

Mark West Charter School
Newsletter
9/30/2022



Ms. Franci: We are looking for yard supervisors. We have 2 spots at each shift available. The shifts are, morning break from 10:00-10:15 on Wed. from 9:57-10:12 and lunch break from 12:20-1:05 on Wed. from 12:50-1:20. If you know of anyone, have them go to <https://mwusd.org/employment/> to fill out the application.

The Mark West School District is actively looking for parental involvement in serving on our District Wellness Committee. The Wellness committee meets 2-3 times a year for 1 hour each meeting via zoom. The Wellness committee helps to promote the belief that foods and beverages available to students at district schools should support the health curriculum and promote optimal health, taking into consideration the needs of students with special dietary needs.

We need your help to continue this goal. If you would like to serve on the District Wellness Committee please reach out to Kelly Sansone (ksansone@mwusd.org) to join or with any questions.

PTA News: Thank you PTA for sponsoring the bowling nights on September 12th and 13th. There were many gutter balls, but a fun time was had by all! We are looking forward to our next event which is a skate night at Cal Skate on October 27.

PTA waiver forms - Please fill these out and return as soon as possible.

Independent Study Contracts: Must be for no less than 3 days and for no longer than 14 days. Please remember that we need at least 5 days notice to get an Independent Study ready to go. It takes the teachers quite a bit of time to get all the materials together. If you are needing a contract please let Nikki Dale in the office know so she can get the paperwork started. Thank you for your cooperation!

From Mr. Carusone: My 7th grade students read the short story, "The Treasure of Lemon Brown" by Walter Dean Myers. They are looking for symbolism and the theme in the story. They will be citing textual evidence from the story to prove their positions on the symbolism they found in the story.

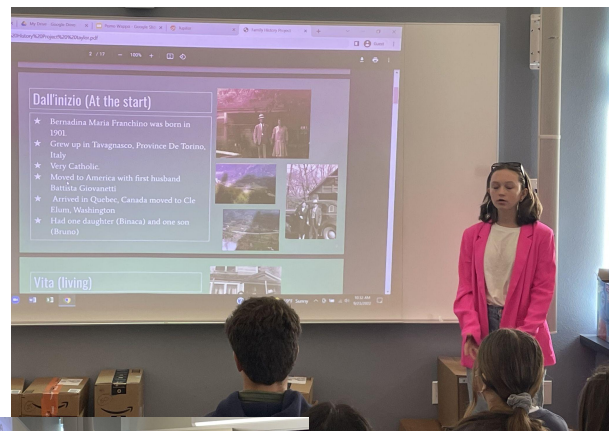
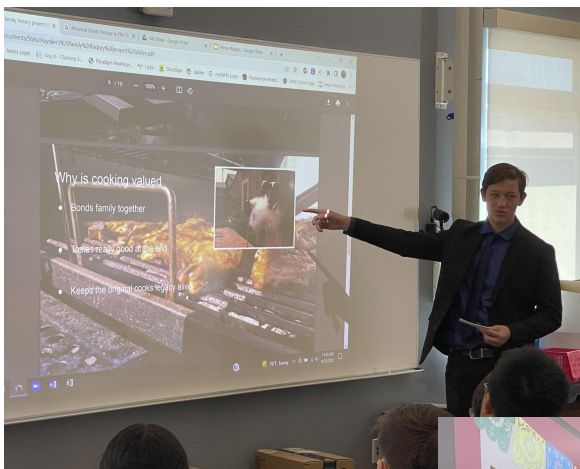


MWCS Student Volunteers in the Community: The rain didn't put a damper on these MWCS volunteers at yesterday's Fiesta event at the LBC. These students helped with set up, clean up, greeting/welcoming attendees and sharing ballots for the low rider contest. There were a couple more MCWS students in attendance as well, not pictured.



From Ms. Woods: MWCS 8th grade students have been working on completing their Family History Projects. In this project, students research and learn about part of their families history, culture, or traditions. Each student had to write a five paragraph narrative, create a 15 to 20 slide presentation, and give a 3-5 minute speech. We walked to the Learning Center on Friday, Sept. 23rd so that students could give their presentations in a business-like environment.

We have also been working on 13 Colony WeVideo projects. Partners were given one of the 13 original colonies and asked to create a persuasive video enticing people to move to their colony.



From Mrs. Lemieux:

Math Squared: In Math Squared, students have been working hard tackling math skills they have difficulty with. Currently, students have been working on long division. While it has been challenging, students continue to have fun along the way applying their division skills to solve the “Case of the Divided Dragons”. They hope to figure out which dragon broke the alliance this week.

Detective

(your name)

Has discovered that the dragon responsible for breaking up the Dragon Alliance is:

Teacher to check and tick

Clues Checklist:

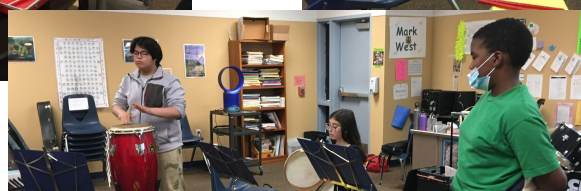
- Clue 1
- Clue 2
- Clue 3
- Clue 4

Well done! You have correctly revealed which dragon is responsible for the splitting up of the Dragon Alliance! Thanks to your brilliant math skills and detective work, Larry and Tabitha were able to confront the culprit and convinced the dragon to make things right again. Once the dragon did the right thing, all four of the dragon leagues became united once more to protect the barriers between our realm and the magical underworld. Everyone in Mathhattan and its surrounding islands feel safe again.

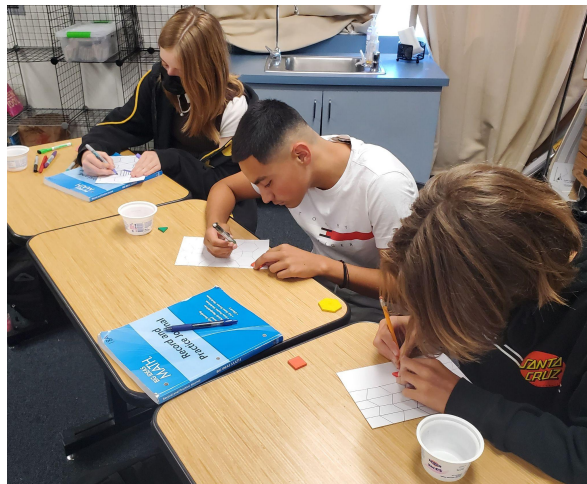
Oops! No that is not the dragon who is causing the divide amongst the dragons.

Academic Academy and Directed Studies: Students in Academic Academy and Directed Studies electives have been plugging away with assignments. Students are taking advantage of teacher support in these classes to both reinforce/strengthen their understanding of concepts taught in their core classes, as well respond to teacher guidance on what assignments to work on (missing assignments, assignments coming due). At least one student is using office hours after school to further get support. Students are also being asked to reflect on recent academic test results from their core classes to identify what additional steps they may need to take to prepare for future tests.

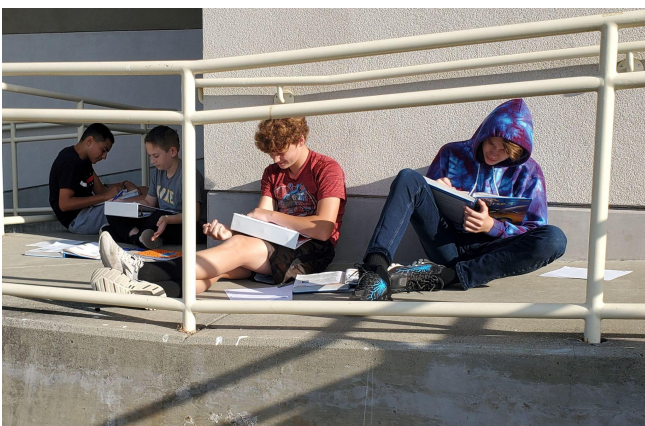
From Mrs. Kaufman: The Make Music elective class is busy preparing several pieces for an afternoon music assembly at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 4. While our main focus has been learning a variety of rhythms on bucket drums, we are also playing some pieces that add guitars, xylophone, bells, conga drum, maracas, and frame drum. We have been practicing playing several different complex rhythms simultaneously - which is kind of tricky! We have also been learning a basic rock pattern on the drum set. We're looking forward to sharing our performance with the Mark West community!



From Ms. Chapman: In 8th Grade Math & Science with Ms. Chapman, students started their Geometry unit; learning first about congruent figures and building up to different types of transformations (translations, rotations, reflections and dilations). As we introduced congruent figures, students created tessellation art using tangrams and reviewed symmetry using an interactive TedEd video.



We also want to give a shout-out to the teens for continuing to work through our power loss day, and picking up their textbooks to work outside and keep the day going!!



**From Ms. Dickey and Ms. Gayowski:
Wednesday Enrichment**

Students have continued to enjoy the Wednesday enrichment. This month they have built a contraption to allow an egg to survive a fall from approximately 7 feet, using nothing but 15 pieces of copy paper and a roll of scotch tape. They also designed a marble maze using a large piece of cardboard and straws. Most recently, they were given a limited number of popsicle sticks and rubber bands in order to build a catapult.



**From Ms. Dickey:
Yoga**

Students are getting stronger each week as we continue practicing the poses we know and are learning new ones. They have been flexible with having to move class outside and into the gym and holding a session while there was no power at school!

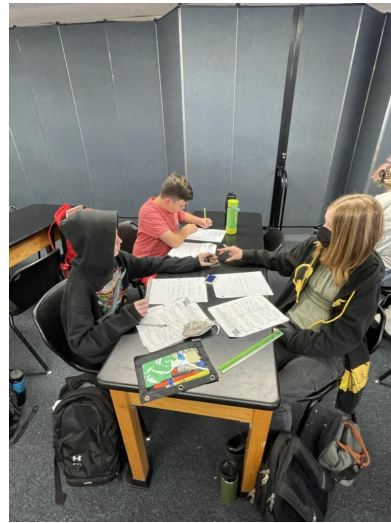
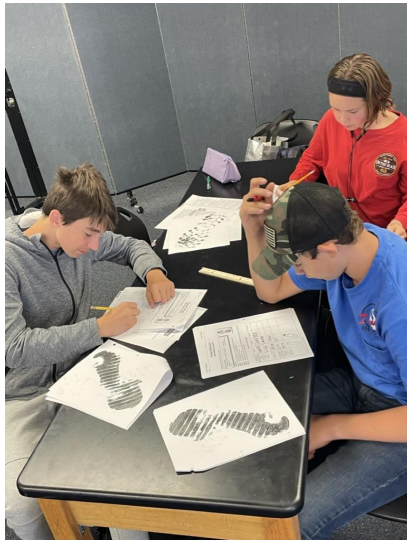
Paleontology

Students had fun breaking open their sedimentary layers to see the “fossils” inside. They have learned about the earliest of Earth’s history, as known from the fossil record. Each student is now working on a specific time period; researching the period and ultimately will share their new knowledge with the class.



Forensics

Students began the month by learning about impression evidence (tool marks, tire tracks, bite marks, shoe impressions). They did several labs to explore how investigators would analyze such evidence. We next explored hairs and fibers and what evidentiary value they have. The students also had presentations from 2 crime scene investigators from the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office and the head of the state crime lab in Sonoma County. We will delve into chromatography, blood evidence and DNA next!



From Ms. Gayowski:

Novel Studies:

Novel studies is wrapping up their reading of Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children. Chapter 10, which we just finished, was full of action and unexpected surprises! After every couple of chapters, the class has played kahoots or jeopardy in teams as a fun way of reviewing what was read.

Game Strategies:

After weeks of trying out different types of games, students are now currently working on the final drafts of their own board games. The class was divided into small groups where they came up with the idea for their game, typed up the instructions, and made all the needed components of the game. The groups received constructive feedback from other groups who played their game with only the instructions to guide them.

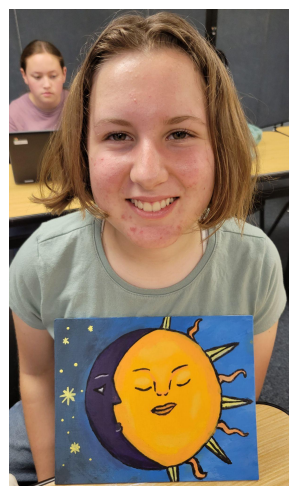


Drama:

In drama, the groups have been hard at work on their short plays. Each group has worked on creating backgrounds and props, and learning their roles. They have played around with costumes and decided what best works for them and their roles.



From Mrs. Edwards: Step by step directed Moon and Sun acrylic paintings.



Volleyball Team: MWCS students are participating in Coed volleyball. We have seventh and eighth grade teams. There are around 30 players. The students are enjoying the teamwork and the chance to participate in sports!!



Important dates:

October 3 - 31: MWCS 22-23 Enrollment Window Open (markwestcharter.org)

October 5: DELAC Meeting

October 7: Parent Conference Day – No School for Students

October 11: District Board Meeting at 5:00

October 14: End of first Quarter for Charter

October 18: MWCS Site Council Meeting at 3:30

October 20: PTA General Meeting at 5:30 in Rooms C5 and C6 at MWCS

October 26: NAEP Assessment of 13 year olds at MWCS - more information will follow

October 27: PTA Cal-Skate Family Night at 6:00

October 28: Report Cards go home for Charter

October 31: Halloween

November 3: PTA Board Meeting - 5:30

November 8: District Board Meeting at 5:00

November 11: Veterans Day - No School

November 11: MW PTA night at the Warriors - [link to purchase tickets:](#)

November 14: Make-Up Picture Day

November 21-25 Thanksgiving Break

November 28: School resumes after Thanksgiving Break