

Orca Newsletter-January

We Can Move Mountains



stay
WARM

Hello Orca Families,

As we dive deeper into our State Fair Research projects, Orca students have been learning the importance of — and actively practicing — skills such as managing their time, sustaining appropriate engagement, setting goals, meeting deadlines, maintaining flexibility, participating in collaborative discussions, and self-initiating support when needed.

Students will continue applying these skills as they finalize their research and begin drafting their paragraphs, taking each piece fully through the writing process. These skills are not only valuable within the walls of our classroom, but are essential for navigating relationships and life's complexities beyond school as well.

If you have the opportunity, please stop by the Voyager hallway anytime between now and March to see our project progress proudly displayed outside our classroom!



Outdoor Gear

As the weather is getting colder, students should be bringing a coat, hat, boots, snow pants, and gloves to school every day for recess and carpool. Teachers check for the wind-chill and radar daily before recess and we will go outside unless the windchill is below zero. To ensure students are adequately prepared, girls that wear skirts can bring in pants to put on underneath for recess and carpool and students can even leave their gear in their locker. It is important for students to be prepared for the daily changes in Michigan's weather.

Please label all of their gear. Please ensure your child knows that they must wear a coat outside as weather is colder.

Save the Date:



January 9: CSA Spirit Wear Day, CSA Pep Rally Assembly

January 12: CSA District Parent Council Meeting, 6PM, CSAMS
January 19: MLK JR. Day

January 22: Family Fitness Night

January 23: Spirit Wear Day
(Theme TBD)

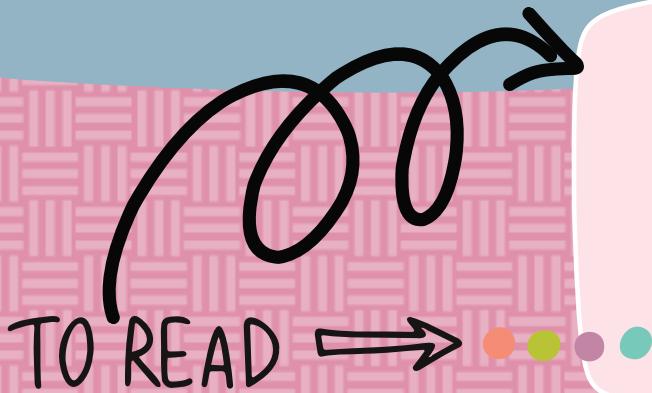
January 30: Parent Council's Family Movie Night

Character Corner

It's that time of year when we reflect upon ourselves to determine what goals, mindsets, and actions we want to adopt moving into the New Year. While guiding children through this process, we're mindful that this intentionality does not come naturally! Throughout the month of January and beyond, we will be heavily focusing on setting and reflecting upon S.M.A.R.T. goals. Building the habit of self-reflection while simultaneously fostering a growth mindset will nurture your child's responsibility, work ethic, and self-respect, all Smart Character Traits that we seek to develop within our learning family!

Resilience

Another big shift that occurs in the Voyager years, both organically and nurtured intentionally, is the strengthening of independence, self-sufficiency, and resiliency! The mantra, "We can do hard things!" is heard often throughout our classrooms as we carry full confidence that their tasks are thoughtfully designed and aligned to balance that line of rigor for each child- not too easy, not too hard. We've been talking a lot lately about struggle - what it is and why it's crucial to our growth. One of the first things we learn as students of education is to never "steal their struggle," assuming their struggle is appropriate to their needs. Nurturing students to embrace challenges with confidence and take responsible risks with their learning is among our priorities! You can continue to reinforce this at home with language that encourages risk-taking and embracing their inner courage while celebrating small gains and victories! This article dives deeper into this topic, if you're interested in learning more!



Just a quick side note about Family Fitness Night on January 22nd!

This is an event both kids and parents truly love. It's a great opportunity to laugh, play, and make memories together.

We highly recommend bringing your family- you won't regret it!

Important Reminders!

Just a friendly reminder that it is very important to include BOTH classroom teachers on ALL incoming email. There are times when both teachers are not in the classroom/school and will not have access to email.

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As a reminder, uniform policies make a statement about the standards and expectations of the school. The intent of the dress code/uniform policy at Charyl Stockwell Academy is to promote optimum learning opportunities throughout the school day and to help ensure a safe environment for all.

We will be upholding the uniform policy in its entirety this school year. Please review the policy and make any changes necessary to your students uniform as needed. We will be giving gentle reminders to the students as well as reaching out to parents if there are any uniform/dress code guidelines not being followed. We would like to remind parents that students shirts should be tucked in and a black or brown belt should be worn. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out to the classroom teachers or Mrs. Winters.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/17a2XzAi4UaV8qeYVxoLXDoMy1XiAxSJA-vNaxdqdrBQ/>



