

The Viking Voyage

McKinley Middle School
An IB World School



June 2016

Today, as a caring, global citizen, I will be safe, respectful & responsible in all of my communities.

**Thank you everyone for a great school year!
Have a safe and wonderful summer!**

McKinley Spelling Bee Champions

Congratulations to four amazing young women for competing and placing in this year's District/Kiwanis Spelling Bee.

On May 25th, these young ladies were honored at a breakfast at Wheaton Franciscan.

Pictured: Ashley Springer, 6th grade; Marija Markovic, 7th grade; Laurel Sutherland, 7th grade; and Nora Schultz, 8th grade.

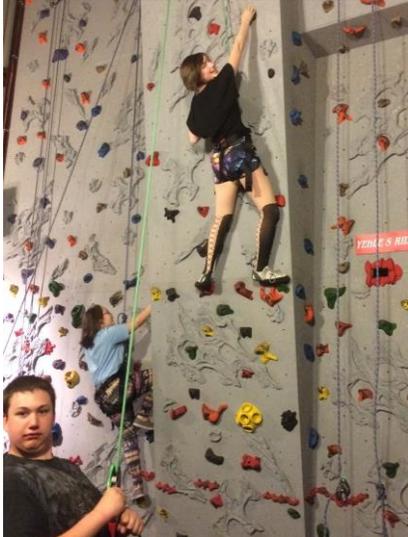


Important Dates

- June 1st – 7th grade Brewer Game
- June 1st – International Travel Club Meeting
- June 2nd – McKinley's 5K Fun Run/Walk
- June 2nd – Honors Night
- June 6th – 8th grade Day Away
- June 6th – MLK Island Park Field Trip
- June 7th – Last Day of School
- June 7th – Crossing the Bridge Ceremony

After Zone

It was a great year in After Zone! The students did some amazing work! We are excited for next year! If you are interested in teaching a class for AfterZone, please contact Mr. Konopasek at his email address daniel.konopasek@rusd.org



Rock Climbing says a fond farewell to all our 8th grade climbers. We wish you the best in your high school endeavors and hope you achieve your dreams and goals just as you have achieved your goals on the wall one step at a time. CLIMB ON!

Creative Writing and Poetry-Thank you so much to all of the students who participated in the interactive writing opportunities in our club. We managed to put together one issue of Viking Creative Writers, a small publication that was shared with all McKinley students. Thank you for your contributions and I encourage all Vikings to try our club next year! -Mr. Maxwell

SAVE THE DATE

Honors Recognition Night - Thursday June 2nd

This will recognize students who receive District Honors for earning GPAs of 3.5 or above, ROAR Awards, Student Mentors, English festival, Presidential Academic Excellence Awards, Geography Bee, and Spelling Bee winners.

Crossing the Bridge - Tuesday June 7th @ 9am

Doors open at 8:30am. We look forward to celebrating the success of the Class of 2020!



6th grade Jump Start Orientation

Our 2016-2017 school year is right around the corner. McKinley will host our annual 6th grade Jump-Start Orientation August 16th, 17th, and 18th. **We are accepting sign-up applications, please go to the below link for more information and the registration form. Thank you!**

<http://www.rusd.org/mckinley/6th-grade-jump-start-orientation>

Please fill out the necessary form and mail or email to Denise Saverine, IB Coordinator.
2340 Mohr Ave Racine, WI 53405
denise.saverine@rusd.org

Thank you McKinley Families for a wonderful final year here at McKinley for both Holly Coe – PTSA President and myself Gillian White – PTSA Treasurer. It is both a wonderful school to support and a great set of kids and teachers to help out where ever the PTSA can. It is with great sadness that for the incoming school year 2016 – 2017 there will not be a PTSA at McKinley Middle School as we have no one so far come forward to be on the PTSA Board. If anyone is interested in Keeping McKinley PTSA going please contact either Holly Coe or myself at mckinleymiddleptsa@gmail.com.

Wishing everyone a Safe and Wonderful Summer.
McKinley PTSA



Counselor's Corner

One hundred and eighty students are going to be recognized at the Honors and Recognition Night June 2nd. The PTSA will also sponsor ice cream and refreshment to all who come.

7th Graders worked on Career Cruising in their Individuals and Societies classes during the Month of May. In eighth grade each student will have a conference with their Counselor and Parent or Guardian to discuss getting ready for High School-both the Academic side and the Career Exploration side. (Academic Career Planning-ACP)

Crossing the Bridge is June 7th at 9am. Doors open at 8:30am. There will be 2 tickets per student provided initially. Please call the office if you have need of additional tickets. We understand that many people want to be there to support our 8th grade students. Please understand the total number of people in the gym is restricted by the fire code. We will make every effort to accommodate your needs; however, we are restricted on the total number of people who can attend.



Fifty of our fantastic 7th & 8th grade young ladies were invited to attend the 3rd annual GEMS conference. This was an all-day STEM conference where our youth got to engage in hands-on and problem solving activities with members from the community and local businesses. Please see our McKinley Facebook page for several pictures from this event.

From the Nurse

Welcome to the end of the year, if you received a letter in the mail asking you how you would like to have medication returned, please remember to return letter to the health office. We want to make sure everything gets back to you safe. Have a healthy and fun summer see you in September.

Library

Please make sure to bring all your books back to the library before summer break! If you have books at home from another school, you can bring them here to McKinley, and we'll make sure they get returned and taken off your record.



Physical Education

Our Physical education students were swinging for the fences in their final unit which was softball. We were very impressed to see just how many Softball stars we had! We now turn our attention to our final round of fitness testing to see just how much our students have improved from the start of the year. Locker clean-out and lock turn-in will begin next Tuesday.

Our annual McKinley 5K Fun Run/Walk will take place on Thursday June, 2nd beginning at 9:00 down at Island Park. Parents are more than welcome to attend and even participate. All competitors will be provided with a water and a granola bar. The top finishers in each grade level will be presented with medals. We hope to see you there!

We will be holding an Athletic luncheon for all of our athletes here at McKinley who took part in an extramural sport this season. The luncheon will take place on Thursday, June 2nd at 12:15. Lunch will be provided to each of the athletes as well as recognition of all the contributions that were made over the course of the year.



CHORAL DEPARTMENT

The McKinley choirs had 2 AMAZING concerts in May. Thanks to all those students, parents, volunteers and community members who participated in these final choral events of the season.

We are already looking forward to next year:

- Our school musical will be ANYTHING GOES. Performance dates will be in March.
- Plans are forming for our annual Choir Trip. The location will be released in September.
- Swing Choir will be collaborating with the UW-Parkside Choirs in December.
- Winter and Spring concerts, Talent Shows, WSMA Jazz Fest & Large group, and choir fest will all take place as usual!
- Swing Choir will be fundraising in September for our brand new Swing Choir uniforms!

We are happy to celebrate our successes this school year and look forward to an AWESOME 2016-2017 school year!!

ESL

As a fun and delicious way to wrap up our school year and share a part of our own unique cultural heritage, our 2nd hour ESL class will have an International Food Day on May 27th. During this time, students will have the opportunity to bring in foods that their families share at home that are important to their cultural heritage.

Literacy

Don't forget to keep reading this summer. Go to the Racine Public Library and check out some excellent and fascinating books. There are so many wonderful stories and places that you can go to while reading a book. At the same time, you will increase your reading fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary. Never be bored; read a book and have a great summer!

Einstein

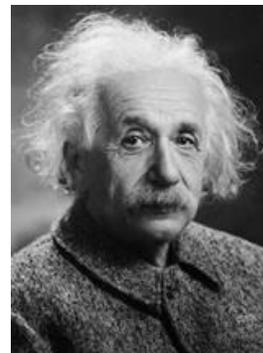
In our Science and Individuals & Society classes, we have been focusing on many aspects of the Amazon rainforest. Since our time is limited to only ten short days, students' brains will be slammed with knowledge about the animals, plants, pros/cons of deforestation, and the overall impact the rainforest has on the world. Students will argue their claim on deforestation--be sure to ask them about their opinion!

In Language & Literature classes, students will begin the IB Assessment. They will be taking on a role of their favorite character to write an autobiography! We are very excited to see the creativity shine in this project. Also, all library books are due to Mrs. Shauer by May 23rd. Please get them in as soon as possible if not returned by this date.

For a reflective end of the year activity, we had students tell us what their best memory of sixth grade was. The responses are as follows:

- * Morning music, teachers, cooking class, friends & squad
- * My new teachers and music
- * Making new friends
- * Open gym
- * Seeing my friends growing up
- * Ms. Pajic
- * Loving all my friends
- * Being in the Wizard of Oz musical, swing choir, and meeting a bunch of amazing teachers!
- * Meeting new people
- * Meeting all my new friends!
- * Gym with Mr. Nees
- * Having fun with friends
- * Music and lunch
- * Free pizza
- * Field trips
- * My girlfriend
- * Rollerskating
- * Parties with the entire class
- * Being noticed for all my hard work

We cannot believe that this challenging, yet positive and productive year is coming to a close. We highly enjoyed working with all of the Einstein House students and families this year and we wish them the best of luck in seventh grade. Have a great summer; we will miss you!

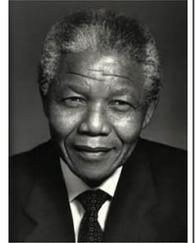


Mandela

Science & Humanities: Students are working on a very neat assessment project. They are making pickets or pamphlets to denounce the ongoing deforestation of the Amazon Rainforest in Brazil. I find this topic very special because I have travelled to the Amazon and I share the same angers some of the students feel. This project is very important for the students because it is a combined science/humanities grade. I will be excited to watch the students present their viewpoints in a week or so.

Mathematics: We're finishing up the year in math by reviewing concepts that have been covered throughout the school year. This time though, we're putting a fun spin on the concepts and incorporating them into games and interactive activities. Learning is more fun when students don't even realize they're learning!

Language & Literature: Our final days in our L&L classes will be focused on literature circles! In lit. circles, students collectively read a shared book and then get together to talk about it. Each student reflects on a certain aspect of the story/book and then is responsible for sharing his/her information with the rest of the group. It's a nice way to round out the year!



MLK

Math- MLK House us finishing their unit on ratios and proportions. The students have been using visual representations to solve ratio problems; using double number line, tape diagram and ration tables.

Humanities/Science- We have been working on an interdisciplinary unit focusing on the Amazon Rainforest. Students have been investigating the importance of the rainforest, while discovering the causes of deforestation and the personal/global impact that these practices have for the future of our world. Students will be researching real life issues in our history to choose courses of action that they can use to help solve the problems caused by the destruction of the Amazon Rainforest.

Language and Literature- To connect to our interdisciplinary unit MLK students have been reading stories and articles about the Amazon Rainforest and animals that live there.

The students researched a plant or animal that lives in the Amazon and created an argumentative essay based on if their animal or plant was the most dangerous in the Amazon or not.



Roosevelt

Math- Our mathematicians spent most of last month finishing up their ratios, rate and proportions unit. Pre-Algebra will be moving on to focus on Geometry for the rest of the school year once they are finished with the scale drawings they will be creating for their IB assessment. They will come to realize that geometry is **everywhere** they look! Course one students have begun working on algebra concepts. They will be solving expressions, equations and inequalities. Who knew math has numbers AND letters!

Humanities/Science- Our geographers/scientists are working on an interdisciplinary unit focusing on the Amazon Rainforest. Students have been investigating the importance of the rainforest, while discovering the causes of deforestation and the personal/global impact that these practices have for the future of our world. Students will be researching real life issues in our history to choose courses of action that they can use to help solve the problems caused by the destruction of the Amazon Rainforest.

Language and Literature- Our Literary Laureates have been discussing various works of literature during their Literature Circle discussion time. They have tackled Shakespeare, Dickens, Twain, C.S. Lewis and others as they assume the roles of Discussion Leader, Wordsmith, Connector, Literary Illuminator, Character Tracker, and more. They are moving on to novels they have chosen to read with a partner and will assuming the same types of roles in their discussions. Reminder: ALL LIBRARY BOOKS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE MCKINLEY LIBRARY BY MAY 23!



Clark

Science- We are learning all about physics in class. Newton's 3 Laws and how everything works around us! We have been completing many science labs, ask your child about them!



Language Arts- We are finishing our year with an exciting unit about informational texts! Students will learn about text features, text structures and will become better readers and writers of nonfiction. Students will identify a figure who has achieved their dreams and goals and study that figure who achieved those dreams/goals. Students will build a creative presentation related to an informational topic of their choice.

Humanities - Students are finishing up their IB projects for the year, where they will research a topic that interests them from the area. They have been working hard on the projects and many of them have been doing great. Tell your student to keep up the good work and finish strong!

Math - Students just finished designing and furnishing their dream bedroom in another country. Ask your students about their room and where they want to move! We are going to end this year with geometry. Tessellations are everywhere!

Gandhi

Hello from Mrs. Grodey's math classes! We have worked hard this year in all classes to be prepared for the challenges of 8th grade math. Course 2 students will be challenged with more algebra work so students are on track for freshman algebra. We have learned about integers, solving one and two-step equations, percentages, proportions, ratios, scale drawing, geometry, and built up our fraction knowledge and understanding. In algebra we have worked at solving equations and inequalities in several forms. Students are ready for the rigor of the second section of algebra, including factoring equations, quadratic functions, exponential functions, the Pythagorean Theorem, and more! I am proud of all my students for their hard work. One of my favorite quotes is **to learn math you must do math** and we have certainly done that this year! Enjoy your summer and I will see everyone next year!

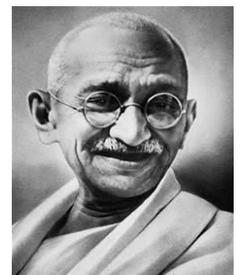
In Mrs. Mazurek's science class we are wrapping up our Silver CityMath: It's hard to believe the end of the year is right around the corner! We have been busy learning about our decades project which will include pieces from art and INS (individuals and society). We've also learned more about functions and finding slope. The students have done a wonderful job incorporating stations in their learning which has helped them be in control of their own work more. We hope you all have a great summer!

Language and Literature: Students will be completing their final assessment on overcoming obstacles. Also, we are having a guest speaker from Safe Start on May 31st.

Algebra B students are preparing for the semester final. 2nd Hour Algebra students are learning about rules with exponents. 7th Hour Algebra students just finished the Business Project and are working on slope and graphing.

Science: I can't believe that the year is almost over! We are finishing the year learning about chemistry. My hope is that all students finish the year strong. It has been a pleasure getting to know each one of my students. I hope they have a great summer and I wish the best for all of them during their time in high school. Town Hall Meetings. Be sure to ask your student what their role and position were. Our next unit will be Weather and the Atmosphere. We will learn about the layers of the atmosphere and how to predict the weather! Have a wonderful summer and thanks again for sharing your students with me.

In Kono's crazy world of Language and Literature, students have been reading and writing using different types of text structures like 'cause and effect,' 'comparison and contrast' and 'problem and solution.' Students have read about water shortages in foreign countries and the outbreak of E.coli and norovirus in Chipotle restaurants.



Angelou

Math: It's hard to believe the end of the year is right around the corner! We have been busy learning about our decades project which will include pieces from art and INS (individuals and society). We've also learned more about functions and finding slope. The students have done a wonderful job incorporating stations in their learning which has helped them be in control of their own work more. We hope you all have a great summer!

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Houdini

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8th grade Language and Literature: Students have just finished their Overcoming Obstacles unit assessment, which was due Thursday, May 19. We are working on writing sample graduation speeches about middle school memories. The last project students will be working on this year is research on their future career. This is a great way to reflect on what they have accomplished so far in school, and to start setting goals for the future!



Summer Administrative Service Campus Hours

June 20 – July 29, 2016

Racine Unified School District will once again implement a summer hours program for Administrative Service Campus staff beginning Monday, June 20 through Friday, July 29. During this time, all District departments at the Administrative Service Campus (ASC) at 3109 Mt. Pleasant St., will be open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and closed on Fridays.

RUSD Now Offering Text Message Notifications

New this year, during weather or other emergencies, RUSD will now be able to notify parents and guardians via text message. If you have a cell phone number as your primary household phone number in our records, you will be eligible to receive District text messages.

How Do I Sign-Up?

- On Dec. 14 the District will send out an opt-in text message to your cell phone asking you if you'd like to receive text message notifications from Racine Unified.
- The text will be sent from the number 684-53.
- Reply 'YES' if you want to receive text message notifications or 'NO' if you do not want to receive them.

If your primary phone number is not a cell phone and you would like to receive District text messages, you can change your number in Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Please see step-by-step instructions on the backside of this page.

If you need your Parent Portal access code, please contact your child's school.

If you do not receive an opt-in message, please login to the Parent Portal and make sure your primary household number is correct. If you miss the Dec. 14 opt-in message and your primary household number in Infinite Campus is a cell phone, you can text "YES" to 684-53 at any time to sign-up.

District text messages will also be sent out in Spanish. Please note that the program does not allow us to enter special characters. Therefore, messages will not have the following accent marks, á é í ó ú, ü, ç ÿ.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email info@rusd.org.

McKinley Middle School

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Racine, WI 53405

Main office (262) 664-6150

Attendance (262) 664-6155

Fax (262) 664-6196

<http://www.rusd.org/mckinley>



McKinley is now on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/McKinley-Middle-School-1729768473924040/>

