



Freedom Middle School

in the middle

April, 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:

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Monday, April 1 | No school, Spring break |
| Friday, April 5 | End of quarter 3 |
| Monday, April 8 | MAPSS meeting 5:00 pm library |
| Friday, April 12 | Summer school registration ends |
| Monday, April 15 | Board meeting 6:30 pm |
| Tuesday, April 16 | Pentemester 4 ends |
| Wednesday, April 17 | Pentemester 5 begins |
| Friday, April 19 | Early dismissal 12:30; PM inservice; final day to pay for summer school |

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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. Lunch runs from 12:00 - 12:30. If your student will be leaving during the lunch time please call the school ahead of time so that your child can have a pass to leave.

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Dr. Methner

Hello FMS Parents and Guardians!

March was another great month at FMS, and spring here (or at least that's what they tell us)! Here are some highlights:

- Coach Gibbons and Coach Van Rossum lead our boys' varsity basketball team to the sectional finals-Great Season!
- Our middle school band and choir students had a strong showing at our annual solo and ensemble competition. Many thanks to Mr. Brandt, Mrs. Delany, Mrs. Wright, and Mr. Gajewski for their hard work with our students!
- A randomly selected group of 8th grade students were chosen to take part in the NAEP Science Test. What a great way to show our academic strength!
- The MAPSS group put on our first annual Irish Pride dance. We had a good turnout and everyone showed their Irish Pride on the dancefloor!

Each year, our students in grades 6-8 take the Wisconsin Forward exam. This assessment is a valuable tool for our school as it provides a snapshot of our proficiency levels in math, English language arts, science, and social studies. I am extremely proud of our staff and students for their academic work, and hope that you are too! Please encourage your student(s) to take the exam seriously and try their best!

As always, 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 gmethodner@freedomschools.k12.wi.us, or by phone at 920-788-7945 ext. 2309.

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Counselor's Corner - Mr. Jason Bins

Greetings Freedom Middle School Stakeholders and where did the first seven months of school go? Thank you for your support and guidance thus far and as we move forward!

The middle school counseling department is working on a number of items in April including preparing for our upcoming Forward Testing, finishing our year strong academically and socially/emotionally.

We will continue our focus on Academic and Career Planning at all grade levels. In these push-in lessons, we work with students to explore careers and the pathways to getting there.

April also continues our fifth to sixth grade transition. To do this, we work with the FES counselors to slowly introduce our fifth graders for their upcoming building change, so they can be productive members of the FMS student body.

We are also continuing work on rapport building with our students, but adding an emphasis on family communication and building relationships with families to support the students at FMS.

With this said, I encourage you to let me know if there are "things" going on at home which may impact your students' day at school. This could be as simple as sending me an email that says "HANDLE WITH CARE - STUDENT NAME." This will alert me that

will not be followed with questions. Just a communication of receipt and an email to your child's teachers to provide extra grace to your student. Teachers/staff have been trained to not follow up with questions to your child, but just to provide the extra grace and understanding.

Your communication could also be more detailed with pertinent information to support your child's day at Freedom Middle School. As always, this information is protected by counselor confidentiality ethics (voided by potential or current physical harm to parties involved) and legitimate educational interest law.

As I often tell students, my entire role at FMS is to support the social/emotional wellbeing of the students of FMS. Please let me know how I can support your students as they continue their path into adulthood through Freedom Middle School!

Thank you for your support of Freedom Middle School and its students and staff! Please let me know what I can do to help your student. I can be reached at (920) 788-7945 (x2288) or via email at jbins@freedomschools.k12.wi.us.
Water the Bamboo! -JB



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News from 6th Grade

6th graders finished up their Earth Science unit with a National Park summative project. They created websites to inform others about how water shapes the landforms in the park they chose and showcase their knowledge. Links to some websites are inserted below.

[Acadia National Park by Aleah Frieders](#)

[Glacier National Park by Alyssa Stelow](#)

[Bryce Canyon National Park by Drew Glaske](#)

[Petrified Forest National Park by Tenley Lang](#)

[Canyonlands by Madden Vue](#)

[Rocky Mountain National Park by Keegan Kneisler](#)

[Channel Islands National Park by Laine Moser](#)

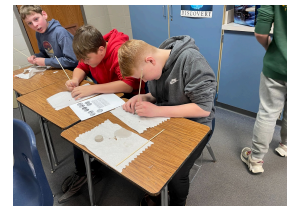
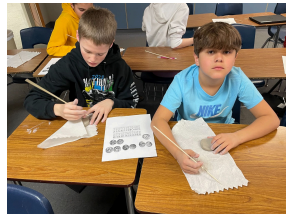
[Yellowstone National Park by Romeo Contreras Hernandez](#)

[Everglades National Park by Jamarus Williams](#)

[Gates of the Arctic National Park by Kian Arndt](#)

[Zion National Park by Luci Smith](#)

Social Studies: Creating Greek Coins



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News from 7th grade

7th Grade ELA

In April, students will focus on writing. We'll work on some paragraph-writing to begin the month in preparation for the Wisconsin Forward Exam before moving into our argumentative writing unit. Students will do some preparatory work in coming up with supports to arguments and counterarguments before writing a five-paragraph research essay regarding a four-day school week.

April holds our final independent reading project of the year. Just like the March project, students can finish their book early, fill out the prep sheet, then ask the teacher for access to the project which will be due at the end of study hall on Friday, May 3. Students always need a book to read during the school day, so if they finish early, they can read any book of choice.

7th grade math

We just started the second half of the geometry unit with measuring figures. This chapter will include real-life problems involving area, surface area, and volume to be solved by using formulas.

Thank you again to all the families that brought in food items for Pi Day. It was a very successful day.

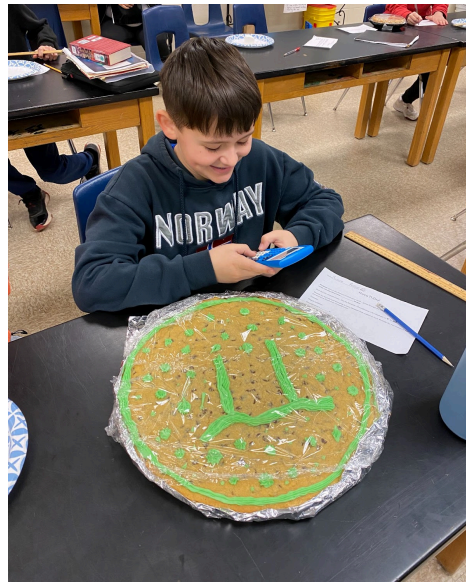
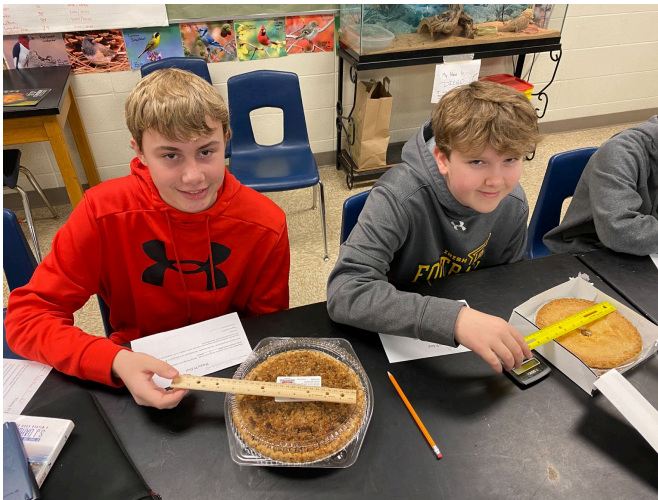
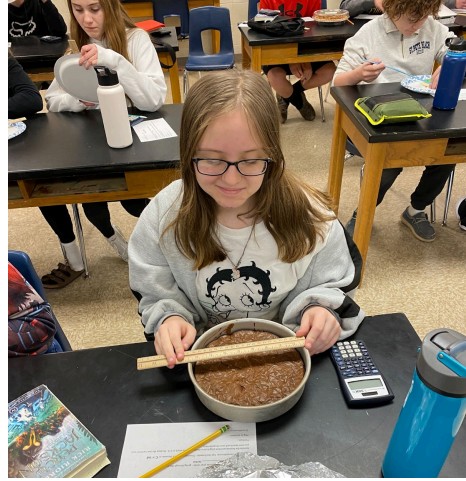
7th Grade Science

Greetings from 7th Grade Science, We are in our fourth and final portal in IQWST. The focus is cellular biology this time. We are currently investigating the idea that all organisms are made of one or more cells. We will move through the structure and function of cells and then into tissues, organs, organ systems and organisms as we close out the year.

Bird migration is well under way. Keep your eyes open for returning swallows, sparrows and warblers. The bird of the month is the Yellow-rumped Warbler. This is typically our first of several warblers to return. It is about the size of the sparrow and can be found in most woodlands foraging on insects at the tops of trees.

In seventh grade social studies, students will be studying the Revolutionary War.

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News from 8th grade

On March 14th, Math 8 students took the Chapter Two test where they had to display their understanding of a fundamental Algebraic skill - solving equations. They put in a lot of work and built a solid foundation for Algebra next year! The students then ended March by beginning Chapter 3 - which they will be working on for the majority of April. In Chapter 3, the students will learn about equations with two variables. They will be finding the slope of a line, writing the equations of lines, and graphing lines.

Algebra students will spend much of the month of April learning Chapter 8 - where they will study Quadratic Expressions and Equations. In the first half of the chapter, they learn to add, subtract, and multiply polynomials. In the second half of the chapter they will learn all about factoring and using the zero-product property to solve polynomial equations.



Third quarter went up in smoke in science as we wrapped up our unit on Chemistry. The focus of our learning was on the carbon cycle. Specifically, we dug deep into photosynthesis, getting to the root of the chemistry that drives the plant world. Then, we turned our focus to cellular respiration, warming up in the winter chill by running across the parking lot to analyze breathing, heart rate, and oxygen levels in our bodies. As we used oxygen to break down glucose and produce ATP, carbon dioxide and water.

As fourth quarter approaches, we will begin a pilot of the science curriculum, OpenSciEd, that will lead us into the 2024-25 school year and beyond. This should open the door to more engaging science for students with deeper understandings and learning opportunities.

ELA- In ELA, we wrapped up our class novel and moved back into independent reading. Students have a requirement to read for twenty minutes each night. As a bonus, they have a Spring Madness Bingo Challenge that can earn them extra credit points. One of their tasks is to get a recommendation from a parent or guardian, so let them know about your favorite literature. Check out the BINGO board to help them get those reading points.

We will also be moving into persuasive writing paragraphs. These tend to be a student favorite with their debate potential.

NAME _____ DATE _____ CORE _____

Spring Madness Reading Challenge 2024

Directions: For the remainder of the year, see if you can complete five independent reading assignments in a row and get BINGO! If yes, you will earn extra points. For each book, record the title, author, and number of pages. Then, have the teacher initial each box when finished.

| B | I | N | G | O |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| Read a book with a cover that says "purple, blue, yellow, green" (or any other colors). | Read a book featuring a character named "C" or a book that has a word referring to a "home, mansion" in the title. | Read a book recommended by a friend. | Read a book with a main character that is your age. | Read a book featuring a main character that is a love interest in it. |
| Read a book featuring basketball OR a book that is the third one in a series. | Read a book set in a different country. | Read a book featuring a character that has the most interesting reading habit or job. | Read a book your teacher loves. | Read a book about animals. |
| Read a book your parent or guardian recommends. | Read a book about a historical event. | FREE SPACE | Read a book with more than three hundred pages. | Read a book featuring a report of your choice OR a book about a nature setting, a break of some kind. |
| Read a book that has been turned into a movie. | Read a book with a one-word title. | Read a book featuring a girl OR a book whose title has a word in it that's usually girl (purple, single, green). | Read a book published this year. | Read a book that was an award. |
| Read a book featuring a character OR a book where you get all confused up with a section. | Read a book with a magical theme. | Read a nonfiction book. | Read a book featuring a character OR a book with people on the cover from something. | Read a book by your favorite author OR the book you most recommend to others. |

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EnCore Classes

Exploratory Music

As the final quarter of our year moves into view, exploratory music starts looking a little different. Our instruments take a rest as we explore topics such as composition, music history, and famous contemporary musicians. Music is all around us, in the car, at the grocery store...everywhere! Before the year ends we hope to discover some of the music that exists in our big world.

Español: Hola! Interaction with each other through teamwork is a big part of Exploratory Spanish classes. Most days, students partner up with someone to practice their Spanish-Speaking Skills or Spanish Writing Skills. We do this through learning games, practice and drill activities, daily questions, interactive conversations, flashcards, puzzles and competition. Partnered activities are a great way to get students involved in language learning in a fun, interactive way. Señora Zabel

Band and Choir

We are so proud of our music students! The 7th and 8th graders that performed at Solo Ensemble Festival did an outstanding job! All students will be receiving medals - way to go!

Don't miss our upcoming Spring Concerts!

6th grade band and choir:
Monday, May 6th at 6:00 PM in the Field House.

7th and 8th grade band and choir (along with high school): Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00 PM at the Weidner Center for the Performing Arts.

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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.
- 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 or Email is akazik@freedomschools.k12.wi.us

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Summer School Registration ends April 12, 2024

Summer school registration opened on March 21 and it closes at 8:00am on Friday, April 12. Final payments for courses must be made by Friday, April 19.

All course booklets can be found on our district website. Please note, your child will be required to attend the course(s) they sign up for. Students won't be allowed to switch courses once summer school is in session.

FMS Run/Walk Club



The FMS Run/Walk Club has started up again! All students in grades 6-8 are invited to attend practices after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students who are in other spring sports can also join; attendance is not mandatory. Students will increase the distance as we build endurance to run the Bellin 5K or 10K on June 8, 2024, in Green Bay. Others not able to participate in the Bellin are welcome, too.

Through the Kids for Running program, participants receive a discounted registration fee of \$20 for the Bellin Run. That includes your child's race bib, timing chip and official Bellin Run T-shirt. Go to www.bellinrun.com, and our school code is 1850.

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Middle/High Lunch Menu

Menu Subject to Change

April 2024

USDA is an equal opportunity provider & employer

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| 1 No School | 2 Beef OR Chloken Taacos Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 3 Brunoh for Lunoh OR Sub Sandwich Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 4 Fish Sticks OR Sloppy Joe Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 5 Pizza Pooket OR Cheese Pizza Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk |
| 8 Turkey Club OR Mini Corn Dogs Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 9 Naoho's OR Cheeseburger Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 10 Chloken Alfredo OR Ham & Cheese Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 11 Chloken Tenders OR Hot Dog Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 12 Pizza Boat OR Corn Dog Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk |
| 15 Chloken Sandwich OR Ham & Cheese Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 16 Beef Taacos OR Chloken Nuggets Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 17 Grilled Cheese OR Grilled Ham & Cheese Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 18 Fish Sticks OR Rib Patty Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 19 Bag Lunch Vegetable Fruit Choice of Milk |
| 22 Chloken Patty Sandwich OR Pizza Pooket Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 23 Beef OR Chloken Burrito Bowl Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 24 Pizza Pooket OR Popoorn Chloken Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 25 Corn Dog OR Penne Pasta & Meatballs Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 26 Stuffed Crust Pizza OR Hot Dog Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk |
| 29 Chloken Nuggets OR Rib Sandwich Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | 30 Naohos OR Chloken Tenders Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk | Student Lunch \$3.00 Reduced Lunch \$0.40 Adult Lunch \$4.35 Extra Carton of Milk \$3.00 | The Foodservice Department welcomes your questions or comments. Please call 788-7960 ext. 3301 | A positive foodservice balance is required to participate. A la Carte Items Rice Krispy Bar \$1.25 Muffin/Granola Bar \$0.75 Dbl Ch Oatmeal Bar \$0.75 MEGA Meal \$1.50 Water \$1.25 Snapple \$1.75 |

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR KIDS IN OUR COMMUNITY!

\$21.50/hr. starting, and bonuses totaling more than \$2,400!

School bus drivers needed for AM routes, PM routes and after-school trips.

CHECK OUT THE PERKS:

- Part time, flexible hours that work around your life.
- Child ride-along program for school bus route drivers.
- Health insurance benefits after meeting requirements.
 - 401(k) and Roth retirement options.
- Best compensation package in the area!

**MUST BE 21+ WITH GOOD DRIVING RECORD
NO EXP. NEEDED • COMPLETE PAID TRAINING**

Lamers Bus Lines is a family-focused company that takes pride in being a part of your community, offering employees longevity and stability in employment. Lamers Bus Lines is an EOE/AA Employer.

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N4289 Vine Rd.
Freedom, WI 54130
920-687-2671

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