

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: Christine Young

Assistant Principal: Deshon Jenkins

Counselor: Sandra Tavares

Counselor: Kim Ceballos

ESE Liason: Bruce Hundt

School Resource Officer: Officer Morse

Principal's Message

Mariner Family,

I am writing to inform you of exciting news. As of January, 2020 we added three new Exploratory Courses to our Master Schedule. These three additions will result in our students having a greater variety of coursework and a more well-rounded educational experience. This will mean that your student may have seen a schedule change in January. It is important to note that middle school course work, outside of the core curriculum, is exploratory based, rather than elective. Exploratory classes are assigned to students and designed to provide them with an introduction to a variety of courses.

Murdock Middle has had a long history of providing our students an introduction to visual arts. I am pleased to announce that as of January 2020, we began offering Art. Our Art classes are designed to encourage students to learn about a variety of art mediums, as well as explore their own creativity.

In addition to Art, we added two STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Exploratory Courses. The STEM class will be project based. We are also transitioning our current Research Course into a second STEM Class. This enables us to offer hands on learning to more of our students. Although we are offering two STEM courses, the content and projects will be unique to each course.

In order to provide our students with this well-rounded curriculum, we need to reduce the number of Physical Education sections. The State of Florida requires all middle schools to offer their students one semester (half a year) of PE. We will meet that requirement. In addition, some of our 8th graders will still be able to take the Wellness Course. While we realize it takes some adjusting whenever we make changes to our Master Schedule, we also recognize the short-term disruption is well worth our improved course offerings. We are proud to offer our students a greater variety of coursework and a more well-rounded educational experience and ask for your continued support.

Sincerely
Lyman Welton
Principal

ISSUE 1 VOLUME 1

January 2020



What's Happening in Mariner Nation?

Ms. Gentrup's 1st semester Research classes won a grant from the Charlotte Arts Foundation! The grant will be used to host an eco-friendly bag design contest with the winning design printed on reusable grocery bags. Plastic bags are damaging the environment and harming wildlife, especially here in our coastal town. Students at Murdock Middle School will be part of the solution by promoting reusable grocery bags. The reusable bags will be available this spring for "borrow and go" at Publix.

Recently, Ms. Gentrup's class was working on a research unit focused on food. During one student presentation, the student introduced a local, sustainable, farming organization from which you can purchase produce. If you are interested, it's <https://swflproduce.com/>. It looks amazing. Feel free to check it out.



Science and Inventors Fair Regional competition

Please congratulate the following students who will be representing Murdock Middle at the Science and Inventors Fair Regional competition at FGCU on January 18th:

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Lily Mortimer | Ava Hill | Cole Beiner |
| Madalynn Krause | Katelyn Mortimer | Jake Embury |
| Jon Embury | Reagan McCloud | Matty Smith |
| Andrea Gibbs | Noah Rapson | Jazlyn Roy |
| Leighia Burell | Aubree Vernon | Zoey Akers |
| Kaylee Ziegelbauer | Caimbry Gallant | |

Language Arts

Mr. Herring's language arts 6th grade classes will continue working on their fable writing, while his 7th graders analyze Eleanor Rigby, and the 8th graders analyze "The Road Not Taken". Also, students have and will continue to work on sentence structure and essay strategies.

Media Center News

Although the weather is warm, it's still a great time to cozy up with a good book.

Students are welcome to visit the library during the school day to check out books, work on research projects, and enjoy a little quiet reading time. In addition to the school day, the Media Center is open in the morning before 1st period. During this time, students can work on homework, read, check out books, do personal research, catch up on current events, and grab a quick game of Chess or Uno.

We now have ebooks and audio books available! Students can access these materials using Overdrive, which is on Classlink, or by using the SORA app on a smartphone. The SORA app is a free download. We have about 30 titles available and are adding new ones each month.

Our Sunshine State Young Readers Award, SSYRA, challenge is in full swing. There are fifteen books for students to choose from. Students who read at least three titles will be eligible to vote for their favorite and will be invited to the reading celebration in the Spring.

After we return from Winter Break the Stone Crab Reading Challenge began. Students wishing to participate need to register for the club and then read four books of their choosing. Students who complete the challenge will receive a free ticket to a Stone Crabs home game and the opportunity to purchase discount tickets for family and friends. These students will also be invited to the reading celebration in April.

For more information about the Media Center and the programs offered, please visit our web page. Thank you for your continued support.



Mariner TV Production

Semester one for our Mariner TV Production has gone by lighting fast. We finally received the computers for our production room in late November, and are now running the broadcast at full capacity. Once we had moved into the new room with the new equipment the students developed different ideas for our studio. They received their inspiration from visiting the local Fox 4 News station. Such as how to improve work-flow, ideas for new segments, and branding. The ideas will be put into work right away, where the students rebranded the broadcast's name from WMAR to Riptide. Currently, we are finishing up projects where we are making replicas of Marvel's Guardians of The Galaxy movie poster. In Semester two we will start off the new year with the broadcast team designing and building a studio set that will coincide with the official rollout of the new branding for the broadcast. Our main goal is to create content that will be entered into national competitions, which earns the students individual recognition, and also allows us to represent Mariner Nation. It is an exciting time to be part of our Mariner broadcasting family, as always we welcome support from our local community to take our ideas from paper to reality. If you would like to support our goals reach out to Mr. Hoyle for more information.

Sincerely,
 Mariner Studios!
 Written by Alexis Puga, Riptide Reporter
 Dakota Hoyle, M. Aviation Science



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 Charlotte County Public Schools
 1445 Education Way
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Family Engagement

Mariner Families,

We have had a great turn out, with our Title 1 recent events. Over 300 kids and families attended our Family Fun Obstacle Course Run. As well as a great turn out for our self defense class with parent/child. Upcoming this quarter we will be working with CTC (Charlotte Technical College), showing our families what options they have after leaving or while they are in high school. Title 1 will provide pizza and drinks for all families attending.

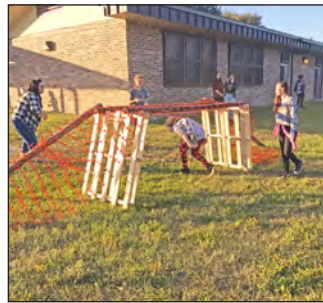
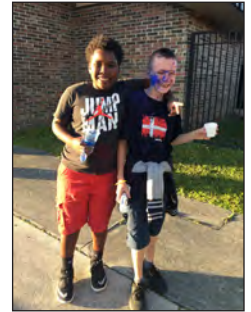
On January 22nd, Wednesday night at 5 pm. I have asked Renee Wiley to come and speak to our families and their kids on how to better themselves with Cyber Safety. We will learn some safety features to help locate your kids and have an open discussion on what families do in there home to protect there kids. Dinner will be provide through Title 1.

February 6th, Thursday night from 4:15-6pm. We will have our 2nd annual Laser Tag event. PTO helps sponsor this event, by bringing in a company to assist with working as a team to finish missions on the field, such as a Battle Royal. We encourage everyone to come, it's a great time to have fun with your kids in a safe environment.

March 5th, Thursday night we will be doing our Carnival which we call our Family Fun Night. We will again have a live band, everything will be \$1.00, and admission is FREE! It's a great time for all our families to come out!

My name is Chell Pender and I am Murdock's Family Associate. You can always reach me at 941-255-7525 extension 211 or send me an email at chell.pender@yourcharlotteschools.net. I am open to all ideas and comments you might have to better this school and your child.

Chell Pender
Title 1 Family Associate



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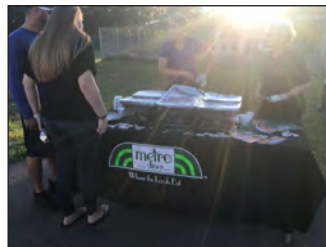
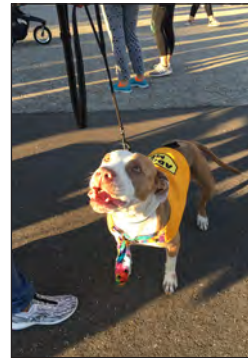
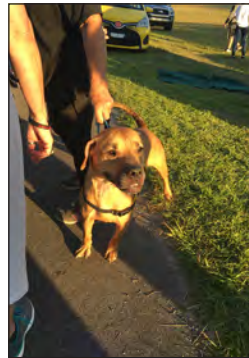
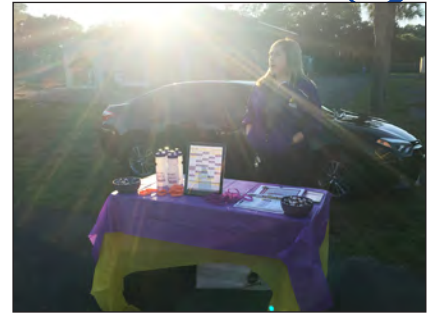
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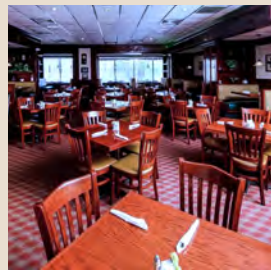
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Things to Remember

www.yourcharlotteschools.net/domain/40

Focus Portal Q&A

End of Year Field Trips:

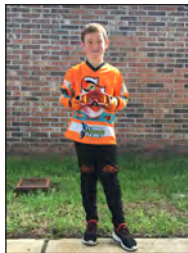
- 6th Grade - May 14th - Sea World
- 7th Grade - May 18th - Busch Gardens
- 8th Grade - May 18th - Universal Studios

Ways For Students To Report

1. Verbal reports to any adult
2. Written reports to adults
3. Anonymous Reports: Use online school website - the "Bully Button"

WHAT A STUDENT CAN DO IF THEY ARE BEING BULLIED?

- Say something to an adult
- Ask for help
- Find a friend
- Exit the area



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Drug Free Charlotte County

A New Year's resolution can bring both excitement and fear. We are excited because we are hopeful about changes and growth. Yet, often there is a fear associated with change because of the possibility of failure. Our kids also experience these same feelings of excitement and fear. We can help ourselves and our kids remove that fear and be successful in achieving our resolutions by following a few simple steps.

First, let's take a look at the 3 main reasons why many people never reach their resolution goals:

A goal is never really set. Many people examine the things they would like to change, improve, or grow in and have no problems with expressing those ideas. However, until it becomes a goal, complete with steps and a timeline, it is still just a thought. In order to achieve a goal, it is vital to write it down, plan out your sub-goals or steps, and to create a timeline by which you plan to achieve each sub-goal to get to your main goal. Keep this somewhere that you can look at it regularly to keep your goals in mind.

Your goal is not meaningful, measurable, or realistic. There are many things we may have in our mind that we should do, but it does not have value to us personally. Without having a goal that is significant to us we will lack the passion needed to push through the difficulties in achieving that goal.

1. A goal should also be measurable. My father always used to say to me, "Goals worth achieving are never easy". As an adult I can now see such truth in that. When we work toward our goals, we are going to hit snags and hiccups and times when we are going to want to give up, because it is hard, especially when it comes to long-term goals. However, when you measure your progress toward your goals, you can see how far you have already come and that can help push you through those difficult patches.
2. When creating your goal, you need to consider if your goal is realistic. Are you giving yourself enough time to reach the goal? Do you have the supplies needed to reach your goal? Have you done the research required?

3. You don't reward yourself. Motivation is a real struggle for most people when working towards a goal. We know that there is something great once we reach the goal, but sometimes that can be too far away to keep us motivated. It is important to reward yourself each step of the way, particularly with each sub-goal so that you can stay motivated. Plan ahead of time what your rewards will be and make sure that it is something you will enjoy and look forward to. Then always keep that reward in your sights to help you stay the course.



Next, let's talk about how achieving your goals helps your kids in 3 main ways:

1. You're a roll model! When your kids see you setting and achieving goals in the right way, it gives them the confidence to give it a shot as well. It let's them know that it is possible, and it is a behavior that will help them become successful, just like you. Don't be afraid to show them or talk to them about times when you have made mistakes along the way or experienced challenges, this will help encourage them as they experience their own challenges.
2. Your kids will have confidence in you helping them create their own goals. They have seen you do it, so you are their live-in expert. They are more likely to listen to what you have to say about setting and achieving goals, and they need your help in this. Make sure to talk to them about being flexible and being able to adjust their goals if they hit a snag. Check in with them from time to time and see how they are doing toward reaching their goals to remind them they are important to you too.
3. Setting goals in their own life will help them gain a sense of purpose, and this is also great quality time together. You can enrich this process with experiences that can bring their goals to life. These are moments with you that they will cherish as they get older as well.

For more information and resources, visit us online at www.drugfreecharlottecounty.org Or visit us on social media: Facebook – Drug Free Charlotte County, Instagram – drugfreecharlottecounty, Twitter - @DFCCTweets





Murdock Middle School

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PE/Sports



Fellowship of Christian Athletes:

We continue to meet every Friday at 8:35 in B-1, Mr. Herring's classroom. Everyone is always welcome as we play games, eat some food, pray, and see what the Bible has to say as we read it.

Physical Education:

We are doing our best to stay active and find activities that everyone can enjoy. We have finished up our Ramp Shot and Hockey activities, and we will be moving into our Capture the Flag and Flag football units soon.

Lady Mariner Volleyball

Lady Mariner Volleyball is in full swing! They are battling the district competition fiercely to a current record of 2-2. Our Mariners will continue their season through January of 2020, competing in the District Volleyball Tournament on 1-19-19.

Track

Mariner and Lady Mariner Track intramurals began on January 14th, 2020! Students will need a permission slip to participate! In February our official Track season will begin, all students will need a sports physical, parent consent form, and proof of insurance in order to make the official school team. Any questions, see Coach Gretzler, Gibbs, or Walker for details. All practices will be after-school on Monday through Thursday, mostly at PCHS on their track facility. Practices will end around 5:45pm most evenings. GO MARINERS!!

