



MIDDLE SCHOOL MONTHLY

English Station Middle School
September 2017

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- September 10
8th Grade Washington, D.C. Deposit Due to American Christian Tours
- September 11
Parents able to view Quarter 1 Progress Report Grades on-line in Canvas
- September 12
Hurricane Harvey \$1.00 Jeans/\$2.00 CAL ONLY Hoodie Day!
- September 13
Donations for Hurricane Harvey Victims Due
- September 20
MS Conference Day/No School for Students
- September 21
Middle School Picture Re-Take Day
- September 22
Senior Carnival Day! "FREE" JEANS DAY
- September 27
"See you at the Pole", 7:30 a.m., MS Entrance, Door #19
- September 29
Student Council Sponsored \$1.00 Jeans Day!

WELCOME!

To all the new and returning families to CALMS. It's my honor to have been selected for a time such as this to serve as Middle School Principal. The start to the 2017-2018 school year has been just that CALM!!! You have entrusted us with the special gift of your child and we need your help. Each month, we send out a newsletter. These newsletters will offer practical ideas to improve school success, strengthen faith, and develop a better understanding of how to navigate these precious middle school years.

With such a great returning staff and a few new additions, we look forward to partnering with each of you on this journey to grow your student both spiritually and academically.

Our theme this year is J.O.Y. – Jesus, Others, Yourself which means I AM THIRD. We are called to be in the world, but not of the world (1 John 2:15). Our students are inundated with "It's all about ME". As they learn more about Jesus, we will help them become others focused through service.

---Bryce Hibbard, MS Principal

HURRICANE HARVEY DONATIONS

Our Connect classes are putting together "Blessing Boxes" for victims of Hurricane Harvey. Students are asked to bring in canned goods, diapers and baby food, along with games for children who are staying in shelters. We would also like plastic storage containers to pack the supplies in so they can be repurposed. **All items are due Wednesday, September 13.**

We will also be having a \$1.00 Jeans/\$2.00 CAL ONLY Hoodie Day on **Tuesday, September 12**. All proceeds will go towards purchasing cleaning supplies for the victims.

MIDDLE SCHOOL COUNSELOR

My name is Melissa Patrick and I am the Middle School Counselor at CALMS. I have had the opportunity to serve students as a school counselor for 15 years.

As a school counselor, my primary responsibility is to promote the academic, personal, and social development of our students through a Biblical Worldview. I am sure that most of us can say we would not want to repeat middle school. It is a difficult time, full of transitions in all areas of life. As hard as I remember middle school being, I know it does not compare to what our students deal with today. Technology and social media alone greatly compound an already difficult stage of life.

Although it is a difficult time, it can also be a wonderful time for growth. I often comment that, middle school is a time to learn life skills and put them into practice. As the parent of a seventh grader, I struggle with letting go and allowing my son to make his own mistakes. However, this is our role as godly parents. I cannot imagine a better environment for our kids to learn these lessons than at Christian Academy.

Students and parents are always welcome to meet with me. I appreciate it when parents encourage their children to come and speak with me if they are struggling with an issue. If you would like for me to meet with your child, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at mpatrick@caschools.us or at (502) 244-3225, extension 1654.

---Melissa Patrick, Middle School Counselor

CONFERENCE DAY!

We are scheduling conferences now for **Wednesday, September 20**. Unlike conferences in elementary school, please know that we are unable to schedule a conference for every student on this date. **Conferences are scheduled by priority, based on greatest concern and teacher availability.** If you have a conference scheduled, please remember to be on time and come to the middle school office to check in first. This is a very busy day for the teachers due to having conferences scheduled back to back. If you would like to schedule a conference, please call the Middle School Office at (502) 244-3225 and ask to speak with Mrs. Novicki, Middle School Receptionist. If she is unable to provide a conference for you on September 20, she will work with you to determine a later date and time that fits your needs.

---Bryce Hibbard, MS Principal

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

The Educational Resources Department serves students in the middle school in a variety of ways. Whether working directly with students to deliver academic support, mentoring students before and after school to deliver organization support, or working behind the scenes with parents and teachers to help troubleshoot and develop a plan to help the student, I am here to assist you. I will be glad to help you find solutions.

When Should I Contact Academic Support?

- Your child experiences a consistent pattern of struggles over time. (A few examples: often loses work, is often easily distracted, often displays impulsivity, has consistently low test scores, often has an A/F pattern of grades within one subject.)
- Your child needs a tutor.
- You suspect your child struggles to learn and retain information.
- You need to talk through your concerns.

---Susan Evans, Academic Support Teacher & Supervisor

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR CHILD'S GRADE LEVEL?

6TH GRADE

The 6th grade teachers have been pleased with how well the students have transitioned into middle school. They are enjoying their lockers and changing classes. In Math, the next unit of study after multiplying and dividing fractions will be all about decimals! In Science, students will begin an engineering unit. Our hope is to get the students excited about all the different types of engineering there is. In Language Arts and Literature, students are studying the way literary characters develop through interactions with others and through events. This is a great opportunity for students to look at their lives and see how God is shaping their own character. Students will continue to learn new vocabulary and apply it to their own speech and writing. The next writing piece will be an expository "how-to" paragraph. The next unit in History is Ancient Egypt. This is always a favorite as students study mummies and pyramids. Students will also take a "trip down the Nile" for them to discover the significant accomplishments of the Egyptians. Over the next few weeks in Bible, students will be finishing the examination of Genesis 1-11 to understand what God intended for humanity and what it looks like when they fall short of God's intention for them.

Please know that we pray for your children and are looking forward to an exciting fall season of learning!

7TH GRADE

The Seventh Grade teachers are thrilled to be back at school! We welcomed two new teachers to our team this year – Kasey Farmer who teaches Language Arts and Literature and Kyle Farmer who teaches Geography. Mr. and Mrs. Farmer both come from Northern Georgia near Chattanooga, Tennessee and Mr. Farmer is attending Southern Baptist Seminary part-time in the evenings.

Our classes are off to a great start! In Language Arts/Literature, the students are reviewing the parts of speech and reading "*The City of Ember*." The Science classes are learning how to use the microscope and how cells function. In Geography, students are learning about Central America. The seventh grade Math and Pre-Algebra classes are reviewing Order of Operations and Math vocabulary.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail us. We are looking forward to a great 2017-2018 school year!

8TH GRADE

There are a couple of projects that are happening in 8th Grade! One project is taking place in History classes. It is called the Family Tree Project. One of the main themes of history is the study of human systems and the constant movement involved in human systems. Starting as early as the 1600's and going on into the late 1800's, thousands of immigrants came to the United States from many other countries to start a new life for themselves. Where does your family fit into United States history? Job 8:8 says, "Ask the former generations and find out what their fathers learned." The students' task is to talk with their parents, grandparents and other family members to create a family tree. Examples will be shown in class and a rubric will be given to each student. Posters will be displayed in the eighth grade hallway.

The other project that is happening is in Science classes. It is called the Egg Drop Project. In this project, students apply Newton's laws and design principles to build a container that will protect an egg during a drop of over three meters. Students will bring in supplies to build their project in groups and then go out to the football field to test their designs!

JOIN OUR PROVIDENCE SCHOOL IN THE FAMILY WALK TO SUPPORT DOWN SYNDROME OF LOUISVILLE

To participate in the Walk/Run on Saturday, September 30, go to Steps-to-independence.everydayhero.do. [Click here](#) for a printable flyer and complete details. You can also show your support and love for the students of the Providence School by ordering a special Providence School shirt (standard t-shirt or jersey style) by going to calprovidence.itemorder.com.

REMINDERS

- **Progress Reports: On Monday, September 11**, we will have grades entered, updated, and verified so that you can log onto **Canvas** and see your student's mid-quarter grades. Please direct any questions you may have to your child's teachers.
- The Middle School Office will close every **Thursday from 9:40 a.m. – 10:05 a.m. and 1:24 p.m. – 1:49 p.m.** to attend Middle School Chapel. If your student arrives late during these times, please have them go to the front door of the school and sign in and then go to Chapel. After Chapel, your student will need to report to the Middle School Office and sign in also so that we are aware they are here. If you need your student dismissed during Chapel hours, please contact the middle school office **in advance** so they can get your student **BEFORE** they go to the Chapel. Otherwise, you will need to report directly to the auditorium if you need them dismissed during Chapel hours.
- If a student needs to be dismissed early, please contact the Middle School Office in advance. You may have your student bring the office a note, e-mail the Middle School Receptionist at msreception@caschools.us or call (502) 244-3225, extension 1034.
- If a student is being dismissed early **to leave with someone other than their parent**, a note from the parent giving permission must be submitted to the Middle School Office before the student will be allowed to leave.
- If a student is walking home, a Walker Permission Form needs to be completed in advance. This form can be picked up in the Middle School Office and can be sent home with the student for the parents to complete.



*education with a **Higher** purpose*

Serving to develop students with a heart for God who grow as Jesus did in wisdom, stature and in favor with God and men.