

# Paideia Academy

MARCH 20, 2015

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Mar 23—April 10**

Spring Break, **No school**

**April 14 Special Board**

Meeting 5:30 pm, Finance  
Committee Meeting 6:00 pm &  
School Culture/  
Communication  
Committee meeting 7 pm

**April 15 PURPLE UP!**

Wear Purple to support  
Military Children! \* jeans ok

**April 17 Board Nominations**  
due 5 pm

**April 20th Monday Morning**  
Meeting & Coffee with the  
Director.  
\* 6:30 pm PTO hosting a  
Candidate Forum  
for Board Nominees.

**April 21st Governance &**  
Long Range Planning  
Committee meeting 6 pm &  
Board meeting 7pm



Dear Paideia Community,

Congratulations to the Paideia Academy Science Olympiad for their participation in the MN State Science Olympiad Tournament last Saturday at St. Olaf College! It was great spending Pi Day with our team as they competed in their respective categories: Anatomy, Elastic Launched Glider, Entomology, Fossils, Road Scholar, Solar System, Write It/Do It, and Green Generation. Thank you to our students, the families of our Olympiads and Mr. Nelson for supporting our students' scientific endeavors!

This week, our students have been taking their last DDI tests before MCAs start after break. Their teachers will be analyzing the data from these tests during their professional development day at the end of spring break to prepare for re-teaching week when we return. Each grade level is also providing optional work packets or activities for students to work on at home during break so they can keep their minds active and retain the content knowledge and skills they have developed. Students who turn in completed packets or activities to their teachers when they return from break will receive a yet-to-be named reward (depending on how many students are eligible). Please encourage your child to continue their learning during break, whether they are reading, problem-solving, writing, working on their optional activities, learning a new song on their instrument, or creating their own experiments!

Throughout the past two weeks, I have met with nearly all teachers to review their mid-year evaluations with them and to discuss how Ms. Chamley, Ms. Kegel, and I can assist them to support their students in meeting their individual student learning goals, as well as meet their own professional goals. These conversations have given us wonderful opportunities to discuss teaching and learning, collaboration among colleagues, professional development, and many more topics. It has been great to hear teachers talk about how their views of the revised programs have evolved throughout the year, how much they have learned from each other, and about the plans they have for next year.

The Board has called a special Board Meeting on Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm to discuss the approval of next year's programming plan per staff feedback. I hope you will join us there to join our discussion of academic excellence and what separates Paideia from other local schools.

Have a wonderful three weeks of spring break with your families! I look forward to seeing you all again on April 13<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,  
**Marci Levy-Maguire**  
Director

# News from the Board

I want to extend a HUGE congratulations to all of the students and the PTO for the success of Reading Rocks! The students read over 200,000 total minutes and raised almost \$8,000. Kudos to the PTO, and in particular Marinda Schader and Cory Ehrhardt, for organizing and instituting this great fundraiser to get our kids reading.

This past Tuesday, the HR Committee met and discussed the programming for the next school year. After much discussion, it was decided to give the staff a chance to review the proposed programming before it was presented to the Board for approval. The HR meeting then rolled into the Board meeting. In response to the staff satisfaction survey results, the staff have been working on identifying a few areas for improvement for each Board committee to address. After a lot of hard work, several teacher and staff representatives presented the items they want the Board to work on, along with ideas for action plans and timelines. We thank the staff for all their hard work. These items will help guide the Board's work over the next year. The Board also went into a closed session to discuss contract negotiation strategy and proposals for Ms. Levy-Maguire's next contract.

Due to several factors, the Board will have another **Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, April 14, at 5:30 p.m.** The Board will be reviewing and voting on: (1) programming for next year; and, (2) approval of the 990 tax form. The Board will also be considering a proposal for Ms. Levy-Maguire's next contract.

The Special Board Meeting will be followed by the Finance Committee meeting at 6 p.m., which will be discussing the 2015-16 budget, and the School Culture and Communication meeting at 7 p.m.

Finally, we still need a handful of volunteers to staff a booth at the Apple Valley Home & Garden Show on Saturday, April 11. We are looking for volunteers to serve during a 9 a.m. - noon shift or a noon - 3 p.m. shift. These events greatly assist Paideia in getting its name out in the community and educating families on charter schools and Paideia's offerings, in particular. It is a great way to pull new students into our school. If you are able to volunteer, please contact Peter Thorpe at [peterthorpe80@gmail.com](mailto:peterthorpe80@gmail.com). Thanks, in advance!

Have a wonderful spring break!

Elizabeth Larsen,  
Board Chair

# From the Office

## Office Hours:

- During Spring Break the Paideia office is closed to the public March 23 – April 3.
- The office is open from 8-2, Monday-Thursday, April 6-9.

## IXL Contest!

We are excited to be joining a month-long contest through IXL to see which classrooms can answer the most questions on IXL. The contest begins March 23<sup>rd</sup>, so encourage your student to start participating over break! On April 24<sup>th</sup>, IXL will announce the winning classrooms on Facebook--each one will receive a pizza party! You can check out the leading classroom throughout the competition at <https://www.facebook.com/IXL>.

## Looking for ways to enrich and engage your child during Spring Break?

The Lightbulb Fair is an optional opportunity for students to dive into the Core Knowledge curriculum more in-depth. All students are welcome to participate! The majority of the project will be completed at home, though students will also have some time at school. This year's Lightbulb Fair theme is Film and/or Movies. Students may choose one movie or one type of movie to explore through the lens of four (or more) of the seven Core Knowledge components (Language Arts, World History & Geography, Visual Arts, Music, Science, American History & Geography, and Mathematics). Example topics are: superheroes, animation, Academy Awards, history in film, civil rights in film, nature in film, etc. You are encouraged to support your child in researching a topic of his/her choice. An informational packet will be emailed out to all families and available in your child's advisory/homeroom classroom. This is a fantastic enrichment option that will allow your child to deepen their understanding on a chosen topic as they dive into the Core Knowledge components.

Please contact [abranstad@paideiaacademy.org](mailto:abranstad@paideiaacademy.org) if you have any questions.

# MCA Testing schedule

MCA Testing: Science		
	Thursday, April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, April 17 <sup>th</sup>
8:30am-9:30am	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade
9:45am-10:45am	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade



MCA Testing: Math					
	Monday, April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday, April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Wednesday, April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Thursday, April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Friday, April 24 <sup>th</sup>
8:30am-9:30am		8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade
9:45am-10:45am		8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade
1:00pm-2:00pm	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade
2:15pm-3:15pm	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade

MCA Testing: Reading						
	Tuesday, April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday, April 29 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, May 1 <sup>st</sup>	Monday, May 4 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday, May 5 <sup>th</sup>
8:30am-9:30am	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade
9:45am-10:45am	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade
1:00pm-2:00pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
2:15pm-3:15pm	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade

MCA Testing: Make-ups				
	Monday, April 27 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday, May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, May 7 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, May 8 <sup>th</sup>

## Volunteers Needed

### Office help:

Summer volunteers are needed to answer phones and watch the front desk as Ms. Sandy takes the Summer off. Please watch for more details if interested.

**2nd Grade Level Volunteer Opportunities:** During quarter 4, we would also continue to appreciate volunteers on Wednesday afternoons from 12:50-2:30 to make copies, file papers, etc., Thursday afternoons from 2:15-3:00 to give spelling tests, and Friday mornings from 8:25-9:20 to help students with new spelling word sorts. Please click on the following link to sign up: <http://vols.pt/nH6AYf>

# From the PTO

## READING ROCKS – Prize Winners!

**Minutes:** Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade reached their reading goal of 20,000 minutes and the entire school hit the 200,000 minute mark! You all rock!

**Grand Prizes for Most Pledges:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place: iPod Touch-Kyle D. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Four tickets to Science Museum-Brandon W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Four tickets to The Works Museum-K. Family



## Spring Carnival & Silent Auction – May 15<sup>th</sup>

The Carnival Committee is looking for donations to create gift baskets for the Spring Carnival Silent Auction. The basket themes are:

**Ice Cream Party** (cones, sprinkles, scoop, bowls, toppings, DQ gift card)

**Family Movie/Game Night** (movies, games, popcorn, beverages, Redbox gift card)

**Land of Legos** (Lego toys, Lego books, sticker books, Lego Movie, gift card)

**Girl Fun** (jewelry, nail polish, movies, hair items, lip gloss, journal, gel pens, picture frame, trinket box, gift cards)

Join with another family to create a fun basket, donate individual items that will be combined to create a basket or donate cash for the committee to do the shopping. Please email **Courtney Cardwell** at [cacardwell68@yahoo.com](mailto:cacardwell68@yahoo.com) if you're interested in donating.



## Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week – May 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

Paideia Academy's teachers and staff are "Super Heroes" and we want to show our appreciation during Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week! If you would like to volunteer during the week or if you work for a business interested in donating, please email **Kris Ziegler** at [kzieg06@gmail.com](mailto:kzieg06@gmail.com)



## New Lower Price!

**10 Year Spirit Wear Shirts** are on sale **NOW!**

You can purchase them by emailing us at [pto@paideiaacademy.org](mailto:pto@paideiaacademy.org) or through our online store at [mkt.com/paideiaptto](http://mkt.com/paideiaptto) for the sale price of **\$6 each**.

Limited inventory and sizes. Get one before they are gone!

## Your Paideia Academy PTO

**President:** Jane Hendrickson

**Vice-President:** Marinda Schader

**Treasurer:** Miki Stone

**Secretary:** Amanda Hirning

**Communication Coordinator:**

Danielle Haagenson

**Volunteer Coordinator:**

Shannon Bradley

**Redemption Coordinator:**

Dave Ehrhardt

**Vice-Treasurer:** Endia Porter

**School Store:** Stacy Thorpe

## Your Grade Level Reps

**Kindergarten:** Stacy Thorpe

**First:** Shannon Bradley

**Second:** Cari Thunker

**Third:** Wendy Clark

**Fourth:** Antoinette Stookey

**Fifth/Sixth:** Krystal Sedwick

**Seventh/Eighth:** Michele Lundgreen

## Interested in being part of the leadership team?

Opportunities available are Fundraising Coordinator and Student/Family Events Coordinator.

**We'd love to hear from you!**

[pto@paideiaacademy.org](mailto:pto@paideiaacademy.org)

**Looking for the  
Most Recent  
News?**



**Don't forget! Wendy's Night is on April 7!**

**Have a fun and safe Spring Break!**

# From your Counselors

## Spring Break!

Spring vacation is a great time for families to recharge, get ready for the home stretch of the school year, and have some fun with activities. Whether you're planning to take it easy at home during spring break or take a fun family trip, here are some great ideas for spring break activities to do with your kids.

### 1. Have a Fun Family Picnic

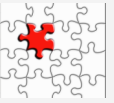
What better way to spend a beautiful warm day outside than to go on a fun family picnic? Just pack up a basket with yummy and healthy picnic food and tote along some fun games and toys. Your family is sure to have a terrific, relaxing and joyful day together. The best part: Your kids will be so exhausted at the end of the fun day that they'll probably go to bed without much ado!

### 2. Create a Beautiful Garden with Your Children

One great idea for spring break activities to do with your kids is to plant a garden. Grade-schoolers love digging in dirt, and they love the sense of accomplishment and pride that can come from creating something with their hard work. So find some growing space in your back yard or a planter and give your kid a spade. Let him get to work helping you plant flowers and veggies. Gardening can be a great opportunity for you and your child to spend some time together. Your child will take pride in his green thumb as he watches his garden grow.

### 3. Play Outdoor Games with Kids

Spring break is a great time for fun, and lots of fun games can be played outside in fresh air and sunshine. Now that days are longer and the temperature is finally beginning to warm up, classic outdoor games like red light, green light and four square are perfect for kids to play during a break from school. The best part: They get exercise while having fun!



**Jayne Largent**

**K-4 School**

**Counselor**

[jlargent@paideiaacademy.org](mailto:jlargent@paideiaacademy.org)

**Mike Roll**

**5-8 School**

**Counselor**

[mroll@paideiaacademy.org](mailto:mroll@paideiaacademy.org)

# From the Classrooms

## Kindergarten

**Math:** Practice using non-standard measurement to measure things around your house: how many shoes long is your driveway? How many pieces of spaghetti long is your kitchen table? Practice counting objects in your house: how many shoes does your family own? How many pieces of fruit do you see in your refrigerator? Please see the bingo-style board that was sent home with your student for more ideas.

**Language Arts:** Read a story with a family member, keep a daily journal about what you do over break, write your sight words on the sidewalk using chalk, see the bingo-style board that was sent home with your student for more ideas. Review Sight Words: a, am, and, are, blue, brown, big, black, can, down, do, for, find, green, go, here, help, he, have, I, it, is, in, like, look, little, my, me, make, no, not, orange, on, purple, pink, please, play, red, see, said, she, saw, to, the, this, these, they, that, up, where, we, will, who, want, when, went, yellow, you, yes.

**Social Studies:** Practice saying the Pledge of Allegiance, go to the library and check out books on American Symbols, see the bingo-style board that was sent home with your student for more ideas.

**Science:** Go outside and explore, look for changes in the weather, watch for Spring changes around your home, see the bingo-style board that was sent home with your student for more ideas.

**Advisory:** Go outside and PLAY! Play a game with your family members – practice sharing and taking turns.

**Announcements:** Please look for a bingo-style board that came home with your student full of activities to try over Spring Break. Remember, these activities are not required but are a fun way to get your entire family involved in what we have been learning about this past quarter.

**Inspirations:** Happy Birthday David (3/31) and Hasini (4/4)! Those pesky leprechauns paid us several visits in kindergarten this week! It was fun to watch the kindergartners get so excited over each of their visits!

## 1st Grade

**Math:** Work with your child to identify key words in a word problem to determine if they should add or subtract. Have your child practice lining up 2-digit addition and subtraction problems.

⇒ **Opportunities for learning at home:** Continue to work on IXL skills: Addition (B.16, B.17, B.26), Subtraction (D.20), Mixed Addition and Subtraction (F.6, F.8).

**Language Arts:** Have your child read to you or someone else. Ask your child to retell the story in order and focusing on who the characters are and where the setting takes place. Continue working with the Dolch Sight word list.

⇒ **Opportunities for learning at home:** Continue to work on Lexia and the IXL Language Arts skills. (Email your child's teacher if you need their log-in information for either Lexia or IXL.)

**Science:** Ask your student to tell you about the planets and the layers of the Earth; including the rocks found in the Earth.

**Social Studies:** Ask your child if they can tell you something they learned about Presidents Washington, Lincoln, Obama.

**Advisory:** Talk to your child about tattling vs. telling.

**Announcements:** We had a great 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter!!!! Be sure to complete and return the homework packet.

**Inspirations:** Congrats to Annika, Alyse, Ryanna, Chris, Elliot, Brielle, Lydia, and Addison for retiring clips this week!



## 2nd Grade

**Math:** Do some math everyday over break! Practice math facts or skills through playing math games such as Salute, Addition War, Yahtzee, or Rack-o or using flash cards. Write story (word) problems about what you are doing over break and solve them. Count coins in a piggy bank and write the amount in dollars and in cents. Role play buying something or giving change using play or real coins. Practice rounding numbers to the nearest 10 or 100 and adding and subtraction with regrouping. Also continue to work on IXL skills related to money, skip counting, addition, subtraction, rounding etc.

**Language Arts:** Read! Read! Read! Read fiction books and identify setting, problem, solution and any lesson or moral. Read nonfiction texts (magazines, newspapers, books) and identify main idea and specific details. Check out audio-books/books on CD from the library and listen and follow along in the book at home or in the car. Read and discuss a chapter book as a family or take turns having siblings read to each other. Write about your adventures over spring break, write a letter to a friend or relative, or write an informative paragraph about something you know a lot about or an opinion paragraph about a favorite thing. Also, practice IXL Language Arts skills related to capitalization, nouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, contractions, compound words, prefixes and suffixes, alphabetic order, and dictionary skills.

**Science:** Plant some seeds and write down observations and draw pictures to show their growth each day. Take a nature walk or go to the science museum or the Works museum as a family.

**Social Studies:** Find and label U.S. landmarks on a map (especially ones you have been to or are going to go to as a family!). Mark on a map where any out-of-state relatives or friends live and discuss what states or oceans are north, south, east, or west of that state. Also go to the history museum or check out biography or informational books related to social studies topics of interest (ex. Martin Luther King Jr., Susan B. Anthony, Civil War, Constitution, etc.).

**Advisory:** Read books on and/or discuss friendship and positive friendly behaviors that will show others you want to be their friend. Role play what to do when there are conflicts with friends.

**Announcements:** We are will be providing more information on quarter 4 field trips after break! We are very excited that we won a free field trip to the Ordway through Reading Rocks! Also, we would continue to love donations of tissue boxes and more items for the treasure box.

**Inspirations:** Congrats to Cole, Emilie, Lucy, Rowan, Raegan, Isaac, Kyla, Ambrose, Sam B., Sam E., Abby, Jenna, Melody, Cedric, and Lydia on retiring clips this week!

## 3rd Grade

**Math:** Students can practice their multiplication and division facts. They can also review graphing and how to tell time.

⇒ **Opportunities for learning at home:** Please work on any IXL standards not yet completed. Your student can also work on their MCA practice packet to get ready for the MCA's!

**Language Arts:** The students can practice their handwriting, writing letters to a family member or friend, writing a persuasive letter, writing a narrative story and describing the main idea and details in any books they have read.

⇒ **Opportunities for learning at home:** Have your student practice for the MCA's with their review packet!

**Science:** Students can review the scientific method, the names of the bones in the human body, sound and hearing. We will start learning about our solar system in fourth quarter so they can also start memorizing the order of the planets if they would like!

**Social Studies:** Students can review our Vikings, Rivers, and Ancient Rome units.

**Advisory:** Students can practice writing their cursive letters and discussing how they have used kindness over spring break!

**Announcements:** None for this week.

**Inspirations:** The third graders did an awesome job on their third quarter DDI tests! We are very proud of them and we hope you all have a wonderful spring break!

## 4th Grade

### **Ideas for Spring Break!**

**Math:** Work on any IXL 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Standards not mastered yet. Complete MCA practice packet.

**Language Arts:** Work on any IXL 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Standards not mastered yet. Complete MCA practice packet.

**Science:** Next quarter we will study the circulatory and respiratory systems.

**Social Studies:** Next quarter we will study African Kingdoms and Medieval Times.

## 5th Grade

- Math:** Students can work on IXL skills from past weeks. Students will also be bringing a MCA practice packet home to work on over spring break. Students can go to <http://www.mathslice.com/mathmocktest.php> for extra MCA test practice.
- Language Arts:** Over break, students will be bringing home a reading test practice packet. Students who complete the packet over break will receive a reward.
- ⇒ **Opportunities for learning at home:** Students will be receiving a test practice packet to work on over spring break. Students who complete at least 75% of the packet will receive a reward. Classes who turn in their packets will be receiving an incentive for turning in their packets. Students should also be doing lots of reading over break. Consider some trips to the library!
- Science:** 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be continuing to learn about different forms of energy and MN resources. When we return from break we will be creating a mini book on MN biomes and natural resources.
- ⇒ **Opportunities for learning at home:**  
Enjoy time spent in a deciduous biome by visiting these FREE maple syruping events in MN state parks. Learn how this biome is a bountiful food source for Minnesotans.  
[http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state\\_parks/maple\\_syruping.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/maple_syruping.html)  
Choose the Deciduous, Prairie or Coniferous Videos to get an up close look at MN biomes.  
<http://classroom.willstegerfoundation.org/materials/video-gallery/online-classroom-videos>  
Students may explore how resources like lumber are processed by completing the following webquest. This is a fantastic opportunity to earn extra credit points!  
<http://www.mofb.org/WebQuest/TimberandLogging.aspx>
- Social Studies:** We will begin the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter talking about the tax systems that were created when the United States was formed. During break, as it is tax time, it would be a great opportunity for you to have a conversation with your students about how taxes work. View this: <http://bizkids.com/episode/a-world-without-taxes>
- Announcements:** Please have your students work on their MCA test practice packets over break!
- Inspirations:** It was inspiring to see students working hard on their DDI tests.

## 6th Grade

- Math:** Students can work on IXL skills from past weeks. Students will also be bringing a MCA practice packet home to work on over spring break. Students can go to <http://go.hrw.com/hrw.nd/arbitrator/pRedirect?project=courseware&linkType=assignment&id=340> for extra MCA test practice.
- Language Arts:** Over break, students will be bringing home a reading test practice packet. Students who complete the packet over break will receive a reward.
- ⇒ **Opportunities for learning at home:** Students will be receiving a test practice packet to work on over spring break. Students who complete at least 75% of the packet will receive a reward. Classes who turn in their packets will be receiving an incentive for turning in their packets. Students should also be doing lots of reading over break. Consider some trips to the library!
- Science:** 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will be continuing to learn about different forms of technology and will begin the study of engineering when we return from break.
- ⇒ **Opportunities for learning at home:** Prepare students for our own engineering project by engineering a shelter. Instructions can be found at the following website. [https://www.teachengineering.org/view\\_activity.php?url=collection/csm/activities/csm\\_amazon/csm\\_lesson3\\_activity1\\_tg.xml](https://www.teachengineering.org/view_activity.php?url=collection/csm/activities/csm_amazon/csm_lesson3_activity1_tg.xml)  
Take a family trip to The Works, a science and engineering museum in Bloomington. The museum features lots of hands on fun for kids!  
Students may explore what a job as an engineer looks like, as well as observe the many ways engineers make up the world we live in, by completing the following webquest. This is a fantastic opportunity to earn some extra credit points.  
<https://projectleadtheway.wikispaces.com/Activity+1.4+Engineer+Webquest>
- Social Studies:** During break watch or read anything about the Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression. We will be starting there in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.
- Announcements:** Please have your students work on their MCA test practice packets over break!
- Inspirations:** It was inspiring to see students working hard on their DDI tests.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Math:** Over the break students can be working on IXL skills as well as the MCA practice test that I will be sending home with each student. We will be taking the MCA-III Math test sometime soon after returning from break.
- Language Arts:** MCA practice packets are coming home today!
- Science:** We just finished an invigorating ecology unit and this is a prime opportunity to go to the zoo! Make a food web using the animals you see, learn about their native ecosystems, and identify which ones are threatened or endangered.
- ⇒ **Opportunities for Learning at Home:** Visit the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources website (<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/index.html>) and explore some of the invasive species present in our state. Are there more or less than you anticipated? What measures is the DNR taking in order to prevent the further spread of these organisms?

Continued

## 7th Grade continued

**Social Studies:** Students are always encouraged to keep up with world events. Students also have a list of “I Can” statements which can help you gain better understanding of what is done in class.

**Advisory:** Advisory is discussing humor this month.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Math:** Over the break students can be working on IXL skills as well as the MCA practice test that I will be sending home with each student. We will be taking the MCA-III Math test sometime soon after returning from break.

**Language Arts:** TBD

**Science:** We just finished an invigorating ecology unit and this is a prime opportunity to go to the zoo! Make a food web using the animals you see, learn about their native ecosystems, and identify which ones are threatened or endangered.

⇒ **Opportunities for Learning at Home:** Visit the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources website (<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/index.html>) and explore some of the invasive species present in our state. Are there more or less than you anticipated? What measures is the DNR taking in order to prevent the further spread of these organisms?

**Social Studies:** Students are always encouraged to keep up with world events. Students also have a list of “I Can” statements which can help you gain better understanding of what is done in class.

## Classical Studies

### 5th/6th Grades

**Standards/unit:** Greek Mythology: ; Roman Life

**Announcements:** 5th graders: keep reading about mythology, especially heroes; 6th graders: think about and even collect materials and resources for your Roman Life project 4th quarter

### 7th/8th Grades

**Standards/unit:** 7th Grade: Daoism; 8th grade: Meso-Americans (Maya, Aztecs, Incas)

**Inspirations:** Great Maya, Inca, Aztec projects!

**Announcements:** 7th graders: continue to find Confucian or Daoist quotes that are relevant to you; 8th graders: see if you can find thing that interest you or questions you may have about North American Indians

## Latin

### 5th/6th Grades

**Standards/unit:** Ch. 4 Vocabulary

**Inspirations:** Spray painting to learn words

**Announcements:** 5th & 6th graders: be prepared to enter 4th quarter with a focus on putting together simple Latin sentences and work on grammar; See if you can dig up some Latin Wisdom. Maybe I'll use it in class:)

### 7th/8th Grades

**Standards/unit:** Ch. 7 Vocabulary

**Activities:** Sentence Wars

**Inspirations:** The airbrush

**Announcements:** 7th & 8th graders: Try to use and recognize our Ch. 7 vocab words. The more you recognize and use them, the easier the review and Vocab Quiz will be when we come back for quarter.

## Spanish

**Kindergarten- 4th Grade:** Spanish alphabet, numbers, colors, and days of the week packet. Over break, K-4 students can complete an optional packet to review the concepts that they learned during third quarter. They can also do a variety of Spanish activities online.

**5th Grade:** Spanish word find and review vocabulary flashcards

**6th Grade:** Start studying the vocabulary words for Unit 2, Lesson 2

**7th Grade:** Start studying the vocabulary words for Unit 4, Lesson 2

**8th Grade:** Start studying the vocabulary words for Unit 6, Lesson 2

⇒ **Online resources K-8th Grade-**

*Spanishresources.com*

*BrainPop in Spanish*

*Duolingo (free to set-up an account)*

*Mi Mundo en Palabras*

*National Geographic (Spanish)*

*El Alfabeto*

*Literacy Center*

*Maya y Miguel*

⇒ **6th-8th Grade-**

*Classzone.com* (Avancemos 1- activities, conjuguemos, grammar and flashcards)



## Art

Mrs. Schwartz and Mrs. Shelton would like to encourage every grade to go look at art over break.

Some local museums include: -*Russian Art Museum (Minneapolis)* -*Minneapolis Institute of Art (Minneapolis)*  
-*Weismann Art Museum (U of M Campus)* -*Walker Art Museum (Minneapolis)*

Below we have listed what each grade level as focused on this past quarter. While at these art museums look for the following examples! Bring a sketchbook along as well and draw what you see!

### Lower Academy

Kindergarten: 2D versus 3D, Totem Poles, Site Word Art

1st and 2nd Grade: Landscapes, Cityscapes, Portraits, Abstract, Still Life

3rd and 4th Grade: Notre Dame, Color Wheel, Color Schemes (Primary, Secondary, Warm, Cool, Complementary, Analogous).

### Upper Academy

5th and 6th Grade: Baroque, Rococo, Elements of Emotion (Eyes, Eyebrows, Mouth)

7th and 8th Grade: Pop Art– Warhol, Lichtenstein, Oldenburg, Johns

### Art Announcements:

The art room is collecting old or new tennis balls! We would like to put a tennis ball on each leg of all 30 stools in our room. If you have any to donate please drop them off at the front desk. Thanks!

## Music

### Kindergarten—2nd Grade

1. Find Parts A (one voice) and Parts B (a lot of voices) in a song on the radio! Create a pose for each part or draw a picture to show the parts in a song!

2. Create a work song that you can sing while you work!

3. Find the Drinking Gourd in the night sky, don't forget to sing while you do it!

Third Grade:

1. Create poems to help you remember the lines on the staff!

For example: Every Great Break Deserves Fun

2. Practice drawing a fancy treble clef!

**Inspiration:** Thank you to the Stookey family for letting us watch your recording of the 3-4 concert!



### 4th Grade

Over spring break, 4th grade students can practice their music skills by singing along with their favorite songs! As a family, discuss the role that music plays, especially in theatrical productions. See a musical or watch an old Disney favorite!

### 5th Grade

Over spring break, 5th grade students can become familiar with a Digital Audio Workstation, a powerful software program designed to compose, record, and edit music. Many come with limited trial demos including Reaper, Pro Tools, & Reason. If you have an iPad or a Mac computer, GarageBand is the one we'll be using during 4th quarter!

### 6th Grade

Over spring break, 6th grade students can become familiar with a Digital Audio Workstation, a powerful software program designed to compose, record, and edit music. Many come with limited trial demos including Reaper, Pro Tools, & Reason. If you have an iPad or a Mac computer, GarageBand is the one we'll be using during 4th quarter!

### 7th Grade

Over spring break, 7th grade students can practice their note reading skills. Note reading exercises can be customized at [www.musictheory.net](http://www.musictheory.net). If treble clef notes are easy, try learning bass clef notes—we will be focusing heavily on harmony during 4th quarter, so a working knowledge of treble AND bass clef notes will help tremendously!

### 8th Grade

Over spring break, 8th grade students can become familiar with a Digital Audio Workstation, a powerful software program designed to compose, record, and edit music. Many come with limited trial demos including Reaper, Pro Tools, & Reason. If you have an iPad or a Mac computer, GarageBand is the one we'll be using during 4th quarter!

## Physical Education and Health

Encourage your student(s) to complete at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day over break. Get out and enjoy the (hopefully) nice weather by riding bikes, jogging, walking, playing tag games, jumping rope, hopscotch, and playing on a playground. Be healthy, safe, and enjoy your break!

In health, your student(s) recently learned about alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. For an extension of what they learned last quarter in Health take a look and discuss the following article:

<http://www.thefreelibrary.com/Kicking+the+habit3A+the+Flintstones,+doctors,+and+even+Santa+plugged...-a0390869396>

After break we will begin our safety and fitness unit.