

# WOOD POST



**FEBRUARY 2021**

**Volume 16 Issue 3**

For the Parents, Students  
& Community of

**Markham Woods  
Middle School**

**6003 Markham Woods Road  
Lake Mary, FL 32746**

**Phone 407-871-1750**

## **Administration**

**Linda Mumey  
Principal**

**John Miller  
Assistant Principal**

**Chuck Bennett  
Assistant Principal**

**Cynthia Woods  
Assistant Principal**

**Maegan Boza  
Dean of Students**



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**Sanford, FL 32773**

## ***Message from Assistant Principal***

Happy New Year everyone, I hope you had time to enjoy your family and friends during the winter break and catch up on some much-needed rest. We are certainly off to a great start with semester 2 and are looking forward to continued learning for all our students.

We recently completed PSAT testing and were able to test 292 students. For any students who were unable to recently test make-up testing will take place on Thursday, February 11, 2021. Please let me know as soon as possible.

Recently we received our quarter 2 Common Nine Weeks Assessment data. Our administrative team and teachers are having detailed data discussions on standard analysis where we identify student strengths on these standards and the standards students struggle with the most. Examining this data also shows us which students are not tracking, in progress of tracking and those tracking towards proficiency. Teachers are collaborating in their Professional Learning Communities and using these sets of data to make informed instructional decisions while developing specific intervention strategies for individual revising instruction for the entire class.

It's that time for registrations for the upcoming year, so please be sure to see the updates from the Guidance Department.

As you continue reading this newsletter, you will see all the wonderful and exciting opportunities provided for our students academically, physically, and emotionally. Our Mustang Family is dedicated to partnering with you and your student(s) for a well-rounded middle school experience here at Markham Woods Middle School. We encourage you to reach out to us anytime you have any questions. Stay safe and healthy!

**Chuck Bennett**  
*Assistant Principal*

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## Guidance

Happy New Year Mustang Families! We are 3 weeks into the spring semester. Mid-January, we launched our incoming 6th grade student presentation virtually with our feeder schools. The biggest change this year were the presentations held virtually and the registration forms were emailed electronically from your child's feeder school. If your child was absent for the presentation, please reach out to their school counselor at the elementary school for a taped version. Registration forms are to be submitted electronically by February 1, 2021. Please only submit one course registration per child. Markham Woods Middle School will be hosting a live incoming 6th grade Virtual Information Night on January 28, 2021 at 6p.m. Please visit our social media pages for more information.

Current student registration will take place mid-late February. Additional information will follow via Skyward blasts in the coming weeks.

If you have 8th grader zoned or attending Lake Mary High School fall 2021 and are interested in participating on the fieldtrip on February 5, 2021 to tour the school, please have them stop by the guidance office to pick up a fieldtrip permission slip. Students must use the school's transportation means to participate and attend the trip.

## From the Front Desk

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION - PARENTS, PLEASE REMEMBER:

#### No Drop Offs

- Lunches
- Backpacks
- Homeworks, Books etc.
- Sports Equipment
- Money

#### Parent Pick Up

- M, T, Th, & F No Later than 3:15pm
- Wed No Later than 2:15pm
- Please plan Accordingly for appointments

#### Masks are Required in the Front Office

- No Mask, No Entry

-Thank You

## Request an Appointment with Your School Counselor



### We can chat about

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**Ms. Kee**  
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**Mr. Simmons**  
School Counselor  
Grades: 6-8  
Last Names: L-Z

Visit the link:  
<https://calendly.com/seimmontz>



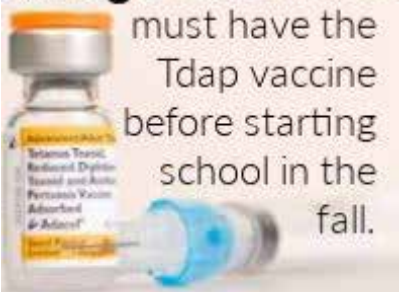
## Meet our NEW Assistant Principal



John's life mission is to inspire all people to live and serve in a way that enables them to reach their full potential. He is in his 14th year as an educator with broad experience, having served in a variety of teaching and administrative support roles in several counties. John is excited and grateful for the opportunity to serve the Markham Woods Middle School community by supporting teachers and advocating for student success. John is married to Dr. Edna Jones Miller and has 2 daughters: Jessica Robyn (6) and Jordyn Rose (3).

## Rising 7th Graders

must have the Tdap vaccine before starting school in the fall.



## Save the date!



Wednesday, March 31st  
5-9pm

\*\*\*Don't forget to #MentionMarkham

## Student Government

Student government just welcomed in a pool of 6th grade students. Many applied and only a handful were selected based on an application and interview process. Student Government is hard at work preparing ideas for the student body and the school. They are excited to try and bring clever outdoor Covid Safe events to campus and are actively restarting Markham's Recycling Program, working on a County wide Anti-Bullying Grant, and preparing for Black History Month in February. Students are also assisting in the development of new Campus after school clubs.

## Discipline

As we embark on the second semester, students please remember the following:

### DRESS CODE:

Masks must be worn at all times in the courtyard and halls from covering the nose and mouth. Students will be placed on a contract if they cannot follow this.

The following head gear is NOT allowed any ANY time while on campus: Bonnets, Bandanas/Do-Rags, or Hoods. Detentions will be given to those who cannot follow this directive.

Pants need to be worn above the hips, with belts if needed. Holes are allowed in the jeans so long as they are BELOW finger tip length.

Shirts must be at LEAST as long as the top of the pants. No mid-riffs and no belly may be shown. Tank tops are not permitted, unless a sweater that can be closed is worn.

### LUNCH:

Lunch is 30 minutes long. Students are given time to eat in the Cafe, and then provided time outside to mingle with their friends. If a student needs extra time to finish eating, they are to let the Lunch Team know and we will provide them a place to finish their meal. No student will be rushed to finish their lunch. All students are encouraged to get to lunch as soon as they can to allow for the maximum amount of time to eat and socialize.

### CELL PHONES:

Cell Phones are to be put away in their pockets or backpacks when in the halls or courtyard (not lunch), or they will be confiscated by an adult. Students may pick them up the first two times, a parent will need to pick up after that.

### TRANSITIONS:

Transitions are for students to go directly to class. They are not to be out in the halls or courtyard intermingling with others. If found wandering or grouping together, consequences will be given.



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Dr. Rawle and family



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2020-2021



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What is included and how does your business benefit? Your business will receive a 3'x5' vinyl banner for display on the car loop fence. These business partners will also be recognized on all of our social media platforms, the MKMS website, our quarterly newsletters, and a Skyward blast from Mrs. Mumey. Please email a high-resolution vector and/or jpeg to Lauren Gordon at [Lauren\\_Gordon@scps.k12.fl.us](mailto:Lauren_Gordon@scps.k12.fl.us) for the banner.

Are there any other Community Business Partner options besides a monetary donation? Yes, if you choose to donate items such as food and drink for students and staff, materials for teachers or any other tangible items you can still be a Community Business Partner! We will recognize your business on all social media platforms, the MKMS website and our quarterly newsletter but there will be no banner purchased by Markham Woods MS.

Thank you for your continued support!!

☐ **\$400 Donation:** 3 x 5 full color sign hung on carline

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<b>Contact Phone #</b>	
<b>Contact Email</b>	
<b>Authorized Signature</b>	

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**Questions Contact:**  
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Office: 407-871-1710  
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## Reading | Quarter 3

Students in Intensive Reading classes returned from break and completed their second iReady diagnostic assessment. Data from this assessment was shared with students during individual data chats. The final diagnostic assessment of the year will be held in the spring.

Students are expected to complete one lesson each week on iReady with a score of 75% or better. Classroom time, during both Face to Face and Connect classes, has been set aside to allow the students enough time to complete their required lessons. Congratulations to our 2nd quarter incentive recipients who received a sweet treat for passing 7 out of 9 lessons and complete! Keep up the great work! Quarter 3 incentive is up for grabs!

Please continue to encourage your student to practice their reading for at least 30 minutes each day. This will help your student build up reading stamina that will help them with their fluency and build their vocabulary.

Library cards from the Seminole County Public Library can be obtained online at: <https://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/departments-services/leisure-services/seminole-county-library/>.

## ESE News

Hello Mustang Family!

As we move through the third nine weeks, testing is fast approaching. We want to encourage our students to keep the momentum from the beginning of the school year going. Remember to remind your student(s) that each day is an opportunity to do their best, respect others, engage in learning, always be positive and to manage themselves.

Here are a few tips to help your mustang with testing.

- Make sure to eat a healthy breakfast or snack before the test.
- Use your accommodations wisely.
- Stay focused.
- Try your best.
- Always stay positive.
- Never give up!
- Get enough sleep each night.
- Strive for success!

Thank you for your support and for allowing us to work with your student(s).

—ESE Team

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## Science Department | February 2020

As we begin the spring semester we are excited to welcome more students (and teachers) back to our campus for face to face instruction. It is important for everyone that we remember the safety precautions that are in effect to keep us all safe during the pandemic. In science classes campus-wide we are working to provide our face to face students with hands on laboratory activities while still following the county's safety guidelines. If all students are not consistently following these rules, it makes it impossible to do these engaging activities. Please remind your student to keep their mask over their nose and covering their mouth, to wash their hands frequently, and to maintain distancing between themselves and others when possible.

Beginning a new semester or nine weeks is always a good time to check your child's school supplies. Please make sure they have paper, pencils, and erasers that they need to be successful. Many students are finding that their interactive science notebook is almost full. Please check with your student and assure that they have a notebook that will be sufficient to see them through to the end of the year. These notebooks should be saved as they serve as the student textbook for our middle school science curriculum.

In sixth grade science students are finishing studying pH scale as well as physical properties. This introductory chemistry unit will inform their think for other 6th, 7th, and 8th grade topics like cellular metabolism, chemical weathering, and more. 6th grade classes are now gearing up to study the rock cycle and how it relates to Earth's interior structure. They will see how these ideas are used to support the theory of plate tectonics. Ask your student about the process of compaction, weathering, sedimentation, and how they relate to igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks. As we learn how the geosphere interacts with itself, we are gaining the information and background needed to understand how the geosphere impacts, and is impacted by, the weather events that are common to Earth.

The seventh grade is studying the cell and cellular processes that are necessary to life. Students will have the opportunity to explore the way the cell does cellular respiration, how plant cells do photosynthesis by examining Elodea, and how cells do "day to day" tasks like eliminating waste products, obtaining nutrients, and "breathing". Students have learned the fundamentals of microscopy and used microscopes to exam different types of cells and show their similarities and differences.

Our eighth-grade students are studying the fossil record and how life on Earth has changed throughout Earth's history. They've learned about how fossils form, how paleontologists recover them and study them, and what can be learned from them. They have also learned the methods that are used by scientists to in both relative and absolute dating. Ask your student about the radioactive half-life lab and how they simulated dating methods using 3D printed tokens.

While courses now have FSA's and EOC's please remember that there is still a state test for science that our 8th grade students will be taking in May. The SSA or Statewide Science Assessment is a test that covers all of the material they learn in middle school science from grade 6 to 8. All grade levels are using Study Island as a preparation aid for the SSA, we are targeting difficult concepts within each grade as well as those that may need refreshing from 6th and 7th grade. The students do have access to this from home and we encourage them to use it to brush up on tough subjects outside of school. If you are attempting to log in that you use the link or "Study Island For Schools".

## Science Olympiad

In the more competitive space, Science Olympiad is hard at work preparing for competition. Many of the competitions have switched to virtual this semester but our students are as excited as ever to build and present a variety of scientific projects such as, Crime Busters, Ping-Pong Parachute, and Machines.

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## HOW TO EARN HERO POINTS

So many ways to earn those Hero Points!!!  
Here are a few ways! There are many more!

- Be Engaged in Learning
- Be On Time to Class
- Be Respectful
- Keep your mask on at all times
- Put your cell phone away
- Campus Cleanliness
- Demonstrate Empathy
- Ask for Help
- Take Personal Responsibility
- Practice Social Distancing
- Participate in Class
- Listen and Focus on Learning
- Give your best effort

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## 2020-21 Student Calendar

~Revised Board Approved July 14, 2020~

Start Date August 17, 2020, End Date May 26, 2021

JANUARY 2021				
M	TU	W	TH	FR
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

FEBRUARY 2021				
M	TU	W	TH	FR
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

MARCH 2021				
M	TU	W	TH	FR
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

APRIL 2021				
M	TU	W	TH	FR
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

MAY 2021				
M	TU	W	TH	FR
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

JUNE 2021				
M	TU	W	TH	FR
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

1st Quarter: Aug. 17th- Oct. 9th 39 Days  
 2nd Quarter: Oct. 12th - Dec. 18th 45 Days  
 3rd Quarter: Jan. 4th - March 12th 48 Days  
 4th Quarter: March 22nd - May 26th 48 Days

Semester 1 84 Days 8/17-12/18  
 Semester 2 96 Days 1/4-5/26

8/4 - 8/14	Pre-Planning
8/17	First Day of School
9/7	Labor Day Holiday
10/9	End of 1st Quarter
10/12	Beginning of 2nd Grading Period
11/23-11/27	Thanksgiving Break
12/18	End of 2nd Quarter
12/21 - 1/3	Winter Break
	Early Release Days

1/4	Beginning of 3rd Grading Period
1/18	Martin Luther King Holiday
2/15	Presidents Day Holiday
3/12	End of 3rd Quarter
3/15-3/19	Spring Break
3/22	Beginning of 4th Grading Period
5/26	End of 4th Quarter/Last Day of School
5/27	Post-Planning

## BMT

The Markham Biomechatronics Program bid farewell to the longstanding enthusiastic Mr. Donald Fields last semester. Mr. Fields leaves behind a strong core of goals and understanding of how Biomechatronics can continue to grow at Markham. This semester, Global Solutions and Innovations and Computational Thinking have been offered to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. Students have spent the first few weeks understanding what true innovation is. Students are learning how to receive feedback, revise, and reflect when given a problem to solve. Global Solution Students will present Global Crisis and Solution analysis from crisis in recent memory. Later this quarter, these students will grasp the concepts of Design Thinking and propose solutions to key problems. Computational Thinking Students have begun utilizing the steps to Computational Thinking and have approached problems by first, applying decomposition to the problems, recognizing patterns, abstracting potential solutions, and developing algorithms to solve the problem. Computational Thinking students will also be introduced to the basics of Design Thinking and electricity this quarter with the creation of robots out of a toothbrush and a cell phone vibrate motor as one example.

### AWESOME AWAITS

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Offer is valid until December 31, 2020. Florida PTA membership card, along with park tickets, should be presented at entrance. Price does not include tax and is good for a General Admission ticket. Tickets are dated and only valid for dates of purchase. Tickets must be purchased at least one day in advance. A maximum of 6 tickets can be purchased per transaction. No refunds. Prices subject to change.

## Math

Happy 2021! Although it is a new year, life is still anything but normal and our math happenings are being affected. For the second time in two years the annual county math festival will not be taking place. Although we are saddened by this, we look forward to its return next year. Markham will not be sponsoring a Math Counts team this year, but we look forward to participating again next year. We do have some mathletes who are participating on their own and we wish them the best of luck. The Mu team is competing virtually this year during the months of January, February, and March.

On a happier note, with the redesign of period XL, math teachers will be pulling students who need some extra help and support every other Wednesday afternoon. In addition, with activity busses resuming please listen out for opportunities for after school tutoring in math. This will be offered both face to face and virtually. There is also support with intensive math being offered at all grade levels for all classes.

Please continue to ask your students what they are working on and if they are completing their KHAN lessons. Students are assigned KHAN on a weekly basis and some teachers are taking these self-graded multi opportunity assignments as a quiz grade. This actually helps the students as they are able to earn 100's on these grades if they give their time and effort. These quiz grades are in the same category as unit assessments which in turn help students keep their grades in balance if they happen to do poorly on an assessment.

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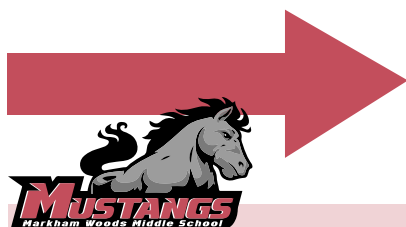
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**ELA**

All Language Arts classes will be taking their second Write Score assessment at the end of January/beginning of February. In late February, students receive personal rubrics from Write Score indicating strengths and weaknesses for each writer; this allows students and teachers to individualize instruction and/or provide group lessons based on writing patterns.

- 6th grade classes are studying Greek Myths and the archetypal Hero's Journey.
- 7th grade classes are getting ready for Black History projects, highlighting research and writing skills.
- 8th grade classes are writing informational pieces and will soon be reading the short story "Flowers for Algernon."



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To Addressee or Current Resident



## Chorus

### Helping Your Singer Find A Safe Singing Space

As we continue to navigate a changing health landscape, one element of communicating music has been pushed to the forefront – video and audio recording. But how many of us actually have true “recording spaces” in our homes? Here are some quick tips for creating a quiet, disruption free zone for your student (at least for the three minutes it should take to record for an assignment!):

1. Choosing a Space – Space can be limited at home so the best place to practice and record is the space your musician already has available. If you’re able to be selective, an enclosed area (like a bedroom, walk in closet, or spare room) is recommended. This allows the student to remain focused while singing. Ideal spaces also have enough room for the student to stand up straight and swing their arms freely.
2. Limit Interruptions/Distractions – Once your student is ready to begin practicing or recording try to interrupt them as little as possible. You can also assist them by eliminating distractions from siblings and pets. Young singers working at home often find it difficult to communicate the need for relative quiet while recording/practicing. They express that their homes are busy places, and they don’t wish to burden anyone with their request. Opening this line of communication with your musician can go a long way toward helping them sing their best.
3. Keep Things Positive! – Many of our young musicians have expressed their sensitivity about the quality of their singing. You can help them by keeping comments positive and geared toward recognition of their improvement.

Singing can be a very vulnerable activity; it requires us to open our emotions, try new things, and occasionally even fail. As our students work through the process of learning how their voice works, the best thing we can do is to encourage practice and maintain a sense of optimism.

While finding the ideal practice and recording space isn’t possible in every situation, we hope you’ll be able to use some of these tips to make your singer feel more at ease while participating in chorus activities and virtual performances. Thank you, as always, for your support of our program and of your student’s love of music.

