

# MT. ARARAT MIDDLE SCHOOL UPDATE

Year: 2021-2022 | Issue 12 | Date: March 4, 2022

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear MAMS Families,

March is here, and with it comes longer days and the hope for warmer weather! There is much to look forward to at school this spring. We have another Team Day on March 18; Kieve Leadership School is visiting MAMS after April vacation; and planning is underway for the 8th Grade Semi-Formal. I look forward to sharing more about these exciting events in the coming weeks.

Two staffing changes to note: Rayleen Berry has taken over the remainder of North Bay Teacher, Shannon Swanson's maternity leave, and Karen Jones has joined our staff while art teacher, Maura McHugh is out on leave. We are so happy to have Mrs. Berry and Ms. Jones join our MAMS Community!

With gratitude,

[Megan Hayes Teague](#), Principal

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Week of March 7: Progress Reports Updated in Infinite Campus
- Thursday, March 10: Full Day of School
- Friday, March 11: No School, Professional Dev. Day (PK-8 Teacher Comp.)
- Friday, March 18: Team Day!
- Friday, April 1: Third Quarter Ends
- Friday, April 15: No School, Professional Dev. Day
- Monday, April 18 through Friday, April 22: Spring Break

## ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK!

Interested in ordering a 2021-2022 yearbook? Order online today.

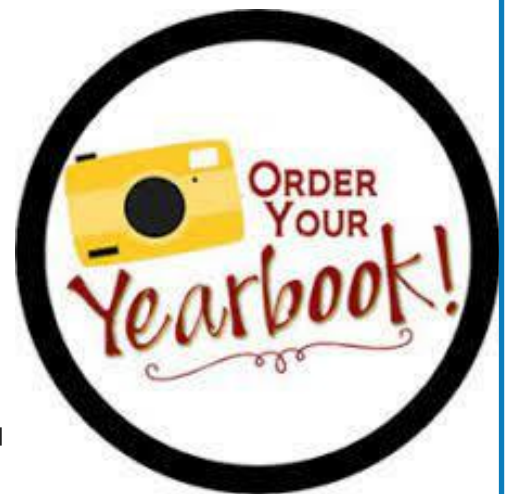
Visit: [www.treering.com/validate](http://www.treering.com/validate) Enter Code: 1014564198023651

Regular Price: \$20.85 (+ taxes)

When you order online you get access to create 2-custom pages for free. Take advantage of this great offer.

\*If you'd prefer to order through the school directly, please contact Yearbook Advisor

[Lisa Rioux](#)



# JANUARY STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Because of the great value we place on focused, respectful and responsible behavior in our community, we have established a program to recognize our students. This year, we have added “kind” as a fourth core value to be recognized and celebrated. Each Friday, teams are asked to submit the name of one student whom they believe most exemplifies the team's definition of focused, respectful, responsible ***and kind*** behavior. Those students are called to the office, presented a certificate, and entered into a drawing for a gift certificate. Additionally, Ms. Phillips contacts the families to describe the behaviors that led teachers to their choice! Congratulations to the January Students of the Week.

Bryce McKenney

Josh Baker

Janessa Ouelett-Mondragon

Connor Ridley

Morgandy Crawford

Laila Adams

Marshall Flynn

Ivan Imrie

## 2021-2022 BATTLE OF THE BOOKS RESULTS



The 4th Annual MSAD 75 [Maine Student Book Award](#) (MSBA) Battle of the Books (BOB) was held during the week of February 14, 2022. A total of 19 teams, comprised of 73 students from 5 district schools (Mt. Ararat Middle School, Bowdoin Central School, Harpswell Community School, Williams-Cone Elementary School, and Woodside Elementary School), competed in the tournament.

Congratulations to **Williams-Cone** team **WINNER'S** who won the tournament answering 84% of the questions correctly! Williams-Cone team **Ur mommers** placed a close second. The first and second place teams were made up of students in Ms. Bretschneider's 5th grade class.

The top seven teams were:

1. WINNER'S (Williams-Cone Elementary School)
2. Ur mommers (Williams-Cone Elementary School)
3. BowdoinBears2 (Bowdoin Central School)
4. Spark-Notes (Mt. Ararat Middle School)
5. HCS for the win (Harpswell Community School)
6. Book Besties (Woodside Elementary School)
7. MIME (Mt. Ararat Middle School)

Williams-Cone team WINNER'S are invited to participate in the regional round of the [Great Maine Book Tournament](#) next month.

Students were welcomed to the tournament by MAMS staffer Kristen Lolatte and 7th grader Maddie Sweet. Ms. Lolatte has co-written two books (so far!) in the [The Fiona Trilogy](#). Maddie served as the cover model for [The Moon Maiden](#).

## ATTENDANCE

This is just a reminder to let families know that the school must track student attendance and mark a student's absence either excused or unexcused. If your child will not be available for learning for one of the state excused reasons, please call the Main Office at 729-2950. If we do not receive a call from you, you will receive an automated call to let you know that we have marked your child absent. We do need you to call us back to inform us of the reason for your child's absence. Without this information, we must mark your child's absence unexcused. We thank you so much for your help in keeping our attendance records accurate!

## CONGRATULATIONS MATH TEAM!



The MAMS Math Team is participating in the Math Counts Competition this year, which is open to students in grades 6-8. The contest began with a school competition, which we held at the end of January. The four top students from that event then competed at the end of February in the regional contest - held virtually - and they placed 1st as a team! The 4 team members are: Finn Dedek (1st place individual), Miles Dailey (4th place individual), Ryan Schultz (5th place individual) and Erryl Timblin (6th place individual). They will next compete at the state level MathCounts Competition at the end of March, which will also be held virtually. The top four individuals at that competition will then advance to the National Competition, which will be held in person in Washington, DC in early May. Congratulations and Good Luck to our MAMS Math team!

## RISK OF SELF-HARM?

If you and/or your child become aware of a student that may be at risk of self-harm when school is not in session, please DO NOT attempt to contact school personnel during this time. Staff are not working at their desks and may not be checking email or voicemail during these times. Therefore, vital safety information could easily be missed and students could be placed at greater risk. Instead, please utilize [THIS](#) step-by-step guide for how a parent could respond to such a concern outside of school hours. This guide is placed prominently on our MAMS webpage, and was created in collaboration with local police, mental health providers, and the local Crisis Response Center.

## W.I.N.G. THE FOOD PANTRY AT MAMS

In partnership with the Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program, W.I.N.G, The Food Pantry at Mt. Ararat Middle School is up and running. This resource is available to all families in our MSAD 75 community with children under eighteen residing in the household. Students do not have to be middle school students, or even school-aged for families to use this resource. All MSAD 75 families are welcome. W.I.N.G. has discreet drive-up service and is staffed by parent and community volunteers. If you have special requests, or would like your order packed in advance of your arrival, please call 729-2950 x7202 and leave a message with your name and phone number, and a volunteer will give you a call back. W.I.N.G. is open Mondays from 10am to 1pm and Fridays from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

please join us at our community food pantry



We Include, Nurture & Give  
**W.I.N.G.**  
the food pantry at Mt. Ararat Middle School

Drive-up service available  
Mt Ararat Middle School front entrance  
Monday 10a-1p  
Friday 5:30p-7:30p

Fresh produce, Dairy, Frozen foods, &  
Hygiene products are all available to anyone.

FMI contact  
207.729.2950 ext. 7202

in cooperation with  
**MCHPP**  
Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program



When a teen  
reaches out  
to you,  
Be ready!

## Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

Only one out of every three teens report that they have received help from an adult when they feel sad or hopeless. Join us for this **FREE ONLINE** training for parents, youth-serving or other concerned adults.

- Learn to recognize the signs of a teen who is experiencing a mental health or substance use challenge, or who is in crisis.
- Learn how best to respond and connect teens to help.

For more information call **373-6970** or email [jgodo@midcoasthealth.com](mailto:jgodo@midcoasthealth.com).

**Offering 2 virtual sessions:** *Space limited, registration required.*

**February 22, 2022, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Register at: <https://www.namimaine.org/youthprograms/p/ymhfa02222022>

**March 28, 2022, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Register at: <https://www.namimaine.org/youthprograms/p/ymhfa03282022>

“This training changed my thinking and my dialogue. It has helped me have meaningful conversations with more confidence, allowing me to connect with students and offer help when it’s needed most.”

– *Training Participant*



In partnership with: Sagadahoc County Sheriff, Bath Police Department, Topsham Police Department, and Brunswick Police Department.