



Friday Facts



Beaufort Middle School

#GryphonProud

Sample April, 2019

Administratively Speaking...

Building positive relationships with our families and communicating often with each other are important to the success of our students at Beaufort Middle School. We communicate with our families and community through:

- This weekly newsletter, *Friday Facts*, available on our school web site and sent to families via e-mail each week
- Students' assignment notebooks
- Parent Portal through Power School
- The marquee in front of our building
- Our school web site
- *School Messenger*
- E-mail and teachers' webpages
- Google Classroom

Beaufort Middle School prepares **students to pursue excellence academically and socially as critical, creative thinkers and problem-solvers involved in their community and the arts.** Our sixth grade begins the middle school experience for our students with this vision in mind through two distinct programs of study.

✓ **Classical Studies** has an academic focus on the classics – including reading Shakespeare, Beowulf, and The Odyssey. Units in Classical Studies include learning from the community and engaging with the community through real-world projects. Classical Studies students take Latin including extended study of stems in each academic class. They have opportunities in arts classes also. Class sizes are limited to twenty students, and students are expected to develop skills in leadership, critical thinking to solve problems, and skills of good global citizens. Students are expected to engage with each other and with our community. Students must be able to work independently and practice strong study habits. A student in Classical Studies should be a self-starter, interested in learning and achieving at a high level and have consistent reading and learning stamina.

✓ **Arts Integration** engage all students in high quality visual and performing arts classes, including band, strings, chorus, guitar, theater, dance, visual arts, media arts, and creative writing, along with their core academic classes. Students make connections to core curriculum through arts integration. Students are expected to learn collaboratively with their peers and independently through projects, web-based learning, and to develop consistent study skills and good citizenship skills. Students have many opportunities to showcase their learning in the arts, learn from artists in residence, and use professional arts equipment and facilities. Beaufort Middle School is designated as an Arts in the Basic Curriculum (ABC) School through the South Carolina Arts Commission and a Distinguished Arts Program school by the South Carolina Department of Education.

From Mrs. Hall: Dance

Dance Artist in Residence:

6th grade students in both programs are learning an interpretive dance with Dance Artist in Residence Martha Connerton. The dances focus on interactive text analysis, character development, and the use of dance to bring

Important Dates	
04/22	BMS visits PRES & MOES
04/23	Orientation at BMS for rising 6 th grade students 6:00 pm in cafeteria
Week of 04/29	Course Registration Letters go home to 5 th grade parents
05/02	BMS visits BES, AMES, and Montessori
05/06	Completed Registration Letters returned to 5 th grade teachers
05/09	BMS Choral Concert; 5 th graders invited
05/16	BMS Band and Orchestra Concert; 5 th graders invited.
05/31	Promotion Day! 5 th Graders attend BMS!
08/16	Back to School Night at BMS @ 6:00 pm
08/19	1 st day of 2019-2020 School Year

literature to life. Students will perform their dances for students at Mossy Oaks Elementary School and during Literacy Night at BMS.

From Coach Gruel: Physical Education & Health

We have now concluded our health course in PE and will finish off the semester strong with a variety of educational games. We are currently about to begin our March Madness basketball tournament now that we have finished all of our basketball skill lessons. After spring break, we will try doing an outdoor soccer unit so please have your son or daughter bring necessary shoes. There are several occasions that they do not want to mess up their expensive shoes, and they end up taking their shoes off which is a safety hazard. We will conclude the semester with a series of educational games and a post-semester FitnessGram test to see if any of our scores have improved since January. Thanks again, and I look forward to the remainder of the year!

From Mrs. Harmon: Chorus Teacher

Latest Chorus News!

Carowinds, here we come! In two weeks, Friday, April 12 the Gryphon Singers are travelling to Carowinds to participate in the Carowinds Music Festival. This is an adjudicated festival, and the singers will be rated by 3 prestigious judges. Of course, there will be lots of time for roller coasters, food and fun! Today (Friday) is the last day for payment. Those who made the deadline will receive a full agenda with important information and final permission form on Monday. Students who did not make the deadline will receive information on how to obtain tickets and as well as where and when the performance will take place, so you can join the rest of the singers at Carowinds.

I am proud to announce that the Troubadours will sing the National Anthem and several other patriotic songs at "Air Show After Dark" on April 27 at 6:00 pm. This is the inaugural community Air Show celebration honoring the Blue Angels and other Air Show Performers. Please come out to support OUR Troubadours!

You will not want to miss our Gryphon Singers Spring Concert, Thursday, May 9 at 6:30 pm. It will be held again this year at the Parish Church of St. Helena in Downtown Beaufort. The Gryphon Singers., the Troubadours and our new ensembles will be features. You will hear selections from the Renaissance to Hamilton to the Backstreet Boys! You will be so happy and proud of your Gryphon Singers!

From Mr. Thompson: Spanish & Latin

6th Grade Spanish students have learned the numbers up to 30 and are starting to use them in conversation to discuss dates and birthdays.

Latin students continue to work in Rosetta Stone. Remind your student that they should be making 2% progress or more in Rosetta Stone every day they come to class. Students can work on this at home if they are having trouble making progress in class.

Greetings from 6th grade Arts Integration Program

From Mrs. Holland: 6th Grade Math

Fourth quarter begins with the study of functions for advanced math students and equations/inequalities for Math 6 students. Homework will be given regularly, and students are expected to be ready for Quick Checks (small quizzes) each day they come to class.

We had MAP testing in math and reading this past week. Teachers held individual conferences with students about their goal for each subject beforehand, and we are planning some great "rewards" for those who met their goals. Let's make this a great, successful fourth quarter and finish strong! Have a great weekend.

From Mrs. Combs: 6th Grade ELA & Science

In ELA, the 6th graders are Reading, Writing and Analyzing Literature. They are focusing on Inference and Text Features, as we read Where the Red Fern Grows. Mrs. Trask, the Media Specialist continues to assist them every two weeks by engaging the students in activities that enable them to find the book that is “just right” for them. In Science, the 6th graders are continuing to explore a STEM activity that directs them to understand and utilize Scientific Inquiry and the Engineering Design Process and are demonstrating an understanding of the properties of Energy, the transfer and conservation of Energy and the relationship between Energy and Forces. The students are also engaged in learning about setting goals for Healthy Living: Healthy Snacking, Staying Fit with Sports, and Personal Health Practices. The students created Terrariums to reinforce the understanding of Evaporation, Condensation, Precipitation, and Transpiration. As far as Science Fair Projects, three of our students placed in the Beaufort Middle School Science Fair and advanced to the Regional Science Fair in Bluffton!

From Mr. Seitz: 6th Grade Advanced English, Social Studies, & Advanced S.S.

6th Grade Advanced English

Currently, students are learning how to analyze argumentative texts and create essays. For this unit of instruction, students will be working out of the Performance Assessment book. Embedded in this unit is an opportunity for students to both create and present advertisements. Students are required to read 30 minutes a day, 7 days a week, as homework. There are 3 book reports due each quarter on 3 independent reading books. Most homework and assignments will be posted in PowerSchool and/or Google Classroom. Please check your child’s grades on PowerSchool. There are notes attached to assessments on PowerSchool explaining the assignments. Please feel free to email me with any concerns: patrick.seitz@beaufort.k12.sc.us .

6th Grade Social Studies and Advanced Social Studies

Students are now at the halfway mark of the unit of instruction on Middle Ages Europe. Homework, assignments, and study materials are posted on Google Classroom and PowerSchool. A RAFT project has been assigned for the Middle Ages. Please check your child’s grades on PowerSchool. There are notes attached to assessments on PowerSchool explaining the assignments. The pace of instruction will continue to quicken during the 4th quarter. There are weekly quizzes and assignments due, and there are projects, vocabulary quizzes, and tests for each unit of instruction. Please feel free to email me with any concerns.

Greeting from 6th grade Classical Studies!

From Dr. Thomas, Mrs. Ward, Ms. Ritchie, & Ms. Faulds: 6th Grade Classical Studies

In **ELA** students have just finished writing a literary analysis on two folk tales and analyzing the inverted pyramid method of newspaper writing. Students used the newspaper in class and read about a topic of their choice. They identified the 5 W’s and wrote about the main idea. We have begun a journey into poetry that will span 4 weeks. We started with analyzing two poems and are continuing with writing various types of poetry. More analysis will follow, as well as a portfolio of work to share with classmates. Our culminating activity will be a Poetry Slam, which will include parent invitations. We look forward to seeing you!

Social Studies: The students have completed their travels through the Roman Civilization with the completion of the Rome Summative on Friday, March 29th. From Rome, the journey through 6th grade social studies will move to the Middle Ages. The students will learn about the feudal and manor systems as well as the Crusades. They will create a poem centered on the Bubonic plague as well as their own coat of arms. From the Middle Ages, we will then travel into the Renaissance and learn about the re-birth of the principles of Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome. If time allows, we will finish the year with the Kingdoms of Africa and Islam. For an end of year activity, students will create a game centered on one of the civilizations or time periods that they have studied this year.

Student Council

All student council members are expected to attend Saturday's Courtyard Cleanup that is being sponsored by our Parent Action Committee. This is a great opportunity for students to contribute to the beautification of our campus, earn community service hours, and have fellowship with one another outside of the school day. We will walk to Burger King for lunch around 12 to celebrate our efforts. We have also begun our discussion of the end of the year 8th grade social. Students will be contacting area high schools to inquire about their prom themes. Once we have all information, we will choose a theme for our social from the list and begin planning decorations, ordering cakes, and developing the menu.

