

## Dear Center School Parents/Guardians:

September has come to an end already! The school year is well underway and moving quickly.

Hopefully everyone (students and parents) have either created a daily routine or have gotten back into the school year routine by now. I know how important that is, trying to catch the morning bus, driving children to clubs and activities, getting homework and studying done in the evening, and getting everyone to bed on time.

The upcoming month of October has much to offer, as you will see by the calendar. After school clubs will be starting up, we have the 5K run in a couple of weeks, and we hope to see you all at parent-teacher conferences.



## FROM THE CLASSROOMS:

### High School

Ms. Gibson's Applied Science classes completed their first research papers and Google Slide presentations. They are studying brain disorders and how they impact the quality of life. Their focus was on Alzheimer's Disease.

Our TCS Science students have already performed 3 laboratory activities: Metric Math Buffet #1, which focused upon measuring mass; MMB #2 which highlighted finding volume, and MMB #3 which emphasized working with length. Our Science students learned the respective units of measure for each type of measure: mg g and kg for Mass; ml, L for Volume; and mm, cm, m, km for Length. Each weekly lab consisted of 10 lab stations. Perhaps you can ask your teen why each lab is called Metric Math Buffet?

Students also learned that the metric system is a/k/a Systeme International and that of approximately 190 countries in our world, only 3 use non metric measurement systems: Liberia, Burma, and.....USA! Within our class discussions, students took advantage of the cross curricular connection with Geography (Michael Jordan's major @ North Carolina) to find where in the world Liberia and Burma were located. Maksim was the first student to place clear push pins to ID all 3 countries on our classroom world map. Congratulations.

Going forward, our syllabus calls for Math and Science connection practice in converting between metric units of measure. These skills will be emphasized over the next several weeks, and discussions held in greater detail about the origins of Systeme International (SI).

Dr. R's Consumer Math class found the monthly cost of living in an apartment based on whether they lived by themselves or had one or two roommates. Dr. R's Algebra 1 part 1 class has been learning about exponents and order of operations. In her Algebra 1 class students have been looking at pictures of groups of squares that change over time to find patterns that predict the number of squares in each picture.

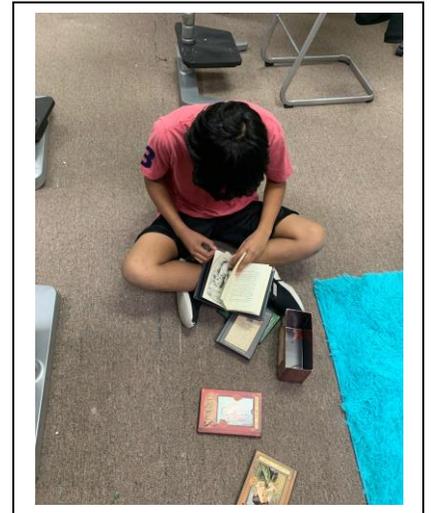
## **Middle School**

Mrs. Burak's English class continued to read Sign of the Beaver. The book refers to Robinson Crusoe. Students were then given the task of choosing five items to take with them on a deserted island. Their lists were both creative and practical. In Ms. Akushie's class students completed their unit on mystery stories by Edgar Allan Poe. For a final project, students are creating suspenseful mystery stories using literary characteristics taught during LAL. In Ms. Small's LAL class, students worked on word study and phonics through identifying hard and soft G and C sounds in words. Students also worked in groups to create posters reflecting Chapters 1-6 of Freak the Mighty and presented their posters to the class. They are continuing to read, discuss, and review the book as a class. Ms. Harrison's class is using perspective to understand and provide support for whom is responsible for the creature's actions.

Mrs. Burak's science class finished a chapter on various science skills. They will complete their first experiment next week. In Ms. Small's Science class, students reviewed chapter one "What is Life?" both verbally and in writing. Students will review the chapter more through discussion and a Kahoot (quiz game) this coming Wednesday and have a test on Thursday.

In Mrs. Burak's History class, students spent the week presenting their power points. Students gave each other constructive criticism. In Ms. Akushie's class the students are learning about the societies of Africa and how they competed for resources and trade. The students completed a graphic organizer that helped them summarize how each group adapted to their environment. In Ms. Small's Social Studies class, students completed their Catal Huyuk museum posters, watched an educational video on how prehistoric pottery was made, and are working on their own prehistoric pottery! In Social Studies the students in Ms. Harrison's class continued to make progress on building their volcanoes and discuss how they are both destructive and constructive.

A review of basic skills culminated this week in Mrs. Burak's Math class. They worked on skills such as PEMDAS, percentages, fractions, and decimals. In Ms. Small's Math class, students reviewed multiplication facts, practiced two digit multiplication, and were introduced to three digit multiplication. Next week, students will continue reviewing multiplication as well as learn to decode multiplication word problems.



## **Elementary School**

Have you ever wondered why dogs wag their tails? Our elementary students explored this question this week in Science. They learned that dogs are different than other pets because of their ability to interact with us. They also learned that being part of a group can help animals defend themselves from predators, obtain food, and cope with changes in their environment. Animals living alone have a much harder time surviving.

Students enjoyed a friendly, but competitive game of soccer on the field to celebrate a job well done on our fall NWEA assessments. We are incredibly proud of how well students self-regulated during testing, asking for breaks when they felt they needed them, and focusing to do their best work even when a question seemed difficult.



### **Music**

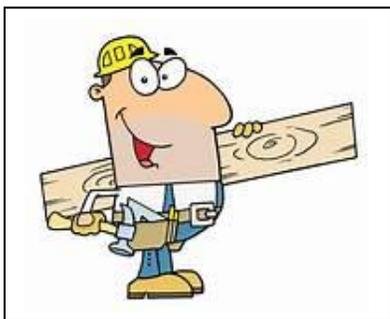
High School students are working diligently on their respective instruments. Elementary School students played a circle game “Charlie Over the Ocean” which teaches echo singing and they created 6 different patterns with quarter notes and quarter rests.

Middle School students continue working on boomwackers and are also creating music with Noteflight and Soundtrap which are two computer programs.

### **Art**

In Art, High School and Middle School students continued working on alphabet tessellations, or individual projects. The Elementary students continued work on construction paper sharks.

### **Woodshop**



Students are making good progress on their projects. Some students were able to take projects home this week. A few of the completed projects include: corner shelves and straight wall shelves. Other students started knock-hockey boards and are looking forward to completing them to start playing some knock-hockey! It is good to see the enthusiasm in the shop.

### **Therapeutic Dept.**

Middle and Elementary School students participated in another getting-to-know-you activity with Ms. Orr and Mrs. Gorski. The activity was called "What does my name say about me?" Students were given the opportunity to become better acquainted with their counselor and their peers. They created a poster representing themselves, decorated it, and wrote a sentence or adjective describing a unique aspect about themselves using each letter in their name.

## **School News**

### **NWEA MAP Testing**

This upcoming week NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) MAP testing will be held for middle school students. MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) tests are computerized tests offered in Reading, Language Usage, and Mathematics. When taking a MAP test, the difficulty of each question is based on how well a student answers all of the previous questions. As the student answers correctly, questions become more difficult. If the student answers incorrectly, the questions become easier. Therefore, the test is specifically created for your child's learning level. MAP tests are important to teachers because they keep track of progress and growth in basic skills. The test scores let teachers know where a student's strengths are OR if help might be needed in any specific areas. Teachers use this information to help guide individual and group instruction in the classroom.

### **After School Clubs**

After school clubs will be starting in October. They will be offered on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Clubs run from 2:45 – 4:30 pm. A flyer with club descriptions will be mailed shortly and the monthly calendar has October's club schedule. Permission slips will be coming home with the dates as well for October, November, and December. Please mark your calendars accordingly when signing students up for these clubs.

### **The Center School Open House**

October 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – 12:00pm, stakeholders in The Center School, in neighboring schools, and community members are all invited to our open house to meet staff and learn about our programs. Please RSVP to [kspotts@center.school](mailto:kspotts@center.school) or call 908-253-3870.

During the afternoon, there will be a professional development program for school leaders, teachers, counselors, and case managers to learn about HIB/Transgender/LGBTQ Law Updates. CEU credits will be given. Again Please RSVP to [kspotts@center.school](mailto:kspotts@center.school)



## **Center School 5K Run**

The Center School will be holding a fundraiser 5K Run/Fun Walk on October 27th, 2019 at Colonial Park, located in Somerset, NJ. The proceeds of this event will be used for student field trips, as well as student-centered activities during the 2019-20 school year.

The event will also act as an opportunity for staff, students, and their friends and families, to socialize and converse outside of the school setting. If you are interested in signing up for either the 5K Run or the Fun Walk, or would like to donate, you can do so by accessing the race website at [centerschoolmoves.com](http://centerschoolmoves.com). If you are interested in being one of the event sponsors you may contact us at [centerschoolmoves@center.school](mailto:centerschoolmoves@center.school).



## **Support The Center School when you shop on Amazon**

Every time you shop with Amazon, .05% of your purchase will be donated to The Center School. Use this link to start your Amazon Center School donations: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1933177>

## **IMPORTANT DATES:**

<b>Mon. Sept. 30</b>	Closed- Rosh Hashanah
<b>Wed. Oct. 9</b>	Closed- Yom Kippur
<b>Tues.-Wed. Oct. 15,16</b>	Early Dismissal- Parent-Teacher Conferences 1:30pm-8:00pm
<b>Mon. Oct. 21</b>	Picture Day
<b>Mon. Oct 21- Mon Oct. 28</b>	Character Counts Week
<b>Sun. Oct 27</b>	The Center School 5K Run
<b>Wed. Oct. 30</b>	Early Dismissal- Staff Professional Development Open House 9am-12pm

# Clubs and Events October 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 Spanish Culture MS/HS	2	3 Pride Club	4
7 Intramurals ES/MS/HS D&D /Adventurer's Guild	8 Cooking Club	9 School Closed	10	11
14 Intramurals ES/MS/HS	15 Parent/Teacher Conferences	16 Parent/Teacher Conferences	17 Newspaper Club	18
21 Wear Blue- Trustworthiness <b>Picture Day</b> Intramurals ES/MS/HS D&D/Adventure Guild	22 Wear Yellow- Respect History Club Spanish ES/MS	23 Wear Orange - Fairness	24 Wear Green- Responsibility Art Club Craft Club	25 Wear Red - Kindness
28 Wear Purple- Citizenship Intramurals ES/MS/HS	29 Music Club	30 Early Dismissal	31 Happy Halloween	<b>*Picture Day is Monday, the 21<sup>st</sup>*</b> Order BEFORE picture day at <a href="http://www.mylifetouch.com">www.mylifetouch.com</a> ID:WM229021Y0

## EVENTS

### Parent Teacher Conferences

Tues, the 15<sup>th</sup> and Wed. the 16<sup>th</sup> are conferences with your child's teachers. Please sign up for your time slot

### After School Clubs

After School Clubs at the Center School from 2:35-4:30  
Contact club coordinator on back if interested.

### Bike Club

Bike Club dates will vary according to the weather. Email Mr. Dobler if interested at [bdobler@center.school](mailto:bdobler@center.school)

Sincerely,



**Dr. Ronald P. Rinaldi**  
Principal