



Carrington Cougar Times

****Principal's Corner****

Carrington Families,

The state Smarter Balanced State Assessment testing is still currently in progress in grades 3-8. Our teachers have worked very hard to best prepare our students for these tests. I'm sure our students are going to show all that they have learned. Our teachers and students deserve a big round of applause and a big pat on the back for all of their hard work!

The end of the school year is quickly approaching. Please continue to make sure that your child completes homework and comes to school ready to learn. Don't let absences add up! Remember, if a student misses more than 20 days excused or unexcused by state law they will repeat the grade. Any questions please call the school to make an appointment with the attendance counselor. Our last day of school is scheduled for Tuesday, June 14th.

Karen Renna, Principal & Kristen Gwiazdoski, Vice-Principal



Upcoming Events:

- Spring Vacation – April 18th- 22nd – School resumes on April 25th
- May 4th – 1:05 Dismissal
- May 4th – Parent Conferences 5:00-7:00pm
- May 11th – 1:05 Dismissal
- June 10th – 8th grade Graduation

Pre-Kindergarten – Mrs. Mauceri, Mrs. McCulloch, Mrs. Weed

This month the Pre-K classes are learning about different ways we can move our bodies. We are introducing a lot of new vocabulary about movement. We are also learning about different types of dinosaurs. Mrs. Weed and McCulloch have a gym set up in their classroom and Mrs. Mauceri has a dance studio. We are learning the letters J, H, and I and the sounds that these letters make.

Kindergarten – Ms. McDonnell, Mrs. Riggi, Mrs. Varholak

Carrington Kindergarteners are preparing for the transition to first grade. We will soon begin practicing for the upcoming end-of-year ceremony. This ceremony will be presented to families and will highlight the skills the students have acquired.

In Math, we are working on solving addition and subtraction word problems and explaining how we solved them. We will also be describing and comparing measurable attributes of objects, (longer, shorter, taller, heavier, same, lighter).

In Language Arts, we continue to work on skills to increase reading achievement. We are working in our journals and practicing sentence structure and sentence dictation. We have also been practicing retelling stories by using flip books and retelling books.

Grade 1 – Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Boivin

In April, we will be entering Unit 4 in Language Arts. We will be doing author studies of Kevin Henkes, Helen Lester and Ezra Jack Keats. We will beginning a new unit in Foundations. In Unit 11, we will introduce a new vowel pattern, vowel-consonant-e. We have begun Module 4 in math. In this unit, we will focus on place value of two-digit numbers while learning strategies to add two-digit numbers with one-digit numbers as well as adding two-digit numbers with two-digit numbers.

Grade 2 – Ms. Feigenblat, Ms. Goggins

In ELA, second graders will be studying plays and the different types of poetry, to support our overall reading fluency skills. We will be focusing on the specific attributes of plays, poems, and the meaning of the author's work. Remember to read with your child for 20 minutes every night! In Science we will begin studying the ocean, and the different animals and species that live within it. In Math, second graders will be studying place value, and how to represent a multiple digit number using standard and expanded form. Please continue to practice math facts with your child at home.

Grade 3 – Ms. Ciccone, Ms. Dussault, Mr. GagnonIn April, students will learn to measure length to the quarter inch as well as explore line plots and rounding numbers to the tens and hundreds place. Third graders will also begin their final unit in reading which focuses on poetry and figurative language. In science and social studies-related activities, including texts and videos, we will learn about taking care of our Earth with an emphasis on the three R's. Students will study the value of reducing, reusing, and recycling Earth's resources.

Grade 4 – Mrs. Rodriguez, Mr. Parks

In April, the 4th grade will begin a new unit in Language Arts, "Myths, Legends, and Timeless Tales that Teach." Throughout this unit the students will be learning about the different attributes of Folk Literature, including Fairy Tales, Myths, Fables, Legends, and Tall Tales. The students will then apply those attributes as they write their own works.

In Math, the students will begin studying angles and lines. They will learn to use a protractor to measure angles and to name angles as acute, obtuse, or right. They will then begin to compose and decompose angles to find the sums of larger angles or the differences of smaller angles.

Grade 5 – Mr. Carosella, Ms. Hanley, Mr. Mollengarden

As April begins, our students will be preparing for the Smarter Balanced Test. Students will be taking the test when they return from spring break. In order to help your child succeed on the test, please ensure that they get a good night's rest, eat a healthy breakfast, review multiplication facts and read over the break! For the final marking period, students will be learning how to locate and graph ordered pairs on a coordinate plane and how to generate a pattern from a given rule, record the data in a table and create a line graph. For language arts, students will begin learning about and reading historical fiction stories. Students who reached their peak 80% of the month will attend their class's monthly reward. Miss Hanley's class will earn a spring party, Mr. Mollengarden's class will be having an ice-cream party, and Mr. Carosella's class will earn extra recess.

Grade 6 ELA Mrs. Piccirillo

For April, 6th grade English Language Arts students will be taking the Smarter Balanced Test. They will also be working on projects on animals. Included in the project guidelines are different ways that learners can write about a topic. Students will write entertaining pieces, informational pieces, and argumentative pieces about their chosen animal. They will also be writing for different audiences to demonstrate how an author's way of writing would change if they were writing for kindergartners versus 6th graders.

Grade 6 Math – Mr. Brault

Over the month or so students in grade six will be learning about geometry. Students will learn how to calculate the area of polygons. They will also learn how to find surface area of three dimensional figures.

In Science students will begin learning about the environment and the impact we have upon it.

Grade 7 & 8 Math – Mr. Hernandez

7th Grade Math

Module Title: Geometry

Conceptual Lens: Figures and Objects

Unit Overview:

Geometry surrounds us in buildings, furniture, bridges, product packaging, exercise equipment, cars...the list is endless. Geometry is also used in astronomy, art, medicine, and engineering. We will learn about the geometric properties and patterns that make these things work.

8th Grade Math

Module Title: Geometry

Conceptual Lens: Geometric Investigations

Unit Overview:

Geometry helps to build structures, create medicines, and develop games like Minecraft using computer generated images. Geometry follows many formulas and patterns that we can use to help interpret the world around us and inspire us to unlock the secrets of science and technology.

Grade 8 ELA – Ms. Ragette

8th grade is working on using parenthetical citations to cite our textual evidence. We have discussed ethical writing and plagiarism. We started reading the book *Bronx Masquerade* by Nikki Grimes. We are focusing on topics of appearance versus reality as it applies to the characters in the book.

Grade 7 and 8 Science – Mrs. Ford

The 7th grade is beginning the unit on Energy. In this unit they will learn about energy, force, motion, and friction. They will be building simulated roller coasters.

The 8th grade is beginning a unit on Bridges. This unit focusses on types of bridges but more importantly the engineering behind their construction. They are going to build their own using various material.

Essential Skills – Mrs. Barbosa

This month in Essential Skills we are learning about Plants and flowers and how they grow. We are also talking about spring and how the weather is changing. Our shape of the month is the Diamond and the Color of the month is Purple. The Number of the month is 8. We are continuing our work on our objectives and turn-taking skills.

ESL – Ms. Madera

Although grades 3 and 6 are testing for Smarter Balance, other grades will work on reading strategies and vocabulary. Targets will focus on theme, author's purpose, genre, and content vocabulary. Please encourage your child to read aloud at home each night.

Middle School Special Education Team:

Special Education Teachers: Mrs. Cancellaro and Mrs. Guisti, Speech-language Pathologist: Miss Geary

Our sixth grade students are continuing to work on vocabulary acquisition; determining how the use of different prefixes and suffixes change the meaning of vocabulary words. Students have also been focusing on decoding multisyllabic words to improve reading fluency and reading comprehension. Lastly, the sixth grade students have been working with Miss Geary to improve their ability to write simple sentences with correct grammar. The seventh and eighth grade students continue to write informative essays. Students are working in cooperative groups to select appropriate evidence to support the essential question and thesis statement of their essays. The students are also working on providing a statement of analysis for each piece of evidence found within their essays. Students will use a graphic organizer to assist with this analysis of the text. Finally, the students are working on improving their ability to use appropriate curriculum vocabulary, ability to paraphrase, and use complex sentences within their writing.

Music – Mrs. Rosser

Kindergarteners have just learned their THIRD note on the treble staff. Ask them to sing "Lucy Locket" for you! Lower grades are busy orchestrating songs with classroom instruments. Third grade is off and running with their Recorder Karate program. Please remind your child to keep their recorder and music in their backpack. Middle school students are learning to read music and play it on the piano.

ART – Mrs. Julian

Grades 6, 7, 8 are working on creating 3-d boxes

Grades 5 and 4 are making butterflies for the rotunda

Grades 3 and 2 grade are painting flowers.

Kindergarten and 1st grades are painting Van Gogh sunflowers

Physical Education – Mrs. MacDonald

Mrs. MacDonald will be going on maternity leave on April 15th. Jamie Donahue will be teaching Physical Education and Health until Mrs. Mac returns. Ms. D. has subbed around the city and is a certified P.E. and Health teacher. In the month of April the students in Pre-K-2 will be practicing volleying skills using their hands, different parts of their body and with various implements. The students in Gr. 3-6 will be starting a Tennis unit. Our 7th and 8th graders will be playing Badminton. Fitness is still a big part of what we do every week in P.E. and it will be incorporated into each new unit the students are taught.

Library/Media Center – Mrs. Behlman

Students in grades 6-8 are working on career exploration. Students in grades 4-5 are creating poems and then using their typing skills to edit, save and print. Students in grades K-3 continue to evaluate the Charter Oak Children's Book Award nominees of which we are now enjoying the nonfiction selections



Carrington staff wore blue for Autism Awareness Day!