



ARMS - Things to Know in December

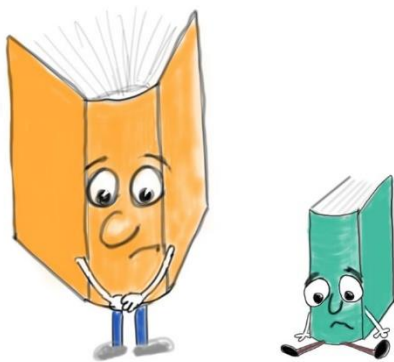
Date	Event
Friday, December 1	Chorus 7 "Lighting of the Merry Maple" Performance - Students will meet at the Amherst Town Hall at 4 P.M. The concert begins at 4:30 P.M. Our portion of the evening ends around 5 P.M. Students are to dress for COLD WEATHER.
Tuesday, December 5	Book Swap During Guided Study – See Information below
Tuesday, December 5	Team Jaguar Parent/Teacher Conferences (by appointment only – see letter below)
Tuesday, December 5	Team Karma Parent/Teacher Conferences (by appointment only – see letter below)
Wednesday, December 6	Book Swap During Guided Study – See Information below
Wednesday, December 6	Team Jaguar Parent/Teacher Conferences (by appointment only – see letter below)
Wednesday, December 6	Team Karma Parent/Teacher Conferences (by appointment only – see letter below)
Wednesday, December 6	Team Lycanthrope Parent/Teacher Conferences (by appointment only – see letter below)
Wednesday, December 6	Chorus 7, Band 7 and Orchestra 7 Concert - Students will meet in the ARMS Auditorium at 6:30 P.M. The concert begins at 7:00 P.M. and should be over by 8:00 P.M. Concert Dress: Black pants, skirt, or leggings. No rips, tears, or slits - White top: Altos must wear a white dress shirt. Girls are not to wear tops that expose their abdomens, have spaghetti straps or halter styled tops. Shoulders must be covered.
Thursday, December 7	Book Swap During Guided Study – See Information below And Book Swap-Palooza and Meet Henry and N.M. Reade – Authors of The Pencil Bandits – See Information below
Thursday, December 7	Team Jaguar Parent/Teacher Conferences (by appointment only – see letter below)
Thursday, December 7	Team Karma Parent/Teacher Conferences (by appointment only – see letter below)
Thursday, December 7	Team Lycanthrope Parent/Teacher Conferences (by appointment only – see letter below)
Friday, December 8	Team Jaguar Parent/Teacher Conferences (by appointment only – see letter below)
Friday, December 8	Team Karma Parent/Teacher Conferences (by appointment only – see letter below)
Wednesday, December 13	Early Release Day – Students will be dismissed at 12 noon. Lunches will be served prior to dismissal.
Friday, December 22	Early Release Day – Students will be dismissed at 12 noon. Lunches will be served prior to dismissal.
Monday, December 25 through Monday, January 1	Holiday Break – School is Closed.
Tuesday, January 2	First Day Back to School after the Holiday Break – This is a full day of school 7:45-2:20.

Cancellation of School - Call 413-362-1898 to hear the superintendent's recorded message about his decision regarding inclement weather cancellations. Cancellations are also posted on the home page of the district web site www.arps.org. Also, school cancellations for severe weather or other emergencies will be announced via the following media:

WRNX/WTTT – Amherst	1430 AM	WHMP – Northampton	1400 AM or 99.3 FM
WHAI – Greenfield	1240 AM or 98.3 FM	WHYN – Springfield	93.1 FM
WMAS – Springfield	94.7 FM	WPVQ – Greenfield	93.9 FM
Channel 22 – Springfield		Channel 40 – Springfield	
Superintendent's Hotline	362-1898 (24 hours)	Sports Cancellation Line	362-1798
District Website	www.arps.org		

We're having a
**BOOK
SWAP**

In the ARMS Library!



What is a book swap?

Donate books you no longer want and select free books that you can keep.

Every student will get to take home at least 1 FREE book from the used books that are donated!

***BOOKS NEEDED
NOW!***

Please drop off donations in your English Class or the Library anytime before December 5th.

The Book Swap takes place during Guided Study

December 5-7

Each teacher will be assigned a time to visit the book swap.

Book Swap-Palooza

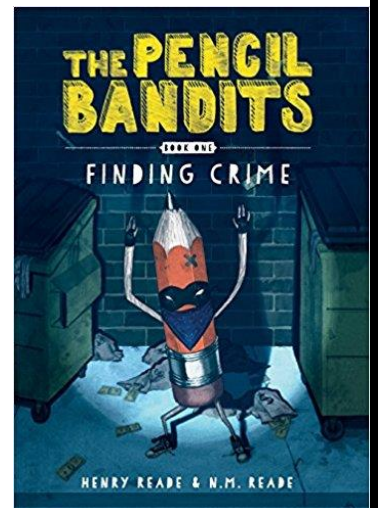
After school on Thursday, Dec. 7 (2:30-3:45).

Take as many books as you can carry from the books that remain at the end of the swap

AND

Meet Henry & N.M. Reade –
authors of The Pencil Bandits series
(books will be available to purchase)

All books left after the swap will be donated to a local charity.



AMHERST - PELHAM *Regional* SCHOOL DISTRICT
AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

Amherst Regional Middle School
170 Chestnut Street
Amherst, Massachusetts 01002
(413) 362-1800 FAX (413) 549-9812 www.arps.org/ms

Patty Bode, Interim Principal
Alicia Lopez, Interim Assistant Principal
David Ranen, Interim Assistant Principal

November 21, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians of Seventh Grade Students:

We are pleased to invite you to participate in a conference with your student's teacher to discuss their school experiences and how we may collaborate for ongoing success. Every year, after spending time getting to know our 7th grade students, we schedule parent/guardian conferences with all ARMS 7th grade families. Our goals are to share what we have learned and plan together how to maximize each student's success for the remainder of 7th grade and into the 8th grade year.

YOU ARE INVITED! We invite you to please call or email to schedule your 20-minute conference during the week that your student's team has conferences. Teachers are eager to hear from you how middle school is going from your home perspective. We have translators available in many languages; we want to include YOUR voice and YOUR ideas in the conference. A team teacher from your student's team will bring information from each of the four team class teachers to share at that conference.

Conference Dates:

Team Jaguar:

- Tuesday, December 5 (day and evening times available on this date);
- Wednesday, December 6;
- Thursday, December 7;
- Friday, December 8

Team Karma:

- Tuesday, December 5;
- Wednesday, December 6;
- Thursday, December 7;
- Friday, December 8

Team Lycanthrope:

- Wednesday, December 6;
- Thursday, December 7

SCHEDULE YOUR CONFERENCE! Please call the main office (413-362-1850) or email Sue Battistoni at battistonis@arps.org. If you send an email, please include student name, team, dates and times that you are available. Sue will send you back a confirmation of the day and time you are scheduled. Our goal is to meet with all seventh grade families, so we sincerely hope you will attend to discuss your student's school life! If the dates listed above do not work, we can arrange a phone conference or another way to communicate with you. Please inform Sue B and we will be in touch to

find a creative solution to help you participate in your student's conference. We sincerely want to connect with all families.

PREPARE FOR YOUR CONFERENCE!

ARMS has an online grade reporting system called "PowerSchool" If you have access to a computer and the internet, or your child's school chromebook, you can go online to see your student's grades and to view which assignments they have completed.

PowerSchool Parent Portal! To prepare for your conference, it will be helpful for you to access PowerSchool through the "parent portal." You will need to create a "parent account" online in the PowerSchool program in order to view your student's grades and updates about whether they completed their assignments.

You need a password! To protect your child's privacy, we are required to ask you to show an ID in our school office, and then Judi or Sue will give you your password and instructions.

Here's how to create the account! It takes a few steps to create the parent account. We have provided videos in both English and Spanish that explain how to create the account. We also provide text-written directions. Those can be found on our web site at:

http://arms.arps.org/for_parents/instructions_for_parent_portal

WE CAN HELP! If you do not have internet access, we can provide information about grades and progress reports with you. Please do not hesitate to call us at 413-362-1850 to let us what we can do to keep you informed about your student's school work.

We want to partners with parents and guardians for student success at ARMS. We welcome you with Open ARMS to your parent/guardian-teacher conference!

