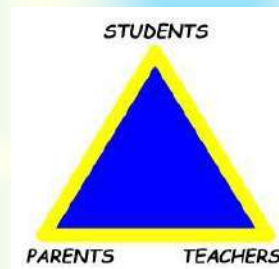


MORAN TRIAD

James H. Moran Middle School
141 Hope Hill Road
Wallingford, CT 06492

Phone: 203-741-2900 Office
203-741-2907 Guidance
Fax: 203-741-2939



Trimester 2 Newsletter December 2019 -March 2020

Hello from Mr. Bologna.....

2020 is finally here!! No flying cars yet, however the innovations and achievements at Moran are tough to miss. With any luck we will be able to get through this winter with only a couple of delayed openings or early dismissals and not too many visits to the nurse's office. The school year is already half over, but we all have so much to look forward to.

Mr. Andreson's 7th and 8th grade STEP students will be competing in their annual Mock Trial competition along with students from Dag Hammarskjold and other surrounding schools. The Drama program is busy on a daily basis leading up to their production of *Guys and Dolls*, which I can't wait to see. Our Kids Lit Team is once again competing against other middle schools across the state and Moran students will once again be showcasing their talents at the Invention Convention. Moran will be hosting a speaker on February 10th Judith Altmann, who is a Holocaust survivor as part of a special advisory lesson.

Our basketball teams have kept the gym packed with fans and soon it will be time for our Softball, Baseball, and Track and Field seasons to begin. Don't forget to thank your counselor, during National School Counselors Week and remember to take some time to read on National Read Aloud Day (February 5th) and Read Across America Day (March 2nd). As you can see there is plenty going on here at Moran and before you know it our 8th graders will be signing up for classes for high school, but trust me, don't let it go by too fast.

Lastly, please know that you are always welcome at Moran Middle School and I would like to encourage all parents/guardians to get involved at the middle school. Chaperone a field trip, volunteer to come in and assist a teacher, work with our PTO, attend PTAC/PTO meetings, enjoy our athletics, drama, music or any other after school activities, or just stop in to say hello to our office or support staff. To keep up with all of the happenings at Moran, here are some additional resources; @JAPiacentini (Twitter Hashtag = #MoranMS), @MoranMustangs, @Dan_Bologna or visit the Moran website - <http://www.wallingford.k12.ct.us/ourschools/james-h-moran-middle-school>.

Important Dates:

**2/19/20 - Moran/Dag Step Mock Trial
2:30-8pm Moran Cafe**

2/27/20 - Early Release

**3/5/20- 3/7/20 - Moran Musical- 3/5 &
3/6 at 7pm 3/7 at 2pm**

3/6/20 - T3 Trimester Begins

3/19/20 - Early Release Day

**3/20/19 - No School PD Day for
Teachers**

3/26/20 - Evening Conferences

4/2/20 - Early Dismissal Conferences

4/10/20 - Good Friday - No School

4/13-4/17- Spring Break-No School

**4/21/20 - 7th Grade Career day at
Oakdale Theatre**

4/28/20 - Primary Day-No School

Please see our Guidance Department Newsletter:

December:

<https://www.smores.com/2sxcw-counseling-newsletter?ref=email-content#w-2974268893>

January:

<https://www.smores.com/s5bn0-counseling-newsletter>

Please see link below for information on:

**1 Word, 1 Voice, 1 Life - from our Youth
& Social Services Department**

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0ByROMj8lyPN8dzBibUc0X1Fla2V5WUFoOG9JMEtpZ19KWmxN>

What's Happening in the Library

Follow Mrs. Musket on twitter [@Mrs_Musket](https://twitter.com/Mrs_Musket)

Like [WPS Libraries](#) on Facebook to find out what is happening in Wallingford Public Schools' library media centers.



Promote Reading Club - On October 22nd, our students read an autumn or Halloween story to one or two kindergarten students. Then, they worked together to create an acrostic poem.





Moran's Kids' Lit Quiz Teams competed on 1/28/20. There were 31 teams in last night's heat and the top three teams advanced to the US Finals.

We had two teams finish in the top 10. It was tough competition. The team that took first place was from Virginia and only missed 11 out of 100 questions all night. They are the team that won the world finals in Singapore last year.

Tied for fifth place - Team 3 (Jack Angelastro, Jack Cerrato, Alex Miller, Richard Yeung)

Jack Angelastro also won a \$5 question (questions that are asked in between rounds while they are scoring them).

They won the top score of a category and each got a book. They were the only team all night (out of 31) to get the maximum points of 20 for their doubles category.

Tied for sixth place (1/2 point behind team 3) - Team 1 (Gabriella Cozzi, Irelynn Marshall, Cole McDonnell, Katie Russell)

They won for top score of a category and each got a book.

13th place - Team 2 (Emily Carlone, Willow Pickerign, Kaitlin O'Malley, Lily Valerio)

14th place - Team 4 (Esme Gontarz-Durfee, Carter Lagasse, James Russell, Robert Yawson)



A Word about Capstone from Mrs. Kukta

CAPSTONE...WHAT IS IT?

In CAPSTONE, students are encouraged to think critically, solve challenging problems, and develop skills such as communication, research, media literacy, teamwork, planning, self-sufficiency, and goal setting. The motto of our program is to "BE THAT SOMEBODY". Often times, we can recognize that a problem exists and say..."someone should come up with a way to...." the purpose of our program is to not look to someone else to create the "fix" but to instill the skills students need to be the "fix".

We want students to make "things" better by making better "things".

What is a CAPSTONE project?

A CAPSTONE project is a multifaceted assignment that serves as a culminating academic and intellectual experience for students. Such projects take a wide variety of forms, but most are long term investigative projects that culminate in a final product, presentation, or performance.

For the middle school student, CAPSTONE will be a 3-year process:

YEAR 1 (6th grade) - utilize Design Thinking with Moran Community as focus group

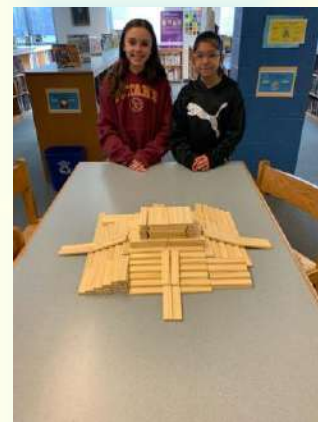
YEAR 2 (7th grade) - utilize Design Thinking with the Wallingford Community as focus group

YEAR 3 (8th grade) - utilize Design Thinking for a community of student's choice

CORE COMPONENTS: (projects need to be school/community based)

- Students strengthen their ethical understanding and awareness for others
- Students engage in a school community-building project individually or in small groups
- All students have at least one adult to facilitate and support them through the project

2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR...



Future entrepreneurs at the Invention Convention, including this inventive 6th grader! Susan Hotaling moving onto the State level!



Team 6-1 Huskies!

On February 10th, we were fortunate enough to be able to welcome Mrs. Judith Altmann to speak about her life and experiences during the Holocaust. Mrs.

Altmann has been speaking in schools and colleges for the past 21 years, and has taken part in or been the subject of documentaries on the Holocaust. Last year alone, at the age of 95, she spoke to over 50 schools and over 12,000 students.

Born in Czechoslovakia, Mrs. Altmann and her family were rounded up, arrested, and sent to the infamous Auschwitz concentration camp. After leaving the camp, she was used as slave labor in ammunition factories before being forced to endure a death march back to the concentration camp of Bergen-Belsen, where she would eventually be liberated. Mrs. Altmann shared her life story with the students and took part in a question and answer period after speaking. It was a privilege to have her come and speak to the students, as they will be the last generation to be able to hear from a Holocaust survivor.



Student Government members who were selected to participate in the Connecticut Association of Schools Leadership Conference held at Trinity College on Friday January 17, 2020. They participated with about 400 other students from around the state in seminars about leadership, equality and acceptance. They did a great job and brought back to Moran many ideas and strategies to make positive changes to Moran and the world.



Team 6-2 Eagles!!!

VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION

On November 12th, eight veterans came to speak to the students of Team Eagles. Some of these veterans were so gracious they even drove from out of state to talk to the students. Students met the veterans informally in groups of about 12 students and then rotated among the veterans so they had many different conversations. The veterans represented all branches of the military and had many various experiences from being deployed to combat situations to serving the country at home. Some veterans were even able to bring medals, ribbons, uniforms, equipment and other visuals in for the students. They all were incredible and had a strong impact on the students. A big thank you goes out to Mr. Deme, Mr. Apuzzo, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Samen, Mr. Lorenc, Mr. Martin, Mr. Freischlag and Mr. Luft! Thank you for coming in to visit our students and thank you for your service to our country!



7th Grade Team 7-1 Rising Stars

January 2020

Team Newsletter: <https://www.smores.com/2d1f7>

Holiday Activities on Team 7-1:



Team 8-1

Announcements:

Parents: Please encourage your students to utilize the Team 8-1 Homework Document. All team teachers update homework assignments on a regular basis. Often times, there are study guides, links, etc. embedded right into the document.



High School Placements:

At this time, all academic teachers are in the process of reviewing your child's academic performance in order to appropriately place them in leveled high school classes. Please expect this to be accessible to you in PowerSchool within the next few weeks.

An update from your Academic Teachers:

In Language Arts, students just completed writing narratives and have moved onto an intense reading workshop exploring literary nonfiction. You should see your child coming home daily with a copy of their selected novel.

In Social Studies class, students are in the middle of Unit 3 (Westward Expansion). Students have just completed a quiz on the War of 1812 and are about to delve into the Mexican-American War. After this unit, in Early Spring, students will be studying the Civil War.

In Mathematics 8, students are beginning their unit on linear equations and linear systems. In Algebra, students are wrapping up their unit on functions. The rest of the year will focus on exponential functions and quadratic functions.

In Spanish 2B, students are finishing up their unit on "La Casa- The House" and our unit project/presentation. We will begin working on our "De Compras- Shopping" Unit and discuss shopping, gift giving and using the preterite (past) tense shortly. In Spanish 3C, students are finishing up their summative assessment on "Tu día escolar- Your School Day". We will begin our third Unit "Un Evento Especial" where students will learn to discuss preparing for a special event and their daily routine. This is a very interactive unit where students will be able to improve their speaking, reading, writing and listening skills.

In Science, students are studying Newton's Laws of Motion. We are working on inertia, momentum and how balanced and unbalanced forces affect the motion of objects.

TEAM 8-2

MustangTHON!!!! - FROM MRS. FOSTER

Thank you all for your overwhelming support with MustangTHON. We had about 127 students attend (49-6th grade, 41-7th grade, and 37-8th grade) and made about \$1,500 for CT Children's Medical Center.

Thank you to those who volunteered and donated snacks and drinks! The kids had so many options to choose from. Also, a HUGE thank you to Mimi Knibbs for covering my Core 5 class on Friday so I could get things set up!

The donation link will remain open until February 21st and on Friday, we will continue our fundraising effort with a district-wide dress down day for CCMC.



Moran Sports

A look at some of the Sports for this Trimester!

Basketball 2019/20 Season 15-1 Record CCMSL 1st Place Girls Team - Coach Kukta

8th graders- Oliva Cassesse, Ella Dorsey,

Kaitlyn Bailey,
Camryn Jambor,
Trinity

LaValley, Peyton Einhorn, Isabella Perno
and Manager Zoe Carim



Track & Field, Softball and Baseball will be starting soon. Please listen to announcements and MVP News for more information.

Track and Field 2020 Schedule

2020	DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME	CONFIRMED
MONDAY	4/27/20	DODD	CHESHIRE HS	4:00	✓
FRIDAY	5/1/20	LINCOLN/WASHINGTON	SHEEHAN	4:00	✓
THURSDAY	5/7/20	GUILFORD	SHEEHAN	4:00	✓
TUESDAY	5/12/20	DAG	SHEEHAN	4:00	✓
MONDAY	5/18/20	MCGEE	BERLIN HS	4:00	✓
SATURDAY	5/30/20	STATES	MANCHESTER HS	TBD	✓

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SCHEDULE 2020

DATE OPPONENT LOCATION

4/8/20 Kennedy @ Moran

4/9/20 Dodd AWAY - @100 Park Place CHESHIRE

4/22/20 Washington AWAY - Girls @Thomas Edison 1355 North Broad Street Meriden
Boys @ Ed Walsh Field - 70 Overlook Rd MERIDEN

4/24/20 Lincoln AWAY - Girls @164 Centennial Avenue MERIDEN
Boys @ Habershon Field - 1 Meadow Street MERIDEN

5/1/20 DePaolo AWAY- @385 Pleasant Street SOUTHINGTON

5/5/20 Dag @ Moran

5/13/20 Dodd @ Moran

5/15/20 Washington @ Moran

5/19/20 Lincoln @ Moran

5/29/20 Dag AWAY - @106 Pond Hill Road WALLINGFORD

Music Department

Chorus & String Ensemble

Laurie Brandl - lbrandl@wallingfordschools.org

Band

Jedd Chlebowski - jchlebowski@wallingfordschools.org

General Music

Mimi Knibbs - mknibbs@wallingfordschools.org

Upcoming Musical Events

Important Dates:

Musical – Guy and Dolls

Dates & Times:

March 5th and 6th at 7pm and March 7th at 2pm

Monday, May 25th - Memorial Day Parade

7th and 8th Grade Band Students

7:30 a.m. - meet at Moran

Safe Schools Tip Line

Research clearly indicates that most acts of school violence can be prevented through the efforts of school community members who are willing to keep school administrators and local law enforcement informed about potential threats to schools and their students. Parents, students and other community members are encouraged to immediately contact the school principal or the Wallingford Police Department whenever there is a concern that someone in our schools is at risk. These risks include but are not limited to the use of weapons or drugs or the intent to threaten, assault, injure, or bully others. ***For concerns that require immediate attention, please call 911.***

To help facilitate this process, the district has implemented an online reporting tool. The [Safe Schools Tip Line \(https://www.securly.com/tip\)](https://www.securly.com/tip) is available night and day and provides users with the ability to report concerns directly to school administrators. The Safe Schools Tip Line will be available on the Wallingford Public Schools website. ***For concerns that require immediate attention, please call 911.***

Calls and online reporting must be made in good faith and can be made without leaving a name or other identifying information. However, those making reports are encouraged to leave their contact information in the event that additional information is needed. When providing information, please be as detailed as possible including the name of the school(s) and or person(s) involved, type of activities alleged, and when they occurred or may occur.

Thank you for keeping Wallingford Public Schools safe.

Students of the Months

December, January,

6th Grade - Sydney Remer, Chelsea Ballaugh, Jake Alarcon, Josh Podchaiski, Eden Raucci, Peyton Allison, Shayla Welch, Brea Piepenbring, Yi Zeng, Avi Patel, Julianna Dudley, Lila Ford, Nick Cappas

7th Grade - Akshitha Gaddamidi, Jack Rosano, Noah Moutinho, Chris Mancini, James Cerrato, Grace Moriarty, Willow Pickerign, Amanda Alicea, Josie Pickerign, Mia Storm, Carter LaGasse

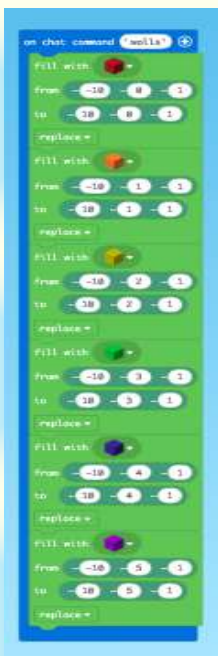
8th Grade - Jeth Gomez, Devin Welch, Mia D'Angelo, Giada Izzo, Brandon Noone, Zoey Carim, Andrew Dowling

UNITY DAY PHOTOS



Ms. Robbins - Tech Ed

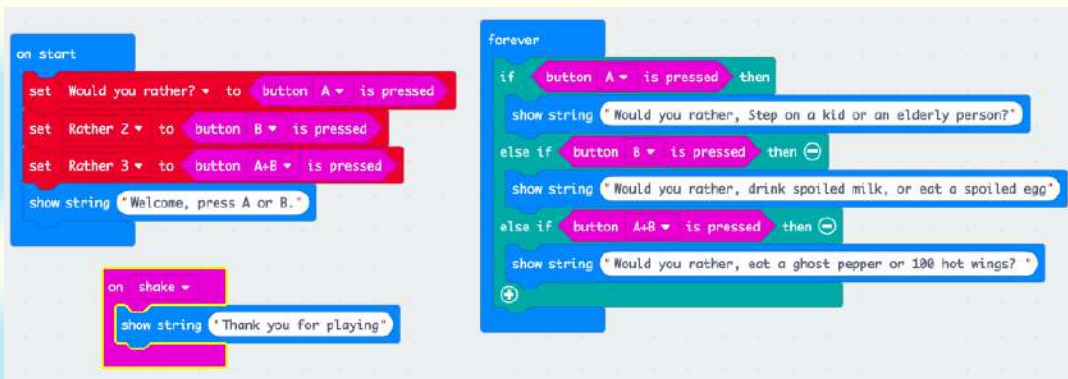
Sixth, seventh, and eighth graders all have been quite busy learning how to create a variety of computer programming algorithms in their Computer Science Class. Here are some examples of students' creative and successful computer programming algorithms this trimester.



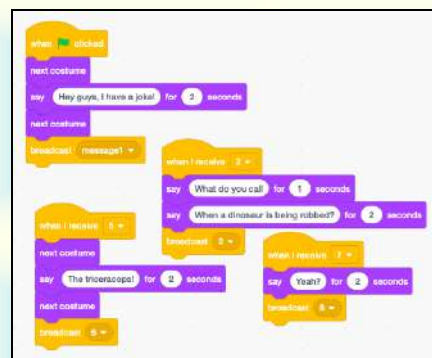
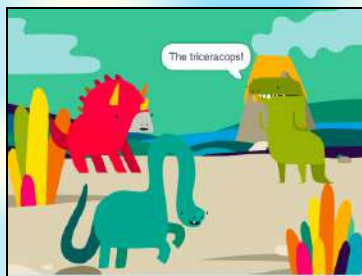
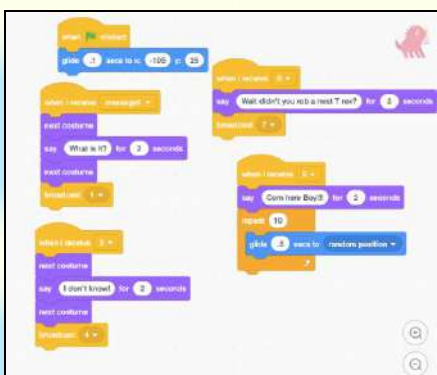
8th Grade student's coordinate algorithm created in Microsoft MakeCode that made a striped wall and was built in Minecraft Edu.



7th Grade student's conditional & variable algorithms created in Microsoft MakeCode that made a Would You Rather game and was run on a Micro:bit.



6th Grade student's broadcast algorithms created in Scratch.



HALLOWEEN 2019!

