



Middle School Newsletter

Engagement, Assessment,
and Reflection-



creates the pathway to our
learning success!

From: Dr. Flaherty
Week of: April 24, 2017
dflaherty@masconomet.org

April 2017

Monday, April 24	A Day MCAS Make up testing	<p>After school help 2:20- 2:50 p.m. Old School Video Games 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Handy Crafts 3:00- 4:00 p.m. Seusiccal Jr. 3:00 – 5:00 p.m./Auditorium</p>
Tuesday, April 25	B Day MCAS Make up testing	<p>After school help 2:20- 2:50 p.m. Basketball 3:00-4:00 p.m. Ping Pong 3:00- 4:00 p.m. Ultimate Frisbee 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Seusiccal Jr. 3:00 – 5:00 p.m./Auditorium</p>
Wednesday, April 26	C Day	<p>After school help 2:20- 2:50 p.m. Ping Pong 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Book Club 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. CAD 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Seusiccal Jr. / 3:00 – 5:00 p.m./Auditorium.</p>
Thursday, April 27	D Day	<p>After school help 2:20 – 2:50 p.m. Wiffle Ball 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Magic the Gathering 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Guitar 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Writer's Club 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Old School Video Games 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Risk 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. CAD 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Seusiccal Jr. / 3:00 – 5:00 p.m./Auditorium</p>
Friday, April 28	E Day	<p>RC Car 2:30 – 3:30 p.m STEM CLUB 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.</p>

Messages from Principal Flaherty: Join Us on Twitter @Masco_Principal.

It has been an exciting and wonderful time to be the principal at Masco Middle School. I am thrilled to share lots of great news to celebrate.

Barnes and Noble My Favorite Teacher Celebration

Emma Spofford, an 8th grade student at Masco, wrote the winning “My Favorite Teacher Contest” essay for a Barnes and Noble essay competition. There will be a community-wide celebration to honor them both this coming Thursday, April 27, 2017 at the Barnes and Noble store in Peabody. See the invitation below for more details. We hope you can join us, but if you are unable to attend this is a great opportunity to go online and use the provided code to purchase your summer reading books. You will be ready for summer reading and the school will benefit and be able to purchase more books for the library!

Educators of middle school students know well that building strong positive relationships with students is the foundation for both students’ social and academic success. Maya Angelou once said, “At the end of the day people won’t remember what

you said or did, they will remember how you made them feel.” An excerpt from Emma’s essay about Mr. Morris beautifully demonstrates the importance of the relationship between a teacher and his students.

“I can clearly remember walking into your classroom on the first day of seventh grade, nervous and terrified. I didn’t know most of the kids in our homeroom because they came from different towns. When I sat down and looked around at everyone, I realized most people looked as anxious as I felt. But the moment you started talking; telling us your name, a little about yourself, and asking us about ourselves, everybody calmed down quickly. There was something about the calm, caring and almost fatherly way you spoke that let us all know that you were already an ally and a friend for all of us in our new school.”

Grade 7 Summer Reading List

Fiction:

The Red Pyramid Rick Riordan
The Unwanteds Lisa McMann
El Deafo Cece Bell
Ungifted Gordon Korman
All Fall Down Ally Carter
SteepleJack A.J. Hartley
The Crown’s Game Evelyn Skye
All We Have Left Wendy Mills
Chomp Carl Hiasen
Wonderstruck Brian Selznick
Goodbye Stranger Rebecca Stead
The Seventh Most Important Thing Shelley Pearsall

Non-Fiction Titles

Drowned Cities Don Brown
The President Has Been Shot James L. Swanson

Grade 8 Summer Reading List

Fiction:

Out of the Dust Karen Hesse
Anya’s Ghost Vera Brosogol
Ship Breaker Paolo Bacigalupi
Son Carl Hiasen
Treasure Island Robert Louis Stevenson
Whale Talk Chris Crutcher
Zeroes Scott Westerfield

Non-Fiction

Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War Steve Sheinkin
Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings, A Memoir Margarita Engle
Tuesdays With Morrie Mitch Albom

Masco Excels

Excels programs for Session 3 are in session. See the above calendar as a reminder of the day your child’s activity is running. It is important that students are picked up at 4:00 p.m. A staff member will wait until students participating in Excels are picked up or a note is sent in allowing the student to walk or ride their bikes home. As such, any student that is repeatedly not picked up by 4:15 p.m. may not be able to continue to participate in their activity.

Math Team

Congratulations Masco Math Team on an outstanding final meet of the 2016-2017 season! The team was on top of their game at Ipswich on Wednesday, April 5th and won the meet with some excellent mathematical wizardry. The entire Masco team scored well, with the highest scores going to:

Justin Crosby
Emma Spofford
Dylan Velardo
Erica Ding
Jessica Ding
Nikolai Germatsky

Special congratulations to Justin Crosby who has won the award for the highest score at every meet this year !!
Well done, Justin.

Scholastic Art and Writing Awards

We are pleased to announce that the following students have earned National Medals in the 2017 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, presented by the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers. Caitlin Bolzan and Brennan Gerspach, currently in grade 9, won silver medals for Sculptures they created in 8th grade art. Katie Bernard, a current 8th grade student, won a gold medal for her essay. Their work was selected by creative professionals as the most accomplished in the nation. This year more than 330,000 works of art and writing were submitted. Less than 1% were recognized at the national level. Katie Bernard, being a gold medal winner, has been invited to attend a ceremony at the world-famous Carnegie Hall on June 8th and to participate in a showcase at the Parsons School of Design at the New School and Pratt Institute's Pratt Manhattan Gallery in New York City. We're so proud of our students' accomplishments and to have them represent Masco and demonstrate to the country talented students and outstanding educational experience offered to our Masco students!



Life is Good: John Jacobs Visits Masco!

What an awesome afternoon to celebrate our book read Life is Good! On April 12th, 2017 John Jacobs, one of the brothers that authored the book, came to Masco and spoke to all 6th, 7th and 8th graders in the field house.



End of Year Field Trips

Field trips forms were distributed on Monday, April 24 for the 7th Grade Cedardale trip and 8th grade Canobie Lake trip both scheduled for Monday, June 12, 2017. Forms are due by this Friday April 28, 2017 in order for your child to attend.

What can I do as a parent to help my child to succeed on the MCAS exams?

Most importantly, give them a pep talk and tell them they will do great if they just put in their best effort!

- Have students go to bed early and get a good night's sleep.
- Ensure they eat a good breakfast.

- Make sure they attend school and are on time. This is especially true for MCAS test days, as these exams are timed. If a student arrives after testing has begun he/she will need to wait and take a make-up exam. If they are truly sick, there is make-up days available.
- Unless it is an emergency please do not plan to dismiss a student prior to the end of the testing window, which will be at 11:11 a.m. each day. If they have not completed the test it will be invalidated or once the test is passed in, it will be scored as is and it will not be beneficial to the student's score or the school's overall data. Thank you in advance for assistance in the area of attendance. It is critical for both the student and the school. However, if a child becomes ill in the middle of a test we can arrange for a monitored make-up that will allow the student to finish from the point where they stopped to the end; they will not be able to go back or review any previously completed work.
- Remind them that no electronic devices including cell phones or apple watches are permitted to be with them during the testing period. If a student is found to have an electronic device with them, we need to contact the Department of Secondary Education and his/her test will be invalidated.

Masco Million

Masco Million Results: **All Team weekly** results **17,886** and the **Grand total: 827,332** pages. We only have 172,733 pages left to meet our goal. When teams all record pages read, amazing page number totals result. Congratulations to the **teams** who submitted pages this week, your page totals are impressive! Please continue to encourage your child to enter pages read from their textbooks, short stories, or any other reading they do in class. These figures represent the numbers logged in by 3:00 PM Thursday, April 13, 2017.

Team	Week Total	Total
7 Blue	2,204	149,597
7 Red	2,160	151,292
7 White	1,782	160,719
8 Blue	736	92,104
8 Red	195	97,208
8 White	10,809	176,417

Upcoming Dates of Importance

May 2 & 3, 2017	Grade7, MCAS Mathematics
May 4 & 5, 2017	Grade8, MCAS Mathematics
May 5, 2017	Trimester 3 Midpoint
May 5, 2017	All School Art Show
May 5 & 6, 2017	MS Musical

May 8, 2017	Early Dismissal; 12:20 p.m.
May 9 & 10, 2017	Grade 8, MCAS Science & Technology & Engineering (STE)
May 11-17, 2017	Mathematics; STE Make Ups
May 18, 2017	Incoming 7 th Grade Parents Night, 6:30 p.m.
May 23, 2017	MS Chorus Concert
May 25, 2017	Memorial Day Assembly, 8:30a.m.
May 25, 2017	MS Band Concert
May 26-29, 2017	HW Free Weekend
May 29, 2017	Memorial Day, No School
June 12, 2017	7 th & 8 th grade end of year field trips

**Who was the favorite teacher in the
Barnes & Noble My Favorite Teacher contest?**

Mr. Michael Morris, 7th Grade English Teacher

Emma Spofford, an 8th grade student at Masco, wrote the winning "My Favorite Teacher Contest" essay. Come join us for a community-wide celebration to honor them both.

**When: This Thursday evening, April 27, 2017
Where: Barnes & Noble, Peabody North Shore Mall
Time: 6:30 p.m.**

**6:30 p.m. pre-ceremony reception featuring the Middle School Chorus
7:00 p.m. ceremony to honor Mr. Morris
5:00-9:00 p.m. in-store Book Fair to benefit Masco
April 27th-May 3rd online Book Fair to benefit Masco**

**A percentage of the event's Book Fair sales will go to Masco Middle School.
All items in the store and online are included: books, gifts, toys,
café items, Nooks, cards, magazines, music, etc.**

**If you are unable to attend, you can still support the school online
by using the book fair ID **12118154** at checkout on the
Barnes & Noble website, www.barnesandnoble.com**

Join in on the fun with raffles, press coverage and snacks. The café will be featuring a drink called the Chieftain that night - a medium hot chocolate (with a hint of cinnamon or peppermint).