



TOPPER TIMES

SOMERSWORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

A message from 7th Grade

It is hard to believe that we just celebrated our 100th day of school! In addition to this exciting milestone, SMS students also had the opportunity to partake in the annual Winter Carnival prior to February Break. During this event, students participated in a dodgeball tournament, engaging classroom stations, and a range of activities held in the SHS gym. This event was a wonderful opportunity for the SMS community to come together, celebrate, and be “ONE.”

Meanwhile, the 7th grade has been hard at work teaching curriculum that challenges and engages students. In language arts, students have been working on their research skills by researching a refugee crisis from one of several historical time periods. Through this research students have been learning how to identify important vs. unnecessary information, paraphrase, and cite sources. In March, students will learn and practice their informational reading skills such as summarizing, analyzing text structures, and identifying the main idea of a text. In mathematics, students are working on solving and graphing inequalities. Students recently finished the summative assessment on equations. Upon returning from break, students will be working on proportions. In social studies, students are working on their Human Migration Unit until the end of Trimester 2. Students are currently learning about what a migrant is, groups of migrants around the world, and the United Nations. At the beginning of Trimester 3, students will begin the Middle Ages Unit. In science, students have recently finished a unit on atoms and molecules. They are now beginning a unit where they will be making maple syrup.

As we enter March, we will continue to have a behavior incentive for all 7th grade students. Similarly to previous months, 7th grade students will earn a ticket at the end of each academic class if they meet the SMS behavior expectations of being safe, respectful, responsible, and cooperative. Students with enough tickets will be allowed to select several options of how they want to spend their earned reward at the end of the month. We will also be continuing to positively recognize students meeting expectations through our Topper of the Week, Lunch Time Golden Tickets, and Gotcha Cards. We know all of our students are capable of meeting the school-wide expectations, and hope that these incentives will motivate each student to make positive choices throughout their day. We look forward to seeing the continued growth of each student over the next few months. We thank you for your support.

Substitutes needed!! Click the [link](#) to apply!

**FEBRUARY'S
OUTSTANDING STAFF
MEMBER**

EMILY POWELL

**FEBRUARY'S OUTSTANDING
STUDENTS OF THE MONTH**

MICHAEL BAIDAL OBANDO

ISABELLA MEADER

JORDAN PACH

Advisory

In Advisory, we will be starting to prepare for the fun and exciting Chariot Races! This is an event that requires Advisory students to work together on multiple levels. Next, we will begin "trials" for the Annual Advisory Olympics, which is comprised of many kid-friendly, light-hearted competitions that bring out the competitive spirit as well as good sportsmanship amongst peers. So, as you can see there are many fun events ahead that we are all looking forward to! While students are immersed in these activities, what they don't realize is how much social emotional learning is being absorbed through team cooperation, being aware of your role and what each individual contributes to the team, and the growth that comes from the many challenges they face together. Advisory is a big part of students' day and year in so many positive ways!



Sports Snapshot

**Information
regarding
Spring Track
will be coming
soon!**



A Few Reminders...

- ★ Please make sure students are not bringing toys, blankets, etc. to school
- ★ If you are looking to have an in-person meeting with an administrator or teacher, please call to schedule an appointment to ensure they will be available to meet with you
- ★ Be sure to check PowerSchool to stay up to date with your student's assignments and academic performance

**** PLEASE HAVE YOUR STUDENTS CHECK THE LOST AND FOUND!! WE CURRENTLY HAVE SEVERAL COATS, SWEATSHIRTS & BACKPACKS!!****

IMPORTANT - Dismissal Policy

If you are planning on dismissing your student for any reason during the day, please send your student to school with a note that includes the following:

Name
Date
Time being dismissed
If student is expected to return
Parent/Guardian signature



The student is to bring the note to the main office when they arrive to school in the morning to receive a dismissal pass. This pass will notify the teacher that the student has permission to leave at the requested time and will allow them to leave with minimal disruption to class. Office staff will need to see your ID before dismissing your child.

We completely understand that there are some situations that come up at the last minute or are unplanned, but by following this policy when possible, it will prevent unnecessary disruptions to class time as well as allow students to leave promptly at the dismissal time requested.

Reach out to the main office with questions! 603-692-2126



[SYC SPRING FUNDRAISER](#)

Click on the link below to order your spring annuals and perennials!!
[sycspringfundraiserlink](#)

<u>March</u>
3/10 Dance 6:00 - 7:30
3/16 End of Trimester 2
3/17 No School - Teacher Workshop
<u>April</u>
April 3-7 8th Grade NWEA Testing
April 10-14 7th Grade NWEA Testing
April 17-21 6th Grade NWEA Testing
April 24-28 No School - Spring Vacation
<u>May</u>
May 29 No School - Memorial Day

Be on the lookout for the 23-24 Parent/Guardian class placement survey coming out in early April

Girls on the Run will be starting this spring at SMS. Registration started February 13 with the first session on March 20



Gardening and Wellness in our Schools, and our Community

Spring is mud season in New Hampshire, but that doesn't need to keep you home.

After three years of pre-pandemic planning, the Wellness Committee is *finally* hosting the districtwide Wellness Fair at Somersworth High School. On **March 29 from 5-7pm**, all students and their families are invited to the High School cafeteria to learn about health and wellness opportunities in our community, including exercise and fitness opportunities, recreation and summer camp offerings, library programming, nutrition resources, and even participate in a seed starting activity led by students from the Maple Wood Sustainability Club. Reps from Mr. Fox Composting will be on site to demonstrate and educate about reducing food waste in our community, and to share information about inexpensive residential composting services available in Somersworth. This runs into the dinner hour, and our fantastic cafeteria staff from Cafe Services will be preparing and serving a free meal to all who attend. Is your family interested in having a garden this spring and lack the space or sunlight? The Community Gardens at Malley Farm are offering plots again this year to Somersworth residents who either have that issue, or who simply wish to garden amongst friends and fellow community members. Plots are limited and are assigned on a first come first serve basis, with priority given to prior Community Garden participants. For more information, call the DPW at 603-692-4266, or stop by their office M-F 7-3:30(closed 12-12:30), just behind the police station off Blackwater Road. It may still be winter now, but spring and summer will be here and growing your own food is a great way to spend those seasons.

