

## **MUSTANG MEMO**

### Addenbrooke Middle School Newsletter / January 24, 2025

I want to extend my congratulations to our newest NJHS inductees. I've also heard that the boys' basketball team is growing and developing a love for the game. Our elementary honor choir will commence next week, and the middle school honor choir will be selling Singing Valentine Grams. Although it may seem early, please remember that homemade valentines are preferred. The history of valentines will be shared in the newsletter that week, but handwritten and handmade notes are timeless treasures that hold their value.

On Thursday, January 29th, our fifth and eighth-grade students will showcase their science fair projects from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. There will also be Lego activities and concessions available that evening. If you plan to attend, please use the Middle School Door (south entrance) for entry.

With the start of this semester, our teachers have dedicated themselves to decreasing missing assignments in the Middle School. Currently 55% of our students have one or more missing assignments. The first objective the staff will focus on is getting students to bring their planners to every class, everyday and write their assignments into the daily planner. They will be enforcing the rule that if a student does not have a planner they will not be allowed to leave the classroom, this have been coined as the NO PLANNER, NO POTTY RULE. Obviously there are emergencies we will let the student go to the bathroom. However if the student does not have a planner, they will owe the teacher 5 minutes of community (classroom time) during their lunch break. The goal of this to help students become responsible and accountable for their own work and writing it down.





Curriculum Symposium & 8th Grade Science Fair	<b>January 29</b> 5:00 - 7:00 pm
K-8 Handwriting Contest (Entries due by 2/7/25)	January 29-February 7
100th Day of School Celebration (Kindergarten Special Celebration Day)	January 31
MS Fall Honor Roll Trip	<b>January 31</b> 2:00 pm
Dad's Book Club	<b>February 5</b> 7:45 - 8:15 am, Library
Pinewood Derby & Family Movie Night	<b>February 6</b> 4:00-8:00, Gym
Assembly (1st and 5th and 6th grade orders recitation)	February 7 8:15 am, Gym
Board of Directors Meeting	February 11 6:00 - 8:30 pm, 3rd floor HS building
Grammar School Valentine's Parties	<b>February 12</b> Kindergarten – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade 2:00 – 3:00 pm
No School for Students	February 13-17
SAC Meeting (School Accountability Committee)	<b>February 18</b> 5:30 - 6:30 pm, H.S. 3rd floor

# Now Hiring School Nurse

Must have current RN license. Please email asmith@addenbrooke.org if interested.

### PERSPECTIVE ABOUT CAR-LINE

I understand that many of you received an email from Mr. Netzer this morning regarding traffic flow and car lines. I encourage you to consider the school as a whole while reading that letter and interpreting its intentions. It was written with the aim of helping our entire community operate efficiently and prioritize the safety of all stakeholders.

While it may seem punitive that the Middle School car line will close after 7:40, and we ask cars arriving after 7:40 to use the front line, it's important to note that students are considered tardy if they arrive to class after 7:45. We have observed that many cars rush through the lane and arrive just in time, leading to confusion about our tardy policy. If a student arrives after 7:40, they are typically late, since classes officially start at 7:45, and students need time to settle in before learning begins.

We have a long morning window from 7:15 to 7:30, which usually does not experience backups. However, this semester, we have noticed an increase in late arrivals, causing delays as we cannot manage the flow of traffic effectively when so many cars arrive simultaneously. During the morning hours, you will typically find that from 7:40 to 7:45, we do not allow the Middle School exiting line to move until the cars queued for the front line have entered. This is our effort to minimize tardies for students still arriving. If you have already dropped off your Middle Schooler and are eager to get to work, please understand that we are working hard to ensure all students get to class on time, which helps reduce congestion around our building.

For those of you who have been with us for more than just this year, you'll notice that the car line is definitely more efficient this year. We continuously strive to tweak and improve efficiency. From experience, I can assure you that managing around 750 students in and out of school is quite a task. Our morning car line is generally completed by 7:50, and for the afternoon by 3:25. Given that school starts at 7:45 and ends for Middle School at 3:15, I believe our line has become quite effective, and we truly appreciate your collaboration in making this happen.

There will always be some days that take longer in the car line, such as when projects are due or special events occur. Unexpected rainstorms at 3:00, which prevent us from taking kids outside, can also lead to delays as we call students via radio as their cars arrive. Please be patient and understanding; everyone is doing their best to ensure the safety of all.



The phrase "perfect execution at home for kids" refers to establishing a structured environment that enables children to consistently complete tasks with a high level of quality. This involves emphasizing attention to detail, adhering to instructions, and instilling a sense of pride in their work, all within a positive and supportive home atmosphere. Ultimately, it is about teaching children the importance of doing things well and thoroughly in everyday situations at home.

### **MATH**

#### Math 6 - Ms. Petrozelli

We are continuing to study Chapter 5, Algebraic Expressions. We took a quiz on section 5.1 and 5.2 on Tuesday. I am allowing quiz corrections that are due on Friday. We are now reviewing adding and subtracting negative and positive integers. We are also reviewing muliplication of negative and positive numbers. We will be combining like terms at the end of the week. I will have after school help on most Tuesdays and Thursdays until 4:00. If you have any questions, please reach out to me at ppetrozelli@addenbrooke.org.

#### Math 7 - Ms. Hinger

I will have after school help on most Tuesdays and Thursdays until 4:00.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me at shinger@addenbrooke.org.

#### Math 8 - Ms. Adamson

We have started Chapter 4 this semester and students are learning about slope and linear equations. Please make sure your student has a graphing notebook!

Most Tuesday and Thursday afternoons I am available after school until 4pm to help students with any questions on homework. If your student needs extra help this is a great opportunity! If you have any questions please reach out to me at sadamson@addenbrooke.org.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS**

#### Sixth Grade - Mrs. Reynolds

**Reading**: We have started <u>The Prince and the Pauper</u>. Please be sure to have your student bring their book to class.

**Writing:** We have started argument writing and are connecting it to Julius Caesar. Students are deciding of Brutus was right or wrong for joining the conspirators and learning how to support their claim with evidence from the text.

#### Seventh - Mrs. Westra

We are continuing to read Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. We continue to focus on characterization, plot structure, and higher level thinking. Students should be bringing their Jekyll and Hyde book and their planner to class everyday. Students completed their Set 2 and 3 vocabulary quiz today.

#### Eighth - Ms. Opie

Students should still be using their planners. I go through the week's assignments on Mondays. We will be studying conjunctions next week and using them to improver our writing. We are continuing to read *A Separate Peace*; students are made aware of the due dates for the week on Mondays, and there are usually quizzes assigned for each chapter. Literature circle groups meet on Thursdays. Most of the reading for these books is done in class. If students get behind, they can sign the book they are reading out for a night.

### **SCIENCE**

Science 7 - Ms. Edwards
We are currently exploring
and gaining background
knowledge about plate
tectonics. After wrapping
up our weather unit last
semester.

Science 7 - Ms. Edwards
We are currently gaining
understanding about acids
and bases. We will start
exploring photosynthesis and
cellular respiration. We will
learn how they work, why
they are important, and how
they connect together.

Science 8 - Ms. Edwards We are finalizing our Science fair projects, which are DUE on Friday January 24th.

#### IMPORTANT

\*\*\*The Science fair is taking place on Wednesday January 29th from 5:00 -7:00pm. Your students is expected to be here for half of that event!\*\*\*

If you have any questions please reach out to me at kedwards@addenbrooke.org.

### **HISTORY**

History 6 - Mr. Mey

We are having our first test tomorrow 2/24. Many students have completed the study guide and are ready to go! We are beginning to study the French Revolution. I am in need of some Capri Suns (75 total) and some cookies. We will be doing my favorite simulation of the French Revolution. It will take place over the course of a week and the student will begin to feel the impact of an oppressive government

#### History 7 - Mr. Satchell

We are looking at the Harlem Renaissance and how that impacted race relations in the United States. Students participated in a discussion about what constitutes free speech and when it goes too far. Students also read primary source documents from the Harlem Renaissance, including literature and poems.

History 8 - Mr. Satchell Students completed a project in which they made their own propaganda and shared it with the class. Students also learned about the Truman Doctrine, NATO and the Warsaw Pact, the Berlin Wall, and the Berlin Airlift.

#### Latin - Ms. Lafferty and Mr. Roe

6th Grade: We have been working through Chapter 8, and the students have been learning how to identify and form second declension noun In Latin. Chapter 8 Quiz: Tuesday January 21st, 2025

7th Grade: The students have been working through chapter 4 of the Oxford Latin text. we have been working on translating simple latin sentences, and understanding the difference between the singular and plural forms of Latin words. Chapter 4 Test Friday January 17th/Tuesday January 21st.

#### MS ART- Mrs. Troudt

6th grade: We are putting the final touches on our Greek vases.
7th grade: We are completing our oil pastel landscapes-inspired by the masters: Van Gogh and Monet.

8th grade: Eighth graders are exploring abstract expressionism through watercolor.





#### Physical Education - Mr. Vessey

We are in the middle of our basketball unit. Students are learning to effectively dribble, pass, shoot and rebound a basketball while understanding and applying basic rules and strategies to participate cooperatively and safely in game play.



#### Choir - Ms. Crumley

Hello Addenbrooke Families! My name is Amanda Crumley and I am thrilled to be joining the team as Middle School Choir Director! My passion for all things singing has been with me all my life. I look forward to working with your students to reach great vocal and artistic heights this semester!

Honor Choir is gearing up to offer singing Val-o-grams for Valentine's Day, in cooperation with Student Council. All choir classes will be showcased during assemblies singing the National Anthem, as they continue preparation for their Spring Concert.

#### Orchestra - Ms. Smith

We have brand new music for every group this semester and we are learning brand new concepts in music theory and instrument technique.

**PLEASE BE AWARE** that this cold and dry weather is very hard on our string instruments. <u>If you leave your instrument in the car or a freezing room this weekend you may find snapped strings, cracked wood, and other damage. I have already replaced 7 strings this past week on different instruments and will do what I can to help, but some damage is beyond my assistance. Check in with your student to see if their instrument is in need of a tune up and reach out with any questions.</u>







### STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATES Coming up:

Please plan on attending curriculum night 1/29. Plan on staying and either: setting up from 3:30-5:00 or from 5:00-7:00. We will be selling concessions and helping run lego rooms. Student government and NJHS will be provided with pizza!

-We will be selling Val-O-Grams coming up -We are working on planning the MS dance that will be on 4/11/25







### NJHS Winter 2025 Inductees

Cierra Banks Sellek Bowler Oz Kersh Ruby Kilgore Maven Kulbe Vienna McSorley Aiden McMullen Celeste Alvariza Madelyn Brown Naysa Corona

**Avery Fosdick** Sophia Luque Tavin Osieczanek Larry Peterson Maggie Smith **Nevaeh Shortis** Cloey Tolman Jude Wilcut

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL ENRICHMENT

Enrichment went very well this week. Students are getting into the groove of the new schedule and have seemed to have taken the choosing of their classes and this experience more seriously. We have also noticed a slight change in the implementation of these classes this semester.