



Cheektowaga Central Middle School



JANUARY NEWSLETTER



Message from the Principal

Dear Families,

Happy New Year and welcome to 2025! We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable winter break. As we step into the new year, we want to express our gratitude for the continued support of our school community. We are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for our students as we embark on the second half of the school year!

Character Education Word of the Month – EXCELLENCE

This January, our character education focus is on the word *EXCELLENCE*. We are encouraging all of our students to strive for excellence in all areas of their lives—whether it be in the classroom or in their personal growth. Excellence means putting forth the best effort, setting high standards, and never settling for anything less than the best we can do. We will be discussing ways to demonstrate excellence, encouraging students to give their best each and every day.

Important Reminder: Quarter 2 Ends on January 24th

A quick reminder that Quarter 2 will be coming to a close on **January 24th**. This is a great time to check in with your child about their progress, and to ensure they are finishing strong. Teachers will be wrapping up key learning objectives and assessments, so please encourage your child to stay focused and keep up the great work as we approach the end of this quarter.

Maintaining Healthy Habits for the Second Half of the Year

As we continue through the school year, it's important to maintain healthy habits that support both academic success and personal well-being. This includes:

- **Getting enough rest:** Encourage your child to establish a consistent bedtime to ensure they are well-rested and ready for school each day.
- **Eating healthy foods:** A balanced diet is essential for sustaining energy and focus throughout the school day.
- **Staying active:** Physical activity helps boost mood, energy, and focus, which are all important for learning.
- **Staying organized:** Help your child develop routines that include time for homework, chores, and relaxation. A well-organized student is often a more successful one!

We look forward to partnering with you to help your child grow and thrive in this second half of the school year. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. Here's to a wonderful start to 2025!

A New Year, New Opportunities!

Important Information

Upcoming Dates

January 1 - New year's Day - NO SCHOOL

January 20 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day - NO SCHOOL

January 24 - 2nd Quarter Ends

January 29 - NO SCHOOL



CCSD Student Code of Conduct 2024-2025



SCAN ME!

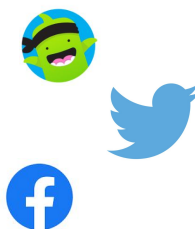


CHEEKTOWAGA
CHARGERS

School Contact Information

Main Office	716.686.3660
Student Services	716.686.3649
Principal: Dr. Salinas	716.686.3662
Asst. Principal: Dr. Daniels	716.686.3663

Stay Updated!



School Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri
7:45am - 2:37pm

Wednesday
7:45am - 1:37pm

Follow us on Facebook
and Twitter!

<https://www.facebook.com/CheektowagaMiddleSchool/>
<https://twitter.com/cheektowagaMS>

5TH GRADE



GREETINGS FROM 5th GRADE: HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Math:

Students are continuing their work with fractions. Multiplying fractions and mixed numbers are the latest skills being worked on. It is imperative that all students know multiplication facts.

Science:

Students are finishing up the unit on Earth systems and are beginning a unit on Matter. During this new unit, students play the role of food scientists and will help develop a food with given characteristics. They will be thinking about matter at the molecular level and completing investigations to understand the properties of molecules.

Social Studies:

The classes are finishing up their unit on the Incas and will be starting the Age of Exploration. This new unit will focus on explorers and how their desire for spices helped to map our world.

ELA:

Half of the classes are finishing up their work with the University of Buffalo's Read Stop Write Program and completing their novels. The classes that did not work with the University of Buffalo yet will be starting the program soon. It is vital for all students' growth that they read at home daily. Reading at home is a great way to improve vocabulary and fluency.

We are pleased to announce and celebrate the December Teacher of the Month, Walt Wasner. Mr. Wasner possesses and consistently demonstrates a love of learning in students of all abilities and backgrounds. He has high expectations for all students with a strong sense of values, integrity and professional ethics. Walt maintains strong cooperative skills with students, parents, colleagues, administration, and community. His knowledge of the science curriculum content, of student growth and development, as well as instruction are exemplary. Lastly, he clearly brings a lot of energy, enthusiasm, and a positive attitude to his classroom daily.

Congratulations Mr. Wasner!





6TH GRADE



Supporting Your Sixth Grader: A Fresh Start for the Second Half of the School Year

The second half of the school year is a great opportunity for sixth graders to reset, refocus, and thrive. As a parent, your guidance can make a big difference in helping your child finish the year on a positive note. Here are some practical tips to support them:

1. Encourage Reflection

Ask your child about their experiences during the first half of the year. What subjects do they feel confident in? Where are they struggling? A simple conversation can help them recognize their strengths and identify areas for growth.

2. Help Set Achievable Goals

Work with your child to set a few realistic goals for the rest of the year. Whether it's improving grades, staying more organized, or building stronger friendships, having clear goals can give them direction and motivation.

3. Promote Good Organization

Help your child organize their school supplies, binder, and backpack. Remind them to use their agenda on a daily basis. Developing these habits now can set them up for long-term success.

4. Monitor Homework and Study Habits

Encourage a consistent homework routine and a quiet, dedicated space for studying. Check in regularly to ensure assignments are being completed and to offer assistance if needed.

5. Encourage Open Communication

Make sure your child knows it's okay to ask for help—whether from you, a teacher, or a classmate. If they're struggling with a particular subject, reach out to their teacher together to discuss additional support. Each teacher has a remedial day that students can take advantage of after school.

The second half of the school year is a wonderful opportunity for your child to build on their accomplishments and develop new skills. With your encouragement and support, they can make the most of it and finish the year feeling proud of their growth.

Happy 2025 from the 6th grade team!

7TH GRADE



Social Studies:

Students will begin Unit 3: The American Revolution, they will learn the causes, key battles and outcomes of the American Revolution.



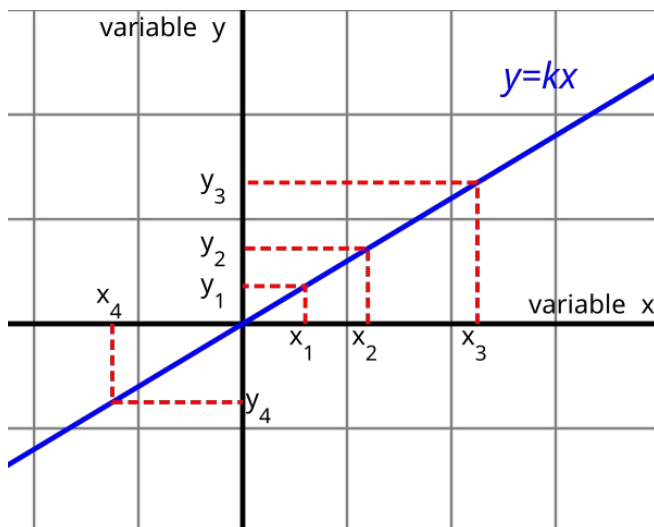
English:

For the new year, students are researching recipes for success! Students will read a variety of articles and short stories in order to formulate their own action plan to be successful in the new year.



Math 7: Students will be learning about proportionality.

Honors Math: Students will be learning about percentages and solving equations.



Science:

Students are learning about the rock cycle on Earth.





8TH GRADE

Dear Families,

As we approach the end of the year, we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt appreciation for your continued support and partnership. Your involvement in your child's education plays a vital role in their success, and we are grateful for everything you do!

Important Announcements

We have several exciting topics and units coming up in the next few weeks:

- **Social Studies:** Our focus will be on Immigration to America, the American Industrial Revolution, and the Progressive Era. We will explore the challenges of the Industrial Revolution and discuss how society worked to fix these issues.
- **Math 8:** We will be starting our unit on linear equations, where students will learn to solve and graph lines in the form of ($y = mx + b$).
- **Algebra 8 (Honors):** Students will dive into systems of equations and inequalities, enhancing their problem-solving skills.
- **English Language Arts (ELA):** We are wrapping up the Read Stop Write program for 8B, while 8A will be beginning this program. Additionally, 8B will start our World War II unit and read the book *Unbroken*.
- **8th Grade Science:** We will explore Amplify units on traits and reproduction, studying how traits are passed from parents to offspring using spiders as our primary organisms and computer simulations.
- **Honors Biology:** Beginning in January, we will enter the Ecology Unit, focusing on how living organisms interact with each other and their physical environments.
- **Spanish 8:** Our eighth-grade Spanish students will be wrapping up their clothing unit after the break, with a unit test scheduled before the end of quarter one.

Celebrations from the Week

As we wish you Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year, we also want to celebrate the hard work and achievements of our students and staff. Their dedication and enthusiasm for learning are truly inspiring!

Additional Information

We would like to extend our gratitude for your participation in the recent parent-teacher conferences. Your involvement is crucial in creating a supportive learning environment for our students. Thank you for your ongoing support in making our school a wonderful place for students to learn and grow. As we look ahead, we are excited to continue our collaboration with you in the new year. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of our students!

Warm regards,

Luke Silliman and the 8th Grade Team





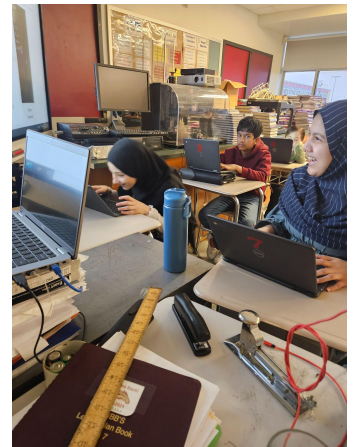
SPECIALS UPDATES



Miss Carlo's classroom collected items to make "blessing bags" to donate to a local homeless outreach center. We were able to collect 38 bags with non perishable snack items, gloves, hats, socks, hand warmers, toothbrushes, toothpaste and other essentials.



Students in the Middle School Technology class learning to program the basics of Python code in Skillstruck.



Mr. Ryan's Character Education Field Visit:
Cheektowaga Boys & Girls Club

Special thank you to our partnership with CPD Blue Bridges.

CCSD Alumni Officers Messina and Cybulski, as well as Tommy Summage worked alongside Lieutenant Hardt engaging CCMS students in team building activities!



Cheektowaga Central
Middle School

PTA

everychild.one voice.®

NEXT PTA MEETING INFORMATION

Tuesday, January 21 at 6:00 pm

in the Middle School Cafeteria.

This meeting holds significant importance as we will be voting on the renewal of our Bylaws, which occur every three years. To ensure the vote passes, we require a quorum of at least 10 members. Your attendance and participation are greatly valued and essential for this process.

DONATE YOUR BOTTLES AND CANS

Support our PTA by dropping off your cans and bottles to

Any Fast Cash Redemption Location - 3 locations are:

2377 Harlem Road Cheektowaga (Corner of Walden Ave)

1350 Harlem Avenue (Corner of Parker)

10 Hyland Avenue Depew (Corner of George Urban)

*Make sure you ask for the funds to go to the **“Cheektowaga Middle School PTA”**

VALENTINE CANDY GRAM SALE

Monday, February 3rd – Wednesday, February 12th.

They can be purchased for only \$2.00 and will be available online or in school from Mrs. Scholl. Send your friends or teachers a valentine message with a sweet treat! All valentines with treat will be delivered to home rooms on Valentine's Day. Keep a look out for a Blackboard Message or a Class Dojo message closer to the date for more information.

We are always looking for new members! Please consider joining the PTA!

<http://ccmswarriors.givebacks.com/store>

Please contact Angela Scholl at

cheektowagamiddlepta@gmail.com



REMEDIAL SCHEDULE

Grade 5: After School Support

Mondays:

- **Subjects:** ELA/S.S.
- **Teachers:** Hoeltke/McKeever/Zilliox/MacVittie/Gandy

Tuesdays:

- **Subjects:** Math/Science/ELA/S.S.
- **Teachers:** Lewis/Wasner/Skierczynski/Richter

Thursdays:

- **Subjects:** Math/Science
- **Teachers:** McKinney

Grade 6: After School Support

Mondays:

- **Subjects:** Math/ELA/S.S.
- **Teachers:** Braddock/Kwilas/Petre/Panikowski

Tuesdays:

- **Subjects:** Science/S.S.
- **Teachers:** Niederhauser/Granat/Christopher

Thursdays:

- **Subjects:** Math
- **Teachers:** Lambert

Fridays:

- **Subjects:** S.S./Science
- **Teachers:** Zajdel/Carroll

*****Teacher invite is required. After school buses leave at 3:35PM.*****

Grade 7: After School Support

Mondays:

- **Subjects:** Math/S.S.
- **Teachers:** Torrillo/McGill/Gozzo/Buscaglia

Tuesdays:

- **Subjects:** ELA
- **Teachers:** Lewandowski/Scheffler

Thursdays:

- **Subjects:** LOTE
- **Teachers:** Casper/Clare/Schneegold

Fridays:

- **Subjects:** Science
- **Teachers:** Al Qaysi/Hess

Grade 8: After School Support

Mondays:

- **Subjects:** S.S./ELA/Spanish
- **Teachers:** Shehadi/Maloney/Duval/Todaro

Tuesdays:

- **Subjects:** Science/ELA/Math
- **Teachers:** Stonebraker/Orlowski/Baker/Burnett/Campbell

Thursdays:

- **Subjects:** S.S./Science
- **Teachers:** Accurso/Huber/Silliman

Fridays:

- **Subjects:** Math
- **Teachers:** Garrison



MS CLUB WEEKLY SCHEDULE

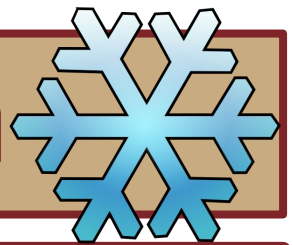


Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>GSA - Every other week (starting September 23rd) GSA Schedule jmcgill1@ccsd-k12.net hmaloney@ccsd-k12.net</p> <p>Midway TV - Every week abaker@ccsd-k12.net</p> <p>STEM - Meets every other week (*only 3 Tuesday dates 10/15, 11/12 & 1/21) STEM Schedule jmcgill1@ccsd-k12.net pstonebraker@ccsd-k12.net</p> <p>International Club - Meets 3 times each month on Mondays International Club Dates wwasner@ccsd-k12.net</p>	<p>Junior Unified - Every other week (starting October 8th) Unified schedule lkwilas@ccsd-k12.net</p> <p>NJHS - (starting September 24th) NJHS Schedule kwilas@ccsd-k12.net</p> <p>STEM - (*only 3 Tuesday dates 10/15, 11/12 & 1/21) STEM Schedule jmcgill1@ccsd-k12.net pstonebraker@ccsd-k12.net</p> <p>Junior Challenge - (every other week <i>mostly</i>) Junior Challenge Dates jorlowski@ccsd-k12.net kbarbati@ccsd-k12.net</p> <p>Student Council - Third Tuesday of every month Student council mgoc@ccsd-k12.net bpanikowski@ccsd-k12.net kmacvittie@ccsd-k12.net</p> <p>Jazz Band - Every week ***Until the musical is over it will be a 5th-8th grade group*** kdolan@ccsd-k12.net</p>	<p>NO AFTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES</p>	<p>Literature Club - Starting September 24th (Grades 5 & 6 alternate with Grades 7 & 8 each week) Lit club calendar sscheffler@ccsd-k12.net hmaloney@ccsd-k12.net</p> <p>Math Club - Meets the first two weeks of each month (9/27 - the only friday date) Math Club Dates jlewis@ccsd-k12.net</p> <p>Student Ambassadors - Meets the last Thursday of every month with exceptions to holidays Student Ambassadors mzilliox@ccsd-k12.net vhoeltke@ccsd-k12.net</p> <p>Art Club - Meets every other Thursday starting 10/3 Art club dates (only Monday meeting is 11/25) jhallmark@ccsd-k12.net</p> <p>Science Club - Meets every week on Thursdays Science Club Dates wwasner@ccsd-k12.net</p> <p>Chess Club - Every Thursday</p>





Important Information



Grade Level Leaders

The following staff are delegated grade level leaders for each grade. To contact them, you can email them with their first initial, last name and @ccsd-k12.net (ex: csalinas@ccsd-k12.net)

5th Grade Mr. M. Skierczynski	6th Grade Ms. L. Braddock
7th Grade Mr. M. Buscaglia	8th Grade Mr. L. Silliman

CCMS Student Handbook 2024-2025



Scan Me!

School Counselors

Our school counselors and school social worker are:

- Mrs. Goc
- Mrs. Dudas
- Mrs. Schu
- Mrs. Kean (Social Worker)



Please note the assignments to learn of your son or daughter's school counselor:

5th Grade	
School Counselor:	Teacher:
Mrs. Goc	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wasner• Richter• MacVittie• McKinney
Mrs. Schu	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Skierczynski• Zilliox
Mrs. Dudas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gandy• Lewis

Grades 6-8	
Mrs. Goc	6th Grade
Mrs. Dudas	7th Grade
Mrs. Schu	8th Grade

YEARBOOKS



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inter-state.com/order

Use Order Code: 91687T

SCAN THE QR CODE
FOR EASY ORDERING!



Online Orders Due By:
Friday, March 14, 2025

\$30.00