

Sharon Middle School

SMS Weekly Newsletter - 2.28.2020



IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

Week of March 2 - 6, 2020

Mon., March 2 - Day 4

Tues., March 2 - Day 5

Wed., March 2 - Day 6

Thurs., March 2 - Day 7

Fri., March 2 - Day 1

2020 MCAS Schedule

****TENTATIVE****

ELA

Gr. 7 - 3/30 & 3/31

Gr. 8 - 4/2 & 4/3

Gr. 6 - 4/13 & 4/14

Math

Gr. 8 - 4/29 & 4/30

Gr. 7 - 5/4 & 5/5

Gr. 6 - 5/6 & 5/7

Science

Gr. 8 - 5/8

SMS Presents -

Roald Dahl's Matilda

Thursday, Friday, Sunday

March 12, 13, 15

GLI Club Screening -

What Tomorrow Brings

Wednesday, 3/18 - 2:15pm

Sharon Middle School Report Card 2019

Every year, each public school and school district in Massachusetts receives a report card. Just as your child's report card shows how they are doing in different subjects, the school's report card is designed to show families how our school is doing in different areas. Please see our letter to families [here](#). A link to our school's report card is available at <http://reportcards.doe.mass.edu/2019/02660305>.

Black History Month

Students attended an assembly for Black History Month. Sharon High School Black Student Union worked SMS students over the past month to develop the assembly. The group did an amazing job sharing the history and importance of Black History Month. They also worked to educate everyone around microaggressions and other hate speech.

8th Grade Course Selection Begins

This week, Mr. Pomer, Dean of Academic Affairs, met with the 8th grade students regarding the course selection process for grade 9.

Please review and consider the [informational department videos available here](#). The [2019-2020 Program of Studies is available for your review here](#), with [proposed changes for 2020-2021 outlined here](#). In addition, there is a [presentation available here](#) that outlines graduation requirements, scheduling requirements, and a step-by-step guide to using PowerSchool for course selection. Students must make their selections for courses in PowerSchool by Wednesday, March 11. They will meet with school counselors the following week to address any concerns and to discuss potential overrides.

Sharon Middle School Technology - 6th & 7th Grades

We are working to equitably distribute and provide access to laptop technology to all grades. We are going to pilot a plan where 6th and 7th graders pick up a chromebook laptop in their morning advisory to use during the day as needed. They will return the device to their advisory at the end of the day. They will have access to these devices in any class. Previously, World Language classes, specials and a couple of academic classes have not had equal access.

**United Nations of
Sharon Middle School
International Event
Sunday, March 22, 3-5:30p**

**Sharon Math and Science
Tournament
Saturday, 3/28**

**Looking Ahead
FREE Speaker Series
3/26, 7pm at SHS
Ken Nwadike, Jr. -
The Free Hugs Project
[Click here for more info.](#)**

**SMS 2020 Yearbook Orders
Go to ybpay.lifetouch.com
with the Yearbook ID code
11804620 to order your
2020 SMS Yearbook. A
hard copy of the printed
form is [here](#). *The deadline
to order yearbooks is April
24th.***

**Student Vaping Awareness
Presentation - Now
Available to View
A Serious Talk about
Vaping, which was
presented to parents last
month, is now available to
View - check the schedule
at [Sharon Cable](#).**

We will hold brief assemblies to talk with the 6th and 7th graders about this shift and the new responsibility. One shift is that they will need to use locks on their lockers when they store their devices during lunch, gym and other classes that don't need technology. We have locks available; students may also bring in their own locks.

***Roald Dahl's Matilda* Tickets - On Sale Beginning March 2nd
Show Dates: March 12, 13 & 15**

We are excited to be starting the sale of the tickets for our school musical, *Matilda*. WE DO SELL OUT! We cannot stress enough the importance of buying your tickets early. We have had to turn people away in the past, so please make your arrangements.

\$10 General Seating
\$20 for Reserved Seating.



We have 3 ways to purchase tickets:

1. Students can buy them at lunch with cash or check made out to SMS (General Seating only)
2. After rehearsals (General seating only)
3. Online at QuickTix.org/Matilda - a small convenience fee is charged (Reserved and General Seating)

Math Team Wins Again!

Congratulations to the Sharon Middle School Math Team who took 1st and 2nd place in the math meet at Pierce Middle School in Milton. Sharon Maroon scored 206 points, Sharon Gold scored 166 points, and Milton Academy came in 3rd with 150 points.

Advisory - Grades 6 & 7

In advisory this week, students in grades 6 & 7 looked at the issue of cyberbullying. Students talked about why people might say things online that they wouldn't say in person, and how to both prevent it and deal with it when they see it. Teachers customized the lesson for their groups, giving students opportunities to examine video clips, participate in whole group discussions, and/or analyze scenarios for their impact on others and how they could have been done differently. Overall, students agreed that anything said online should be what you'd be willing to say in person. Some of the resources we shared were from Common Sense Media. Their website Common Sense Media has a lot of good resources for kids, parents, and teachers. We hope you continue the conversation at home about safe and smart online behavior.

Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month and the month we celebrate International Women's Day. The GLI Club works to raise awareness about and support girls' education where it is less common. Each day we will share facts about girls' education. Our celebration culminates

on Wednesday, 3/18, for a film about our partner school in Afghanistan.

GLI Club - Free Screening: Documentary *What Tomorrow Brings* - 3/18

The SMS Girls Learn International Club is excited to host a free screening of the award-winning documentary, *What Tomorrow Brings* on Wednesday, March 18th, at 2:15 in the SMS auditorium. *What Tomorrow Brings* is the story of Razia Jan and her quest to create and sustain an all-girls school in rural Afghanistan. SMS's GLI Club has been proud to partner with the Zabuli Education Center, the school featured in the film, since 2012. The screening is free and open to students and staff of SMS; the club will be collecting donations to help fund more scholarships in hopes that even more girls will be able to attend the Zabuli Center.

**United Nations of Sharon Middle School International Festival
Sunday, March 22, 3-5:30p FREE ADMISSION**

The SMS PTO, the DREAMS Club, and the SMS Student Council invite you to celebrate our first annual United Nations International Event. Parents are invited to volunteer and participate to assist with this fun event. Performance groups and individuals available to share their culture, please email to unitednations.sms@gmail.com.

[See the flyer for more info on this great event.](#)

**8th Grade Students And
Parents: Private School
Info**

If you are applying to a private school please review the process in the link below and submit forms as soon as possible. [Student form ~ Private School Application Process](#)

New After School Opportunity - Drop In and Draw Program

Moose Hill and Sharon Community Education Present: *Drop in and Draw*, Wednesdays in the SMS cafeteria from 2:30-3:30pm. All students are welcome to stop by to experiment and explore with art. *Drop In and Draw* is about strengthening your skills of observation, learning new techniques to improve your sketching, and connecting to nature through art. The instructor is Maddy Staples from the Moose Hill Education team. For more information, see the [flyer](#).

Project Medicine Speaker Series

On Monday, March 2, 2020, Project Medicine will be hosting Dr. Brian Silver Silver, MD, a stroke neurologist at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester. He works in the emergency department, hospital, and clinic with patients. Dr. Silver also works on research related to stroke, and teaches medical students, residents, and fellows.

He will be speaking in the Sharon High School Library at 2:45pm.

Student Volunteers Needed - Cottage Street Fun Fair

Calling Sharon Middle School student volunteers to assist with the Cottage Street School Fun Fair on Sunday, March 29th, 10am-4pm. Please consider signing up for at least one shift in the various

SignUpGenius sign ups. The signups can be found by visiting <https://cottagepto.org/?p=2496>

The signups include: Cake Room, Cake Dance, Clean Up, Face Painting, Glitter Tattoos, Photo Booth, Pretzels & Slush, Prize Room, and Set Up. There are Adult Volunteer slots and slots reserved for High School students and Middle School students, so please be mindful and only sign up for Middle/High School Volunteer slots. Please contact Betsy Strauss (strauss.betsy@gmail.com) or Candice Gopin (safrica80@yahoo.com) for more information

**Sharon Education Foundation 2020 Spelling Bee Teams wanted!
Thursday, April 2 at 6pm at SHS**

Sign up your team now - adult teams, 5th grade teams, and Middle school teams. Deadline is March 5th. [Check the flyer for registration.](#)



Plan Summer
70 Days of Summer Vacation,
Plan Them All in One Afternoon.

Discover Summer
SUMMER CAMP
& ACTIVITIES EXPO

Saturday, March 7th • 11:30-1:30
Avery School • 336 High Street, Dedham
Ages 2-17 • FREE ADMISSION
Snow Date March 14th

Raffles, give-a-ways and exclusive offers.
Enter to win FREE or DISCOUNTED tuitions!

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www.DedhamCampFair.org

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Dedham
Franklin
Groton
Milton
Natick
Needham
Newton
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Shrewsbury
Walpole
Wellesley
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Platinum Wegmans
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