we are progressing through history as well. We recently finished learning about Spanish conquistadors and their conquest of the Americas. We also learned about different parts of all civilizations. We focused on questions like...“How does the geography of an area impact its economy and culture?”

I have really enjoyed getting to know the Freedom 7th graders this year, and I believe we are off to a great start. In my opinion, the content throughout the year just keeps getting better and better. Next, we will be learning about the colonization of North America. What actually happened to the people of Roanoke?

As always, if you have any questions regarding your child’s experience in 7th Grade Social Studies, please reach out. Have a great week!

7th Grade Math

Grade 7 mathematics class recently dove into Unit 2 of the Illustrative Mathematics curriculum, which focuses on proportional relationships, ratios, and rates.

During this unit, your child will explore key concepts including:

- Ratios and Proportions: Understanding how to express and solve problems involving relationships between quantities.
- Unit Rates: Learning to calculate and apply unit rates in real-world contexts.
- Graphing Proportional Relationships: Developing skills to graph these relationships and interpret the resulting graphs.
- Real-World Applications: Applying proportional reasoning to everyday situations, such as scale drawings and percentages.

This unit aims to enhance your child’s mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills, preparing them for more complex concepts in the future. I encourage you to support their learning by discussing these topics at home and exploring examples in daily life.

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8th Grade News

On Wednesday, October 9th, 8th grade students visited Tsyunhehkwa Farm in Oneida to learn about the importance of White Corn to the culture of the Oneida people. While there, students learned how to harvest and husk the white corn. They learned about the many different uses for white corn. Students handled different artifacts and got to ask questions about their uses. There was a demonstration of playing a water drum and the singing of a traditional song.



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Encore Classes

Spanish—Mrs. Zabel I'm so proud of the Middle School Spanish students and all of their hard work. So much was accomplished this pentemester with students learning about various Hispanic Cultures and engaging in many learning activities. They were successful in learning how to say how they are feeling using verb conjugation, creating conversations, playing number games, and giving commands.....all in Spanish.

Exploratory Music- Mr. Brandt The school year is well underway now and all of our classes are in the thick of learning their first instruments. Moreover, our 6th graders just finished their music instrument booklet and the 7th/8th graders have completed their artist research projects! After this, we will be moving into musical symbols and develop our skills of reading and comprehending music notation.

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From the health office:

Reminders for the school year-

- If vomiting/diarrhea- your student must be 24 hours vomiting/diarrhea free prior to returning to school/co-curriculars
- Fever of 100.4 or greater, your student will be sent home. Your student must be 24 hours fever free without the use of fever reduction medications prior to returning to school.
- All medication must be brought to school/picked up from school by a parent/guardian
- Bring in your emergency medication forms and medications. If a medication is kept on person, a physician must indicate that in the letter/form.
- If there is a change in your student's health condition/diagnosis, physical restrictions, please let the nurse know. Phone is 920-788-7944

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Full Student Meal is \$1.35 Reduced is \$0.30 Extra Milk \$0.40				
Freedom Middle & High School Breakfast: November				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 Belgian Waffle & Cheese Omelet Apple juice
4 French Toast Sticks & Sausage Patty Orange juice	5 Frosted Cinnamon Roll Applesauce	6 Sausage Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich Banana	7 Breakfast Smoothie Orange	8 Belgian Waffle & Cheese Omelet Apple juice
11 Sidewinder Breakfast Basket Orange juice	12 Frosted Cinnamon Roll Applesauce	13 Sausage Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich Banana	14 Pancake & Sausage on a Stick Orange	15 Belgian Waffle & Cheese Omelet Apple Juice
18 French Toast Sticks & Sausage Patty Orange juice	19 Frosted Cinnamon Roll Applesauce	20 Sausage Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich Banana	21 Chocolate Strawberry Overnight Oats Orange	22 Belgian Waffle & Cheese Omelet Apple juice
25 Hashbrown Casserole Orange juice	26 Frosted Cinnamon Roll Applesauce	27 Sausage Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich Banana	28 No School - Happy Thanksgiving	29 No School

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Full Student Meal is \$3.00 Reduced is \$0.40 Extra Milk \$0.40				
Freedom Middle & High School: November Lunch Menu				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 Early Release - Turkey Club & Potato Chips Assorted Fruits and Vegetables
4 (1) Chicken Wings (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	5 (1) Rotini in Spaghetti with Meatballs (2) Chicken Tenders (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	6 (1) Chicken Alfredo Flatbread (2) Hot Dog (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	7 (1) Spicy Chicken Sandwich & French Fries (2) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	8 (1) Popcorn Chicken Bowl (2) Pizza Dippers (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables
11 (1) General Tso's Chicken with Fried Rice (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	12 (1) Mini Corn Dogs w/ Macaroni & Cheese (2) Chicken Tenders (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	13 (1) Baked Potato Bar (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	14 (1) Pulled Pork Nachos (2) Breaded Chicken Sandwich (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	15 (1) Tomato Soup & Grilled Cheese (2) Pizza Dippers (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Assorted Fruits and Vegetables
18 (1) Orange Chicken with Fried Rice (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	19 (1) Chicken Alfredo & Garlic Breadstick (2) Chicken Tenders (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	20 (1) Egg Omelet with French Toast Bake (2) Hot Dog (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	21 (1) Beef Nachos (2) Spicy Chicken Sandwich (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	22 (1) Popcorn Chicken Bowl (2) Pizza Dippers (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits and Vegetables
25 (1) Chicken Nuggets & Pretzel w/ Cheese (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	26 (1) Rotini in Spaghetti with Meatballs (2) Chicken Tenders (3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	27 (1) Sloppy Joe & Potato Chips (2) Cheeseburger (3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	28 No School - Happy Thanksgiving!	29 No School

A full student lunch includes a choice of entrée supplying protein and grain, two (2) vegetable side dishes, one (1) fruit side dish, and a choice of milk.