

TRAILBLAZER NEWS

March 2020

MARCUS WHITMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Hello Marcus Whitman families!

This year we have begun to work with our students on learning and strengthening a variety of social skills that everyone needs to be successful in interacting in social and academic situations. Studies indicate that our current students need practice and understanding of the following basic skills:

- *Following Instructions
- *Introducing Yourself
- *Asking For Help
- *Staying On Task
- *Accepting 'No' For An Answer
- *Disagreeing Appropriately
- *Showing Appreciation
- *Accepting Consequences or Criticism
- *Controlling Emotions



At Marcus Whitman, we will be focusing on **FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS** as our 1st school-wide social skill. The Steps we are teaching to all students are:

- *Look at the person**
- *Say 'okay'**
- *Do what was asked right away**
- *Check back with the person**

Below are some helpful hints on how to give kids instructions that will make both you and your child more successful – no matter the circumstances.

1. Get their attention. Go to your child or call them to you. Get down on their level and talk in a normal or calm voice while making eye contact. You can get your child's attention by calling his or her name. This helps your child focus and listen to your instructions. Whether it's your teen or your toddler, it is important for parents to get their child's attention as the first step in communication. This is especially true when you're frustrated after telling your child several times to do something and they ignore you.

2. Be brief and concise. Instructions should be short and to the point. The fewer words, the better. Keep it simple and short. Don't give long lists. If there are too many words, it becomes more difficult for the child to know or remember what is expected. The instruction should also be free of vague words that often lead to your child's interpretation. Most parents have given their children a chore to do or task to complete and found the outcome to be entirely different from their instruction. Why does this happen? It might be your instructions.

3. Say what to do. Let your child know what you want them to do rather than not to do. When we only describe the negative behavior – “don't roll your eyes” – we still leave many other options available (talking back, looking away, etc.). Tell your child what you want them to do: “Look at me and listen.” This clear instruction does not allow for any other options. Sometimes we forget to tell children what to do, and we focus on telling children what not to do. This is a waste of time and sets children up to fail. Also, mean what you say. Do not ask your child to do something unless you mean it. Do not say, “Will you go brush your teeth?” If you put your instruction in the form of a question, this implies they have a choice. Instead, tell your child in a firm but pleasant voice what you want them to do. You should say, “Go brush your teeth right now. Check back in five minutes.”

4. Be realistic. Give your child instructions you know he or she can follow. To set realistic expectations, make sure your instructions follow four key rules: 1. *Is the instruction age appropriate?* 2. *Teach your child exactly what to do.* 3. *Have your child consistently demonstrate what to do.* 4. *Model the instruction for your child.* Children sometimes don't follow instructions because they feel overwhelmed and frustrated because the challenge or expectation of the instruction is beyond their ability.

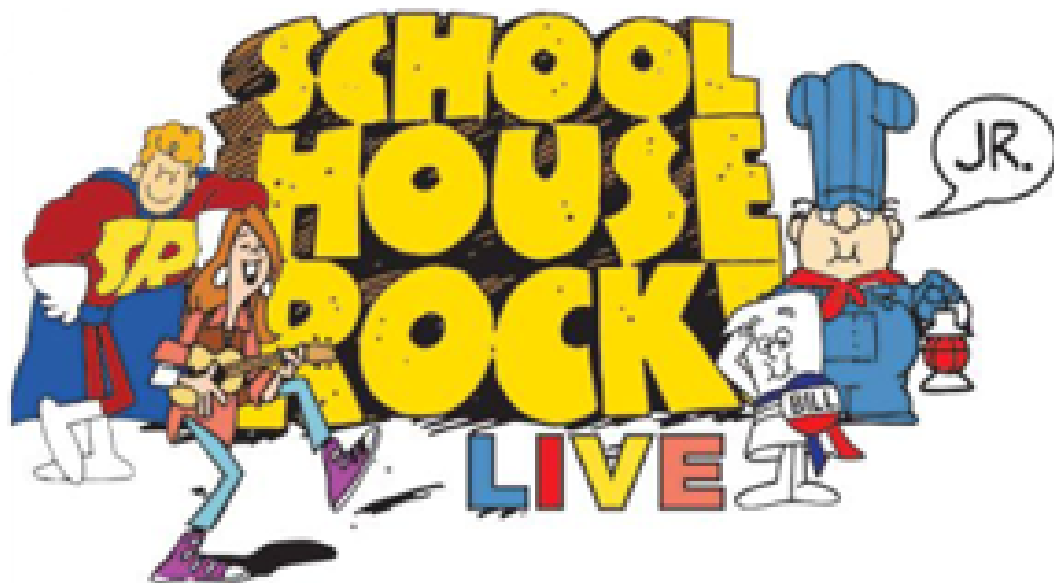
5. Reward compliance. Let your child know that he or she did a good job following the instruction. Praise your child. The more you praise your child, the better the chances that he or she will follow directions in the future. Parents who reward their children for following instructions with praise or privileges that cost no money are more likely to have children who are willing to following instructions.

This blog was originally featured on momaha.com.

www.Boystown.org



Marcus Whitman Drama **PRESENTS**



Performances

Thursday, March 12th 6:00PM

Friday, March 13th 6:00PM

Saturday, March 14th 2:00PM

in the MWMS Amphitheatre

Tickets \$7

Seating is limited. Purchase now at the student store, or at the doors on the day of the event.

Spring Conferences

March 24 - 26

Students will be released at 11:25 am on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. (March 24-27) and lunch will **NOT** be served on those days.

Schedule your conference through Skyward– Family Access

NOTE: Your current email address must be in the skyward system for you to schedule a conference. If you do not have an email address or unable to access a computer please contact our office 360.874.6171.

We cannot accommodate “drop-ins”, so please schedule a conference appointment time(s) to ensure siblings will be scheduled consecutively. If you do not schedule a conference by **March 19** one will be scheduled

Student Name: _____

Check off **one date and time** and return to teacher. You will get an email reminder if current email address is on Skyward– Family Access

March 24 - TUESDAY

- ☐ 12:15 - 1:00
- ☐ 1:00 - 1:45
- ☐ 1:45 - 2:30
- ☐ 2:30 - 3:15
- ☐ 3:15 - 4:00
- ☐ 4:00 - 4:45
- Staff Dinner*
- ☐ 5:45 - 6:30
- ☐ 6:30 - 7:15
- ☐ 7:15 - 8:00

March 25 - WEDNESDAY

- ☐ 12:15 - 1:00
- ☐ 1:00 - 1:45
- ☐ 1:45 - 2:30
- ☐ 2:30 - 3:15

March 26 - THURSDAY

- ☐ 12:15 - 1:00
- ☐ 1:00 - 1:45
- ☐ 1:45 - 2:30
- ☐ 2:30 - 3:15

Instructions for Scheduling Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

THE SCHEDULING FEATURE WILL OPEN ON **March 6th**

1. Log into Family Access by going to www.skschools.org and clicking on the **Family Access** link at the top right of the screen.
2. Enter the Login ID and Password.
3. Click the **Conferences** on the left-hand side of the screen.
4. Click **ALL Conferences** next to the name of the student you want to schedule a parent conference for.
5. Click **Select** a Time.
6. Click **Select** next to the time you would like to schedule.
7. Click SAVE to schedule the selected time.

An email reminder will be sent out as conference week approaches.

YOU MUST HAVE A CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS IN SKYWARD TO SCHEDULE A CONFERENCE ONLINE

*****The conference scheduling is currently not available through
Skyward Mobile App*****



“SLEEPING BEAUTY” BALLET

Who: Dance Arts Theatre of Silverdale

What: Presents “Sleeping Beauty” Ballet

Where: Bremerton High School Performing Arts Center

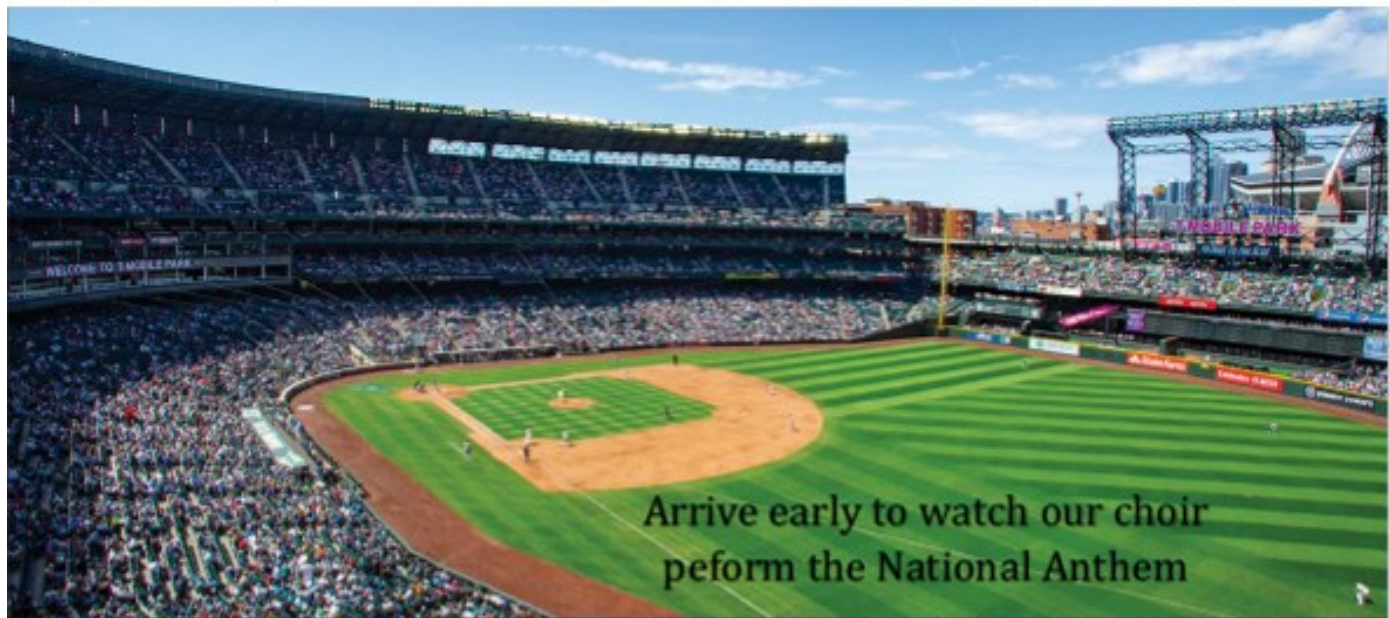
When: Sat. March 21st at 7:00 PM and Sun. March 22nd at 2:00 PM

Tickets: Adult General Admission - \$18.00

Student General Admission - \$12.00

SR Citizen/Child 12 and under—\$10.00

Tickets available at: Irene’s School of Dance, brownpapertickets.com or at door



MARCUS WHITMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

*The Seattle Mariners are extending a discount ticket offer to the students, parents, faculty and staff at our school!
Enjoy a special outing with your friends and family members!*

GAME DATE:

**ANGELS VS. MARINERS
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2020 • 7:10PM**

View Seats for \$15.00 Rate

Main Seats for \$30.00 Rate

- Bring out your family and friends and join our school at T-Mobile Park to watch some exciting Major League Baseball action.
- We have a large block of seats reserved for the game, so order your seats now and join us for some fun at the ballpark.

PRICING & DETAILS:

View Seats for \$15 or Main Seats for \$30

For all students and their families. If you would like to sit with another family, please place one order for the entire group. Orders are filled on a first come first serve basis and are based on availability. Order now!

Orders due – April 3rd

Watch for our school's name on the video board in the 4th inning for our special welcome to T-Mobile Park.

MARCUS WHITMAN SCHOOL – APRIL 29, 2020

Questions? Please contact: Andrea Siedlecki at siedlecki@skschools.org

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW
AT THE STUDENT STORE

South Kitsap High School Registration

Next year our 8th grade students will move on to become Freshman at South Kitsap High School. To help get our students ready for this big leap counselors from SKHS visited MWMS on February 20th to provide information about registering for next year's classes. Please take some time to discuss with your student their course choices for next year and help them complete the appropriate forms. Registration materials are due back to MWMS on Wednesday, March 4th. Failing to register for classes will mean a year of coursework that students had little to no say in choosing. Please, help your student get off to a good start on their high school journey by helping them with this first step. Thank you.



FREE COLLEGE!

As we roll into second semester the counseling department is making another attempt to enroll all eligible 7th and 8th grade students into the **College Bound Scholarship Program**. Enrollment runs through the end of the year, but why wait?

What is the College Bound Scholarship? This scholarship program was developed to provide eligible students with an opportunity to get a free (or mostly free) post high school education. Families that may have a difficult time affording college or career training can now get most, if not all, of that cost paid. It is important to note that this scholarship is not only for study at state universities, it can also be used at technical and trade schools. Learn to be a mechanic, nurse, teacher, hair stylist, doctor, fire fighter, etc. without the fear of tuition costs.

To enroll in the College Bound Scholarship Program, families need to meet certain income requirements. Typically, those students who are on free or reduced lunch are eligible for this program, but other income considerations can be considered. If the income requirements are met, then students are asked to pledge that they will graduate high school with a 2.0 GPA, be a good citizen (no felony arrests), apply to college, and apply for financial aid by completing the FAFSA or WASFA in the senior year of high school. More detailed information can be found at:

<http://www.readysetgrad.org/college/college-bound-scholarship-program>

or

<http://www.wsac.wa.gov/college-bound>

Lastly, the only time students can enroll is in their 7th and 8th grade years, so do not delay; there is no way to go back and seek enrollment once the deadline has passed.

Applications will be provided to all students that we know currently qualify for the program. All families need to do is look for the application and help your student complete it. Return the completed application to MWMS and we will mail it for you. For more information contact your student's counselor: Zack Fogel for student with last names ending in A-K, Nancy Waters for those whose last names begin with L-Z.

6th GRADE SHOWCASE

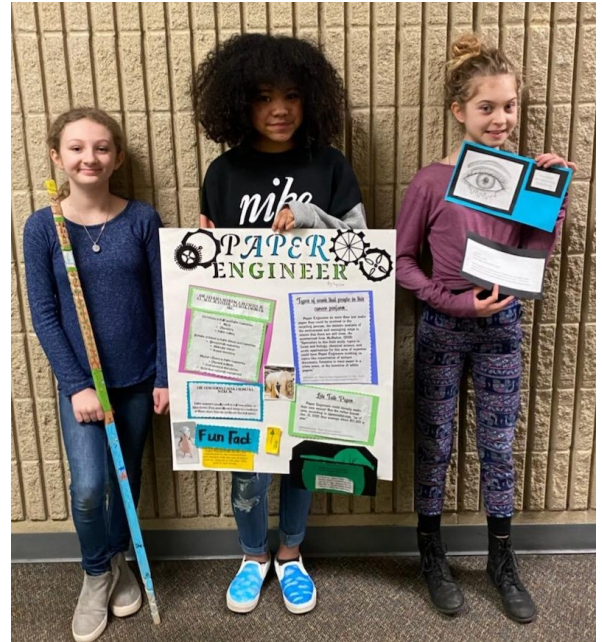
Join us on March 19th in the Marcus Whitman commons the 6th Grade Showcase. The Showcase is an art gallery style open house featuring works of art, poetry, posters, projects, and performances by our 6th grade trailblazers. Each student has chosen a project that represents their best work and spent weeks developing it into a display for the 6th Grade Showcase. Drop in any time between 5:30pm and 7:30pm to view their hard work.

What: 6th Grade Showcase

Where: Marcus Whitman Commons

When: March 19th

How the evening works: This is a drop-in event, so you do not have to arrive at a specific time. Students, parents, community members can come by and check out all the 6th grade work on display any time between 5:30 and 7:30pm. Work will be displayed on walls and tables throughout the commons and gym.



Student Summer Jobs

The State of Washington Department of Ecology is looking for hard working teens to help clean the environment. Any student who will be 14 years old by June 29th, 2020 can apply for a position with Youth Ecology Corps and earn \$13.50/hour. Jobs go fast so if interested contact the counseling office or visit ecology.wa.gov/EYC for information and an application. Supervisor positions are also available to adults and pay \$19.72/hour.



ATTENTION 8TH GRADE PARENTS & STUDENTS



SK CHEER

Tryout Information:

SPRING CLINICS

~ encouraged and open to all interested in trying out ~

April 8th & April 9th - 5:00 -7:00pm SKHS COMMONS

MANDATORY PARENT MEETING

April 8th – 7pm SKHS COMMONS

TRYOUT MATERIAL LEARNING

May 6th & 7th 5:30 -7:30pm SKHS MAIN GYM

(Athletic Packets and forms must be turned in by May 4th)

FINAL TRYOUTS

May 8th – 6:00pm SKHS MAIN GYM

Please see the Athletic Office at your Middle School or SKHS for more information

Good Morning Marcus!!!

Got Talent Marcus is returning April 23rd. Do you have a talent that you would like to showcase? Grab your friends and tryout March 18th and 19th. Permission slips will be available at the student store.



CROSS COUNTRY



There will be a cross country information meeting after school on March 16th from 2:50 to 3:05. Any athletes unable to attend the meeting can come to Room 206 before or after school to check in with Coach Peterson.

VOLLEYBALL

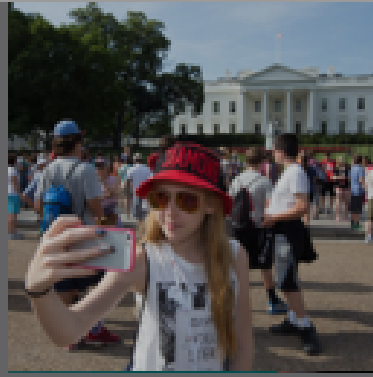
There will be a volleyball information meeting after school on Tuesday, March 17th. There will be two opportunities that day to get the information. 7:45 AM or 2:45 PM in Room 214.
Coach Bradley



FOOTBALL



Coach Moppins will have an information table during lunch one day the second week of March. Exact day will be in the daily bulletin. In the meantime anyone interested should be getting their Athletic Packet and Physical submitted to the main office ASAP.



You're Invited

to an important meeting about
Cedar Heights & Marcus Whitman Middle Schools'

Washington, D.C. Trip

Meeting Date and Time:

Monday, 3/9/2020 @ 6pm

Meeting Location:

in Library @ Marcus Whitman Middle

Come learn more about the trip and
all that the students will see, do, and
experience in Washington, D.C.!

Come to the meeting
to learn about special
early registration
pricing.

Save up to \$125 off the
trip price with monthly
payments of only \$149
per month!

Trip Dates: 4/17/2021 - 4/21/2021

Sign up at worldstrides.com/signup using Trip ID #: 186330

Questions? Contact: Sarah Pollack pollock@skschools.org at Marcus
Whitman or Terri Messing at messing@skitsap.wednet.edu

HIGH 5 RECOGNITION “CONNECTED”



Our second celebration of our High 5 Connected students was February 21th. The students and their parents enjoyed a pizza lunch and each student was presented with a certificate. Students who demonstrated the following under our Connected High 5 were chosen by their teachers for this recognition.

CONNECTED:

*Help Others Feel Included

*Value and Respect Others

*Be Involved

*Build Positive Relationships



STUDENT STORE

YEARBOOK SALE

Special Sale from MARCH 23-27 Yearbooks will be \$25.00

FINES & FEES

Parents please check your student's customer ledger for any outstanding fines and fees by logging into the student Web store; <https://wa-southkitsap.intouchrecepting.com/>



TWO MILE TUESDAY CLUB

Two-Mile Tuesday will begin on November 5th, 2019, Room 106. If you need information about Two-Mile Tuesday stop by and see Mrs. Fay in Room 106 or pick up the information sheet at the main office.



The Chanime Club (Chess + Anime) meets Thursdays, 2:45-3:30 PM, at P6. Mr. O'Loughlin is the Advisor. The Chanime Club is open to all Marcus Whitman students who want to learn and play chess and/or want to draw Anime.



Bible Study Club will be meeting Tuesdays, from 2:45 to 3:30 pm in Room 218.



Weightlifting Club meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:45 - 4:00 pm.



TSA - Technology Student Association (STEM CLUB) will be meeting Wednesdays and Thursdays in room 103 from 3 PM to 4:30 PM. It is open to any 6th, 7th and 8th grader interested. Our activities this year will be glider construction, C02 Dragster competition, and we will be defending our District Cardboard regatta Champion Boat Race.



Rubics Club will be meeting Mondays from 2:45 - 3:30 pm in P8. Permission slips are available at the Main Office.



Game Club will be Friday from 2:45 - 4:00 pm. Permission slip required.

My vision for the club is that everyone can bring games they like to play to the club and there will be different things to try and play each week. I am guessing if we get enough people showing up we can break into smaller groups and be playing several different things at once. So... bring your favorite game (school appropriate) or show up and try someone else's favorite game. Mostly we just want to have fun. Fun is mandatory.

Deputy Brown

Helpful information about our Attendance Policy

Regular attendance is vital to the quality of a child's education. Parents are the key in establishing and maintaining punctual, regular attendance habits. Each school has specific attendance policies listed in student handbooks; parents are encouraged to review these policies with their students.

Early Dismissal Best practice is to send your student with a note the morning of the day you need to pick your student up. Please designate the time of pick up and if someone else will be picking them up other than yourself. Your student will be issued an Early Dismissal Pass and be released at the documented time. During school hours (not immediately before or after school) you may enter the staff parking lot and meet your student in the Main Office where you will check your student out. If a note has not been sent with your student in the morning you will need to come to the Main Office and request your student's release. **We do not accept phone calls for early release.**

Late Arrivals Students arriving after school starts are considered tardy. Tardies can be excused by a phone call, note or email to the attendance office and need to be done within 24 hours. Tardies accrue, at the fifth unexcused tardy, students receive a consequence and for every unexcused tardy following the fifth tardy will continue to result in a consequence. Students arriving more than 15 minutes late are considered truant, this late arrival, if not excused within 24 hours will receive a consequence.

Absences If a child is kept home due to illness, appointment, or any other reason, the attendance office should be notified as soon as possible. You may contact our attendance office directly by calling **(360) 874-6170**, e-mailing med-dles@skschools.org or use the Attendance Application on your Skyward account to report your student's absence. School personnel will try to contact parents if this has not been done. If you have not notified the school to excuse your student's absence, please send them with a note when they return to school.

Physicians advise that a child be fever-free 24 hours before resuming normal activity.

Homework Requests Parents may request, after the 2nd consecutive full day of absence, that their child's assignments be gathered. To make a homework request, please contact the Main Office at **(360) 874-6172**. Requests made before 9:00 a.m. will be available for pick-up in the Main Office at 2:45 on the following business day.

WRESTLING SCHEDULE 2019-2020

All games start at 3:30 pm

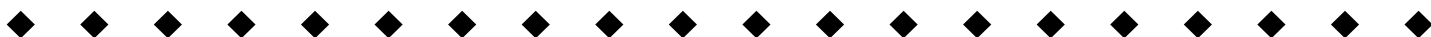
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE
Thur 3/5	Fairview	Fairview
Fri 3/13	WSML Champion	Curtis
Sat 3/14	WSML Champion	Curtis



GIRLS BASKETBALL GAME SCHEDULE 2019-2020

All games start at 3:30

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE
Tue 3/3	Hawkins	Marcus
Thur 3/5	Cedar	SK High School
Varsity at 3:30 - JV at about 5:00		
Parents will need to pick up students at SKHS after the game		
Thurs 3/10	Kingston	Marcus



The South Kitsap School District provides equal educational and employment opportunity without regard to race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation – including gender expression or identity, marital status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Equal access to activities, facilities and program is provided to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. District procedure complies with all applicable state and federal laws.

The Title IX Officer and Section 504 Coordinator with the responsibility for monitoring, auditing and ensuring compliance with this policy are: Compliance/ADA/Title IX Coordinator: Jerry Holsten, Executive Director of Human Resources 2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366 360-874-7006, holsten@skschools.org Section 504 Coordinator: Kimberly Shipp, Director Office of Special Services, 2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366 360-874-3648, shipp@skschools.org