



Madison Academy

SCHOOLDAZE NEWS



December 18, 2009
Volume 6: Number 12

THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE:

December 23-Jan. 3

Christmas Vacation

NEXT MONTH AT A GLANCE:

January 4

School resumes



From The Office:

The MTA is tightening up on students who get on the bus without passes. Unless the student has the pass in this or her hand, they will not be allowed to get on the bus in the morning or in the afternoon. Please understand, this is coming from the MTA. If you get a call that a student was not allowed on the bus in the morning or afternoon, please contact the MTA at 810-767-0100. The school has nothing to do with the action.

Attendance

The Attendance Mailbox is now functional. Parents, you can now call Madison and leave a voice mail when your child is absent. The mailbox is checked 2-3 times daily, and excused absences recorded daily. Please remember to speak clearly, leave the child's name, teacher's name, the date the child was/will be absent, and the reason for the absence.

Technology Tidbits

Do you want to let your child use the internet, but are concerned about how to find appropriate sites? Go to MeL.org! If you go into the "Kids" gateway, you can access many safe sites and homework resources.

Science Department

In 6th grade the students are learning about the scientific method. The students are applying the scientific method to their science fair projects to give them a better idea of how to break each section down. They have discovered how to brainstorm different project ideas and how to develop a hypothesis. We have moved on to developing a procedure and how to collect data through an experiment. This week we will also be covering how to analyze the data and how to develop summary statements. All of these steps will lead up to the students developing strong and sound conclusions. We have made our own science fair project booklets where all the students keep their own information.

*Students in grades 4th-6th do not forget to have your parents sign the science fair project page in your packets; they are due December 21st!

Mrs. Mills

6th grade Science and Social Studies

jmills@madison-academy.org

Athletic Action

Game Cancellation Policy: If school is canceled, for any reason, then any scheduled games or practices for that evening will be canceled. If it is necessary to cancel a game during the school day due to inclement weather, we will try to make a decision by 2:00pm. In general, unless conditions get very dangerous, games and practices will not be canceled. Please take your time getting to a game and drive carefully.

Dress code policy for student athletes: Students are NOT allowed to wear jerseys or t-shirts to school. The only exception to this rule is on jean Fridays when a student may wear a team t-shirt or jersey. Please be aware, however, that school owned uniforms do need to be returned in good condition, so please look after the uniforms!

Boys' 4th-6th grade basketball will have their first practice on Tuesday, January 29th, from 3:45-4:45pm. Boys' 7th-8th grade basketball will also have practice on that day and time. If your student would like to play basketball, please ensure that you have turned in all required paperwork.

Have a wonderful and active Winter break.

mmills@madison-academy.org, 810-655-2949 ext. 135



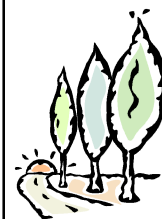
Social Studies Department

Mrs. Johnson's first grade class is learning about the mail system, how letters and packages get from place to place, why we buy stamps...and to top it off, they are writing letters to their parents for Christmas, complete with an addressed 'envelope.' If you have any packages that haven't been sent out yet, you may want to talk to them!!

In music history, the 7th and 8th grade classes just did composer biography posters for their unit on Baroque music history. Remember, if it's not Baroque, don't fix it...

Traffic News:

Parents, please help us keep the morning and afternoon traffic patterns as safe for our students as possible. First of all, drive in the left lane only when you are going to park in the parking lot or drive all the way around. Never pick up students from the left lane or cut across to the pick up/drop off area from that lane. Secondly, do not park in the pick up/drop off area, if you are going to leave your car. We cannot have unattended cars there. Thirdly, do not allow your children to take too much time to get in or out of your vehicle. When the wheels of the car stop turning, they should be opening the door and getting out or in. Next, do not let out or pick up any students until you are past the orange blockades. If you do, it really jams up traffic. Also, be exceptionally careful when driving through the lot, especially at bus times. Students can dart across from between cars. Finally, if you pull into the parking area to let students out, please do it from a parking space. Don't block the flow of the lane or other cars trying to leave. This information needs to be given to anyone who is picking up students, whether it is a parent, relative or friend.



Math Department

There will be no Math Club on the 22nd of December due to our break. Have a Mathtastic Break!

The return of the question of the week, Yeah!

From long ago, How do you put a giraffe into a refrigerator?

Answer: Take the elephant out.

This week's question:

The lion king is having a party and all the animals are there. You are walking through the jungle and come across a river where the crocodiles live. You need to cross the river and you have nothing with you. How do you cross the river?

Student Question of the week:

Using four nines and any mathematical symbol. How do you get them to equal one hundred?

Answer: $99 + 9/9 = 100$

Submitted by: Saterra Hill



Class Community Service Projects

For their class community service project, Ms. Morones' 4th grade class will be preparing holiday fruit baskets on December 22 to deliver to the senior citizens of Rose Haven Manor in Flint. We are excited to make someone else's holiday a little more special.



Campus Safety

At the crisis meeting on Monday, December 14, 2009, the team continued discussing revisions and updates necessary to our crisis manual planning. A few changes were implemented for fire evacuation. Teachers will receive their updated crises management plan by Friday, December 18, 2009. After teachers note the changes in fire evacuation procedures, another drill will be planned for after Christmas break. A walk through tornado drill was done on Wednesday, December 16, 2009, to make sure the current tornado procedures are accurate and feasible. Also, on Thursday, December 17, 2009, at 3:45p.m., we had a talk-through lockdown for staff to ensure that staff knows the correct procedures. After satisfactory completion of his lockdown, we will be planning an official school lockdown drill to take place after Christmas break.

Our next crisis team meeting will be Monday, January 11, 2009, at 3:45p.m. in Mrs. Schwerin's classroom. All our welcome to attend. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Laurie Miller at 655-2949 ext. 120 or lmiller@madison-academy.org