

For the Parents, Staff & Community of

Volume XVIII • Issue 5 **NOVEMBER 2023**

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'EAGLE EXPRESS' November 2023 Published Six Times Per Year Greenwood Lakes Middle School 601 Lake Park Drive Lake Mary, FL 32746 Issue # 5

Mission Statement

The mission of Greenwood Lakes Middle School is to ensure that all students acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to be productive citizens.

From the Principal

Hello Eagle Families:

Happy Fall! I typically use November as a time to deeply reflect and say thank you for all that I am grateful for. The first quarter of this school year has been amazing! I am grateful to be the principal of Greenwood Lakes Middle School and to have an opportunity to work alongside of some of the very best students, families, educators, and staff in the country for the past 8 years.

I am thankful for our students. They come to class and put significant effort into becoming more skilled and knowledgeable citizens. I appreciate their tolerance to staying focused during the many social and environmental distractions out of their control. I am thankful for continuing to be open to new ideas, new concepts, and new experiences while showing maturity and patience. I ama thankful for the students who make good choices and influence their peers to do the same. That process is not always easy, but they struggle through the difficult moments together, and they celebrate their successes together. I am proud of our students, and I am blessed to lead their school.

The parents at Greenwood Lakes are some of the most engaged and enthusiastic families I have ever worked with. Greenwood Lakes is an amazing place because of your support and our effective partnership. Thank you, parents, for your grace and compassion this school year. Your ability to communicate and show the teachers love and tenderness is what keeps us all coming back each day. We can't thank you enough for "asking" questions and not "assuming" the worse with teachers as they navigate this unprecedented terrane. I invite you to continue to stay active in the educational process by checking our website, reading communications sent home or emailed, joining PTSA, and participating in school events. Together, our students will succeed! Thank you.

What we do at Greenwood Lakes could never be achieved without the dedication of our amazing staff. They get up each and every morning ready to work, support our students, and give students the tools they need to learn while working in extreme conditions. I am so impressed with the grit of this staff as they keep the focus on teaching and learning. In addition, the front office support staff tackles anything and everything to address parent and student needs. The persistence and initiative exhibited from everyone on this campus from our front office to our cafeteria staff is uncommon and I appreciate their professionalism to GLMS.

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From the Principal

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I want to extend a very special thank you to our teachers. The teaching staff at Greenwood Lakes is determined. They constantly challenge their students and themselves to reach higher and accomplish more. Every day I am renewed by their energy, enthusiasm, and willingness to try new things while remaining grounded in foundational teaching practices. Our teachers are continually adjusting their instruction to help each child reach his or her potential. To Greenwood's teachers-and to teachers across our city-please accept my sincere appreciation as I say thank you for your service; your service to our students, our school, and to our city.

Thank you everyone for your commitment to Greenwood and keeping it a successful school!! To all our students, families, and staff, I wish you a very meaningful Thanksgiving.

Respectfully,

Breezi Erickson Principal



Title I

Parents, please visit the GLMS webpage for information on Family Engagement activities, district Parental Involvement opportunities, Florida School grades, and other Title I information. You can also visit the front office to review the Title I Binder which contains the School Improvement Plan (SIP), the Parental Family Engagement Plan (PFEP), the School-Parent Compact, School Report Card, and the Parents' Right to Know.

State Certified and Licensed Teachers and Paraprofessionals

All Title I schools are required to employ only state certified and licensed teachers and instructional paraprofessionals. If at any time your child is taught by a non-state certified teacher, your school will notify you. In addition, you have the right to:

- Request whether your child's teacher(s) and/or paraprofessional(s) meet the state certification requirements for the grade levels and subject areas in which they provide instruction.
- Request whether a teacher and/or paraprofessional is teaching under emergency or other provisional status where state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- Request information on the baccalaureate degree major of a teacher and/or paraprofessional and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher and/or paraprofessional, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.

GLMS Events Update

Stay updated on GLMS events...visit the GLMS webpage and click on the Events tab. http://www.greenwoodlakes.scps.k12.fl.us/

The School Improvement Plan (SIP) has been finalized and posted the GLMS website! The SIP and all other school documents may be translated upon request.







Student Services

Dear Eagles,

We are rapidly approaching the holidays and the end of Semester 1! As we enter December, please remember our end of quarter exams will take place before we go on break. When we return from break in January, Semester 2 will begin. FAST exams will be taking place in January, so keep an eye out for those adjusted schedules and prep for the exams!

For our 6th graders and new Eagles, take note of your schedule changes as you might have new electives starting after the break. This could affect your lunches as well, so study up on it before you return in January!

Greenwood Lakes will once again be hosting the Giving Tree for the December holidays! If you'd like to help us spread the cheer, Greenwood Lakes will be accepting donations of stocking stuffers, candy, wrapping paper, etc! These donations can be brought to the front office and we appreciate any support.

Enjoy your end of the semester and we'll see you in 2024!

-Mrs. Suarez & Ms. Beacham

PBS

Shout out to all of our Students and Teachers of the Month for August, September, and October:

Students of the Month:

Lauren Jackson

Alesha Resto Irizarry

Jack Frease

Elijah Seda

Olivia Donnelly

Aliana Rosado Montanez

Amy Paches

Alina Beaulieu

Lyla Smith

Adalyn Emerick

Logan Degraff

Jazzlyn Silva

Teachers of the Month:

Mr. Menos

Ms. Davis

Ms. Grimsley













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Math

In 6th grade standard, the students will continue to work on Coordinate Plane Graphing and Ratios and Proportions. Students will have knowledge of how to plot ordered pairs on a coordinate plane, ratios, unit rates, percents and conversions. Please encourage your child to come to class ready to learn, with their needed



supplies and ready to SOAR. Students should be reviewing skills, such as multiplication, and fractions so that they can be proficient in the 6th grade math standards. Students are able to use a calculator and should have a 4 function calculator to use at both home and at school.

In 6th grade accelerated, the students will continue to work on Unit 5-Ratios and Proportions and move into learning about Operations with Integers and Area of 2D Figures. Operations with Integers is a new benchmark added to 6th grade this year. It is important for students to recall how to plot on a number line and the meaning of integers. Please encourage your child to come to class ready to learn, with their needed supplies and ready to SOAR.

In RAMP 6, students will continue to learn how proportions are related to real-world problems involving converting between units and currency. Students will learn how to convert currencies from different countries and between customary system and metric system. This is a great concept that students need when they travel to other countries as United States and 2 other countries use the customary system. Students need to practice how to solve 2 step equations, and operations with rational numbers.

Seventh grade standard students are learning about scale drawings, writing/creating proportions, and converting between customary and metric system, which are crucial when students are traveling to other countries. Students will also be learning about creating, constructing and interpreting circle graphs along with real-world problems involving tax, tip, discount, simple interest and percent of change.

The 7th grade accelerated students will be working on proportional relationships, reviewing how to solve realworld problems involving mark ups, mark downs, and simple interest, which they should have learned last year and

move into relationships with triangles. Students will need to continue to practice 7th grade skills that will be tested on their next F.A.S.T assessment.

Pre-algebra students are starting to explore two theorems. Triangle inequality and Pythagorean theorem. We will also continue to practice the laws of exponents and apply them to the multi-step order of operations problems. Please have your student students review these laws each night.

Algebra students are continuing with linear functions and equations. Students will need to graph and interpret their meaning as well as identify the constraints of the real-world situations. As quarter 2 progresses we will be moving into solving multi-step equations, and systems of equations. Please have your students review their notes every night.

Geometry students will be studying triangle congruency followed by the relationships inside triangles as well as types of centers, and we will end with quadrilaterals.

**Students in RAMP 6, 7th standard, 7th accelerated, prealgebra, algebra and geometry, it is crucial that students have a TI-30Xa calculator that they can utilize in class and at home. This is the exact calculator that students are able to use on F.A.S.T., Quarterly Benchmark Assessment (also known as 9 weeks exams), and tests in class.

a picture is worth a thousand words

Math Strategies:

Someone said, "A picture is worth a thousand words." Turning the words of a problem into a picture or a diagram can help you "see" the problem. By using the part of your brain that visualizes a situation or object, you may see relationships or information that helps you solve the problem. When

someone tells you a story, try turning the words into a motion picture or a cartoon. When reading a description, try "seeing it in your mind's eye." If you can do these things, this strategy may be for you!

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Language Arts

Hello parents and students! Now that we are in quarter two, it's time for us to put in that effort and make the grades that we want. Quarter 1 was an adjustment period for students but now that we've been together for over 9 weeks expectations have risen and leniency has diminished. Students are expected to show SOARing behavior (show respect, own behavior, act responsibly, and reach for their personal best) at all times both within and outside of the classroom. Furthermore, with the A of SOAR standing for "act responsibly", this correlates with coming to class prepared. All students need is paper, pencil, and their binder each day. 6th grade ELA has worked to keep the required supplies list to a minimum but even so, students are still arriving to class with neither a pencil nor paper. Parents, let's encourage our students to start prepping their backpacks the night prior to school to ensure that they are ready to arrive at school prepared. Also parents, please encourage students to utilize the time they have in class to complete their work. As for grades, many students are either turning in their work without a header

Students are focusing on the current topic of How Relationships Shape Us. During this time, we are diving into multiple texts and doing things like tracking the development of an argument, identifying the types of reasoning used, and paraphrasing content from grade-level texts.

(name, date, and class period) or forgetting to turn their work in at all. This is an easy fix but one that requires a bit of effort so let's make that change and bring those grades up!

How do I support my student? We encourage students to advocate for themselves. This is a valuable skill that will be essential throughout their lives. Please encourage your student to check on their grades and either go to Ecampus to complete the work or speak with their teacher regarding missing assignments. Together we will ensure your student's success!

-Mrs. Davis & Mrs. Gregory

7th grade: The 7th graders have been working hard on a unit about love and loss this quarter. We have started reading informational texts, as well as a strong focus on poetry. We have started our third unit of the year: Chasing the Impossible. During this unit, students will be working on answering the essential question: what makes a dream worth pursuing? This text focuses mostly on informational texts, which is a difference from all of the poems we have analyzed. These texts will allow students a chance to apply what they are learning in Civics to their ELA class. As we wrap up the last few weeks of the quarter, please have your student check eCampus regarding missing work. We also would like to encourage students to read outside of class to help improve their reading stamina!

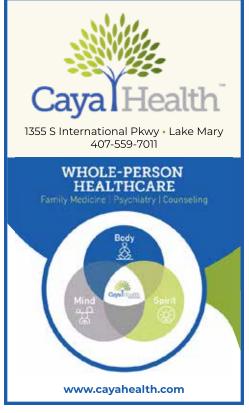
8th Grade: Happy November! the 8th Graders have finished wrapping up our exploration into the mysterious, and we answered the question, "What attracts us to the continued



mysterious?" The 8th graders are now starting their third Unit of the year: No Risk, No Reward! We will be exploring a new question for this unit: "Why do we take chances?"

In 8th Grade Language Arts classes, we will be exploring readings from "Learning to Read," "The Vanishing Island," Call of the Wild," and even the Address to the Nation on the Explosion of the Space Shuttle Challenger. These texts will allow students to analyze the literature for a possible answer as we read about people who took chances and never looked back (for better, or for worse)!





6

Science

Grade 6 Science students have begun the Hierarchy of Organisms unit. Students are looking at the building blocks of all matter: atoms! Students explore the history of our knowledge of atoms and how atoms move in different types of matter. Students then transition to studying the properties of compounds and mixtures.

Grade 7 Science students are now in their Beyond Our World unit. The seventh-grade curriculum focuses on the types of stars in the universe, emphasizing the sun and its layers.

Grade 8 Science students continue their study of space and the intricacies of light within the Beyond our World Unit. Thereafter students will move on to the analysis of the Interaction of Spheres, which is a culmination of all sphere study from grades 6 and 7. Eighth Graders also spent the week at Kennedy Space Center, tying their learning from the unit to real-life application of space exploration!



Social Studies

6th Grade:

Hello to our 6th-grade Eagles and their families!

We have finally finished Quarter 1 and have kicked off Quarter 2 with a bang! We started off learning about the Ancient Egyptians. We learned about the pharaohs, their religious beliefs, and the pyramids. We have now moved on to the Israelites. We are learning about how their religious beliefs differed from other ancient civilizations and their key figures. Once we complete this unit, we will move on to learning about Ancient China. We will learn about the different philosophical beliefs of Ancient China, and how the Silk Road and Great Wall impacted them culturally, and more. Thank you for continuing to support your students this year. Please contact your student's teacher with any questions you may have!

7th Grade:

Greetings Eagles!

As students head into and come back from Thanksgiving Break, 7th grade Civics will have the opportunity to continue to learn about the Constitution through understanding the amending process as outlined in Article V. Included will be understanding reconstructive and civil rights amendments that include the 13th, 14th, 15th, 19th, 24th, and 26th



Amendments. Students will have the opportunity to understand comprehensively the influence these amendments have on participation of individuals in the political process. The next topic will engage students in understanding the structure and functions of the Judicial Branch. Students will then have the opportunity to apply what they learned through dissecting the legal and historical significance of Landmark Supreme Court Cases.

8th Grade:

Hey Eagle Families!

U.S. History is on an adventure into the American Revolution. We will cover how the greatest nation in history was born in the fires of war. Students will learn about the founding fathers of our country including George Washington, Sam Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, and Thomas Jefferson. Students will be able to describe the course of the noble struggle to defeat the largest empire on the planet, The British. Imagine if the Patriots had lost, we would all be drinking tea today instead of the superior beverage coffee. The war raged from Lexington and Concord all the way to the battle of Yorktown and when the dust settles, those great leaders will face their greatest challenges yet, how to run a new nation.



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Evan Sokolowsky • Evan_Sokolowsky@scps.k12.fl.us



Band

Band is working in high gear getting ready for our Winter Concert! Each band will be performing a selection of Holiday pieces showcasing everything we have learned this semester. The GLMS Band Winter Concert is on Tuesday, December 12 at 6:00 PM at Lake Mary High School. Admission is completely free so

please come on out to support!

Musically yours, Ms. Fiore **Band Director**

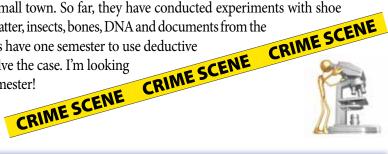




Forensics and Legal Studies

Hello Parents and Students.

We have had a great 1st quarter in Forensic Science! Students are investigating a mysterious case unfolding in a small town. So far, they have conducted experiments with shoe impressions, blood spatter, insects, bones, DNA and documents from the crime scene. Students have one semester to use deductive reasoning skills to solve the case. I'm looking forward to a great semester!



International Exchange Club

Hello to our Eagles and their families!

The International Exchange Club has officially started! Our members have sent out their letters to our South Korean pen-pals and we are eagerly awaiting their

replies! Our members have begun to plan videos to share with the South Korean pen-pals. We are looking forward to learning more about our pen pals in the coming weeks!

Just as a reminder the International Exchange Club meets on Mondays from 4:10-5:10!





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