

Happy Friday CMS Families!

### **Highlight/s of the Week**

Transition activities are underway! Although we're just past the halfway point of the 2023-24 school year, planning for 2024-25 is underway. This week counselors visited all 7th and 8th grade classrooms to collect preliminary requests for elective classes, and next week, our 8th graders will head to CHS to view the VAPA (Visual and Performing Arts) showcase, providing them with a preview of some of the electives offered at CHS. Looking forward to next year is always exciting, but we've still got lots to do here at CMS between now and the end of the school year.

As we begin the 2024 portion of the school year I'd like to highlight our numerous lunchtime activities and events with a particular focus on new additions. In the past two weeks our teachers (often with the help/prompting of students) have created a variety of new activities for students to participate in during lunch including our first ever Mario Kart Tournament, RC Car races put on by our Robotics and Engineering class, and the first Animal Club meeting. In addition, our 8th graders are heavily invested in their Wiffle Ball World Series, and other clubs continue to thrive including Science Olympiad, Knitting Club, Environmental Club, Be Yourself Club, Singer/Songwriter Club, and our lunchtime Gaming Club. In addition, our library is in the middle of the Spelling Bee and The Battle of the Books is on the Horizon. I'm highlighting these events because one of our most important goals is to provide activities that spark student interest while connecting them to peers and staff. Our staff goes above and beyond to provide these opportunities, and we hope that your student is involved in something that connects them to an interest and provides them with the opportunity to build friendships. The activities listed above are just some of what is available so if your student is looking for something fun to engage in, encourage them to get involved in one of the many opportunities offered here at CMS.

### **News and Announcements**

**Spring Sport Registration** is now open for all students that wish to try out for Tennis or our Golf program. Track and Field and wrestling are non-cut sports and excellent choices. To register your student, please click on the Athletics tab or <https://www.carmelunified.org/domain/265>. Students must be registered on SportsNet in order to participate in any sport. If you have any questions, please contact: [Cathleen Rice crice@carmelunified.org](mailto:Cathleen.Rice@carmelunified.org)

### **In Person PTO Meeting**

Make plans to join us on **Tuesday, February 6th at 8:00 AM** in the Habitat Green Building for an in-person CMS PTO meeting. The agenda features Claudia Alcala, CMS Wellness Counselor/Social Worker who will provide information about her Breathe for Change certification and how she's using these tools for positive change on our campus. In addition, Karin Stratton, Executive Director of MEarth will provide an overview of MEarth programs and opportunities. Finally, Lisa Hanes, CMS Assistant Librarian, will discuss the recently developed CMS Cheer Club and detail plans for future growth. We'll also take a look at our end of year activities as we begin planning to celebrate our students! Come join us if you can!

### **Science Fair Returns to CMS**

New CMS Teacher, Mr. Matheson has sponsored a science fair for CMS students. Projects will be on display in the CMS Library on Thursday 1/25. Parents and community members can view the projects after school while the library is open. Projects will be on display for about one week. During the week a panel of judges will evaluate the science fair projects and students winning prizes will be provided with the opportunity to enter the county science fair. We'd like to thank Mr. Matheson for sponsoring this activity and providing our students with the opportunity to participate in the science fair at the county level!

### **6th/7th Grade Elective Sheets Due ASAP**

6th and 7th grade parents:

This week Ms.Greco and Ms.Magreta presented your child the elective choices for the 24-25 school year. Your child should have brought home a sheet for you to review and sign, this information is necessary for us to prepare our master schedule. The form should have your signature and their top four elective choices listed 1-4. Please have them return the signed elective sheet to Ms. Elaine in the office on Monday, January 22nd.

**If your child will not be attending CMS next year please email Ms. Elaine [eeldridge@carmelunified.org](mailto:eeldridge@carmelunified.org) so we don't place your child classes for next year.**

### **Cultural Travel and Language Opportunity!**

**Interested in immersing yourself in French language and culture?** Come learn French in southern France Spring 2025. There are some spots left on this amazing travel experience. Come to an informational zoom meeting Jan 31, at 5 pm. Please RSVP with EF tours <https://bit.ly/48BEhW7> and join the meeting with the following code:

<https://carmelunified.zoom.us/j/94745550362>

Meeting ID: 947 4555 0362

Passcode: France

**Spring Sports Update: Golf Returns to CMS!** CMS is excited to announce that Golf will be returning to our offerings this spring. Thanks to a renewed partnership with Carmel Valley Ranch, CMS golfers will once again be taking to the course and competing in the Monterey Trail Junior Athletic League (MTJAL).

**Interested in signing up for Golf?** Access Sportsnet Registration on the Athletics page of our website and get signed up today! Would you like to switch your spring sport selection? Use Sportsnet to make the change or contact Mrs. Rice for assistance. Follow this link for Sportsnet: [SportsNet](#)

*\*The CMS Golf program may be considered a “cut” sport depending on the number of students who sign up for the program. In addition, golf practice will take place on a limited basis, likely occurring only 2-3 times each week. Days TBD depending on course and coaching availability.*

**CMS is looking for a Head Coach for Golf.** If you are interested, or know anyone who is interested, in coaching middle school golf, feel free to share the link to this job posting. This is a paid position. Information can be found here: [Golf Coach CMS](#)

**Volunteer Assistant Coaches** are also needed to run a successful golf program. We are hoping to secure at least 2 assistant coaches for this program. Assistant coaches are not paid for their time and must complete all required documentation to work with students including background check and fingerprinting. If you are interested in working as an assistant coach, please contact Cathleen Rice.

**Interested in Cheerleading?** Lisa Hanes, CMS Assistant Librarian, is sponsoring a CMS cheer club and has big plans to make this experience amazing! Keep your eyes and ears open for more information, or check in with Mrs. Hanes at [lhane@carmelunified.org](mailto:lhane@carmelunified.org).

**Sport Dates Week of January 22nd - 26th**

**Tuesday 1.23.24**

6th Grade Boys vs Laurel Wood @ Salinas Rec. Center 5:00

7th Grade Boys vs Palma @ Carmel 4:30

8th Grade Boys vs Palma @ Carmel 5:30

**Wednesday 1.24.24**

6th Grade Girls vs El Gabilan @ Salinas Rec. Center 5:00

**Thursday 1.25.24**

7th Grade Boys vs San Benancio @ San Benancio 4:30

8th Grade Boys vs San Benancio @ San Benancio 5:30

7th Grade Girls vs San Benancio @ Carmel 4:30

8th Grade Girls vs San Benancio @ Carmel 5:30

## **CMS Events and Important Calendar Events 2023 - 2024**

**January**

17. Progress Reports sent via Parent Square

18 - 20. CCS Band and Orchestra

23. Block Schedule - Periods 1,3,5,7

24. Block Schedule - Periods 2,4,6

25 - 27. CCS Choir Festival

**February**

1 - 3. Music Program: CASMEC All State

2. Minimum Day - School dismissed at 12:00

6. PTO Meeting 8-9 AM on Zoom

- 15. CHS 8th Grade Parent Night via Zoom, 6:30 pm
- 12 - 16. Kindness Week
- 16. End of 2nd Trimester
- 19 - 26. February Break - No school
- 27 - 29. 8th Grade one-on-one minute meeting in the Library 7:55 - 2:40

## **March**

- 1. 8th Grade to visit CHS, 8:30 - 11:15
- 4 - 8. Spring Sport Tryouts
- 5. PTO Meeting 8-9 AM on Zoom
- 5. CUSD District Choral Festival, Sunset Center 7:00 - 9:00 pm.
- 7 - 8. 7th and 8th Grade Benchmark Testing - Block Schedule
- 13. Report Cards sent via Parent Square
- 15. CMS Spring Dance, 7:00 - 8:30 pm.
- 21. Down Syndrome Awareness Day
- 22. Minimum Day - School dismissed at 12:00
- 27. CUSD Strings Festival, Sunset Center, 7:00 - 8:00

## **April**

- 2. District Band Festival Sunset Center 7:00 - 8:00 pm.
- 9. PTO Meeting 8-9 AM on Zoom
- 11. 6th Grade Cycle Wheel Change

- 12 - 19. Spring Break - No school
- 24 - 26. CAASPP Testing - 8th Grade Science
- 24. Progress Reports sent via Parent Square
- 29 - 30 CAASPP Testing

## **May**

- 1 - 3. CAASPP Testing
- 6 - 10. Staff Appreciation Week
- 7. PTO Meeting in Person - Location and Time TBD
- 15. CMS Spring Concert, 7:00 - 9:00 pm.
- 16 - 19. CMS Spring Drama Show
- 18. Music Program - Music in the Parks
- 20 - 22. 7th Grade Monterey Bay Outdoor Education (MBOE)
- 23. CMS Open House 5:30 - 7:30 pm.
- 27. Memorial Day - no school
- 28 - 31. Spirit Week
- 31. 8th Grade Dance 8:00 pm

## **June**

- 3. 8th Grade Beach Party, 10:30 - 2:30 pm.
- 4. Minimum Day - school dismissed at 12:00
- 5. Minimum Day - school dismissed at 12:00

6. Minimum Day - school dismissed at 12:00

6. 8th Grade Promotion

7. 6th and 7th Grade Awards

7. 8th Grade Brunch 10:30 - 12:00 pm

7. Last Day of School - Minimum Day

12. Report Cards sent via Parent Square