IMPORTANT DATES

February 18 – March 6: Jump Rope for Heart in PE classes
February 18 – April 30: Afterschool Enrichment
Friday, March 6: YA Gr. 1-4, 4:00-5:00 pm
Monday, March 9: ASM, 2:15 pm
March 10-26: Parent/Teacher Conferences
Tuesday, March 10: 5th Gr. Parent Mtg., 8:15 am
Thursday, March 12: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
Friday, March 13: Sibling Application Deadline
Thursday, March 19: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
Conference Night, 6:00-8:00 pm
Thursday, March 26: Family Literacy Night, 6-8 pm
Saturday, March 28: PTA Spring Auction, 6:30-10:30pm

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES
The March session of Parent/Teacher conferences will run from March 10-26. Please look for letters from classroom teachers in backpacks.

Two 90-Minute Early Dismissals are planned: Thursday, March 12 (teacher planning) and Thursday, March 19 (Conference Night).

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART & KIDS HEART CHALLENGE
Reminder: Kids Heart Challenge Donation envelopes are due tomorrow, Friday, March 6. There will be an All School Meeting on Monday, March 9 at 2:15 pm to celebrate our healthy habits with Jump Rope demonstrations and honor Christa Bray’s contribution to our Jump Rope for Heart Program.

CMS SIBLINGS ENTERING KINDERGARTEN IN 2020
Confirmation letters for all CMS parents who have submitted applications for siblings entering kindergarten were sent out last week. These letters also contain important registration information. Applications for siblings must be submitted by Friday, March 13. Any applications received after that date will be placed on our waiting list.

1st Grade Happy Harvest Market
Today was the final day of the 1st Grade Happy Harvest Market. Congratulations to our 1st Grade staff, parents, and, of course, the students! Another successful market is in the books!

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART & KIDS HEART CHALLENGE
Reminder: Kids Heart Challenge Donation envelopes are due tomorrow, Friday, March 6. There will be an All School Meeting on Monday, March 9 at 2:15 pm to celebrate our healthy habits with Jump Rope demonstrations and honor Christa Bray’s contribution to our Jump Rope for Heart Program.

CMS SIBLINGS ENTERING KINDERGARTEN IN 2020
Confirmation letters for all CMS parents who have submitted applications for siblings entering kindergarten were sent out last week. These letters also contain important registration information. Applications for siblings must be submitted by Friday, March 13. Any applications received after that date will be placed on our waiting list.

CMS GOVERNANCE COUNCIL
The next meeting of the CMS Governance Council is Monday, March 16, 5:30-8:00pm at the Center for Global Studies, Brien McMahon High School. A light dinner will be provided starting at 5:00pm.

Butter Braid Pastry and Cake Rolls are coming! Similar to the PTA’s fall Pie Fundraiser, these yummy items will be delivered just before the April break and in time for Easter and Passover. Online sales are live now and it’s the same easy link (see below) as the pies. Information flyers were sent home last week. Enjoy!

https://my.mcmfundraising.com/signup/NJNP

Rearing Into the CMS Spring Auction
The CMS PTA will be hosting its annual Spring Auction on Saturday, March 28 from 6:30-10:30pm at Shore and Country Club, Gregory Blvd., Norwalk. Live music and light bites. Cost per person is based on bar option: $60 per person for Open Bar Option (Beer & Wine) 7:00-9:00 pm; $45 per person for Cash Bar Option 6:30-10:30 pm. Please RSVP by Friday, March 20. RSVP either by using the form on the invitation or the Pay Pal links.

- Goods and Services donations are still needed. Please contact Emilie Forcellina at Emilie.forcellina@gmail.com for more details.

- Tomorrow is the last day to contribute to themed grade level baskets for the auction. Boxes for you donations are set up outside of the classrooms. Here is the list of themes: K – Arts & Crafts, 1 – Gardening, 2 – Baking, 3 – Barbecue, 4 – Outdoor Fun, 5 – Family Game Night, and Upper School – Movie Night.
“The Magic Recorder”
“The Magic Recorder” will take place Sunday, March 8, 3:00 pm at the Norwalk Concert Hall, City Hall. Some CMS 4th and 5th graders will be performing with the American Classical Orchestra. Tickets are $5 for children and $10 for adults. There will be an Instrument Petting Zoo at 1:30 and 2:00 pm where children can try out different orchestra instruments.

**CMS FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT**
**Thursday, March 26, 6:00-8:00 pm**
**In the CMS Library**
This family event for CMS parents and students will focus on Words, Vocabulary, and Meaning and how you can help your child read to her/his best potential. Dinner will be provided and child care is available for preschool-aged children. RSVP required! Either fill out and return the form on the attached flyer or contact Deborah Bell Johnson at (203) 899-2840 ext. 24275 or belljohnsond@norwalkps.org.

**ORDER YOUR CMS YEARBOOK NOW!**
Now’s the time to order your CMS 2020 Yearbook! The cost is $28. To order online, go to: https://sites.google.com/site/columbusmagnetpta/yea rbook?authuser=3#h.p_0qNYmwnpon9pz

If you have pictures of school or classroom events and/or activities that you would like to submit for this year’s yearbook, contact Laurie at: laurielafaro@yahoo.com

**CMS TORCH RUN SPONSORS NEEDED!**
Sponsors are needed for this year’s 2020 Columbus Olympic Torch Run. For your $100 donation, your business’ name will be printed on the back of 400 student t-shirts and will be acknowledged at the end of our event. If you are interested, or know of someone who might be interested, please contact Mr. Smith at mowrys@norwalkps.org. The deadline for sponsorship is Friday, March 27.

Also, 4th & 5th grade parent volunteers are needed for our Torch Run. To sign up, please use the following link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4ba8ac22a0f8 5-torch

**PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:**
It is important that the school be able to contact you during the day. Many times we have tried to contact parents and been unable to leave a message because mailboxes are not set up or full. Leaving a message is much more efficient than waiting for a call back. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

**REMINDER CMS 5TH GRADE PARENTS:**
The final presentation for CMS 5th grade parents on our Upper School program is Tuesday, March 10 at 8:15am in the library. Applications will be distributed at this meeting.

**Art News!**
Greetings parents, staff and volunteers!

Our 5th grade Artistically Talented students visited the Yale Art Gallery in New Haven and created drawings of ancient and historic art!!! Thanks to all the chaperones who were able to accompany us on our trip!!

March is Women’s History Month and, of course, we will be learning about important women artists!

ARTWEEK is March 30 - April 3rd!! The theme is ‘Faces of our CMS Community!!’ Students in every grade will create portraits of themselves and apply cultural styles that they are learning about. We plan to have interactive SELFIE fun for the whole creative week as well as guest artists! Please join in by volunteering your time in the classroom as they are working on their Artweek-inspired projects. We always need volunteers the week of Artweek as well!! We are hoping to make an interactive photo booth and some other fun selfie games. Please let Ms. Peri know if you can help create!!!!

Donations have been slowly coming in and thank you to those parents who do bring in needed materials. We can always use clean soup cans, cool pencils, and sharpeners - they go so fast!

**Congratulations!!!**
We are pleased to announce that CMS eighth grader Vivien Ryen has qualified for the CT State Geography Bee on Friday, March 27, 2020 at Central Connecticut State College!! We are so proud of you!!