



MIDDLE SCHOOL MONTHLY

English Station Middle School
January/February 2017

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

January 24
**MS Yearbook Ordering Begins
On-Line through March 31**

January 27
**Student Council Sponsored
\$1.00 Jeans Day or \$2.00
Hoodie Day!**

February 6
**Q3 Progress Report Grades
Available On-Line in Canvas for
parents to view**

February 10
**Student Council Sponsored
\$1.00 Jeans Day or \$2.00
Sweatpants Day!**

February 14
**Middle School Service Project
Day!**

February 16 and 17
**Teacher In-Service Day/No
School for Students**

February 20
**Presidents' Day/No
School/Make-up Snow Day, if
necessary**

February 22
**8th Grade Parents – Final
Washington, D.C. Payment Due**

February 21
**CAL High School Counselors
meeting with 8th grade parents
at 12:30 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. in the
English Station Auditorium
regarding High School Courses
(Meetings are identical –
parents only need to attend
one).**

February 23
**CAL High School Counselors
meeting with 8th grade parents
at 8:30 a.m. in the auditorium
regarding High School Courses
(Meeting is identical to the two
on 2/23).**

February 24
**Student Council Sponsored
\$1.00 Jeans Day or \$2.00
Sweatpants Day! Proceeds go
towards Teacher Appreciation
Week in March.**

MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE DAY

Matthew 5:16 – *“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”*

We are excited about our students' opportunity to serve coming up on February 14, 2017! Service Day originated eight years ago in an effort to have students focus on others rather than themselves. What has developed is a special day where our students, with their Connect group, visit such organizations as Necole's Place, Friendship House, Locust Grove Elementary and numerous others. This opportunity to serve others is a valuable component in developing students with a heart for God. It is also a great opportunity to share our faith with others. A special thank you goes out to all our parents who have volunteered for this special day.

As a reminder to Service Day, Middle School does not participate in the High School Balloon Day fundraiser. For most of the 7th and 8th grade families, you are aware of this. For the 6th grade families, hopefully this is not totally new to you. The decision to no longer participate in Balloon Day was made nine years ago and was not made quickly, but with much input and thought to the fragile psyche of our students. Middle school students struggle with many aspects of growing up and fitting in and you know firsthand how the emotional instability during adolescence causes students to respond in extremes. Each year, the middle school would see many students fluctuate from the highest of highs to the lowest of lows based on the number of balloons received. As adults, we may think “how silly”, but in the reality of the hallways, the number of balloons or cards is a visible popularity sign which aggravates the insecurity of adolescence. So, instead of our students struggling with this visible reminder of popularity, our students give to their community. They let their “light shine before men” and their Valentine celebration in middle school has become so much more meaningful. Praying you have a blessed February!

---Larry A. Wooldridge, MS/HS Principal

CHRISTMAS WREATH SILENT AUCTION

Our students, parents and teachers did an outstanding job with our third annual Christmas Wreath Silent Auction! The wreaths were beautiful and the competition was fun, but most importantly Rancho Santa Maria Missions benefited from the \$1,406.00 raised through the auction. Thank you to everyone who helped to make a wreath, everyone who placed a bid or everyone who spread the word. Hopefully, next year, we can raise even more funds for those less fortunate.

---Larry A. Wooldridge, MS/HS Principal

SPIRITUAL LIFE UPDATE

We are excited to be returning to Mission Fuge ([MFuge](#)) this year at Barbourville, KY for our 7th and 8th grade **Middle School Mission Trip** June 5-9. As a reminder, the \$100.00 deposits for this trip are due **Friday, January 27**, to Mr. Vandiver with a donor card (please [click here](#)). The remaining balance for the trip of \$250.00 will be due in May (TBA). **We also need parent driver chaperones** for the week who may sign up at the same cost. After seeing what the Lord did last year through this trip, many of our students are already anticipating how the Lord will continue to work this year. I hope you will pray about how the Lord wants you involved.

Next, **Service Day** is fast approaching. We will have the privilege of serving our community by spreading out all over town on Valentine's Day, February 14. Thanks to all of you who are providing breakfast and/or driving that day.

Last, in **chapel** this semester, we are looking at the theme: **Becoming Like Christ**. We began with being made in God's image and have now looked at being broken by sin. Please pray that God would open the eyes of our students to see their need for Christ and grow in their love for Christ as we continue to look at God's Word together on Wednesdays.

---Dallas Vandiver, Spiritual Life Coordinator

MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARBOOKS

Middle School Yearbooks are now available for Pre-Order beginning January 24! **Yearbooks must be pre-ordered on-line before noon on March 31. On March 31, Yearbook Ordering will be turned off. Those who miss the deadline will still be able to order a Yearbook, but will not be allowed to do so until May 2.** Extra Yearbooks will not be for sale at school. If Yearbooks are ordered May 2, or later, they are not guaranteed to come in before the school year ends. Those Yearbooks will also not be passed out on Yearbook distribution day. Instead, they will be shipped directly to the student's house and a small individual shipping fee will be attached.

The website for ordering CAL's Middle School Yearbook is <https://calmsyb.picaboo.com/>. This website will take you directly to the ordering site where "MSYB15/16" and a "Top Secret" cover should appear. We are keeping the theme a surprise! Please look for a confirmation e-mail sent AFTER purchasing to ensure the order went through correctly. If there are any photos you would like to submit for the Yearbook, you may do so at the bottom of the ordering website by clicking on the camera.

There are two cover options this year. The hard cover is \$45.00 and the soft cover is \$35.00. If you have any questions, please contact me at tboehnlein@caschools.us.

---Tiffany Boehnlein, MS Yearbook Sponsor

POLICY AND DISCIPLINE

What Biblical Principles We Can Draw on to Help Shape Our Views?

Policy typically provides guidelines and forbids certain behavior, **discipline** teaches and corrects behavior. Therefore, the purpose of policy is that of communicating to a community the expectations, so everyone in the community know what is expected. Discipline desires to change actions when individuals do not follow the established policy, hoping for more positive behavior. So why is this even important? Particularly, when some policies such as hair and skirt length do not seem that important.

Simply, policy and discipline provide the tools we need to guide students into maturity, particularly in the areas of being *submissive to authority* (Romans 13:1-7) and to be *self-controlled*. The hope is that each of us develop a spiritual maturity that allows us not to be controlled by the things of the world (1 Corinthians 9:24-27). So, no matter the decision concerning what the policy says, our desire at school is that middle school students demonstrate the wisdom of 2 Timothy 2:2. "Flee youthful passions and pursue *righteousness, faith, love, and peace*, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart." Both policy and discipline provide tools for achieving this goal within the Christian school community.

When students understand the need to be righteous they pursue God. They know they will not see God unless they are as holy as he, remaining separated even at death. Thus, the need to follow the rules (school policies) is a practice in self-control. Study verses to consider are 2 Corinthians 5:21, Isaiah 64:6 and Romans 6:13-16.

When students have conviction there is faith. They do what they have been asked to do. Obeying parents and school policies because they believed in what is promised though they cannot see and only have hope for the things promised if they obey. Study verses to consider are Hebrews 11:6-7.

When students mature they learn to love. They become aware through both example and correction. Study verses to consider are 1 Corinthians 13 in particular verse 11 and the 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.

When students take good actions and have good attitudes they have peace. Peace is a gift of God. Study verses to consider are Isaiah 32:16-18 and Malachi 2:5-6.

2 Timothy 2:2 provides only a few of the reasons we work with students and families to follow school policies and use discipline to correct behavior. Our hope is that we are guiding our students into maturity, with their future in mind. Thank you for your partnership on this journey.

---Dr. Karen Estep, MS/HS Assistant Principal



It's coming! PTO's fifth Race for Education fundraiser is taking place again on March 10! Over the past four years, nearly \$200,000 has been raised. Your generous gifts allowed PTO to purchase more than 375 iPads and Chromebooks for the elementary and middle schools. [Click here](#) for more details about the Race and to sponsor your student.



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