



Miss Palladino-Principal

March 10, 2023

Donovan Middle School Principal Palladino's Update



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LOOKING AHEAD

March – 30-week
Assessments

April 7 - 16
(No School)

April 17
(Back to School)

Welcome New Staff

Mrs. Scalise (Counselor)

315-368-6584

escalise@uticaschools.org

Mrs. Lupi (Attendance Teacher)

315-368-6571

clupi@uticaschools.org

Ms. Sid (Safe Schools)

315-369-6589

psid@uticaschools.org

Ms. Gonzalez (Safe Schools)

315-368-6589

mgonzalez@uticaschools.org



MOVIE TIME



ADMIT
ONE

Donovan Middle School Movie Night

Puss and Boots: The Last Wish (PG)

March 31st 2:30 - 4:30 PM

Pre-Sale ONLY: \$2 per ticket

Tickets will be sold March 20th - 24th

Tickets Include: Entry, Small Bag of Popcorn, & 1 Drink

Additional snacks will be sold

Location: Donovan Middle School Auditorium

Students will stay after school and go straight to the Auditorium once they are dismissed from their Period 9 class. ALL students must have a ride to pick them up from school at 4:30 PM.

There will be no late buses.

Student Requirements March 8th-31st

- No unexcused absences or tardiness. Excuses must be turned in by March 24.
- No full day of in school or out of school suspensions



MOVIE NIGHT

TAKE 1

ACTION!

Social Emotional Learning



Social and emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. See attached resource:

20 Ways to Keep Your Middle Schooler Interested in Reading

Attached is a list of award winners for the month of February.

RAVING ABOUT A RAIDER (RAR) Raffle Tickets are given to students by any staff in the building for attendance, behavior and academics. Some examples of how to earn a RAR Raffle Ticket are turning in lost money, improved attendance, improved tardiness, getting a perfect score on an assessment, helping others and any other reason a staff member wants to reward or thank a student. Staff may also recognize other staff with RARs; typically 10 student winners and 2 staff winners are drawn each month.

STAR RAIDER Awards are given out by the Attendance Teacher, Mrs. Kristoff and Mrs. Lupi. Teachers nominate students monthly for Citizenship, Most Improved, Best Participation and Perfect Attendance. From the nominees, winners are randomly chosen to receive a special certificate and reward for this month.



SCHOLASTIC

20 Ways to Keep Your Middle Schooler Interested in Reading

These teacher-approved techniques will find your child adopting books into their daily routine.

By Scholastic Parents Staff Mar 03, 2023



Sports, screens, sleepovers: The life of a middle schooler is busy and frenetic.

During this charged transition between the preteen and teenage years, it might seem like getting your kids to do their homework is enough. But the truth is, a **reading routine** remains as essential now to your child's schedule — and growth — as it was in elementary school. At this age, your child is reading for knowledge, further exploring their interests and discovering their subject strengths.

We spoke with Sarah Doss Worosylo and Carrie Aylor, two 7th grade language arts teachers from Colorado, about the techniques they employ to help students retain their focus on reading — including how to squeeze in pages between school and home.

Doss Worosylo reminds parents that letting children choose their books is imperative for keeping them interested in reading. Among her students, Doss Worosylo sees **representation** and **escape** as the top characteristics kids want from their books.

"Middle school students want to see characters that look, sound, feel, and act like they do," she says. "Escape is another important need."

The chance to **escape and enter another realm** through books, if only temporarily, offers a way for middle schoolers to balance the tensions of adolescence. It's a moment of personal calm that can be found only in books.

"It doesn't always have to be a fantasy novel full of magic and larger-than-life characters," Doss Worosylo says, "but a story that gives students a chance to dissolve into a new world, to keep wondering, 'What will happen next?' or to give them a place to disappear from daily life."

Below, Doss Worosylo and Aylor share 20 tips to keep your middle schooler interested in reading.

For more quick tips and book recommendations, sign up for our Scholastic Parents newsletter!

Enter your email address

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- 1. Let your child choose their reading material.** You may see them gravitate toward nonfiction, science fiction and fantasy, or humor. Whatever it is, be sure to provide ready access!
- 2. Subscribe to magazines that will interest them.** Ask your child to choose one or two titles and put the subscription in their name to make it extra-special when an issue arrives. You can also visit a local library and explore their magazine collection.
- 3. Read the news together.** Establish a routine for reviewing current events around the world. Ask your child how they feel about the headlines and encourage them to form opinions.

4. Keep up with what they're reading. If you can, read a few pages of their books yourself so you can discuss them together. If your child is a strong or advanced independent reader, this also allows you to judge material for age-appropriateness.

5. Talk about what they're reading. Asking your child what they like about their books compels them to make connections and think critically. Summarizing and sequencing events will challenge their reading comprehension (which is a significant component of standardized testing).

6. If they're struggling or bored with a book, let them put it down. Reading is meant to be fun, and the more kids enjoy their books, the more likely they are to keep reading. Achieving reading frequency takes practice, and that means trying different titles until that just-right book is found.

7. Ensure they have a good reading space. Let them choose the nook, and make sure it's well-lit and inviting. If you find your child is enjoying their reading space past bedtime, be flexible. Avoid asking your child to stop reading.

8. Play games that utilize reading. If you have a family game night, try incorporating word- and vocabulary-based games, like Scrabble or Boggle. Completing crosswords in the morning is another opportunity for learning new words and practicing spelling.

9. Encourage your middle schooler to read to a younger sibling. Letting your older child take over the nightly reading ritual once a week will ensure they read something. They may find their younger sibling's enthusiasm for stories contagious.

10. Visit the bookstore or library together. Make discovering new books a regular event where you get to share quality one-on-one time.

11. Encourage journaling. Journaling is a skill-building activity that allows your child to record observations, ambitions, problems, and solutions. Writing about their books further allows them to explore their interests, not to mention refine their book-reviewing techniques for class and build their social-emotional skills.

12. Explore books based on popular media. Your child may not know that the on-screen adventures of their favorite superhero continue in books. For example, check out *The Bad Guys* series and watch the movie! Literary extensions of multimedia franchises offer an entry point for reluctant readers drawn to movies and TV series.

13. Provide access to audiobooks. Books on tape are an easy way to connect your child with the rhythms and pace of a story — and they're surprisingly successful among this age group. Whether you're heading on vacation or just back-and-forth to school, try listening to a book that appeals to everyone. Equip your child's mobile device with an audiobook platform as well, so they can listen on their own time.

14. Model reading. From birth, your child is **modeling their behaviors after you**. Your pre-teen will follow your reading habits (though they'll never let you know it!). Let them see you reading, strike up a dialogue about what you're reading, and share interesting passages with them.

15. Allow and encourage kids to re-read their favorite books. Parents may be discouraged to see their child reading the same book over and over. In reality, they are reading for pleasure and likely picking up on new words and contexts with each read.

16. Leave reading material in the car. Pack a bag with books, magazines — whatever your child likes to read — for quick grab-and-read opportunities. **Parents have told Scholastic in interviews** that their child's favorite time to read is in the car on the way to sports practice.

17. Start a book club. Choose a title the whole family can read together, or help your child organize a regular meetup with friends to discuss a selection in person, virtually, or via text message.

18. Take reading outside. Enjoying books literally outside of the everyday routine shows kids books are there to be enjoyed and can provide an escape. They can listen to audiobooks while hiking, or find a peaceful park to read in.

19. Try out multiple formats of a book. Many popular book series, like **Wings of Fire**, have been adapted as chapter books and graphic novels, and others have corresponding audiobooks and e-books. A book's format can have a major effect on the overall reading experience: The illustrations and simple text of graphic novels, for example, are especially popular with reluctant readers who can comprehend context more quickly. Trying different formats also lets young readers experiment with different reading styles (e.g., digital vs. print), to determine what they're most comfortable with.

20. Meet an author. To bring life to the reading experience, help your child seek out local events with their favorite writers. If you can't meet an author in person, check out their official website, listen to interviews they've done, or watch book trailers for their books. Meeting an author and hearing what inspires them can inspire readers to seek out related titles.

Looking for more tips? See all expert advice about establishing **reading routines at home**.

Discover books your middle schooler will love below! You can find all books and activities at **The Scholastic Store**.

RAVING ABOUT A RAIDER

February Award Winners

Student

Derrick Henderson
Shi Shi Htoo
Jaseyda Johnson
Caysen Jones
Na'Quan McGirt-Savage
Christine Moskal
Johanna Padilla Rivera
May Pearl
Dayanis Sevilla
Devin Smith

Nominated by

Ms. Conner
Ms. Jones
Ms. Wehrle
Ms. Buono
Ms. Conner
Ms. Saville
Mr. Singleton
Mr. Fagan
Ms. O'Herien
Mr. Fagan

Employee

Jasmine Parker
Mrs. Polinski

Nominated by

Mrs. Moss
Mrs. Kokoszki



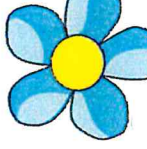
February S.T.A.R. Raiders Award Winners

Grade 7	Grade 8
<p style="text-align: center;">Outstanding Citizenship</p> <p>1. Sanei Fowler Nominated by: Ms. Gordon</p> <p>2. Sinciere Thorpe Nominated by: Ms. Barringer & Ms. Wronka</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Outstanding Citizenship</p> <p>1. Akasha Ervin Nominated by: Ms. Tillotson</p> <p>2. Christopher Turner Nominated by: Mr. Esford</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Most Improved</p> <p>1. Azaryan Butler Nominated by: Mr. Colone</p> <p>2. Tijuan Carter Nominated by: Ms. Kokoszki & Ms. Forte</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Most Improved</p> <p>1. Jef'von Stewart Nominated by: Ms. Hyde</p> <p>2. Joanne Vo Nominated by: Mr. Singleton</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Best Participation</p> <p>1. Shamira Williams Nominated by: Ms. Pedulla</p> <p>2. Christopher Rose Nominated by: Ms. Saville</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Best Participation</p> <p>1. Lorena Meija Nominated by: Ms. Mihajlovic</p> <p>2. Angelia Davis Nominated by: Ms. Buono</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Perfect Attendance</p> <p>1. Mohamud Abdikadir</p> <p>2. Cherish Bu</p> <p>3. Kaw Ler Bwe</p> <p>4. Araya Ward</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Perfect Attendance</p> <p>1. Nyalynn Awak</p> <p>2. Nich Neang</p> <p>3. Anthony Nguyen</p> <p>4. Elise Simmons</p>

DMS April 2023

VISION Students will be prepared to be successful in the 21st Century

MISSION DMS Staff will use data driven decision making to provide academically challenging experiences in a respectful, responsible, safe and a kind environment in collaboration with parents!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 	3 Day 2	4 Day 1	5 Day 2	6 Day 1	7 No School	1 
9 	10 No School	11 No School	12 No School	13 No School	14 No School	15 
16 	17 Day 2	18 Day 1	19 Day 2 NYS ELA ASSESSMENT	20 Day 1 NYS ELA ASSESSMENT	21 Day 2 Principal Update posted on website	22 
23 	24 Day 1	25 Day 2	26 Day 1	27 Day 2	28 Day 1	29 
30 	