

Mark West Charter School

Newsletter

1/27/23



Ms. Franci: We are looking for 3 yard supervisors and 2 crossing guards. The shifts for yard supervisor 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. The crossing guard shifts, one on Lavell and another on Old Redwood Highway, are from 2:40-3:25 and on Wednesday from 12:50-1:35. If you know of anyone that may be interested, please have them go to <https://mwusd.org/employment/> to fill out the application.

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!

COVID Protocols: If your child is out sick or if they are sent home sick, we require a negative COVID test before they can return. Please send a photo of the negative result labeled with your child's name and date of test to Mrs. Dale at ndale@mwusd.org. If you do not have access to a COVID test, we are more than happy to provide one for you to administer, upon request.

Perfect Attendance: We have 6 students that are still rocking perfect attendance since the first day of school!! This is no easy feat.



Honor Roll: For the second quarter we had 22 students with a GPA of 3.0-3.49. Hard work pays off!

Principal Honor Roll: We had 42 students with a GPA of 3.5-4.0 for the second quarter. These students show a lot of perseverance and hard work to maintain this level of excellence!



From Mrs. Edwards: Directed drawings for Valentine's Day



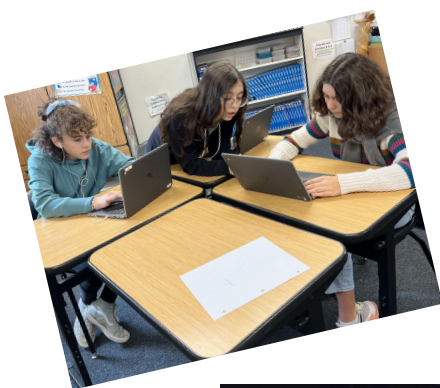
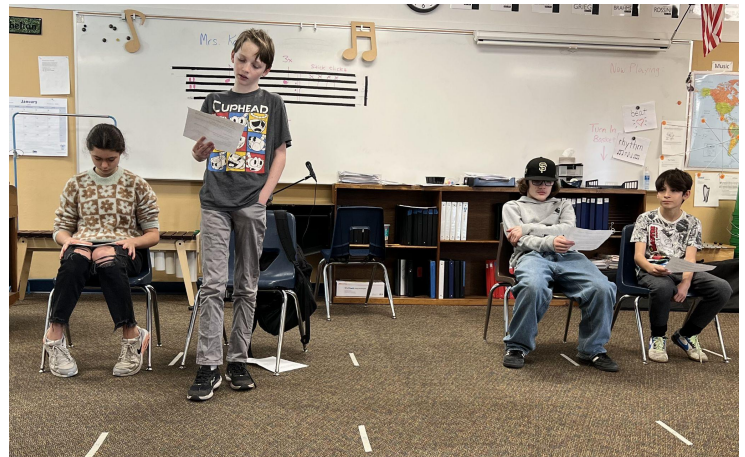
From Mr. Carusone: My 7th grade English students just finished reading the novel, *The Outsiders*, by S.E. Hinton. Along the way, my students were required to complete a myriad of assignments ranging from learning vocabulary to deeply analyzing characters in the novel for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Antisocial personality disorder (sociopathy).



From Mrs. Gayowski: For Novel Studies this quarter we are reading *Divergent* by Veronica Roth. To start the quarter off, each student in the class signed up for a digital library card through Sonoma County Library. After signing up for a library card, they signed up for a Hoopla account. Hoopla is a web and mobile library media streaming platform. Students were able to check out a digital copy of *Divergent* as well as a copy of the audio book. Students will have access to Hoopla after the quarter is over and continue to check out books from the comfort of their homes.

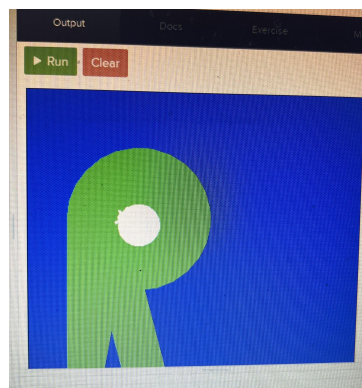
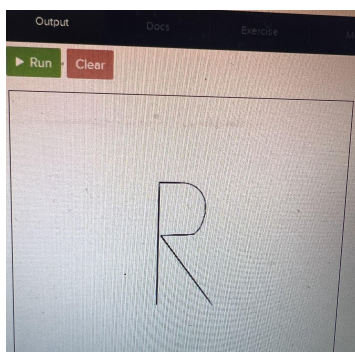
In Game Strategies students have been playing various different games from different game genres. Some of these games, like Scrabble and Uno, they know and have played in the past with friends and family. While other games, like "Happy Little Dinosaurs" and "The Game" are brand new to them so they have to learn how to play and come up with a good strategy to play and win. And yes there is a game called "The Game"

In Speech in Debate students have been working on researching and debating different topics in class. Students are given their topics and then in their small groups they decide on what three main points they want to use to support the side of the argument that they are on. After spending a class period researching their topic, they then debate their topic in front of the rest of the class. Students also get the chance to be judges and help rate the debate and offer feedback to the group debatings.

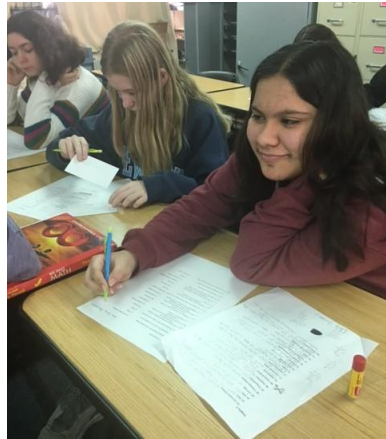
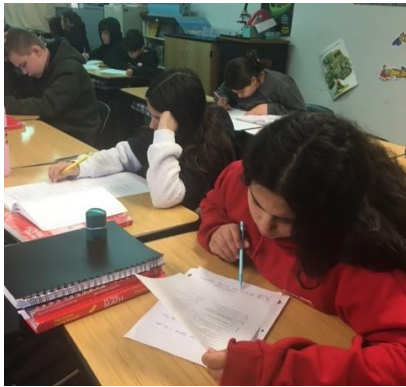


We are focusing on coding this quarter in Wednesday Enrichment. Students are being introduced to different types of coding to create mini games or graphics. So far students have been introduced to python as well as scratch. There were some people who clearly preferred one type of coding over the other.

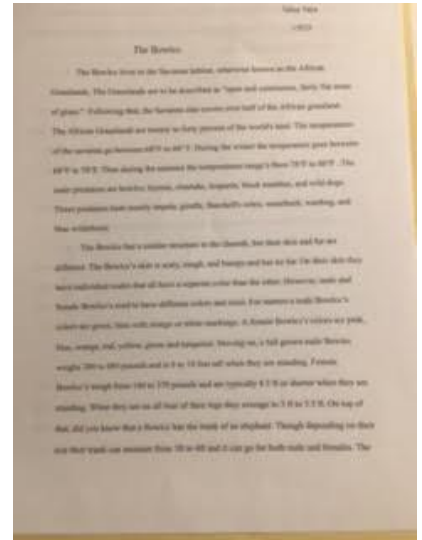
In the picture, one of the students went from writing the code to get the turtle pen to draw a simple "R" to changing the background on his screen and creating a "bubble R".



From Mrs. Sunde: 7th grade Math and Science
We have been working hard on Math vocabulary. It helps to understand what the question is asking!



In science, we have learned about the theory of evolution and how adaptations occur. We are creating an imaginary animal with 5 adaptations and describing how they can help an animal survive!



From Mrs. Kaufman: The students in the "Make Music" elective have been learning how to maintain a steady beat while playing a variety of rhythms with rhythm sticks and bucket drums. The students are learning to read standard rhythmic notation for a variety of note values, which is a valued skill for any musician. Students are also learning to read these rhythms on a percussion clef staff in order to learn music for the bucket drum. We are beginning to layer multiple rhythms together in order to create a complex texture of sound.

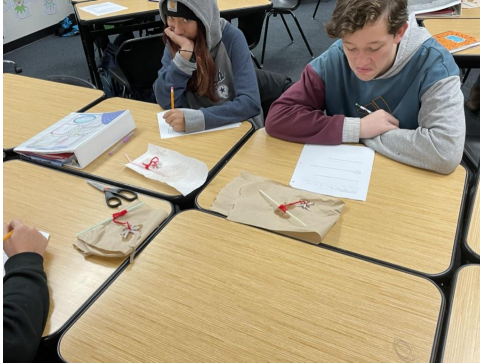
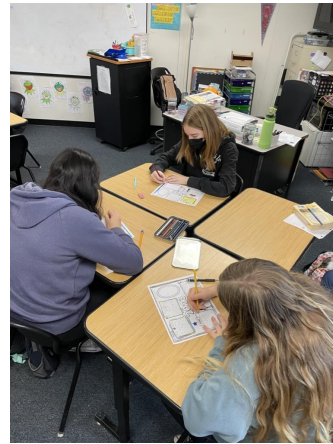
Recently, students were introduced to the Zimbabwean marimba, which they will be learning to play this quarter in addition to the bucket drums. We are excited to share our musical explorations with the greater school community during an in-school assembly in late February. Stay tuned for details!



From Mrs. Dickey: 8th Grade Math/Science



We started the quarter with completing a reflection on 2022 and setting goals for 2023. Some students then placed their goals in the front of their binders to give them daily reminders.



In math, we have continued our exploration of linear equations we began before winter break. We have examined slope, or rate of change, in numerous situations and various ways, including how it applies to real life examples. Most recently, we learned about proportional

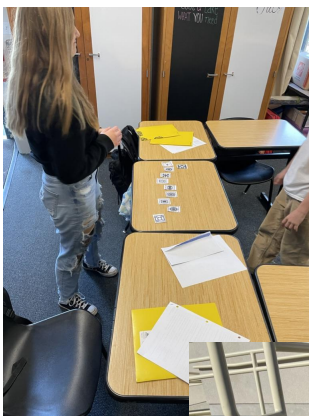


relationships and will be moving on to various ways to graph linear equations.

We began our unit on chemistry this month. Students have been learning about all the parts of atoms and working on interpreting the periodic table of the elements to know what information it provides us. To start the unit, they learned about the science of snowflakes. They even made their own “snowflakes” out of a pipe cleaner, warm water and borax. Students then had to make observations about them.

Forensics

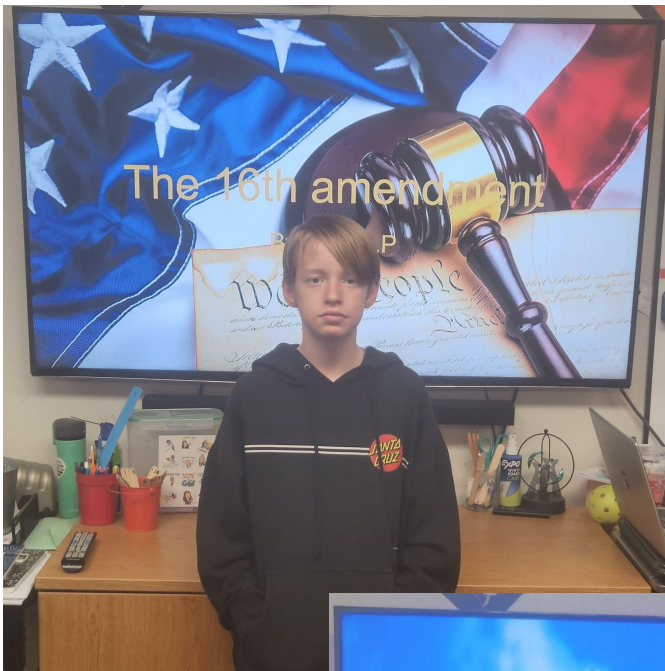
In Forensics, students started the quarter learning about what evidence can be collected at a crime scene. We completed several activities that showed them the flaws in eyewitness testimony. Students then learned about fingerprint evidence. They had the opportunity to take and analyze their own fingerprints. Students were also able to dust for latent (hidden) fingerprints.



From Ms. Woods: 8th Grade ELA/History

Students have been learning about persuasive writing. This unit started with instruction on the basic framing of a persuasive writing piece. Then, we wrote a sample persuasive essay together on "Dogs are Better Pets than Cats". This provides the students with a sample to refer back to when they need a reminder about how to write a thesis or incorporate evidence and cite sources. Next, students were provided a picture in which they had to use evidence from the picture to make a claim whether the image showed a man who slipped and fell down the stairs or a man who was pushed down the stairs. Using their evidence and reasoning they wrote a practice persuasive essay. Now they have each chosen their own topic on which to write their formal persuasive essay. When this unit is finished, we will begin reading The Diary of Anne Frank.

In History, students have just completed their constitutional amendment projects. Each student drew their amendment out of a hat and had to create a multimedia presentation teaching the class about their amendment: When it was written, why it was written, the rights it provides American Citizens, and Supreme Court cases involving the amendment. The class just completed the test for this unit on the Branches of Government, the Constitution, and the Amendments. This coming week we will begin learning about the westward land acquisition and the expansion of the US.





From Mrs. Bair: At Independent Home Study Day on Campus, students have been creating lots of artwork. Body mapping is a reflective, personal artwork creation. Some projects are process-based and are an opportunity to freely explore materials. Other projects are more outcome-focused, such as painting a wooden birdhouse. Home study students have been eager to have their own spirit/theme days such as silly hats, character wear, and silly sock day.



Important dates:

- January 31: MWCS Lottery for 23/24 incoming 7th grade at 4:00 in rooms C5 and C6 at MWCS
- February 1: Bikemobile at 1:45 at MWCS for MWE and MWCS students to have their bikes tuned up
- February 2: Charter Girls Basketball Practice at 3:10
PTA Board meeting at 5:30
- February 6: Charter Girls Basketball Game at 4:00
- February 7: DC Parent Meeting at 5:30 in Room C4 at MWCS
- February 8: DELAC Meeting at 6:00 in the MWE Library
- February 9: Charter Girls Basketball Practice at 3:10
PTA Skate Night at Cal Skate at 6:00 pm
- February 10: Charter Girls Basketball Practice at 3:10
- February 13: No School - Lincoln's Birthday
- February 14: Charter Girls Basketball Practice at 3:10
District Board Meeting at 5:00 pm in the Learning Center at the District Office
- February 15: Charter Girls Basketball Practice at 1:20
Charter Girls Basketball Game at 4:00
- February 16: Charter Girls Basketball Practice at 3:10
PTA General Meeting at 5:30 pm in Rooms C5 and C6 at MWCS
- February 17: Charter Girls Basketball Practice at 3:10
- February 20: No School - Presidents Day

February 21: Charter Girls Basketball Practice at 7:00 am

February 24: Charter Girls Basketball Practice at 3:10

March 1: 8th grade field trip to LBC for Mayhem Poets at 8:30 am

Charter Girls Basketball Practice at 1:20

Charter Girls Basketball Game at 4:00

March 2: Charter Girls Basketball Practice at 3:10

PTA Board Meeting at 5:30 pm in Rooms C5 and C6 at MWCS

March 3: MWCS End of Third Quarter

“Caught You Being Good” Movie at 1:05

Charter Girls Basketball Practice at 3:10

March 6: Charter Girls Basketball Game at 4:00

PTA Bowling Night at Epicenter at 6:00 pm

March 7: PTA Bowling Night at Epicenter at 6:00 pm

March 8: 7th grade Bike Rodeo

March 14: District Board Meeting at 5:00 pm in the Learning Center at the District Office

March 16: PTA General Meeting at 5:30 pm in Rooms C5 and C6 at MWCS

March 17: St. Patrick’s Day

MWCS Report Cards sent home with students

March 20-24: Spring Break - No School