

YMS



Kenny Loosvelt

PRINCIPAL

Volume 7

Number 5

Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible

FEBRUARY 2022

Greetings YMS Parent(s):

What a great start we have had for the second half of our school year. We are thriving and succeeding during this global pandemic. Students and teachers came back ready to put forth a great effort and to improve each and every day. This is an important time for the growth in your child(s) education this year. Some of the most significant gains and unfortunately losses can occur in the winter months of a school year. The adults in this building are going to work hard to make sure students at YMS show gains and we know that you will support YMS by doing the following:

1. Make sure that your child gets school work/practice done. Let your child know that you think education is important and that schoolwork needs to be done each day. You can help your child with practice by setting aside a special place to study, establishing a regular time for practice, and removing distractions such as the television and social phone calls during work time.
2. Ask questions. If something concerns you about your child's learning or behavior, ask the teacher or principal about it and seek their advice. Your questions may be like these — What specific problem is my child having with reading? What can I do to help my child with this problem?
3. Demonstrate a positive attitude about education to your children. What we say and do in our daily lives can help them to develop positive attitudes toward school and learning and to build confidence in themselves as learners. Showing our children that we both value education and use it in our daily lives provides them with powerful models and contributes greatly to their success in school.
4. Monitor your child's television, video game, and Internet use. American children on average spend far more time watching TV, playing video games, and using the Internet than they do completing homework or other school-related activities. Make time each day for your child to read and do homework before the technology is turned on.
5. Encourage your child to be responsible and work independently. Taking responsibility and working independently are important qualities for school success. You can help your child to develop these qualities by establishing reasonable rules that you enforce consistently, making it clear to your child that he has to take responsibility for what he does, both at home and at school, showing your child how to break a job down into small steps, and monitor what your child does after school, in the evenings and on weekends.

A perfect time to talk to your child(s) teacher is February 2 & 3 from 4:30-8:30 pm or on February 4 from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Our teachers want to partner with parents and we both want the same thing...for your child to succeed. Please come talk with us at PTC!

We are going to have a great second semester as both parents, teachers, and staff work to improve the educational experience for students at YMS.

Kenny Loosvelt
YMS Principal

York County 2022 Spelling Bee

Congratulations to the following students who qualified for the York County Spelling Contest on **Wednesday, February 2**. Participating from the 6th grade will be Victor Gonzales-Rodriguez, Mason Johnston, Bridget Kavan, Hayley Mattox, Lily Perkins, and Liam Pfeifer. Alternates are Kaleb Hindal, Brian Hoyt, and Arianah Linden. Spellers from the 7th grade who will be participating are Zoe Luft, Lukas Moutray, Kelsie Prince, Troy Schmid and Matthew Steffen. Alternates are Alejandro Correa Astudillo and Colt Eimermann. Qualifiers from the 8th grade are Danny Burgess, Ruby Goff, Aidan Kadavy, Arianna Schutt and Marcus Young. Alternates are Kadin Tesar and Ryleigh Wright.

The spelling competition will be held at the York College Bartholomew Center. We wish you the best of luck!



Wednesday, February 2 from 4:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 3 from 4:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, February 4 from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for York Middle School. Prior to conferences, please look over your child's school work. Check tests and homework grades. If you find low grades on any work, it can then become an area of focus at the conference. Talk to your child, he or she is likely to have insights on what's happening academically at school. Please make a list of questions so you won't forget anything you may want to say or ask. Feel free, to be honest with your concerns.

After the conference with the teacher, go over what was said with your child. In the end, the students are the ones who must take charge of their education. They need to know the positives and the areas that are recommended for improvement.

We hope to see you at our upcoming Parent-Teacher Conferences!

Please note: No school at YMS on Friday, February 4 and Monday, February 7.

Course Registration for 2022-23

It is already the time in the school year when we begin thinking about and getting ready for next year's classes.

As I write this newsletter, I am in the process of talking to the current 6th and 7th grade students about selecting classes for next year and the high school counselors will begin meeting with 8th graders this week to discuss selecting classes for 9th grade.

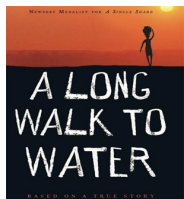
Current 6th graders get to choose either band or choir or both for 7th grade. All other classes are assigned to them. Some students may be placed in the STEM class or a Math Strategies class as well. Those two classes are assigned based on spring MAP and NSCAS Growth results along with grades and teacher input.

Current 7th graders have many choices to make as they get ready for their 8th grade year. As 8th graders, they get to choose from a variety of courses. Of course I do my best to get them into the classes they choose, however, there may be instances where they do not get everything they want because of course conflicts. There are also courses that are "teacher recommendation" and require that students have shown themselves to be responsible, respectful, hardworking, trustworthy, etc. Unfortunately, sometimes students' past behaviors prohibit them from getting to be in those select classes. When that happens, I will assign a different course that fits into the schedule. I have talked to the students about this at length.

By the time you are reading this, current 6th and 7th grade students should have brought home their course registration papers for you to sign. If you have not seen this paper, please ask your child about it.

If you have questions about courses or the process, please feel free to contact me.

Jennifer Badura
YMS Counselor



York Middle School staff and students are participating once again in One Book One School!

A Long Walk to Water is a short novel by [Linda Sue Park](#). It includes the true story of [Salva Dut](#), a [Sudanese Lost Boy](#), and the fictional story of Nya, a young village girl.

Salva is an 11-year-old boy separated from his family during a school shooting in South Sudan. He has to walk for days, with only to hope one day he will find his family again. Salva also struggled to find food to survive and they did not have much water for survival, along with trying not to get killed by gunmen. Salva lead the Lost Boys of Sudan, to a refugee camp from the Gilo River.

Water for South Sudan

Water for South Sudan is a program created by Salva Dut which drills wells for villages in [South Sudan](#). Previously, families had to trek for hours just to get contaminated water, leaving no time for children to go to school and often infecting villagers with diseases. Creating wells not only gives clean, safe drinking water, but it also it helps with education and economic development.



York Middle School Band

Twentieth Annual York Middle School Honor Band Day

We will be hosting our twentieth annual “York Middle School Honor Band Day” on Saturday, March 19. We are expecting over 300 area 7th and 8th grade band students to attend. Students rehearse in the afternoon to prepare for a final concert which begins at 6:30 p.m. in the York High School Theater. Our band members must sign-up by Wednesday, February 2nd to participate.

York Middle School Musical
March 17 & 18
YHS Theater at 7:00 p.m.



High School Musical Jr.

Auditions are finished the rehearsals are underway. Students from the 6th, 7th and 8th grade choirs are working hard to prepare for the musical *High School Musical Jr.*

York Middle School’s performance of *High School Musical Jr.* will take place on Thursday, March 17, and Friday, March 18, at 7:00 p.m. at the York High School Theater. Admission is \$3 for students and \$4 for adults, no passes accepted.

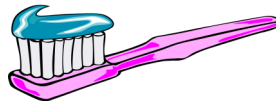
We will also be needing many parent volunteers to help with set, props, snacks, etc. Please be watching for more information and contact us if you are willing to help at jessica.wagner@yorkdukes.org.

Parents just a reminder, if your child is a part of the musical cast they need to bring their \$20 in as soon as possible.



Notes from the school nurse

February is Dental Health month.



Teens need to continue to practice and develop healthy habits to ensure that their adult teeth stay with them for a long time! Healthy teeth are strong teeth.

- Brush teeth and clean between teeth twice a day, every day.
- Limit snacks and beverages with lots of sugar. Water is the perfect drink of choice.
- Dental sealants (a special plastic coating) act as a barrier for teeth and help to protect cavity-prone areas. Talk to your teen's dentist about their recommendation for your child.
- Use mouth guards to give protection to their teeth when playing sports or participating in activities like skateboarding. Mouth guards help to protect teeth from getting broken or knocked out.
- Schedule regular dental checkups as a preventative measure.

Vision, hearing and dental screenings will be conducted during the 3rd quarter for 7th and 10th grade students. If a student does not meet the screening guidelines set forth by the state, a letter recommending further evaluation will be sent to the parent/guardian. If you have concerns regarding your child's hearing, vision or dental health, please follow up with a physician/eye doctor/dentist even if you do not receive a letter of referral.

NO SCHOOL at YMS on
Friday, February 4 &
Monday, February 7 due to
Parent-Teacher Conferences.

Sunday, March 20
First Day of



The York Chamber Singers invite you to purchase...

A Singing Valentine!

All proceeds to benefit the York High School Vocal Music Program

Cost is \$25


Price includes: a rose, chocolates, and a song delivered and performed to your sweetheart on February 14th

Songs delivered on February 14th
8:00am to 1:00pm

Reserve your singing valentine by Friday, Feb. 11th

Must be within the York City limits.

Click the QR code below and fill out the form or email jessica.wagner@yorkdukes.org or jenna.schwarz@yorkdukes.org to reserve your singing valentine!



<https://forms.gle/CACZkGWbAD9iMdkN7>

FEBRUARY



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7 BBB - Home vs Seward @ YMS 4:30pm 8 BBB @ Seward 4:30pm B	2 2:00 Dismissal Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:30-8:30pm York County Spelling Contest @ York College G	3 2:00 Dismissal Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:30-8:30pm 7 & 8 BBB @ Columbus Scotus 4:30pm B	4 YMS NO SCHOOL Parent-Teacher Conferences 8:00-12:00 noon	5
6	7 YMS NO SCHOOL	8 7 BBB - Home vs Aurora @ YMS 4:30pm G	9 2:00 Dismissal B	10 7 BBB @ Adams Central - 4:30pm 8 BBB - Home vs Adams Central @ YMS - 4:30pm G	11 B	12
13	14  Board of Education Mtg. G	15 7 BBB @ Crete MS 4:30pm 8 BBB - Home vs Crete @ YMS 4:30pm B	16 2:00 Dismissal G	17 7 BBB @ Hastings 4:15pm B	18 G	19
20	21  President's Day B	22 8 BBB - Home vs Aurora @ YMS 4:30pm G	23 2:00 Dismissal B	24 G	25 B	26
27	28 Board of Education Mtg. G			<div> Parent - Teacher Conferences Wednesday, February 2 from 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. Thursday, February 3 from 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. Friday, February 4 from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon </div>		