



Young Scholars Newsletter

Young Scholars of McKeesport Charter School

FEBRUARY 2018

Volume 2, Issue 7



Holidays & Awareness Dates

National School Counseling Week (5-9)	Presidents Day (20)
Valentine's Day (14)	Heart Health Awareness Month
Career Week (13-17)	

3rd - 6th Grade Science Fair Update:

Scholars have been working hard this past month collecting and analyzing their data. Scholars have worked in their groups to compile their individual data and results. This week, they started working on their presentation so that they can then put together their displays next week. They are looking forward to displaying their hard work at the science fair this month. Parents and families of scholars in 3rd - 6th grade are welcome to attend the science fair on Monday February 12, 2018 from 10:15 - 11:00am.

February Birthdays

Ms. McCarty	Ayden B.	Emoney B.
Ty'ron H.	Niayva C.	Jai'Vaughn J.
Amar'e S.	Taylor N.	Terrance W.
Khiry M.	Kyree P.	



Career Day at YSMCS!

YSMCS will celebrate Career Day with local professionals and parents who are willing to spend their afternoon with us to inspire our children! So far, we have these career paths. If you'd like to volunteer, email Mrs. Conn at conn@ysmcs.org.

Fire Department – Nurse – EMT – Food Service Workers – Cosmetologist - Music Engineer - Marketing Manager – Athletics – Military – Library – College English Professor

100 days

of school By: Dr. Conner

February 1st was 100 Days of Schools!!! Over the past 100 days, our students have learned out!!! K and 1st grade students have become stronger readers, our 2nd grade students have been working hard to get ready for 3rd grade. Our 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th graders have been working hard on their science projects.

Our students work so hard that we wanted to make sure to take some time out to have fun! Teachers had various activities for students. Plus, we had school-wide activities. Each class had a period to do some fun activities in the cafeteria.

During the period, we had various centers. Students had a chance to make 100 Day Smarter Hats, Complete 10 Exercise Challenges, and make necklaces. The favorite activity for all grades was cup stacking! The students had 100 cups and made various structures.

We also had several parent volunteers. Thank you so much for your help! We could have not done it without you!



First Grade (1A) Corner!



In 1A we have been working very hard on schoolwork, but recently we also worked very hard on something very fun for both the students and staff. The week before National School Choice Week, the entire school was told we would be having a competition and the top three classes would perform live in front of the entire school.

1A would beg to practice the dance first thing every morning! Each day leading up to the submission of the dance, we would practice! The students LOVED learning the dance and wanted to win! They all learned the dance quickly. By the end of the first week we added in props, blue pom-poms and black scarves (our school colors). The kids loved it even more! The day before the live performance the students in 1A got to watch all of the other videos each class created. On Friday, January 26th, all the teachers got an email, which announced the top 3 classes. 1A made it to the top 3, so we got to perform our dance in front of the entire school. Although our class did great, the judges decided that we did not win. 1A got 2nd place!!! We are very proud of all the hard work our students put into the competition! If you want to see the top 3, visit the YSMCS Facebook page!

“...WITH EVERY LIFE YOU TRANSFORM, WITH EVERY LIFE YOU SAVE, YOU HAVE AN IMPACT THAT IS TRULY BEYOND MEASURE”

--Michelle Obama, July 2, 2014 to Professional School Counselors at the ASCA National Conference

Why “School Counselor” and not “Guidance Counselor”?

What's in a name?

“Guidance Counselor”

- Fearing that the U.S. was losing the space race and in response to Russians launching Sputnik into space in 1957, as well as the creation of the National Defense Education Act in 1958, schools were called upon to encourage students to pursue fields in math and science.
- The “Guidance Counselor” concept was initially developed for teachers to provide vocational assistance with no specialized training.
- The term “guidance counselor” refers to an individual without the same level of training as professional school counselors.
- “Guidance Counselors” do not provide standards-based instruction.
- Narrow focus on science and math.
- **Serves some students, not all students.**
- Answered the question: **“What do school counselors do?”**

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“School Counselor”

- The 1960s/1970s, began to shift away from focus exclusively on career development to include focus on student personal and social issues.
- A shift to strategic and systemic goals of providing comprehensive developmental school counseling program for all students.
- School Counselors provide:
 - Comprehensive
 - Data-driven
 - Developmental guidance programs
- Focus on:
 - Academic achievement
 - Social/emotional development
 - Career readiness
- Based on national and national state standards
- School counselors, as primary advocates for students, collaborate, consult, coordinate, counsel, guide, refer, support, teach, provide in-services, connect with parents, network, seek educational equity for all, while recognizing the need for systemic changes necessary to allow that to occur
- **Serves all students, not some students**
- Answers the question: **“How are students different as a result of what school counselors do?”**

Be sure to do the kindness challenge being sent home for #NSCW18!

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Celebrating National School Counseling Week

Focusing on the profession, not the individual

NSCW15.Jan@Desmarrais-Morse



Our Classroom Newsletter

What is happening in 2nd Grade
in February!

Reading:
2nd Grade is learning different literary elements like plot, author's purpose and main idea.

Language Arts: We are studying verb tenses, synonyms and contractions.

Math:



MATHEMATICIANS will be learning how to **SUBTRACT** and **ADD** **THREE** digit numbers with and without regrouping!!

Social Studies:

We are researching famous black people in history!! 2nd grade will be creating brochures to describe and write about their famous person they are researching.

Science:

Our **MAD SCIENTISTS** will be learning about the **SOLAR SYSTEM** and will be making their own **SOLAR SYSTEM!!**



Other News: Please encourage your child to read each night in order to increase their reading skills. Make sure you fill out the reading logs for each month. Our K-2 Valentine's Day dance will be Tuesday February 13, 2018. Please RSVP.

1B Class News

Ms. Woods and Mrs. Conn

February, 2018



Ms. Woods {woods@ysmcs.org}



WHAT WE ARE LEARNING

- * **Math** - We are learning how to compare numbers with symbols
- * **Reading** - We are working on comparing and contrasting stories and parts of a story
- * **Writing** - We just finished our Science writing and 100 days writing, they are fabulous! We are working on poetry and our Black History Month writing now
- * **Science** - We are growing cat grass, Zinia flowers and bean plants in the classroom!
- * **Social Studies** - We are learning About important African Americans for Black History month.

HOMEWORK



Please make sure your student is completing their homework packet by Friday every week!

Please make sure your student is practicing their spelling words for their test every Friday! Each week has a spelling rule that is taught in class, the children should be familiar with the rule and their words.

If you would like to schedule a parent-teacher conference with us, we would love to talk with you. Please email or call to set up an appointment!

NOTES FROM THE TEACHER

Here are some pictures of us doing fun things in class this month!



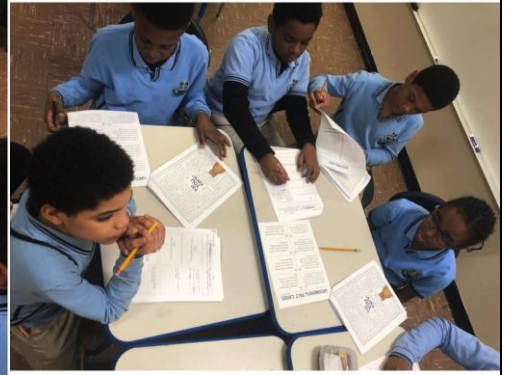
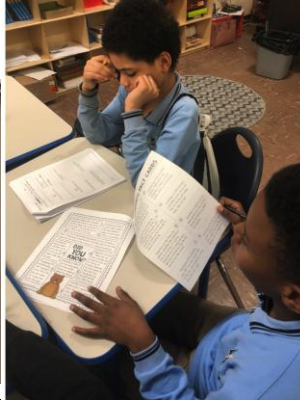
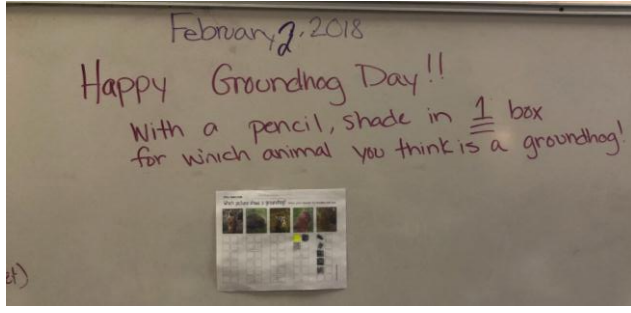
IMPORTANT DATES



- * 2/12 - Half-day for students
- * 2/12 - Science fair for grades 3-6
- * 2/13 - K-2 dance 6-7pm
- * 2/14 - Career Day!
- * 2/19 - No school!

Student Photo Fun!

3rd and 4th graders learning how to write fact based opinion essays about Groundhog Day!



3-6th Grade Crime Prevention Program with Allegheny County Deputy Sheriff



100 Days of School!



Do you have great news to share? Know of any events going on? Please let us know so that we can add it to the monthly newsletter!! If you'd like to be a part of our newsletter, please feel free to email shatten@ysmcs.org.

Student Photo Fun! (Continued..)

