

Principal's Desk...

Dear Dolphin Family, Silver Lakes Middle continues to be very busy! Our school community and iZone did an outstanding job collecting for this year's Harvest Drive. Our Harvest Drive was a truly amazing event. Our staff and students were able to collect over 150 nonperishable food items and turkeys for families in the surrounding community. It is amazing seeing the students assist and so happy to help. The students, staff, and community came together to make a huge difference in the lives of those less fortunate in our community and the surrounding community.



Our girls' and boys' basketball teams completed their amazing regular season. We cheered them on as they played and represented SLMS well. Our Band, Step Team, Latin Band, and cheerleaders continue to do amazing things as well. Seeing our students perform at the North Lauderdale Holiday Parade event on December 11th was exciting!

Students will take the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) progress monitoring test for ELA and Math. Please encourage your students to try their best on these tests because it allows teachers to understand where your child's academic strengths are and helps identify areas in need of growth.

As we approach the midpoint of the year, I hope that all of you have an amazing Holiday Season and a Happy New Year. Enjoy your time with friends and family over the Winter Break!

Silver Lakes Middle

Errol A. Evans, Principal



DOL-FAM EXPRESS

December Edition 2023

IMPORTANT DECEMBER DATES:

- 12/19 - MTL Induction 2:30 PM (Media Center)
- 12/20 - SAC Meeting 6:00 PM (Room 203)
- 12/20 - Staff Winter Holiday Luncheon
- 12/21 - iZone Concert 6:00 PM (Cafeteria)

IMPORTANT JANUARY DATES:

- 1/8 - Classes Resume
- 1/15 - No School (MLK Holiday)
- 1/18 - Magnet Open House 6:00 PM
- 1/19 - Early Release Day (**Dismissal 1:45 PM**)
- 1/22 - No School (Employee Planning)
- 1/22-26 - Literacy Week

FAST TEST

Florida Assessment of Student Thinking

- 12/13 Grades 6-8: ELA Reading
- 12/15 Grades 6-8: Math
- 12/20 Geometry
- 12/21 Algebra
- 12/18-21 Make-Up ELA & Math



*"Hard work beats talent
when talent doesn't
work hard"* -Tim Notke



Civics

In our civics classroom, our students learn about the rights, responsibilities, and duties of citizens, as well as the structure and functions of government. Here are some highlights of what may be covered in a civics class:

- Understanding Government Systems: Students learn about different types of government systems.
- Rights and Liberties: Students study the fundamental rights and liberties guaranteed to citizens, such as freedom of speech, assembly, and religion.
- Constitution and Rule of Law: Students examine the constitution and its role in establishing the framework for government operations.
- Civic Participation: Students explore the importance of civic participation and engagement in a democracy.
- Public Policy and Current Issues: Students analyze various public policies and the impact they have on society.
- Rights and Responsibilities: Students gain an understanding of their rights as citizens, as well as the responsibilities and duties that come with those rights.

These highlights are just a glimpse into the diverse topics and concepts that are covered in a civics classroom. The aim is to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for active citizenship and informed decision-making in a democratic society.

SCIENCE

Silver Lakes Middle School Science Department Announces Midterm Completion for 8th Grade Science and 7th Grade GEARS Class

Silver Lakes, December 21, 2023 – The Science Department at Silver Lakes Middle School is pleased to announce the successful completion of midterms for both the 8th Grade Science and 7th Grade GEARS class. The midterms, which took place earlier this week, provided students with an opportunity to showcase their knowledge and understanding of the subjects covered thus far.

Looking ahead, the Science Department is preparing for in-class review sessions, which will commence on January 24, 2024. These sessions will be conducted during regular class hours and will help students recapitulate key concepts, reinforce their understanding, and address any questions or concerns they may have before the taking the Science Standard Assessment.



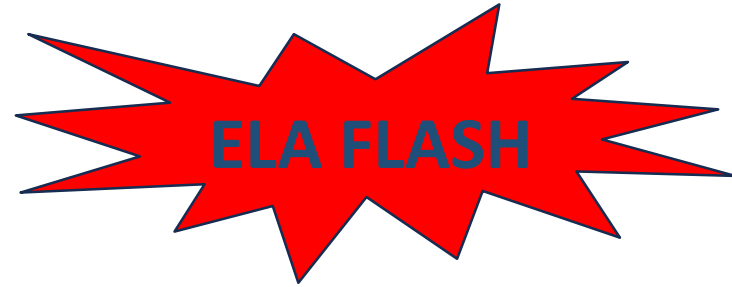
Celebrating Numbers
at Silver Lakes Middle
School!

MATH DEPARTMENT

Silver Lakes Middle Dolphins continue to leap out and propel our math scores upward. The PM 2 (Progress Monitoring Math 2) scores indicate that 46% of our students are at or approaching mastery.

Kudos to our math teachers who are dedicated to our ELO after-school program, pull-in, and push and tutoring programs. The Savvas curriculum and SuccessMaker programs are designed with core math instruction. SuccessMaker provides our students with continuous adaptive math instruction. It is personalized math learning that is unique to every student.

In 2024, our math students will continue to participate in our ST Math program using counting and numbers and circles blocking JiJi, the penguin, from crossing the path. Digital puzzles and games are used to teach our students math skills.



Over the past few weeks, our students have been actively engaged in various activities and assignments, making significant strides in their reading skills.

We are pleased to inform you that our students have successfully completed their Unit One test. This assessment aimed to evaluate their comprehension, vocabulary, and critical thinking skills developed throughout the unit. We have witnessed remarkable growth in their ability to analyze texts, evaluate arguments, and draw connections between different ideas. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and dedication to their studies.

Currently, our students are embarking on a new writing challenge: an argumentative essay. The upcoming weeks will be dedicated to understanding the elements of persuasive writing, constructing logical arguments, and presenting their viewpoints effectively. Our aim is for each student to develop a well-structured, evidence-based argumentative essay that showcases their ability to articulate their opinions and support them with credible sources.

We encourage you to support your child's progress in the following ways:

- **Encourage Reading:** Encourage regular reading at home to build vocabulary, comprehension, and critical thinking skills.
- **Provide Writing Opportunities:** Encourage students to write journal entries, opinion pieces, or short essays on topics that interest them.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in your child's education. Together, we can help them achieve their full potential.



DOL-FAM HAPPENINGS...







Speaking in front of an audience of your peers is never an easy task. Can you imagine being a middle school student standing in front of your peers and giving an impromptu speech that you prepared in 7 minutes or less? It is nerve-wracking! Give our students credit for signing up and becoming involved in our Broward County Speech and Debate Program and for attending the county-wide tournaments where they compete for NSDA points and rankings as well as medals and trophies. One of our current participants just earned her first medal in Impromptu. Congratulations to Christina Ashley for this accomplishment! She has also participated in the Student Congress. We commend all of the students who are attending these tournaments in such events as Poetry, Duo Interpretation, Impromptu, and Storytelling ... we are proud of their efforts. Moreover, we are happy for Ms. Deidesheimer for being their Coach and for facilitating the comeback of the Silver Lakes STEM Middle School program's involvement. She is helping build the program and providing a necessary component for our students' growth in critical thinking skills and getting them to enjoy the competitive environment that these tournaments provide.

Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders

SLMS 1st MTL Cohort Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders (MTL) is a peer-to-peer mentoring and student leadership program that serves youth who are at risk of not graduating and/or remaining in school. The program aims to decrease dropout rates, particularly among minority males, to ensure successful school graduation. MTL focuses on the five pillars: Academic achievement, mentoring, family involvement, community support, and incentives.



Debate



Alyssa's Alert

- Report Crime and Suspicious Activity
- Receive Emergency Alerts
- Anonymously Submit a Tip




HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Mobile Duress Alert App

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STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

- HOLD**
In your room or area.
Clear the halls.
- SECURE**
Get inside.
Lock outside doors.
- LOCKDOWN**
Locks, lights,
out of sight.
- EVACUATE**
To the announced
location.
- SHELTER**
Using the announced
hazard and strategy.

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BROWARD County Public Schools

See Something, Say Something

Be a Broward Buddy, Report a Tip!

In an emergency, call 911 immediately. To submit a safety or security concern that is not an emergency, please use one of the tip reporting methods provided below. Please remember you can choose to remain anonymous.

- Anonymous Tip Submission Box**
Submit a tip easily via our Anonymous Tip Submission Box (no download required). Provide as much detail as you can, including names of people involved, physical descriptions, school name, social media handles, etc.
[BrowardSchools.com/SecurityTips](https://www.browardschools.com/SecurityTips)
- Call Us Anytime (Even on Holidays)**
Call our District Security Operations Center (DSOC) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (including holidays). One of our friendly DSOC Specialists will take your tip over the phone and submit it immediately to our investigators. Please let the DSOC Specialist know if you wish to remain anonymous.
754-321-3500
- Send Us an Email**
Submit a tip using the email address below. Although your email address is displayed using this tip reporting method, you can choose to remain anonymous by simply requesting it in your message.
SecurityTips@BrowardSchools.com
- FortifyFL**
Submit a tip via FortifyFL online (no download required) or download the app for easier use. Visit FortifyFL, using the link below. Your tip will immediately reach law enforcement and Broward Schools investigators.
[GetFortifyFL.com](https://www.getfortifyfl.com)

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