



# THE ROAR

## WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

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## REMINDERS

**October 1<sup>st</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> – My Voice Parent Survey (see the back of the newsletter for more information)**

**October 6<sup>th</sup> – Red Wave and Fiddle Float perform in the U of M Homecoming Parade.**

**October 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> – No School - staff professional development**

**October 30<sup>th</sup> – Picture Day**

**November 2<sup>nd</sup> – End of First Quarter**



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## What's New

We are in full swing! Students and teachers have jumped into curriculum, continuing to build strong relationships and are having fun! During the month of September, all students took the STAR assessment in math and reading. This data helps us determine how we can best meet the needs of every student. You will receive a copy of your student's scores at parent/teacher conferences.

During the 2018-19 school year, we will focus on meeting students' needs academically and behaviorally. Another priority is creating a positive school culture and pride in our school. Middle school is an important bridge in a student's education, and we pride ourselves in creating the best possible experience.

I would like to send out a big THANK YOU to Jason Pounds from River Designs for creating our new school logo. Jason has created new Washington gear, our newsletter template and the new East (Blue) Gym design. We are so thankful for your work and dedication to WMS!

Thank you for sending us your wonderful students each day. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Kacie Laslovich



Our new gym, the East (Blue) Gym, is now up and running! The walls in the courtyard for the multipurpose room are going up. Our new music rooms on the north side of the building are expected to be ready by November.

Please remind your students to walk on the sidewalk when they are moving outside of the building. Also, students with bikes need to walk their bike to a crosswalk before crossing the street.

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## Music

October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm – 7<sup>th</sup> grade choir concert with Hellgate Chevaliers (WMS West, Silver Gym)  
October 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm – 6<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade choir concert (WMS West, Silver Gym)

## WMS Library

Our Library might be a bit smaller, but our commitment to instilling a lifelong love of reading and learning in your students is bigger than ever! We are rolling out our first 2 fiction reading incentives, the 2019 Young Reader's Choice Award nominee books and this year's Battle of the Books books. Next month our reading incentive focuses on our non-fiction collection. Stay tuned! Congratulations to those students who have already completed our first annual online library scavenger hunt. Check in with your student to see if they were one of them! Don't forget to check out our website for all the latest library news!

## Quiz Bowl

Do you love trivia?  
Are you a "walking encyclopedia" on certain subjects?

### **Join Quiz Bowl**

Quiz Bowl is a tournament that tests players on a wide variety of academic subjects. Our school team will compete in the county Quiz Bowl Tournament in May!

An informational meeting plus **tryouts** for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be held using a short Quiz Bowl written test on **Monday October 1st, after school in room 114, Mrs. Norton's room.**

The **top 7 scorers** will make the team and begin weekly training sessions to prepare for the tournament!

## MathCounts

What is MATHCOUNTS? MATHCOUNTS is a national mathematics competition and organization put on by the National Society of Professional Engineers. Now in its 35<sup>th</sup> year, it sponsors local, state, and national competitions to promote mathematics achievement at the middle school level. The problems that students encounter as part of this program develop and hone problem solving skills and introduce kids to a wide array of topics in mathematics, including geometry, algebra, probability, number theory, and statistics to name a few. Simply put, it is the best exposure to mathematics for middle school students that I have seen. Mathcounts is a challenging but rewarding math program.

Contact Ms. Boucher for more information [klboucher@mcps.k12.mt.us](mailto:klboucher@mcps.k12.mt.us).

## Attendance

Attendance is a vital component of every student's education. Our data shows that 11% of our students have already missed 2 or more days. It is extremely challenging for students to miss school and then have opportunities to get the instruction that was missed. Please ensure that your students are here each day and on time. If you need support, please let us know.

## My Voice Parent Survey

We would love to hear your feedback! Please complete the survey below. The survey will be open from October 1<sup>st</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>. You will also need the Access Code below.

<http://surveys.quagliainstitute.org/survey>

Access Code: **422904**



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## **Families in Transition (FIT)**

Hello Washington Families! My name is Shannon Ortt and I am the Families in Transition Coordinator in the Family Resource Center at Washington. I am new to Washington this year and I'm excited to meet the staff, students and families. My job is to assist any family or student who might need help being connected with local resources pertaining to housing, employment, transportation, food and much more. If you would like to connect with me, have questions or would like to donate to the Family Resource Center at Washington, please email me at [sortt@mcps.k12.mt.us](mailto:sortt@mcps.k12.mt.us) or call 728-2400, ext. 2616. Specific donation requests include non-perishable snack items such as granola bars, crackers, apple sauce, canned goods, pasta, toiletries, specifically men's and women's deodorant, feminine hygiene products, shampoo and body wash. Thank you and I look forward to meeting the Washington students and families!

## **WMS PTA News**

Hello, WMS parents and staff! The PTA met on Tuesday, September 18th, and had a great turnout! We are especially thankful to all of the parents of 6th graders who attended, and we hope to see many of you sustain your involvement in our PTA, which supports a number of programs that benefit students and staff here at WMS.

Here are THREE easy ways to support what we do:

- When you're shopping on Amazon and you have the option to support a program through Amazon Smile, or [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), choose Montana Congress of Parents Teachers Students (that is what the governments calls us for tax purposes!)
- When you are checking out at the Good Food Store, tell the cashier you'd like 3 % of your purchase to go to WMS. (Note: make sure you tell them BEFORE your purchase is complete; they cannot retroactively make a donation)
- When you are checking out at Missoula Fresh Market, tell the cashier you'd like a percentage of your purchase to go to WMS - you might need to tell them before your purchase is complete, as well.

Stay tuned for more ways to support students and staff through the PTA. We're hoping that Five on Black will have an evening where a percentage of their proceeds supports WMS PTA. If you know of other restaurants willing to sponsor an evening like this, let us know! [washingtonpta2014@gmail.com](mailto:washingtonpta2014@gmail.com)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 16th, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, Rm 106. (The third Tuesday of the month)



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