

Freedom Middle School

in the middle

January 2025



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!!!!

Important Dates:

Wednesday, Jan. 1	No school/winter break	
Thursday, Jan. 2	Classes resume	
Monday, Jan. 13	MAPSS meeting 5:00pm	
Friday, Jan. 17	End of Quarter 2	
Monday, Jan. 20	No school/records day; School Board meeting 6:30pm	
Wednesday, Jan. 22 - Friday, Jan. 24	Scholastic Book Fair 8:00a - 3:30pm	
Monday, Jan. 27	National History Day/ FMS Showcase Night 5:00pm - 7:30pm	
Tuesday, Jan. 28	National History Day judging	

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.



Dr. Methner

Hello FMS Parents and Guardians! Please take note that we will have our first-ever FMS Showcase Night on January 27th from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM. This new event will be an opportunity for you to see the many wonderful things that are going on here at Freedom Middle School.

Activities include:

- Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
- Art Show

- National History Day Displays
- Classroom Exhibits and activities
- Silent Auction of the old FMS sign letters.

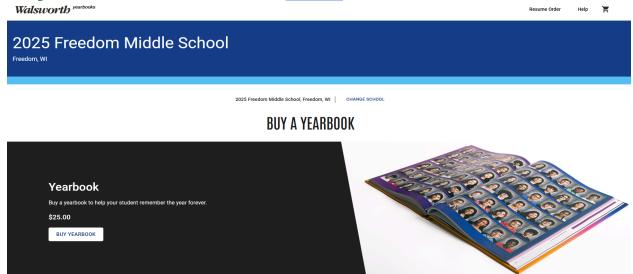
I can be reached via email at gmethner@freedomschools.k12.wi.us, or by phone at 920-788-7945 ext. 2309.

GO IRISH!!!





Buy a Yearbook! Click here for link.



Upload photos to be put into YEARBOOK by following the instructions below.



You take great photos every day. Send us your best photos for consideration in the Freedom Middle School yearbook!

2 WAYS TO SUBMIT - YOUR PHOTOS TO THE YEARBOOK STAFF:

Download the Yearbook Snap mobile app from the App Store or Google Play, and enter our access code: fmsyearbook

OR

Go to yearbookforever.com, enter our school name, click on Yearbook Snap and enter our access code: fmsyearbook

6th Grade News

Roses are red, the math books are too.

Look at these students, working on math problems. Woo-hoo!

They work together learning life long skills.

Math is full of many thrills;

like adding, subtracting, multiplying, dividing, and MORE!

Math, oh-math, is something to ADORE!





The 6th graders have been working on the new I-M curriculum. They work together in groups during class and are now getting used to the "NEW" ways of math. It has been fun to see the students grow and demonstrate a better understanding of math through I-M. **Change is good!**

In **Social Studies**, we are just finishing our exploration of Egypt including the Old, Middle, and New Kingdoms, as well as the different Pharaohs in each kingdom. We learned that the Egyptians worshiped different gods such as Re (The sun god), Hapi (The river god), and Osiris (The god of the underworld). The Egyptians used the process of mummification to preserve the bodies of their dead, especially the pharaohs. They believed that the pharaohs would have an after-life which explains the building of the great pyramids as tombs. The tombs stored many of the pharaoh's possessions, some of which were discovered by archaeologists in the "Valley of the Kings" where King Tut was discovered. We learned that Egyptian culture contributed many things to past and present cultures in the areas of mathematics, medicine, and the development of an early form of paper called papyrus.

7th Grade News

7th Grade Writing

As we head into writing in January, students will be completing two informative essays: one covering the Wizard of Oz and one covering Jackie Robinson. The first will use the gradual release method doing some of the work as a whole class, some as a partner, and some individually. The Jackie Robinson essay will be done individually. Patterns of Power work will continue in December with run-on sentences and subordinate clauses.

7th Grade Reading

We are excited to share that we have successfully wrapped up our nonfiction reading unit, where students explored a variety of texts and honed their skills in analyzing informational content. As we move forward, we will be focusing on reviewing key literary terms through the exploration of short stories, allowing students to strengthen their understanding of narrative elements. Following this, we will transition into an independent reading project, where students will dive into their new books and create a comprehensive book project to showcase their learning and creativity. We look forward to seeing their enthusiasm and growth as they continue to explore different genres and deepen their reading skills!

7th Grade Math

In 7th grade math we started Unit 4 of our Grade 7 math curriculum. The focus of this unit is on proportional relationships, ratios, and percentages.

- Key Topics Covered:
 - Proportional Relationships: Identifying and working with proportional relationships between quantities.
 - Ratios and Rates:
 Understanding how to compare two quantities using ratios and rates.
 - Percentages: Learning to calculate and apply percentages in real-world situations.

Applications: Using proportions and percentages to solve everyday problems (e.g., discounts, tax, interest rates).

7th Grade Social Studies

Hello, everyone! Happy Holidays!

Throughout December, we have learned about all the events leading up to the American Revolution. Please ask your child(ren) about events such as the Boston Massacre or the Boston Tea Party. Furthermore, we have started to dive into our National History Day projects which will be displayed for you to view on Monday, January 27th. The students have chosen a topic that fits with this year's theme: Rights and Responsibilities.

I would like to wish you all a safe and joyful break.

7th Grade Science

Greetings from 7th Grade Science. We are approaching the end of our energy unit. The unit focused on the anchoring phenomenon of converting the chemical energy stored in an MRE heater into heat energy to warm up the food. After that, we took a look at the engineering process. 3rd quarter will be on metabolic reactions and ecosystem dynamics and biodiversity. 4th quarter will be on matter cycling and photosynthesis and earth's resources and human impacts.

Wisconsin Bird of the Month: The Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco. This purple/slate colored member of the sparrow family is a common feeder bird seen throughout the state through fall, winter and early spring. It mainly feeds off the ground so if you want to attract it to your yard, sprinkle some black-oil sunflower on the ground under your feeders.

Here's hoping your holiday is restful and full of family time. Happy holidays and see you in January.

8th Grade News

SOCIAL STUDIES

We are in the midst of our National History Day project in the eighth grade. Students have been researching various topics related to the theme "Rights and Responsibilities in History." On December 13, a number of students had the opportunity to visit the UWGB library to research their NHD topic. The students will be completing their NHD projects in early January with a due date of January 10. All students will then participate in our History Day Showcase on Monday, January 27, 2025 as part of the Middle School Showcase Night. The 7th and 8th grade students will have their NHD projects on exhibit in the Green Gym for all to see during the Showcase Night.

ELA

We have been busy in eighth grade ELA this quarter learning about culture and belonging through the textbook, articles, videos, and activities. As part of this unit, we are requesting the following involvement from you.

First, we are in need of donations for our service project for local refugee families. Early in the culture and belonging unit, students had the opportunity to hear two speakers from World Relief-Wisconsin, former Freedom student Phil Stoffel and his colleague Molly Smiltneek. World Relief-Wisconsin is a nonprofit service organization that helps our local refugee community settle into life in the Fox Valley. On that note, World Relief regularly needs donations, so we would like to help settle families into new homes by donating items to World Relief-Wisconsin. Students will have access to the list of requested items in their Google Classroom. Monetary donations are also accepted. This project goes until the end of the unit on January 31.

Additionally, to recognize the cultural traditions celebrated by many people, we would like to offer students an opportunity to enjoy a variety of cultural cuisines. We will have an end-of-unit celebration including a shared feast on Friday, January 31. For this event to take place, we are asking for your assistance. If you are willing to provide students with a cultural food item that may allow them to try something new, we would welcome and appreciate those donations. Otherwise, we are also accepting monetary donations. Check your email to read more details about this meal.

Finally, on January 31, in addition to our shared meal, we are going to the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center to watch the performance of Cirque Kalabante's *Afrique en Cirque*. The description of the show is as follows: "You'll be in awe of acrobats executing gravity-defying moves accompanied by contemporary sounds of live Afro-Jazz, percussion, and kora in an unforgettable journey inspired by daily life in Guinea. Share the beauty, youth, and artistry of African culture."

Thanks for helping to enhance our unit plans by supporting our service project and sharing your ideas and/or donations for our cultural food celebration.

Encore Classes

Exploratory Music:

It's beginning to look a lot like....wait a minute...wrong song! As the calendar flips over and the 2025 school year begins our focus shifts to how songs are created and the art of composition. In their grade levels, students will be looking at song form and even work on composing their own song!

Band and Choir:

Congratulations to all of our FMS band and choir students on their beautiful holiday concerts! We are so proud of all of your effort and dedication to our music program and the joy you brought to so many in the audience. A huge thank you to the friends and family members of these awesome students for sharing them with us and for showing both the kids and the music teachers such amazing support!

January will be busy for the 7th and 8th graders with All Star band and choir preparations, solo and ensemble rehearsals, and all grade levels will be continuing musical rehearsals and performances too! (January 31, February 1, and February 2)

Be sure to watch for tickets for "Shrek, Jr." that will be going on sale once we return from our winter break.

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 in its original container. This does include over the counter medications.
- 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.

Scholastic Book Fair

Where: MS/HS Library

When: January 22-24 8:00 - 3:30

January 27 Showcase Evening 5:00 - 7:30

Dear Families: Get ready! The Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the middle school library and is coming your way (YAY!). Choosing their own books empowers kids and inspires them on their journey to becoming life-long readers. AND—as always—every purchase at the Book Fair benefits our school.

During the book fair students may bring cash or cards to purchase book fair items. Another convenient way is through **eWallet**—your child's digital payment account. Before the fair, set up an eWallet for worry-free, cash-free purchases for your child. Visit our **Book Fair Homepage** to learn more and get started with eWallet.

https://www.scholastic.com/bf/freedommiddleschool4

The countdown to more Bookjoy is on! Catch you at the Fair! Mrs. Zabel

Here is a link for our brand new online interactive menus!
These menus can be used to filter allergens, count carbs, see ingredients, etc. - Freedom Online Menus

Full Student Meal is \$1.35 Reduced is \$0.30 Extra Milk \$0.40							
Freedom Middle & High School Breakfast: January							
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday			
			2 Banana Bread	3 Belgian Waffle & Cheese Omelet			
			Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals			
6	7	8	9	10			
French Toast Sticks & Sausage Patty	Banana Chocolate Chip Oatmeal Bar	Sausage Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich	Banana Bread	Belgian Waffle & Cheese Omelet			
Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals			
13	14	15	16	17			
French Toast Sticks & Sausage Patty	Frosted Cinnamon Roll	Sausage Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich	Banana Bread	Belgian Waffle & Cheese Omelet			
Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals			
20	21	22	23	24			
Staff Work Day - No School	Banana Chocolate Chip Oatmeal Bar	Sausage Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich	Banana Bread	Belgian Waffle & Cheese Omelet			
	Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals			
27	28	29	30	31			
French Toast Sticks & Sausage Patty	Frosted Cinnamon Roll	Sausage Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich	Banana Bread	Belgian Waffle & Cheese Omelet			
Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals	Variety of Cereals			

Full Student Meal is \$3.00 Reduced is \$0.40 Extra Milk \$0.40							
Freedom Middle & High School: January Lunch Menu							
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday			
		1	2 (1) Pulled Pork Quesadilla	3 (1) Popcorn Chicken Bowl			
			(2) Spicy Chicken Sandwich	(2) Pizza Dippers			
			(3) Cheese & Pepperoni	(3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza			
			Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables			
(1) Boneless Chicken Wings	7 (1) Mini Corn Dogs w/ Macaroni & Cheese	8 (1) Baked Potato Bar	9 (1) Chicken Soft Tacos	10 (1) Tomato Soup w/ Grilled Cheese Sandwich			
(2) Cheeseburger	(2) Chicken Tenders	(2) Hot Dog	2) Breaded Chicken Sandwich	(2) Pizza Dippers			
(3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza	(3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza	(3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza	(2) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza	(3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza			
Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables			
13	14	15	16	17			
(1) Orange Chicken w/ Egg Roll & Fried Rice	(1) Chicken Alfredo w/ Breadstick	(1) Strawberry Parfait & Granola	(1) Beef & Cheese Nachos	(1) Popcorn Chicken Bowl			
(2) Cheeseburger	(2) Chicken Tenders	(2) Cheeseburger	(2) Spicy Chicken Sandwich	(2) Pizza Dippers			
(3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza	(3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza	(3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza	(3) Cheese & Pepperoni	(3) Cheese & Pepperoni			
Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables			
20	21	22	23	24			
Staff Work Day - No School	(1) Pizza Pasta Bake w/ Breadstick	(1) Sloppy Joe Tator Tot Casserole	(1) Chicken & Waffles	(1) Chicken Noodle Soup & Turkey Sandwich			
	(2) Chicken Tenders	(2) Hot Dog	(2) Breaded Chicken Sandwich	(2) Pizza Dippers			
	(3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza	(3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza	(3) Cheese & Pepperoni	(3) Cheese & Pepperoni			
	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables			
27 (1) Chicken Nuggets & Soft Pretzel	28 (1) Spaghetti & Meatballs	29 (1) Pulled Pork Nachos	30 (1) Chicken Bacon Ranch Flatbread	31 (1) Popcorn Chicken Bowl			
(2) Cheeseburger	(2) Chicken Tenders	(2) Cheeseburger	(2) Spicy Chicken Sandwich	(2) Pizza Dippers			
(3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza	(3) Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza	(3) Cheese & Sausage Pizza	(3) Cheese & Pepperoni	(3) Cheese & Pepperoni			
Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables	Assorted Fruits and Vegetables			

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

Milk choices include skim white, 1% white and non-fat chocolate. Menu subject to change. Please contact Logan Wilson, Director of Dining Services
284-5570 This institution is an equal opportunity provider.