

# J.G. Whittier Middle School

June 2014 Newsletter

Principal Mrs. Donais  
Assistant Principal Mr. Gill

## Principal's News

POETS!  
POETS!

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### Upcoming Events

- ◆ Canobie Lake 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip 6/3
- ◆ Mini Olympics 6/4 @12:00pm
- ◆ NJHS Induction Ceremony 6/4 @6pm
- ◆ Washington, DC 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip 6/9-6/13
- ◆ PTO Meeting 6/10 @6:30pm
- ◆ 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion 6/17 @6:00pm
- ◆ School is out for Summer 6/18 @ 11:15am

### A message from the Principal:

As I complete my 4th year as principal here at J.G. Whittier and my 34th year educating the children of Haverhill, I want to let you know that I will be leaving the position of principal at J.G. Whittier and beginning in a new position as principal of Moody Pre-School, Bartlett and Crowell Kindergarten Centers, as well as Walnut Square and Greenleaf Elementary Schools. Although I will miss my work with our school family here at J.G. Whittier, I look forward to the challenges this new position has to offer.

It has been a pleasure to serve as the principal at this school since August 1, 2010. I hope you know how much I have enjoyed these last four years. It has been my good fortune to experience a

wonderful partnership with the students, staff and families in our community. Brian Gill, currently the assistant principal at J.G. Whittier, will become the principal. He is looking forward to working with all of you and getting to know each of you better.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve you, your children and this outstanding school community and hope you know I am especially proud of our students. I look forward to hearing great things about their accomplishments as they continue their education at J.G. Whittier Middle and beyond.

**Mrs. Donais, Principal**

## News from our Guidance Counselor

It is June and it is almost time to enjoy summer! In the final weeks of school, all students are encouraged to work hard and finish the school year strong. For all the eighth graders graduating and transitioning to high school, first I want to say congratulations! I will be sending all final transcripts and school records to the schools your child is planning on attending in the fall. Thank you all for such a great school year and I wish you all a happy and safe summer vacation!

—  
Mrs. Vlahos

### Mr. Estes      6th Grade Science All groups

We will be continuing in their study of ecosystems and ecology. We will be working on an Endangered Species Research Paper to wrap up the year which will include topics and areas of study that are included in our textbook such as, "Population, causes of endangerment, interpretation of data, making predictions regarding your endangered species population in the future, role within the ecosystem, food chains and food webs, predator-prey relationships, and adaptations."

### Mr. Harris      Grade 7 Math Purple/White Group

We will be continuing to work on our Math Museum Projects, along with the presentations of them. After that, we will be reviewing some of the major topics of this year that will help springboard the students into Grade 8 mathematics. Have a great summer!

### Gold Group

We will have time to work on our Math Museum Projects in early June. After that, we will be reviewing some of the major topics of this year that will help springboard the students into Grade 8 Mathematics. Have a great summer!

## Class Room News

### Mrs. Berthiaume's ELA Classes

We have finished reading Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, which everyone truly enjoyed. We will end the school year with the oral tradition unit. Summer reading lists will be distributed this month, so get to the public library early and start reading! Have a great summer!

(Please continue to check [www.schoolrack.com/jberthiaume](http://www.schoolrack.com/jberthiaume) for information.)

### Mrs. Sanguedolce & Ms. Moore 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Math

We have had a great year in math! We will showcase our math talents in a presentation of math projects on Monday, June 9. Please join us in our classrooms from 9:30-10:30 to view our great math work.

### Mrs. Forrest & Ms. DeLong      6<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### ELA:

We have a busy schedule completing the ELA curriculum and are presently working completing a research paper writing project. Each class is finishing a novel: ***Tuck Everlasting*** by Natalie Babbitt and ***The Giver*** by Lois Lowry. In the Prentiss Hall Reading Anthology, the students are reading selections to support and review reading skills. The required book report for June is Fiction.

#### Social Studies

The class will continue work on the geography of Europe and Africa.

### Mr. Lewis      7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

To finish the school year off, seventh graders read *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London, where we focused highly on Buck's transformation from domesticated pet to wild beast and how/why he changed. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders finished *The Outsiders* and are currently finishing their final project which is to create a CD of songs they chose which reflect the ideas and themes of Hinton's novel.

### Ms. Moore 5th Grade Science

We will be finishing the year with an engineering unit. Students have been having a lot of fun working on hands on engineering design projects! Please keep an eye out for lists of supplies you might have around the house that you can donate!

### Ms. Morin & Ms. Sirois      5<sup>th</sup> Grade

**ELA:** We will be finishing up reading "The Witches" by Roald Dahl and doing writing pieces, vocabulary quizzes and projects parallel to the events we read about in the novel.

**Social Studies:** We will be continuing with the Revolutionary War, the signing of the Declaration of Independence and how America founded its own government.

Mrs. Trombly & Mr. Estes  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math

Parents in Mrs. Trombly's 6th grade math classes were sent an email explaining our new math program. Please feel free to email Mrs. Trombly with any questions you may have. We are continuing to plug through expressions and equations. A lot of new material for our sixth graders.

### Mrs. MacKinnon      7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

7th grade science will be starting chapter 3 erosion and deposition. The students will be describing the process that wears down and builds up Earth's surface; Identifying the causes of the different types of mass movements; Explaining how water erosion is mainly responsible for shaping the surface of the land; Describing land features that are formed by water erosion and deposition, and Describing the causes of groundwater erosion. The students will also be studying glaciers, identifying the types of glaciers, how a glacier valley forms and moves and how glaciers cause erosion and deposition. They will also be learning how waves and wind both cause erosion as well.

## Class Room News

### Mr. Cronin 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

Students are in the midst of studying Ancient Rome. Once we complete our Rome Unit, we look forward to discussing current events and reviewing the Ancient Civilizations we studied this past school year.

### Mr. LeGrand Math

We are working on our year Math Museum Project. This project encourages students to develop problem solving skills and gives them the opportunity to work collaboratively with their peers. Students have been given a rubric and other materials to help them with their project. We will also conclude our study of Statistic and Probability

### Mrs. Porter Art

**Grade 8** students are completing their year by creating personal style caricatures of their favorite teachers and staff members here at JGW. They are also involved in designing and making decorations for their 8th Grade Promotion Dance on June 17th.

**Grade 7** artists are finishing up a year of creating portraits from toe. Their final project is an oil pastel drawing of three split abstract faces in the style of Picasso.

**Grade 6** is finishing their watercolor unit and will wind down the year with a colorful geometric op art drawing of the many art tools they used this year.

**Grade 5** is studying weaving from nature and the Hudson River School landscape painters this month. As we close out the year they will be bringing home their own awesome sunset/ground silhouette chalk and cut paper collage drawings in the style of the "Big Sky" painters in New York and out West.

### Ms. Autio Music

Music classes will be wrapping up the year with acoustic guitars. Tab, power chords and melodies on the high and low "E" strings will all be explored during this time. I wish everyone a safe and musical summer

### Mrs. Fisher ELL

Classes will complete their spring novels during the month of June. Students will be researching and writing on self-selected topics. We will end the school year with students performing oral presentations based on their research.

### Mr. Blaustein 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### U.S. History Green, Brown, White Gold

We will use whatever academic time that is left to finish looking at the Civil War before we leave for Washington D. C.

#### Reading, ELA Green

We are finishing the Outsiders and polishing our Memory Book essays.

### Mrs. DeBlasis 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math

Mrs. Deblasis 8th grade Math classes will be working on their Math Museum projects due Thursday, June 5th

### Ms. Daley 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading & ELA

Classes are working to finish reading S. E Hinton's The Outsiders. We will watch Francis Ford Coppola's film production of the same work, and make comparisons between the book and the movie. Also, we will look at different ways that the director developed the characters in the film.

We will also recall all of the literature read this school year, fiction and nonfiction that deal with the universal theme of social injustice. With that in mind, we will view the movie "42 The Jackie Robinson Story", which deals with breaking the race barrier to play major league baseball.

Thank you for an enjoyable year of working with your children. It has been a pleasure meeting many of you parents.

### Mrs. Sullivan 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

We will be doing projects that involve the design process. We will be testing these projects over the course of the next couple of weeks.

Students will be using the information that we learned this year to design their projects.

### Kevin DeMarais Physical Education

Our classes are finishing up our track and field unit. We will be beginning our baseball unit.

Our Mini Olympics is scheduled for June 4th, any parents who would like to help out please let me know

## Activities

6/3 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Canobie Lake Field Trip

6/4 NJHS Induction Ceremony @6pm

6/4 Mini Olympics 12pm

6/9-6/13 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Washington, DC Trip

6/17 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion & Dance @6:00pm

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## **From the Nurse**

For all students who require having an EPI PEN, inhaler or other medication at school:

I will be sending home new medication packets to be filled out & returned for next year. Included in this packet is a permission, field trip & Tylenol form to be filled out by parents & **a medication order that needs to be filled out by student's primary care physicians.** Please make sure to have **ALL forms** completed and returned over the summer or beginning of the next school year.

Also all students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade next year are required to have 1 dose of tdap vaccine & 2 doses of varicella vaccine. Any students who do not have these vaccines will be excluded from school until they get them. **Please be sure to bring in an update physical form with immunizations on it because many of the students are currently missing it from their medical records.** If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

**Erica Johnson, RN**  
**School Nurse**  
**978-374-5782**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Canobie Lake 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip	4 NJHS Induction 6pm  Mini Olympics 12:00pm	5	6	7
8	9 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Washington, DC Trip	10 PTO Meeting 6:30pm  8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Washington, DC Trip	11 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Washington, DC Trip	12 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Washington, DC Trip	13 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Washington, DC Trip	14
15	16	17 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion 6:00pm Followed by a dance	18 Last day of School Early Dismissal 11:10am	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					