

The MidPoint

The Titusville Middle School community has been up to some wonderful things this year. The year began with a commitment to students and families to collectively do our very best Together. Our ultimate goal is to prepare students for a bright future. Our staff is working diligently to ensure we understand the needs of our students and families and move closer toward the goal of having a school that is truly a community hub.

The first part of the year has been highlighted by several exciting events. The 6th graders headed off into the forest in September to participate in a similar experience that 49 past 6th grade classes had completed in attending Wilderness Quest. Wilderness Quest celebrated it's 50th anniversary in style as our 6th graders were able to return to the sleep-over format for the first time since the pandemic. Students swam, boated, explored, and experienced for three days as they came together as one class and had fun. The work of Anneliese Ledebur, the Camp Director, and the team of teachers that assist with the camp cannot go unnoticed as they collectively dedicate countless hours to making the special experience that the camp provides a reality. We are grateful to our dedicated and talented staff, the school board and administration, and most of all our families and students. The 51st installment of Wilderness Quest will be here before we know it but the 50th edition was truly one to remember.

Our school is also committed to organizing our learning in ways that make sense to young minds. Part of that effort includes making connections between subject areas and the experiences of our students. Each grade level is working through the Catalyst program to explore and learn certain things about themselves as they make connections to their world. Sixth grade students are focused on "The Story of You". Seventh grade students are working toward mapping their Journey into the future. And, 8th graders are finding their why as they discover their purpose and passion. Please discuss these topics with your children throughout the year as we work to connect learning to life.

The end of the first quarter was marked by our exciting trip to the Elevate Trampoline Park in Erie. Students who qualified for the trip and earned a boarding pass by having good grades and attendance and not having discipline problems were rewarded with a fun excursion where they were able to celebrate accomplishments and have fun. The TMS community is again thankful to the TASD administration and school board for helping to provide this amazing opportunity to students. We will continue to incentivize learning, behavior, and attendance with our second quarter trip to Peak N Peak in January.

The first quarter provided some great experiences for students and we look forward to the rest of the year with them. We will remain focused on our ultimate goal of preparing students for future success while remaining committed to academic growth and social and emotional well-being.

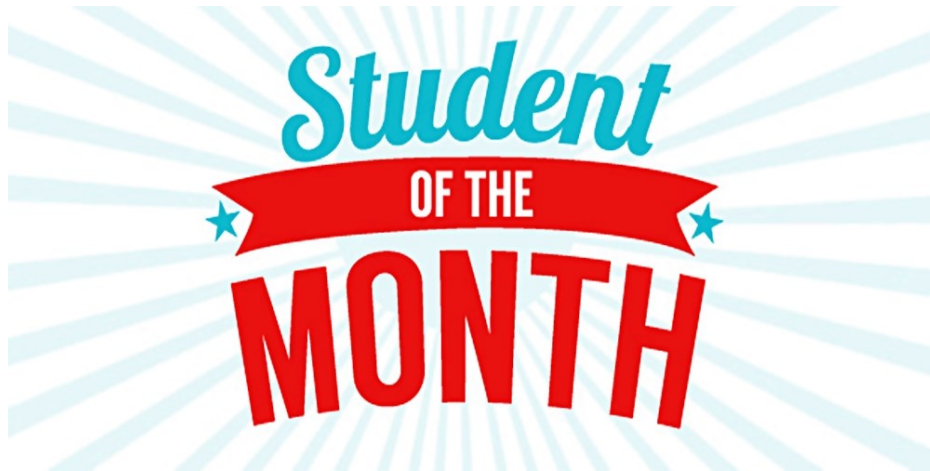
Sincerely,

Miles O'Shea TMS Principal



2023

Fall Student of the Month



6th Grade: Mallory Beers, Sam Snyder, MyKenzie Jackson, Nettie Lamey, Ella Donaldson, Isaiah Prather, Taylor Tang, Ryan Kight, Zach Boemmel, Mahala Whitman, Grayson Steinbuler, Chad Roddy

7th Grade: Wyatt Farren, Mackenzie Jackson, Isaiah Prather, Abby Tassone, Octavia Popascue, Noah Hummer, Greyson Steinbuler, Keaton Rhodes, Ella Donaldson, Savannah Shreffler

8th Grade: Nicholas Baum, Andrew Matteson, Peyton Gricks, Parker Davenport, Gaige Huffman, Gage Valetta, Jessica Vargas, Josie Peden, Jordan Tucker, Addison Robishaw, Carson Ongley, Cash Lavery, Tyler Gallant, Mary Herps, Hannah Edwards, Isabelle Whaley, Anslee Ralston, Alaina Mott, Tyler Grimsley

Wilderness Quest

50 Years of Outdoor Education

Over the last fifty years, education has changed quite a bit. Today's classroom doesn't look anything like it did in 1973. But one thing has stayed the same: Titusville Area School District sixth graders are still attending Wilderness Quest. Wilderness Quest was created by the one-time athletic director Mr. Roy VanHorn, former superintendent Mr. Richard Carr, and elementary principals Mr. Robert Morris, Mr. Wells Stockwell, and Mr. Dennis Ledebur. In 1973, Camp was held just down the Allegheny River from Tidioute at a spot owned by Roy VanHorn called Pioneer Ranch. The focus of Camp in those early years was hunter's safety, and several of the original learning stations are still in rotation today. Camp continued at Pioneer Ranch for twenty or more years until it was announced that Mr. VanHorn planned to close his camp. Wilderness Quest found a new home. A new location was identified, and Wesley Woods, located in Grand Valley, was chosen. Students continued to experience the same activities and lessons their brothers and sisters had at Pioneer Ranch.



It is important to acknowledge each teacher who has participated in the Wilderness Quest program left a special mark. All students who have gone through this program have been touched by their dedication and commitment to authentic outdoor education.

Wilderness Quest alumni will be happy to know students can still receive their PA Game Commission Hunter's Safety card, cabins are inspected each day, students get to listen to Mr. Stumpf tell his scary stories, anyone willing and able can try to shoot a gun or a bow, and sixth graders still can't do the Camp Clap. But over the years, Camp has seen some changes as well. Partnerships have been forged with the PennWest campuses of Edinboro and Clarion. Pre-student teachers come to camp to provide additional support while getting an opportunity to practice their teaching. Additionally, Wilderness Quest moved locations to the Seneca Hills Campground, located south of Franklin, Pennsylvania. Students now have the opportunity to engage in a stream ecology study, practice using an atlatl and spear-like Native American hunters, paddle around the pool in canoes to learn boating safety, try their hand at acting in their own skits, create arts and crafts to share with their family, understand how to survive better if they are lost in the woods, and most notably experience putting down their cell phone and looking up at the beautiful environment in which they live.

Wilderness Quest has been and continues to be a fantastic learning experience for students. If you have yet to have the opportunity to participate in the Wilderness Quest program, find someone who has. Ask them to tell you their Camp story. If you did participate in camp, it might be time to dig out your orange Hunter's Safety card and try your luck in the woods. Either way, take some time this autumn to recognize and appreciate the beauty of the world around you.

Brown & Gold



Spirit Week

Homecoming 2023



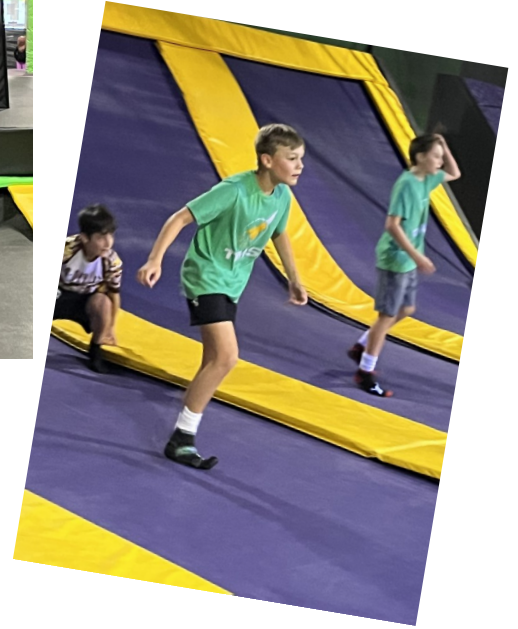
Football

Marching Band

Cheerleaders



TMS Mission Day #1



Students Earn First TMS Mission Day Trip to Elevate Trampoline Park

The first TMS mission of the year was to Elevate Trampoline Park on Thursday, November 2nd, 2023. The Mission Days are part of our school-wide positive behavior program and incentivize student academic achievement and proper behavior. Students who were passing every class and had one hour or less of detention during the first quarter earned their boarding passes and an opportunity to go on the mission.

We are extremely excited to offer **four mission days** during the 2023-2024 school year. These missions are an opportunity for students to explore the world outside of our school campus and experience some amazing places. Our next mission will be to **Splash Lagoon** at the end of the second quarter. The expectations to earn a boarding pass and be a part of the mission will continue to increase and we are confident that students' achievement, behavior, and attendance will rise as well.

The image features a close-up of a sock with horizontal stripes in shades of blue, green, yellow, orange, and purple. The word "Socktober" is written across the sock in a large, decorative, maroon-colored font with a slight shadow effect.

Socktober

The TMS student council has done an event called Socktober for the past couple of years; it is an event that takes place in the month of October where students are asked if they can donate socks. These socks are supposed to be new or gently used, then they are collected by the student council and separated into boxes that are then delivered to the local shelters that ask for donations. The total number of socks donated this year was around 90 pairs. The students involved decided to make it a competition from within the school; this competition was for whichever grade collected the most socks. The sixth-grade students donated the most with 38 pairs of socks, with the seventh and eighth-grade totals coming in just behind sixth-grade. We do this event around this time of the year because it is getting colder and people need to keep themselves warm, and with socks that is much easier to do. All of the charities are always so appreciative of our donations. Thank you to all who donated and helped these charities!



Cheerleading

Cross Country



2023 TMS Fall Sports



Football

Girls Basketball



 **Dates To** 
 **Remember:** 

November

November 17.....Winter Sports Begin
November 23-27Thanksgiving Break

December

TBASpecial Christmas Activity Days
December 22-31 Christmas Break

January

January 1Christmas Break
January 15No School (MLK Day)
January 19 No School (Professional Day)
January 18Q2/S1 Ends
January 22Q3/S2 Begins
January 23.....Mission #2 Day



Who To Call

Reason

Health Questions

Attendance, Trip Requests

Peer Conflict, Bussing Issues, Activities

Athletics

Grades, PSSA's, Child Concerns

Targeted Tutoring, Homework Collection

Contact

Marci Kelly/Christina Baker

Kayla Alberth

Miles O'Shea/ Ryan Guerra

Ryan Guerra

Steph Knapp/ Brooke Martin

Stacy Proper

Contact Information: 814-827-2715

Miles O'Shea, Principal x2410

Ryan Guerra, Assistant Principal x2411

Marci Kelly/ Christina Baker, School Nurse x2435

Stephanie Knapp, School Counselor x2430

Brooke Martin, School Counselor x2431

Brigitte Beauchat, Secretary x2401

Kayla Alberth, Secretary x2400

Stacy Proper, Guidance Secretary x 2425

Kate Campasino, Cafeteria Lead x2460