



SCHOOLS

April 2024

Dear FMS Families,

Welcome to April! As we transition into the spring season, we have exciting updates and events to share with you.

Academic Highlights: Spring Break: We hope all our students had a rejuvenating and enjoyable spring break. As we return to school, let's continue to stay focused and motivated in our academic pursuits throughout the 4th quarter. Let's finish strong!

Standardized Testing: Our middle school students will be participating in the Ohio State Tests this month. Please ensure your child gets plenty of rest and arrives at school on time during testing days. See below for the days your child will test.

April 11 , 2024	ELA Part 1: Grades: 6
April 12 , 2024	ELA Part 2: Grades: 6
April 16 , 2024	ELA Part 1: Grades: 7
April 17, 2024	ELA Part 2: Grades: 7
April 18 , 2024	ELA Part 1: Grades: 8
April 19 , 2024	ELA Part 2: Grades: 8
April 23, 2024	Sci Part 1: Grade 8
April 24, 2024	Sci Part 2: Grade 8
April 25, 2024	Math Part 1: Grade 6
April 26, 2024	Math Part 2: Grade 6
April 29, 2024	Math Part 1: Grade 7
April 30, 2024	Math Part 2: Grade 7
May 1, 2024	Math Part 1: Grade 8
May 2, 2024	Math Part 2: Grade 8

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community

Mrs. Erin Parker
FMS Principal



How Can You Help Your Child Prepare for Standardized Tests?

Teachers tell us that successful test-takers tend to be students with good attendance, homework, and study habits; therefore, your daily assistance with homework and attitude toward school have the biggest impact on your child's performance. However, there are key ways you can develop his test-taking ability.

Optimize brain power. Teachers say the students who struggle the most on testing days are the ones who didn't have [enough sleep](#) or a [good breakfast](#) the day of the test. Also, students who are physically or mentally unprepared often encounter problems.

Encourage good study habits and challenge critical-thinking skills. Reviewing [test-taking strategies](#) is important, but monitoring overall academic progress and staying in good communication with the teacher will help you ward off potential problems. Good reading skills factor heavily in a timed test, so encourage reading (consider magazines, newspapers, or even comic books if he shies away from books) as much as possible. Testing also measures [critical-thinking](#) ability, so ask him to discuss ideas or voice his opinion often to stimulate these thought processes.

Look at your child's past performance. If she scored low in a particular area, you may want to provide her with exercises that reinforce that subject. Aim for activities that simulate the testing experience, such as multiple choice geometry questions or vocabulary practice that asks her to identify antonyms or synonyms.

Provide practice opportunities. You may be able to access practice tests from Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. Start practicing several weeks before the date and keep study sessions short. Make sure he takes the night before the test off — cramming can increase his stress level.

Relax and remain positive. The best test-takers are confident, committed, and at ease. Even if you are nervous about her performance, be wary of transferring that concern to your child. You never know, some kids actually enjoy tests! If she is likely to get nervous, practice a few relaxation techniques, such as counting from one to ten or taking deep breaths, which can help her relieve tension during the test.

Lastly, please remind your student to read everything on the assessment and to take their time. Good luck to all students on the upcoming state assessments!



Mrs. Kim Beardmore
Assistant Principal

One of my pet projects continues to be to bring local businesses and industries to the middle school. The goal is to plant the seeds that will encourage our students to start to think about what type of job or work they might want to do as they get older. At this point in the year roughly half of our eighth grade students are 14 years old and able to get work permits. Many of our business speakers talk to the students about work ethic, showing up on time every day, and what makes a good employee in general.

As our students start working at McDonalds and Subway and other places like that they have the first opportunity to put a job on their resume when they graduate or go on to college. We want them to know what to do at work so that their supervisor, who will be a reference, will say something to the effect of “Wow! We hated to lose him/her! He/she did everything we ever asked him/her to do and they always did it with a smile and a great attitude. I wish we had ten of him/her!” If we can play a part in getting our students to live up to those platitudes then I think we have done a great service to our students which goes with, and even beyond, the classes they take every day.

Below, Paul Martin, from Green Bay Packaging, speaks to a team of roughly 100 students about work ethic and finding what you are good at and what you enjoy. His message: “If you find a job you love you will never work a day in your life!” He also brought the team cookies to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day!



**Mr. Steve Anway
Assistant Principal**



ACE MENTORING PROGRAM

(Assisting Children to Excel)

We are fortunate to live in a community that cares for its children. The ACE Mentoring Program is designed to help students establish career goals, plan for their future, and succeed. Community mentors volunteer to help make a positive difference by encouraging school success. They meet with their mentee during encore classes weekly to listen, talk, laugh, and share their experiences or profession. Mentors are unsung heroes who represent multiple ethnic and sociological backgrounds. As a result, most ACE students improve their grades and continue their education.

Funding for ACE Mentoring Program is provided by the United Way of Sandusky County and Sandusky County Family & Children First Council.

Students are always being accepted into the program, but parent permission is required.

**For more information you may contact the
ACE Mentoring Coordinator,
Mrs. Susan Frye
at 419-334-5484
or by e-mail:
fryes@fremontschools.net**

BGSU



Spring has sprung! We hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful spring break. As usual, attendance is extremely important! The fourth quarter is the time to focus on keeping a positive attitude, giving maximum effort and keeping grades up. Please remember the 4th quarter determines eligibility for fall athletics. Keeping good habits will help students transition smoothly into their freshman year. We will soon be gearing up for state testing. Dates for 8th grade are as follows:

ELA	April 18 and 19
Science	April 23 and 24
Math	May 1 and 2

Please help us in making sure students are the best prepared by making sure your child is well rested and has a good breakfast.

We will continue to Drop Everything And Read on Fridays during the fourth quarter. Ask your child about what they are reading during their dedicated "DEAR" Friday reading time! Statistically, students who read independently are less stressed, are better decision makers, have better mental health, have higher academic achievement and a larger vocabulary, as well as many other benefits! Encourage your child to read for enjoyment.



CINCINNATI



Test-Taking Tips

8th Grade OST Dates are around the Corner:

ELA ~ April 18th and 19th

Science ~ April 23rd and 24th

Math ~ May 1st and 2nd

Do you sweat, chew your pencil, and feel butterflies in your stomach as your teacher hands out a test? A lot of people (adults included) get freaked out when it's time to take a test.

It's natural to feel some stress about taking tests. In fact, sometimes a little adrenaline (a hormone made by your body during times of excitement or stress) is a good thing to jump-start you.

Here are some tips for taking tests:

First, be sure you've studied properly. It sounds like a no-brainer, but if you're sure of the information, you'll have less reason to be worried.

Get enough sleep the night before the test. Your memory recall will be much better if you've had enough rest. In a scientific study, people who got [enough sleep](#) before taking a math test did better than those who stayed up all night studying.

Listen closely to any instructions. As the teacher hands out the test, be sure you know what's expected of you.

Read through the test first. Once you have the test paper in front of you, read over the entire test, checking out how long it is and all the parts that you are expected to complete. This will let you estimate how much time you have for each section and ask the teacher any questions. If something seems unclear before you start, don't panic: ask.

Focus on addressing each question individually. As you take the test, if you don't know an answer, don't obsess over it. Instead, answer the best way you can or skip over the question and come back to it after you've answered other questions.

Relax. If you're so nervous that you blank out, you might need a mini-break. Of course you can't get up and move around in the middle of a test, but you can wiggle your fingers and toes, take four or five deep breaths, or picture yourself on a beach or some other calm place. As we all know, it can be easy to forget things we know well — like a locker combination. The difference is we know we'll remember our locker combination because we've used it hundreds of times, so we don't panic and the combination number eventually comes back. During a test, if you blank out on something and start to get tense, it suddenly becomes much more difficult to remember.

Finished already? Although most teachers will let you hand a test in early, it's usually a good idea to spend any extra time checking over your work. You also can add details that you may not have thought you'd have time for. On the other hand, if you have 5 minutes until the bell rings and you're still writing, wind up whatever you're working on without panicking.

These tips should help most people, but some can get serious [test-taking terror](#). If you're one of them, you may need to talk to a parent, teacher, or counselor for help.

Good luck!

Reviewed by: [D'Arcy Lyness, PhD](#)

Date reviewed: September 2016



FINDLAY



The countdown is on, and Team Findlay 8th graders are getting prepared for high school! Students spent time during the third quarter looking at high school course options, scheduling classes, visiting Vanguard, and discussing CCP class options for the future.



Our local business Partner, Green Bay Packaging, visited us recently and talked to students about the benefits of "Being Prepared". They also brought the students a gift that held the message "Be Giant and Be Prepared".

ENG 9 students have been completing poetry stations with their peers. This includes writing poems of their own, identifying figurative language, and analyzing poems. Once this unit is wrapped up, students will begin reading *Romeo and Juliet*.

Students in 8th grade English recently completed a unit on argumentative writing. They learned how to identify and write a claim and support it with evidence. To practice this concept, they made posters of their choosing and wrote two essays, one as a class and the other with a partner. Moving forward they will complete a short poetry unit before reading The Diary of Anne Frank.

History class has been looking at past presidential elections and how the electoral college votes and popular votes may not always be the same! We have also been discussing George Washington's precedents that he set during his presidency and how the nation's capital has not always been Washington D.C. Ask your student where the first location of our nation's capital started off!

In Math, Algebra students have been working on State Test preparations and finishing up their quadratic equations unit. Math 8 has been working on Geometry, this includes Pythagorean Theorem, Geometric Transformations, and Volume. They will then move into the end of year review and get ready for the state test.

Team Findlay students in Science are continuing their heredity unit. They began by extracting DNA from strawberries and then moved on to learning the process of cell division. After that they completed a lab where they determined whether or not they had certain genes that regulate the ability (or inability) to taste bitter compounds. They continue to learn about how traits are passed from parent to offspring using Punnett squares and pedigrees.



CAPITAL



Welcome, Spring! As FMS enters the final quarter of the 2023-2024 academic year, we would like to share the advice of the United Local School District. It suggests 'Ten Study Tips for Middle School Students', which are not only applicable for a successful finish of this school year, but for the remainder of students' academic careers. The following information was obtained from <https://www.united.k12.oh.us/article/719792> if you would like to read further into these tips. The website also includes a video of study skills for middle school students.

10. Select a consistent place to study.
9. Don't wait until the last minute.
8. Buy an agenda book and use it
7. Dedicate a space for every class in your book bag.
6. Stay organized throughout the year.
5. Make study cards.
4. Make your own study guide.
3. Talk about assignments with friends.
2. If you are struggling, ask for help.
1. Make academics a focus in your life.

Team Capital teachers wish their (and all) students a strong finish to the school year!



OHIO



The OST is approaching and we have been preparing students by continuing to provide valuable instruction and review. Students will be completing tests over two subject areas, ELA and Mathematics. The first test will be over ELA and consists of two parts. Part one of the test will be on April 16th and part two will be on April 17th. The second test will be over Mathematics. This test also consists of two parts. Part one will be completed on April 29th and part two will be on April 30th.

Our team shared test prep strategies to help students with testing. We recommend that students are sure to get plenty of rest. We also discussed the benefits of eating a healthy breakfast. We had a discussion and shared ideas on how students can study better. Students can practice these study habits for all subject areas. We understand that tests may cause anxiety for students. Therefore, our team also shared strategies for how students can cope with test taking anxiety. Our team reminded students that we don't want them to stress, but we do want them to show what they know and to try their best!

Team Ohio University recently reviewed our team expectations. Overall, our expectations relate to respect and responsibility. These expectations align with the student handbook as well. With our expectations, we also discussed our discipline policy. Students that do not follow the expectations will receive an office discipline referral.



TOLEDO



A key factor in academic success is regular attendance. Unfortunately, we are in the peak of cold/flu season (along with various forms of the “crud”) and it seems to be taking many of our staff and students by storm. The teachers of Team Toledo, along with the CDC, would like to take a moment to remind everyone of a few things (that some of our young people seem to have forgotten since the pandemic) that each person can do to help combat these invading germs.

Avoid close contact.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.

Stay home when you are sick.

If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. This will help prevent spreading your illness to others. If you contact the teacher directly, they are more than willing to send home any assignments for the day.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.

Cover your mouth and nose.

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.

Clean your hands.

Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.

Practice other good health habits.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food. Getting a good night’s sleep will also help your student to stay awake during class when it really counts.

If you have been afflicted this cold/flu season, don’t despair, it will be over soon as Spring gets into play. Please use these facts, along with a little common sense, and we will all be back together again in full academic swing.



HEIDELBERG



Can we believe that the year is $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way over? We need to stay strong to make a great finish to the 23/24 school year. As the weather gets nicer, don't forget to make sure that learning is still happening both inside and outside of school. Also, remember that DEAR will continue through the rest of the year so keep reading.

In Social Studies, we have been studying the Ancient China Civilization. In this unit we have learned about the geography of the land and the importance of the rivers, various dynasties that ruled, The Great Wall of China, the Silk Road, and more! The topic that everyone seemed to enjoy the most was the Terracotta Army! If you haven't heard of it, ask your child to tell you what they know! It's fascinating! We will cover Ancient India, World Religions, and Economy to wrap up the year!

In Science we have started our unit about rocks, minerals, and the rock cycle. Students will also learn about minerals and their properties. They will have a chance to be exposed to several minerals they may have never seen before! When we finish with rocks and minerals we will move on to our life science units where students will learn about cells and will get a chance to work with microscopes. The fourth quarter will bring about several opportunities for fun and hands-on experiences.

Throughout the 3rd quarter our students have been studying Algebra and the world of unknown values being represented by a variable. They have accomplished solving and writing equations and inequalities. They are able to tell us what a variable is and how to solve these with inverse operations. We will be entering into our Geometry unit where students will learn about different shapes where we will find the area, surface area, and volume of. Luckily for the students who enjoyed Algebra, we will use our knowledge of Algebra to solve real world problems that include area, surface area, and volume. They will continue to use those strategies as we progress through the middle school curriculum, these topics are very important. I look forward to closing out the school year and seeing these students flourish as they enter 7th grade.

The ELA classes are finishing up their study of nonfiction. Students are currently working on crafting a four or five paragraph essay over their assigned topics. The students have just finished up their Chapters for Chips incentive and 60 of them (72%) of the team reached their goals. Next quarter the incentive will be "Ice Cream" for reading and the amount of pages per school day is going to be 12 this quarter, making the minimum amount of pages for the quarter 600 pages. We are hoping to be able to reward the whole team with ice cream at the end of the school year.



MIAMI



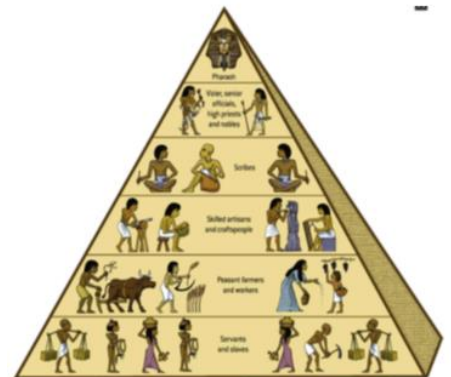
SCIENCE

In Ms. Bissett's Science classes, students have been learning about the different kinds of energy from a molecular level in atoms to the motion on a roller coaster. Students spent some time learning about the Law of Conservation of Energy and were able to put that knowledge to use when they had a baggie chemistry day. Students saw how mixing some chemicals would cause a reaction from chemical potential to kinetic, resulting in the transfer of energy into thermal energy.



SOCIAL STUDIES

In Mr. Pursell's Social Studies classes, students have been concentrating on the learning things about the continent of Africa. They have been using their geographic skills to gather, process, and report information about people, places, and environments. Specifically, they have spent time learning about Egypt and how the Egyptians had developed a unique theocratic monarchy, social structures, religions, technologies, pyramid structures and agricultural practices.

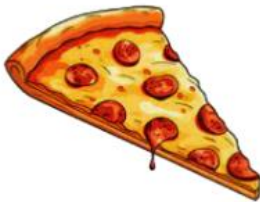


MIAMI (cont.)



LANGUAGE ARTS

In Ms. Coleman's and Mrs. Dye's Language Arts classes, students have been working their fingers to the bone by writing five paragraph essays. Yes, you read that right, 5 paragraphs. That's a lot of writing! Students were given a graphic organizer to organize their thoughts before they wrote about their favorite foods. They then spent a few days in class and composed their essays. Some students wrote about tacos, like Ezmerelda Johnson and GiGi Rodriguez. Others wrote about enchiladas like Carlito Wadsworth and Daniella Gonzalez-Madrid. The most popular favorite food was pizza, which was expressed by Taylor Plough, Madi Claybaugh and Rey Meza in their essays. Looks like there are a lot of different favorite foods on Team Miami!



MATH

In Ms. Coleman's and Mr. Plaunt's 6th grade Math classes, students have been focused on learning about equations and algebraic expressions. They have been learning and practicing the rules of solving equations. The Honors Math class has been working on solving algebraic expressions and solving linear equations as well. For those of you that have been out of 6th grade for a few years, give these few problems below a try and see if you are smarter than a 6th grader! If you need help solving, grab a 6th grader from Team Miami to help you solve the problems!

$$20r=80 \quad r= \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad 48=6x \quad x= \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$



TIFFIN



The 2023-2024 school year is going great for Team Tiffin!. The students are working hard in their classes and transitioning well into the Middle School. In Language Arts class, students are currently engrossed in reading the captivating novel "Restart" by Gordon Korman. They are exploring all the text features to enhance their comprehension and analytical skills. Our Science class is diving into an exciting unit on rocks and minerals. Students will discover the wonders of the Earth's composition and geological formations. Mrs. Rohrbacher's math students are delving into the world of geometrical shapes and mastering the concept of finding the area of different figures. Finally, Students in Social Studies are learning about the four types of governments: Monarchy, Theocracy, Dictatorship, and Democracy. It's an opportunity for them to broaden their understanding of political structures around the world.

We are thrilled to announce that Landon Fisher has been recognized as the Student of the Month. Congratulations to Landon for his outstanding efforts and achievements!

A fine group of Tiffin students have won the weekly VIP Student-of-the-Week award (given each week to a Team Tiffin student in recognition for their excellent behavior and academic efforts). The winning students are: Keith Hill, Journie Julien, Khloe Burgess, and Jamison McMurray . **Great job students!**



Say Something Week was a huge success! 'Say Something' week empowered students to take ownership of their actions and decisions, fostering a sense of responsibility and accountability. By encouraging open communication and active participation, students can develop essential skills for becoming more responsible individuals both in and out of the classroom.

A group of Team Tiffin students posing with their See Something, Say Something poster.



FUNDRAISER INFO



Fremont Middle School completed the Stoller Fundraiser in the fall . It has always been a very successful money maker and all profits go to the teams that earned them to use for classroom and team rewards. We will use them again next fall.



Go to <https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com>

Go to “Find Your Store” on the upper right and type in Fremont Middle School to bring up the clothing you can purchase. A percentage of all sales comes back to the school to help fund school activities. This is available all year.



We just completed our World’s Finest Chocolate fundraiser for the Spring! It has been a consistent money maker for FMS. We thank you for your continued support of FMS.

NOTE: Many of our clubs may also be running their own small fundraisers to earn money for club activities.

IMPORTANT DATES

Mar. 29- Apr. 8
Apr. 9
Apr. 11-May 2
May 27
May 31

Spring Break
School Resumes
Ohio State Tests
No School (Memorial Day)
Last Day of School



FINAL FORMS

Please remember to update Final Forms on their website whenever there is a change to you or your child's information. This includes address, phone number, contacts, custody, transportation or medical. Please change this info for all of your children in the school system. If you have yet to complete Final Forms for this school year, please do so as soon as possible. We use Final Forms for communications such as daily announcements, newsletters and building-wide letters.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Please call the school attendance desk at **419-332-5569** (press option 1) any time you know your student will not be in attendance for the day. A voicemail can be left for the office 24/7 and will be received at 7:00 a.m. Monday through Friday. Please remember to include: **your name, your student's name, reason for absence**, and a **phone number** to contact you if we have any questions. Please remember to speak slowly and clearly so we can record the information accurately.

Students may also bring a note from a parent/guardian to the office before classes begin to obtain a building pass. The note should contain the date, student name, parent name with signature, reason for leaving school, and time student needs to be released. With advance notice, we are able to have your child waiting for you in the school office when you arrive to sign them out.

The school day begins at **7:30 a.m. sharp!** Students should be **seated in their homeroom before 7:30 a.m.** to avoid being counted tardy.

EVERY
SCHOOL DAY
COUNTS

