Because of your smile, you make life more beautiful. Thich Nhat Hanh

This week, I saw smiles from two specific students that absolutely lit up and made my days on both occasions. They were both very different and challenging circumstances, but it caused me to pause and reflect on the power of a simple gesture such as a smile and the energy a student can bring to the life of a school community and us as educators. Blogger Sarah Stevenson wrote an article titled, “There is Magic in Your Smile”. What a great way to tell someone you see them and how they impact you with their expression. It has been proven that smiling triggers biological responses in our own bodies and in the bodies of others. It’s contagious!

At Murray, we plan to see plenty of smiles and hear lots of laughter as we prepare to celebrate our accomplishments from the school year. I challenge each of you to tell someone in your life, “There is Magic in Your Smile.” I guarantee you will elevate the mood, lower your heart rate and spread positivity. Make it a great weekend and see how many smiles you can trigger in those around you!

Celebrations:

1. #Pilotprops of the week! Ms. Revermann would like to celebrate Moriyah Cooley-Anderson. Moriyah is a hard-working student who is also a kind and thoughtful classmate. She brings positivity and joy to our Murray Community. Great work, Moriyah!

2. #Pilotprops of the week! Ms. Engelstad would like to celebrate Zoey Howard. Zoey works very hard and is a very positive student. I enjoy seeing Zoey’s smile and that makes me smile! She brings forth our Murray Way values of being Respectful, Responsible and Safe. Keep up the amazing work, Zoey!

3. Debate Team City Championship Tournament - Murray and the Debate League would like to congratulate the partnership of Sofia Patronski & June Staloch for earning a team award for 9th place in the Novice Division! Furthermore, Sofia Patronski went home with a speaker award for 15th place, while June Staloch went home with one for 17th place. Nicely done! In the JV Division, we would like to specifically recognize the partnership of Connolly & Loth for earning a FIRST PLACE team award! Tilly Connolly also went home with a speaker award for FIRST PLACE, and Charlie Loth went home with one for FOURTH PLACE. What an amazing accomplishment! They won in the largest and most competitive JV division in years - very impressive!

Finally, we want to recognize Lily Teske for winning Student Coach of the Year! Lily is a varsity debater on Central's high school team, and brings her expertise and experience to the Murray team to help improve their debating. Lily has been super active - coaching students, judging debates, and generally doing everything that needs doing!

Yearbooks

Yearbooks cost $20.00. Students can pick up an order form from the office or see Ms. Pittman. The easiest way to buy a yearbook is to purchase it online at https://www.jostens.com/yearbooks/high-school-yearbooks.html

Your Co-Pilot,

Jamin McKenzie
Principal, Murray Middle School
Sixth Grade

English with Ms. Stedje:
Sixth-grade students are working on completing the 3rd quarter with their final theme-based literary essay. We have worked hard at essay structure, elaboration, and providing evidence. For Readers Workshop, 6th graders are working on completing projects to show their understanding of the social issues in their book club books.

We will begin 4th quarter with a Fantasy unit and end in Poetry.

Math with Mr. Klemme:
All sections have been working with Geometry. Area of triangles and rectangles and irregular shapes have been covered and explored. Students were working in groups to guess-timate the area of a large funky figure. Almost all the groups were able to get an answer within 100 square units of the actual answer, which was pretty good. We will continue to look at Volume of a prism, the surface area of 3d figures, and the nets that make those figures. We will finish the year looking at some types of measurements, algebraic variables, and I will introduce some 7th grade concepts. It has been a great group to work with.

Seventh Grade

Science with Ms. Dooley:
The Life Science classes just wrapped up their study of diseases and how the immune system works to keep us healthy. We are now moving on to other body systems. We will have visiting professors and graduate students in classes soon to study brain science! Then it's on to the Ecology units and looking at ecosystems around Murray and beyond.

Social Studies with Ms. Atchison and Ms. Newman:
Before Spring Break, we wrapped up learning about World War II. In April, we will be learning about the Cold War (USSR vs US) and how that impacted life here in the United States from the Cuban Missile Crisis to the Korean War and eventually the Vietnam War. State History Day Finalists have been announced. We had 19 projects qualify for State! Great job, historians!

Eighth Grade

Math with Mr. Klemme:
The class has been working on Systems of equations and the 3 methods to solve them. We will use the remainder of the year looking at concepts that they will use in their Algebra class when they are enrolled in the high schools. We will work with exponents and the F.O.I.L method of solving polynomials.

Math with Ms. Mattila:
Algebra classes just finished taking the MCA. We are working on systems of equations, which is when you solve two equations at the same time. This is when those dreaded two trains pass each other problems come in.

Geometry classes also just finished the MCA. We starting our Trigonometry projects and will work on circles next. Fun fact, circles and trigonometry both use the concept of tangents!

Science with Mr. Chase:
We are planting seed indoors in 8th grade science for putting in the garden later this spring.

Attendance

Hello Murray Families!

Murray now has the option for parents/guardians to report student absences by email!

If your student will be absent, send a message to:
murrayattendance@spps.org

Please include your student's name and the reason for the absence and we will mark it in the attendance system.

You can also use the email address to notify the office that your student will be picked up early. When we receive the email, we will write an Excuse to Leave the Building for the student. The student should stop by the office in the morning and pick up that pass. The student will meet you in the office at the time indicated on the pass.
Counselor’s Corner

Foundations lesson by the School Counseling Team:

This week, the School Counseling Team presented a Schoolwide virtual lesson in Foundations classes regarding some very important topics. Topics included: Use of Social Media, Digital Citizenship, Consent, Sexual Harassment, Bullying, and Harassment. Our Murray students were asked to think if they were following the Murray Way of being Respectful, Responsible and Safe both on-line and in person. They were also reminded that our words and our actions matter and that words and actions impact EVERYONE.

Summer School:

Summer School Registration is now open.

The main link is:

spps.org/summer

The middle school link is also included below. Although the priority date was April 15th, you can still sign your child up for Summer School.

https://www.spps.org/Domain/12605

Middle School (5-8) / Middle School (5-8) - Saint Paul Public Schools

Grades 5-8 Summer Session. Journey to Discovery Students receive academic support, develop leadership skills, and discover new talents and interests through enrichment activities.

www.spps.org

Course Selection for 2022-23:

Over the next week, you will be receiving communications regarding Course Selection for next school year 2022-23. Course Selection will be taking place in Science classes. Dates are in the process of being finalized and we will be communicating those dates when they are finalized. If you have any questions, please reach out to School Counselors.

Counselor (Schedule questions student last names A-L) - Justine Revermann (Justine.Revermann@spps.org)
Counselor (Schedule questions student last names M-Z) - Lisa Engelstad (Lisa.Engelstad@spps.org)

8th grade Course Selection information for 9th grade:

Greetings 8th grade parents and students,

It is so hard to believe that we are in the middle of April. This also means that it is time to think about course selection for 9th grade. There are some important dates to be aware of.

Most of our Murray students are going to Como or Central.

Como will be having 2 different course selection evenings. If you are attending Como, please attend one of them. Bring your iPads with you!
Wednesday, April 27th at Murray from 5-7 (cafeteria and possibility of library if we have a larger group)

Thursday, April 28th, at Como from 4-6

Central will be having a virtual Zoom Event. Make sure to have your iPads with you!

Thursday, April 28th, 5:30-7

- Please go to: [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81325338753?pwd=Wnl6UEhTZjhYNmk3UW11Y1pjYjl3UT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81325338753?pwd=Wnl6UEhTZjhYNmk3UW11Y1pjYjl3UT09)
- Enter Meeting ID: 813 2533 8753
- Enter Passcode: 622974

Below is a comprehensive site for 9th grade course selection. Please look to see course selection resources for the High schools based on where your child is assigned to go.

Please also note that there is information regarding the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program as well. If your student is interested, please have them apply for the program.

[https://www.spps.org/Page/41758](https://www.spps.org/Page/41758)

**Counseling / 9th Grade Course Selection - Saint Paul Public Schools**

9th grade course selection for current 8th graders is beginning the week of April 18, 2022. Attend your assigned high school’s course selection event in order to select courses that fit you best.

[www.spps.org](http://www.spps.org)

Thank you,

Murray School Counseling Team

Justine Revermann (last names A-L, 651-744-7130, justine.revermann@spps.org)
Lisa Engelstad (last names M-Z, 651-744-2397, lisa.engelstad@spps.org)
Murray Pilots advancing to State History Day 2022

Individual Exhibit:
1. Dalila Hansen
2. Maddie Flink
3. Sofia Patronski
4. Niko Solheid
5. Clara Dunn

Group Exhibit:
1. Adayla Morant & Eleanor Kerr
2. Lucy Dietz & Saleah Sanders

Individual Documentary:
1. Patrick Tennison
2. Anna Amman Steger
3. Ingrid Bollman

Group Documentary:
1. Logan Blank & Adeline Hanson

Individual Performance:
1. Harriet Spencer
2. Ayla Bornsztein
3. Alani Schubert

Group Performance:
1. Allison Parker, Lucy Peltier & Amelia Larsen

Individual Website:
1. Tate Prinsen
2. Aleia Lueck
3. Emilio Kennedy
4. Charlie Loth

Individual Paper:
1. Lukas Ahlberg
2. Elsa Lindfors

Honorable Mentions: Katherine Lovat, Ava Baum & Kate Peterson
Academic All-Star Quarter 3

Mohamed Abduraham – For excellence in math and always striving to do better.

Blen Adalo – Blen works tirelessly at perfecting her writing skills, showing advanced thinking work in her reading. Well done!

Morgan Anderson – For being willing to help in various situations and lead in student groups.

Clyde Berg – For excellence and attention to detail in computer science and coding.

Devon Bonds – Outstanding growth in his volume of reading!

Ayla Bornsztein – Ayla consistently works hard for understanding and perfect scores in algebra.

Hezekiah Bradshaw – Hezekiah has shown strong performance in all of his classes this year. He works very hard and is a positive student and classmate.

Keegan Campos – For continual academic high performance and a leader of the Murray Way on a daily basis.

Linnea Common – Linnea has excelled and improved in all of her classes during 8th grade. She is always kind and thoughtful and we are lucky to have her in our Murray Community.

Jameson Durk – I appreciate Jameson for his participation in class discussions and leading problem solving solutions.

Marely Garcia Alvarez – Recognized for Exceptional Progress and Leadership in WINN Reading Class.

Helen Gerezgiher – Consistent excellence in geometry.

Dalila Hansen – Joining geometry in the middle and going great work.

Shannon Hass-Williams – For excellence in math and being an awesome role model to his peers.

Ashley Heesch – For always working to her potential and being a positive role model in her lab group.

Mohamed Ibrahim – Mohamed consistently does amazing work in American Studies. He works hard and asks thoughtful questions.

Zarina Ibrahim – Zarina has excelled and improved in all of her classes this year. She is very kind and thoughtful, and works very hard.

Kathleen Ireland – For excellence in math and being an awesome role model to her peers.

Eli Johnson – Eli has grown in leaps and bounds when it comes to his writing skills. He works hard every day to excel his writing even more. Well done!

Stella Johnson – Stella has done a great job all year long but in quarter 3 she was especially outstanding! Her work in Algebra is exemplary and this is a well-deserved honor!

Sudden Kaul – For being a good leader and helping others in Life Science.

Yupeng (Eli) Lochungvu – For excellence in Life Science, outstanding work ethic and great lab partner skills.

Katherine Lovat – For being an academic leader in science and for being a great human.

Ayuub Muse – Ayuub has improved in all of his classes during 8th grade. He has worked very hard and is a kind member of the Murray community.
Academic All-Star Quarter 3

Jamie Nemec – For excellence in math and being an awesome role model to her peers.

Andrew Noble – Recognized for Exceptional Progress and Leadership in WINN Reading Class

Gus Orezzoli Robinson – Being SO awesome in science!!

Muskan Osman – For being a leader, both in academics and integrity

Brooklyn Patterson – Engaging and Persisting in Art Explorations

Camelle Patterson – Camelle always works hard in class. She is kind and patient with her classmates and always willing to help them learn.

Max Proulx – Recognized for exceptional Progress and Leadership in WINN Reading Class

Shamyog Rana – For excellence in Earth Science, outstanding work ethic and great lab partner skills

Eli Savolainen – For continual academic high performance and a leader of the Murray Way on a daily basis

Po Soe – Consistent excellence in Algebra

Tate Spaulding – For continual academic high performance and a leader of the Murray Way on a daily basis

Patrick Tennison – Patrick consistently works hard in ELA class and shows up every day prepared to learn. He eagerly offers answers and input in our class discussion. I am proud to have Patrick be a part of our Community!

Adalyn Thao – Consistently does her best! She is kind and has a wonderful work ethic.

Alex Timothy – You are an amazing person and a great math student.

Charlotte Washington – Consistent excellence in geometry

Evan Xiong – Recognized for Exceptional Progress and Leadership in WINN Reading Class.
Como Park Senior High School

FAMILY FUN NIGHT!
FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2022
5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Attention Murray Middle School 8th graders and families! Join Como Park Senior High School for a FREE evening of fun-filled activities, food, music and more.

Como Park Senior High School
740 Rose Ave. W.
St. Paul, MN 55117
WHAT ARE YOUR HOPES AND DREAMS FOR THE FUTURE?

High school graduation?
A college education? A successful career?

CLUES' Youth in Action program (YA!) guides Latino high school students to achieve their hopes and dreams.

Activities include:
- Monthly Leadership Institutes
- Individual mentoring from professionals
- Check-ins throughout the month
- Service projects
- Networking opportunities

Participation is free and transportation is provided around St. Paul & Minneapolis!

Visit bit.ly/CLUESYaProgram for more information and to apply!

Contact yaprogram@clues.org or 612-403-7691 with questions
¿CUÁLES SON SUS SUEÑOS Y ESPERANZAS PARA EL FUTURO DE SUS HIJOS??

¿Graduarse? ¿Asistir a la universidad?
¿Tener una carrera profesional?

Las actividades del programa ¡YA! incluyen:
- Reuniones mensuales para los estudiantes y mentores
- Mentores individuales que tienen carreras profesionales
- Trabajos voluntarios en la comunidad
- Reuniones educacionales para los padres

¡Participar es gratuito y proveemos transporte en St. Paul y Minneapolis!

¡Visite bit.ly/CLUESYProgram para la aplicación!

Para más información, contáctenos al 612-403-7691 o yaprogram@clues.org
DANCE. SING. ACT.

Youth Performance Company

Summer 2022 Classes

FOR GRADERS K - 12

GRADES K-2

Disney Dance Party
Grades K-2 ★ June 13 – 17 ★ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Tales of Dragons and Unicorns
Grades K-2 ★ June 20 – 24 ★ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Creative Play: Dinosaur Dig
Grades K-2 ★ June 27 – July 1 ★ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Encanto (K-2)
Grades K-2 ★ July 11 – 15 ★ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Storytelling:
Magic Treehouse Adventures
Grades K-2 ★ July 11 – 15 ★ 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Pirates and Mermaids —
Adventures on the High Seas
Grades K-2 ★ July 18 – 22 ★ 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Adventures of Spider-Man
& other Super Heroes
Grades K-2 ★ July 25 – 29 ★ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Gotta Sing: Favorite Disney Songs
Grades K-2 ★ August 1 – 5 ★ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Create-a-Play
Grades K-2 ★ August 8 – 12 ★ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

GRADES 3-6 continued on back

Descendants
Grades 3 – 6 ★ June 13 – 17 ★ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Hogwarts Express
Grades 3 – 6 ★ June 20 – 24 ★ 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Madagascar, the Musical
Grades 3 – 6 ★ June 27 – July 1 ★ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Dance: Hip Hop
Grades 3 – 6 ★ July 5 – 8 ★ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Improv Studio
Grades 3 – 6 ★ July 5 – 8 ★ 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Shrek, the Musical
Grades 3 – 6 ★ July 11 – 15 ★ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Theatre 101
Grades 3 – 6 ★ July 18 – 22 ★ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

The Greatest Showman, Jr.
Grades 3 – 6 ★ July 25 – 29 ★ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Actor’s Toolbox
Grades 3 – 6 ★ August 1 – 5 ★ 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) is not sponsoring, endorsing, or recommending the activities/events announced in this flyer and no SPPS student will be turned away due to inability to pay (21-22).
GRACES 3–6 continued

**Sponge Bob**
Grades 3–6 ★ August 8–12 ★ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

**Acting: Stage Combat**
Grades 3–6 ★ August 15–19 ★ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Acting: Creating Characters**
Grades 3–6 ★ August 15–19 ★ 1:00 – 4:00 pm

**Encanto (Grade 3-6)**
Grades 3–6 ★ August 22–26 ★ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

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**GRACES 7–12**

**Acting: Improv**
Grades 7–12 ★ June 13–17 ★ 1:00 – 4:00 pm

**Hamilton**
Grades 7–12 ★ June 20–24 ★ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

**Acting: Sketch Comedy**
Grades 7–12 ★ June 27–July 1 ★ 1:00 – 4:00 pm

**Actor's ACTivism**
Grades 7–12 ★ July 5–8 ★ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

**Rocky Horror Picture Show**
Grades 7–12 ★ July 18–22 ★ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

**College Audition Prep**
Grades 10–12 ★ July 25–29 ★ 1:00 – 4:00 pm

**Encanto**
Grades 7–12 ★ August 1–5 ★ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

**Audition Pro**
Grades 7–12 ★ August 8–12 ★ 1:00 – 4:00 pm

**West Side Story**
Grades 7–12 ★ August 15–19 ★ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

**Mastering Monologues**
Grades 7–12 ★ August 22–26 ★ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Dance: Hip Hop**
Grades 7–12 ★ August 22–26 ★ 1:00 – 4:00 pm

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Class descriptions available online:
[youthperformanceco.org](http://www.youthperformanceco.org)

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Youth Performance Company empowers youth and inspires social change through BOLD theatre.

Classes are held at our office/rehearsal space at
641 Fairview Ave N
Suite 191, St Paul
just off University Avenue and the Green Line Light Rail stop

Enrollment is limited, please register early

Register online at
[youthperformanceco.org](http://www.youthperformanceco.org)

Youth Performance Company will update Covid specific policies as MDH and CDC guidelines evolve. Please check our current policies on our website — youthperformanceco.org

Youth Performance Company's classes are designed to appeal to a wide variety of artistic interests, personalities and abilities. Theatre education promotes problem solving skills, working cooperatively, leadership and self confidence. From beginners to experienced — learning never stops for the dedicated artist. Explore your potential and fuel your passion for theatre at YPC!

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[youthperformanceco.org](http://www.youthperformanceco.org) | 612.623.9180