

MARINER NATION NEWS

Murdock Middle School

17325 Mariner Way, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

941.255-7525 Attendance: 941.255-7525

Hours Operation: 8:35 A.M- 4:20 P.M.

Administration

Principal: Lyman Welton

Assistant Principal: Jamie Verwey

Assistant Principal: Jake Monteleone

Counselor: Sandra Tavares

Counselor: Kim Ceballos

ESE Liaison: Cara Stefanik

School Resource Officer: .. Officer Morales

Principal's Message

Greetings Mariners,

Following the conclusion of our first semester and the early weeks of quarter three, I'm pleased to share some exciting news about our school community!

We are incredibly proud of the academic growth demonstrated by our students during the first semester. The recent Florida State Progress Monitoring assessments revealed positive results across all grade levels. Compared to both last year's scores and the initial progress monitoring tests taken earlier this fall, we've seen significant improvement. This achievement is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, parents, faculty, and staff. It takes all of us working together for our students to demonstrate these academic gains.

In addition to state scores, our school has consistently received positive reports from our Model School Representatives. Their comments about classroom management, and rigorous instructional strategies have been complimentary. This recognition highlights the supportive learning environment we strive to cultivate for all students.

I am delighted to announce that our school recently received a perfect score on a surprise safety inspection conducted by the state. In fact, Charlotte County Public Schools as a whole did exceptionally well. This outstanding result is a reflection of the commitment to safety shared by our entire school community – students, staff, parents, and leadership. I also want to take a moment and recognize our partnership with the Charlotte County Sheriff's Department and thank them for their ongoing efforts to keep everyone on our campus safe.

The successes at Murdock Middle School are a direct result of the collaborative efforts of our entire Mariner community. I extend my sincere gratitude to our dedicated teachers, supportive parents, and engaged students for their unwavering commitment to excellence.

We look forward to continuing to build upon these accomplishments in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Lyman E. Welton
Principal

ISSUE 2 VOLUME 6

February 2025

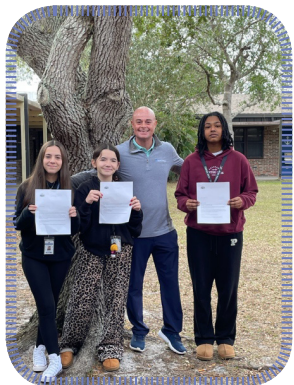
A Look into our Classrooms:

HISTORY

In November, Mr. Watson's World History students competed in the annual Blanchard House Museum Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. essay contest. The competition is open to thousands of students grades 6-8 in SW Florida. This year's essay contest invoked an MLK quote from 1968, "We will not remember the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."



Three of Mr. Watson's students placed in the top 4. Kassiah Murdock took home the silver medal, placing second overall and winning \$100. The bronze medal and third place honor was awarded to Ella Barber, who was awarded \$50. Also, an honorable mention and the fourth-place overall winner went to Lani Williams-Foucher, who also was awarded \$50.

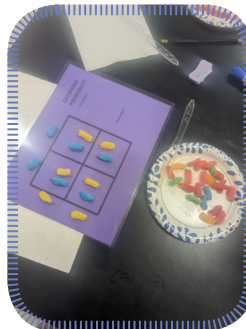
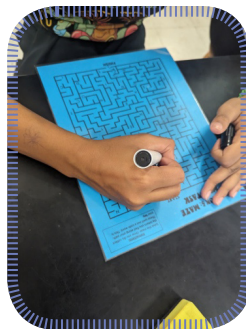
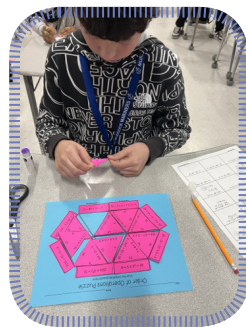
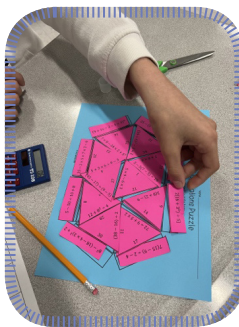
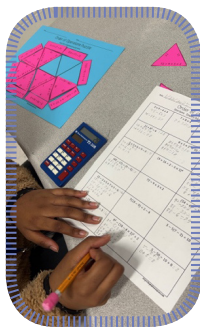


All the winners and Mr. Watson have been invited to attend the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast being held on January 18th. Mr. Watson, Kassiah, Ella, and Lani will be honored at the annual breakfast and awards will be given out at that time. Congratulations to our Murdock Family!

Also, in Mr. Watson's World History class, students made international ornaments.

MATH

Students in Miss Rogers' class used the order of operations to solve expressions and complete a puzzle.



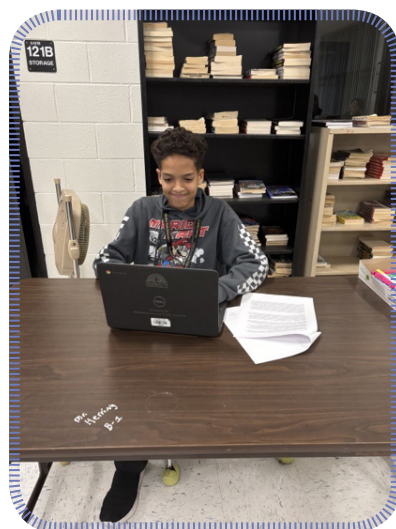
SCIENCE

Murdock Middle's science department is now offering SSA test prep tutoring for 8th grade students. Test prep tutoring for 8th grade will take place in Ms. Bruss's classroom on Mondays after school from 4:15-5:15. Test prep tutoring will benefit students by offering personalized small groups or one-on-one instruction tailored to meet the unique needs of each student.

During tutoring, we will focus on learning testing strategies, we will review the 6th and 7th grade content, and we will include remedial help for 8th grade content. Test prep will help students be more confident and increase academic performance geared toward the end of the year state science test.

We will also still be providing tutoring for all grade levels. These tutoring sessions will be held in Ms. Bruss's classroom on Wednesdays from 4:15-5:15.

For either tutoring session, students must have a permission slip signed by a parent to attend and have appropriate transportation. Students can get forms from their science teacher.



LANGUAGE ARTS

Mr. Herring's ELA classes will continue working on their argumentative essay writing, while ascertaining literary techniques for their Novel Analysis. Also, students have and will continue to work on sentence structure.

COMPUTERS

This semester in our 6th grade computer class at Murdock Middle School, we have been busy enhancing our tech skills and preparing for a successful future! Here are some of the exciting developments we've experienced lately:

Certifications in Essential Skills

Our students have been working hard to earn **certifications** in several key areas that are crucial in today's digital world:

- **Cyber Security:** We've learned about online safety, protecting personal information, and understanding the importance of secure practices while navigating the internet.
- **Communications:** This unit emphasized effective digital communication, including email etiquette and professional correspondence.
- **Microsoft Word & Excel:** Students have developed their skills in creating documents, reports, and spreadsheets, learning how to utilize tools that will be invaluable in their academic and future professional lives.
- **Presentation Skills:** We've also focused on creating engaging presentations, where students learned how to design slideshows that effectively convey their messages using various multimedia tools.
- **Typing Skills:** In addition to these certifications, we've dedicated time to improving our **typing skills**. By practicing regularly, students are becoming faster and more accurate typists, which is essential for their schoolwork and future careers.

In our 7th grade computer class at Murdock Middle School, we've had an incredible few months filled with learning and innovation! Here's a glimpse of what we've been up to:

Certifications in Key Skills

This semester, our students are taking significant steps toward becoming tech-savvy individuals by earning certifications in essential competencies such as **Cyber Security, Communications, Microsoft Word, Excel, and Presentation Skills**. These certifications not only provide us with valuable skills that will serve us well in the future but also give us a sense of accomplishment and motivation as we explore real-world applications of technology.

Delving into 3D Printing


One of our most exciting projects has been exploring **3D printing**! We've learned how to operate the printer using the **X, Y, and Z axes** to create amazing three-dimensional objects. Our class has discovered how to scale objects and embed various designs within our projects, which has allowed us to unleash our creativity. We even managed to print small prototypes that we designed ourselves!

Transitioning to Block Coding

As we continue to enhance our tech skills, we're now moving into the fascinating world of **block coding**. This visual programming language helps us grasp complex coding concepts while allowing us to create interactive projects. It's thrilling to see students working together to build games and animations, demonstrating their understanding of programming basics and logic.

Stay tuned for more updates on our computer class adventures, and let's continue to embrace the world of technology together!





Mariner Nation News
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Port Charlotte, FL 33948
Issue #2



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A Look into our Classrooms:

continues...

ART CLASS

Mrs. Marsh's students had their artwork displayed at the Charlotte County Fair.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All students in PE are required to dress out during class to earn participation points for the day. Acceptable attire are athletic shoes, T-shirts and shorts/leggings. This helps create a safe environment for our students to fully participate in our daily PE activities.



Don't miss out on purchasing our PE uniforms.

Shirts- \$10

Shorts- \$12

Shirt & Shorts- \$20

Athletics

As we begin the second semester of school, we have three sports coming up!

January 27th – Track and Field

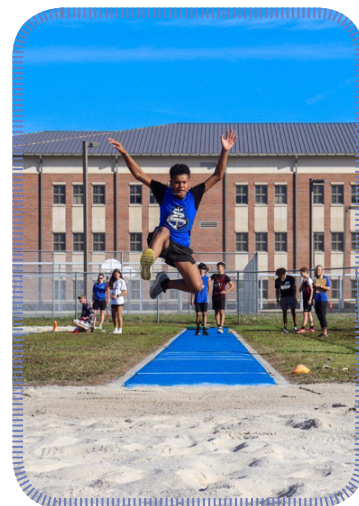
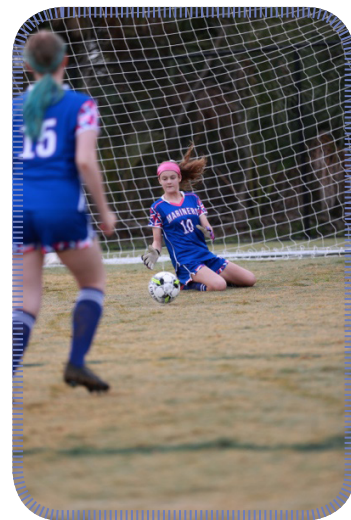
February 10th– Soccer Try-Outs

April 7th – Wrestling

All boys and girls interested in participating in our sports, make sure you have an up-to-date FHSAA Sports physical on file to be eligible to play. Physical and consent forms can be found on our school website under *Our Programs- Athletics*. All forms must be completely filled out for our athletes to be good to go. All practices begin right after school from 4:15- 5:30 pm. There are late buses available.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Coach Strauss.

Go Mariners!



PBIS Fundraiser

On January 15th, students and families joined together to help support Murdock Middle's PBIS club. PBIS was able to partner with Insane Conez in Port Charlotte for a spirit night. With every scoop, sundae, or treat that Mariners purchased during the event, Insane Conez provided PBIS with a donation. We had mariners that brought their friends, family, and neighbors to join the celebration. Together we were all able to make a difference to raise money while also supporting our local community.

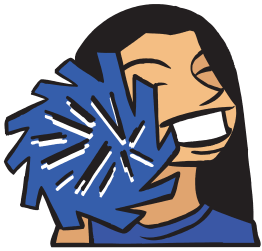


All-Complete Retreat

Our next All-Complete Retreat is Friday, March 7th. To attend, students may not have had a full day of ISS or OSS during Quarter 3. The All-Complete Retreat also goes by period; therefore, students need to be passing a class and not have any zeros in a class to be allowed to go.

For example, if a student is passing first period with no zeros and no referrals from that teacher, the student will be allowed to attend during first period. However, if a student is failing second period, they will not be allowed to attend during second period and so on.

Please continue to encourage your students to exhibit Mariner expectations, to turn in all of their assignments, and to check Focus.



A Message from our School's Nurse



Hello parents,

This is wintertime in Florida and sickness and viruses are going around. Here's some actions and preventative measures you can take:

- Encourage students to eat and rest well
- Instruct students to dress appropriately for the colder weather
- Have students take vitamin supplements like C, D, and Zinc
- Students who have fevers or any contagious type of illness should be kept home
- If a student has a sore throat, salt water, Hydrogen Peroxide, or Listerine are great for gargling
- Saline Nasal Spray that's sold in stores can help with stuffy noses
- If symptoms persist or worsen, please see a medical provider

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Anti-Bullying Policy

Charlotte County Public Schools does not tolerate bullying, which includes cyberbullying. Throughout the school year, our schools do a variety of classroom, large group, and small group lessons on bullying and bully prevention.

Though we teach all of our students that bullying is wrong, it still occasionally occurs. And, while we would like cases of bullying to be reported to the administration, they are not always reported.

Parents - if you have a bully (or cyberbullying) concern please let us know. If your child is a target and is being bullied or if you believe your child bullies others, please let us know. Open and consistent communications with the school will not only help your child but will help many others and the school. Unfortunately, some bully situations take a number of interventions before it subsides. Please continue to communicate with the school and provide any additional information that will help the school put an end to the situation.

It is important to note that investigation of cyberbullying can occur regardless of whether the bullying was conducted using public or private property (cell phone, computers, etc). Please reference Florida Statute 1006.47

Report bullying by filling out the Bully Report form which can be found on the district website at:
<https://www.yourcharlotteschools.net/Page/11977>

You can also find a "Bully Button" on our website to report bullying.


FORTIFYFL
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QUICKLY AND EASILY SUBMIT A TIP
 By accessing FortifyFL, students can provide a description of the threat, share pics and videos and optionally submit their contact information.

Anonymous or Non-Anonymous You decide whether you want to include your name and contact information.	Convenient Submitting a tip is quick and easy using our mobile app or website.	Include Photos and Video You can also include photos or video with your tip report.
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QUICKLY SEND TO AUTHORITIES
 FortifyFL automatically routes your tip report to the appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

	Your School Officials The tip report goes to your local school officials when submitted.
	Local Law Enforcement Your local police department or sheriff office receive copies of your tips automatically.
	State-Level Officials State-level officials also have access to your tips to make sure proper steps are taken.

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. FortifyFL was created and funded by the 2018 Florida Legislature as part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.

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Teacher Work Day
Student Day
Semester Days
Paid Holiday/Day Off
Hurricane Makeup Day
Unscheduled Day Off
Unpaid Day Off
Unscheduled Work Day
Early Release Day

SD = Student Day Count
ED = Employee Day Count

PL = Professional Learning

School Board Approved 12/12/2023

January 2025						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	SD	ED
		1	2	3	86	99
6	7	8	9	10	91	104
13	14	15	16	17	96	109
20	21	22	23	24	100	113
27	28	29	30	31	105	118
					105	118

February 2025						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	SD	ED
					105	118
3	4	5	6	7	110	123
10	11	12	13	14	115	128
17	18	19	20	21	119	133
24	25	26	27	28	124	138
					124	138

March 2025						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	SD	ED
					124	138
3	4	5	6	7	129	143
10	11	12	13	14	134	148
17	18	19	20	21	134	148
24	25	26	27	28	138	153
31					139	154

April 2025						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	SD	ED
	1	2	3	4	143	158
7	8	9	10	11	148	163
14	15	16	17	18	152	168
21	22	23	24	25	157	173
28	29	30			160	176
					160	176

May 2025						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	SD	ED
			1	2	162	178
5	6	7	8	9	167	183
12	13	14	15	16	172	188
19	20	21	22	23	177	193
26	27	28	29	30	180	197
					180	197

June 2025						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	SD	ED
					180	197
2	3	4	5	6	180	197
9	10	11	12	13	180	197
16	17	18	19	20	180	197
23	24	25	26	27	180	197
30					180	197

January	
1	New Year's Day
2	Winter Break
3	Teacher Work Day
6	Students Return
20	M.L.K. Day

February	
3-7	Survey Window
12	PL Early Release
17	President's Day

March	
13	End of Q3
17-21	Spring Break
24	Teacher Work Day

April	
18	Good Friday
30	PL Early Release

May	
26	Memorial Day
29	Last Day for Students
	End of Q4/Semester 2
30	Teacher Work Day

June	
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Title 1 Family Engagement

The family resource center will be hosting a Pastries with Parents Event on February 18 with two different time slots. This event will take place from 8:30 am – 9:30 am and from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm. Refreshments and pastries will be served to the first 100 parents in attendance.

An Algebra Math Night is coming up on March 12th from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm, and a STEM night is happening on April 12 from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm.

Mrs. Adebayo is available throughout the school day by appointment. If any parent or guardian has a question, Mrs. Adebayo can be reached by phone at 941-255-7525 Ext 5214 or by email at Marlene.Adebayo@yourcharlotteschools.net.

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and more!

