A Note from Mr. Moore:

Parents of 8th graders are encouraged to remind their children that there are still ten weeks left in the school year.

Students should not succumb to the dreaded 8th grade slide in which students mistakenly believe they are done with all things Middle School and begin to slack off in their work and attitude. Students have the traditional 8th grade picnic and dance to look forward to. These events are in recognition of a successful time in middle school. That being said, it should be remembered that these events are privileges that can be taken away in the event a student is involved in serious misbehavior. Please remind your children to finish strong and well as their time in middle school ends.

IMPORTANT DATES

*Quarter 4 *

4th Quarter Begins/Ends:
April 8- June 21

NO SCHOOL DAYS:
- April 12- Superintendent’s Day
- April 19- Good Friday
- April 22-26- Spring Recess
- May 27- Memorial Day

EVENTS
- 8th Grade Picnic May 30th
- 8th Grade Dance May 31st

HEALTH OFFICE:

Every school year the following MUST be renewed:
- all medication orders, including Epi-Pens, inhalers, insulin, Tylenol, etc
- any and all Phys. Ed restrictions (ie. No swimming, physical activity restrictions)

ALL the necessary forms are available on the District Web site. If your child has any medication in the Health Office, it will NOT be saved. It gets destroyed if not picked up before the last day of school JUNE 21, 2019.

If your child gets a Physical/Health Appraisal done over the summer, it’s always a good idea to keep a copy at home and send a copy to the High School Health Office.
GUIDANCE OFFICE:

Eighth graders only have ten weeks of middle school life left here at CMS. Just a reminder that this could be the most important quarter for students. Please encourage your child to continue to work hard when it comes to homework and studying. I understand that outside activities are starting up. With the nice weather, it is harder to focus, but that is exactly what needs to happen from our eighth graders. Find that designated time each night that they can complete assignments and study for tests. Regarding final exams, students should start looking over previously assigned quizzes and tests and use them as study guides; the sooner the better. Remember that Foreign Language, Algebra and Earth Science are all high school level classes and will be going on your child’s transcript. In addition, all final exams are worth 20% of their overall grade. This is true for the remainder of their school career here in Clarence. Time management is of the essence. Taking studies seriously will lead to positive results.

Dan Fox 8th grade school counselor
8th grade school counselor

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER:

It is hard to believe the end of the third quarter is here! The Nurtured Heart Approach Workshop at Clarence Center Elementary is underway. Due to high demand, we are now offering a second session at the Middle School, April 30th, May 7th, 14th, and 21st 2019. If you are interested, please register by email to info@parentnetworkwny.org or by calling (716) 332-4170. Please check out our webpage for further details.

Please continue to reach out if you or your family needs support.

Thanks,  
Kevin Modlmayer  
FSC Coordinator  
320-4808  
KModlmayer@ClarenceSchools.org

Lisa Campione  
FSC Clerk  
407-9244
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS:
On Wednesday, February 13th, the 8th graders had the unique opportunity to hear firsthand from a survivor of the Holocaust, Mr. Grigory Shershnevsky of Lithuania, who was taken in as a child and hidden by a selfless Polish woman. Mr. Shershnevsky’s parents became resistance fighters, and he was miraculously reunited with his father after the war’s end. The presentation was the culmination of the Holocaust unit, in which students read one of two memoirs, either Night or The Cage.

MATH
8th grade math and Algebra Honors students are headed into the final stretch!!! The NYS Grade 8 State Assessment will be administered on May 2 and 3 and students can use calculators on the entire assessment. Fourth quarter topics of study include: statistics, the real number system, and sequences. Algebra students are excused from the State Assessment and will instead be taking a Quarter 4 Regents Assessment on those dates. The Common Core Regents Algebra Exam is at 1:15 pm on June 19th at the Middle School. All students will have plenty of review materials to get prepared for their final exams. Go...Math!!!!

SOCIAL STUDIES
Social Studies students have been engaged in lessons learning about WW1, the Roaring 20’s, the Great Depression and are finishing up Quarter 3 with study of WW2. Our WW2 unit fits in well with the ELA study of the Holocaust. In Quarter 4, students will focus on Contemporary 20th century history including the study of the Cold War through the September 11th attack.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE
3rd marking period in Physical Science was highlighted by investigations in Physics and Earth Science. Students explored geology on microscopic and macroscopic levels by learning about minerals, rocks and plate tectonics. The 4th marking period will include studies of astronomy and meteorology. The New York State science assessment written portion will be given June 3rd. The performance portion will be given in the end of May. Those who do not qualify for exemption will take the Final Exam on June 20th. Looking forward to warmer weather and an exciting end to a successful year.

EARTH SCIENCE
Earth Science students had a stellar 3rd marking period... literally! Earth Science students spent the past 10 weeks exploring the Earth and Moon, Stars, Solar System and Universe. Students are encouraged to take their new knowledge outdoors to observe astronomical phenomena in person! 4th marking period will focus on meteorology. Please make note that the Earth Science Regents Exam will take place the afternoon of June 20th. We’re looking forward to a successful conclusion to the year!
**FRENCH:**

The 8th grade French students spent the 3rd quarter learning all about clothing and Parisian fashion. They completed the unit with a fashion show where they got to strut their stuff on the “red carpet” and show off their French speaking skills! Groups were given themes including “Fashion Don’ts,” “Clarence Pride” and “Let’s Go Skiing!” to name a few. The kids celebrated the end of the unit with an After Party. The speaking portion of the final exam (worth 20 points) is scheduled for the first week of June. A letter regarding review classes will be forthcoming. We’ll also be doing lots of exam review in class, intermixed with the final unit on health and wellness.

**SPANISH:**

Isaac Hunter, Sam Modeas, and Braeden Setteducati pose on the runway for their fashion show! Their theme is “Los deportes” (sports). After wrapping up a unit on clothing and fashion in Spanish, students read scripts describing what they were wearing based on a chosen theme and creatively walked down the runway in class!

**LATIN:**

8th Grade Latin students have been busy preparing for the National Latin Exam this marking period. By attending morning review sessions, many students have set themselves up for success on this challenging test. Additionally, students have been continuing their preparation for the NYS Latin Proficiency exam by studying grammar, derivation, and culture. Students also recently completed a large, student-centered unit on Mythology where students selecting the media and format they wished to use to complete their projects on a myth they were given. Their creativity was truly amazing! Finally, we will be finishing our studies and reviewing for the NYS Proficiency Exam.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The 8th grade BOYS/GIRLS just finished a great Volleyball unit in PE class. Mrs. Shifflet is offering a Volleyball Clinic for middle school Boys/Girls the month of April, email her for more information. Mrs. Shifflet@clarenceschools.org. Badminton has started. All students need their own Safety Goggles. Badminton Intramurals start May 6, come join the fun. Lastly, the 8th graders will be putting on their dancing shoes and creating their line dance. The best 8 dance groups will perform at the 8th grade picnic.

ART:

The third Annual CMS Art Show will be held on Wednesday, April 17th from 6-7:30pm. The event will showcase work from over 300 CMS students. 8th grade art selections depict all the hard work students did learning and understanding about observation, drawing skills, color, digital art, Pop Art and Surrealism.

HOME & CAREERS:

The 8th grade students ended the quarter preparing recipes in the food labs making omelets, scones, pancakes, cookies, pizza and soft pretzels. Hopefully they’ll treat their family members to their cooking skills! Students learned the importance of preparing a monthly budget and creating a resumé during the Career Unit. Preparing students for life were the goals accomplished in Home and Career Skills.

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

This was an important quarter in the library! All 8th graders have concluded a weeklong research project with their ELA teachers and Mrs. Bork in the library. Our hard working students spent the week:

- Identifying the best sources to answer their 3 research questions
- Paraphrasing informational material for note taking
- Creating a Works Cited of their sources

This project has set the students up to be successful in future research projects during their high school years at CHS!

TECHNOLOGY:

Technology students have been putting the finishing touches on their Pencil Stand prototype designs at the end of Quarter 3. They have been busy designing, modeling, and building a modified prototype for optimization using a design process. Students are improving their 3D modeling skills using Autodesk Inventor and they are refining their fabrication skills using tools and machines.
The students learned about the romantic era of classical music and the jazz age. We spent time playing bucket drums and learning to play the ukulele. We spent a week creating a short film based on a piano piece.

Eighth grade chorus students are working hard to prepare for the last two concerts of the year, which will be held on April 11 and May 29 in the Clarence Middle School Auditorium. The Choirs in the Round concert in April will begin at 7pm and feature choruses from across the entire district at every age level. The Choral Festival on May 29 begins at 7:30pm and includes every vocal ensemble at the middle school.

Kaitlyn Roman and Grace Ludwig practice duets in preparation for the April 17th Art Show at CMS

The 8th grade Orchestra students did an outstanding job of preparing and performing a concert on March 21st in combination with the 8th grade Chorus, conducted by Mrs. Kohler. Highlights included Richard Stephan's Variations on a Well-Known Sea Chantey, Smetana's Themes from the Moldau, and of course everyone’s favorite, Pirates of the Caribbean by Klaus Badelt. All the students in the Orchestra and Chorus combined for an arrangement of Feel It Still, by the pop artists Gourley, Carothers, et al.

On March 15th and 16th, several students performed with the ECMEA Jr. High North Orchestra. They rehearsed with other students from area schools and presented a fantastic concert! The following students were part of the ECMEA Orchestra: Jazmin Gomez, Emily Morelli, William Oh, Hannah Pastuhova, NoahServis and Grace Strother. Congratulations!

There are four more important performances this year. Please mark your calendars:
- April 17th - Art Show at CMS, students perform in ensembles
- May 1, 2 - NYSSMA Solo Festival at Frontier Senior HS, for those who registered
- May 14 - 8th gr. Orchestra performs for Harris Hill Elementary students, 8:00AM
- May 23 - 6, 7, 8 Orchestras and Sinfonietta perform Thursday, 7:30AM CMS

Congratulations to the following Symphonic Band members who were selected to the Erie County Junior High All County Band or Orchestra: Joseph Buckley, Katherine Cappellucci, Nathan Czopp, Justin Fan, Andrew Faust, Lucy Hereth, Amy Isaacson, Caroline Johnson, Anthony Magera, and Logan Tendorf. Congratulations to Anthony Magera for his selection and performance with the NYSBDA Middle School Honor Band.