

FROM the MIDDLE

Dates to Remember In May

May 24	MS Math Semester Exam (8 th graders and Algebra) 8:30-10:30 a.m.(Dress Down)
May 24	8 th Grade Recognition Rehearsal - 12:30 – 2:20 – C.V. Whitney Gym
May 25	MS 8 th Grade Language Exam 8:30-10:30 a.m. (Dress Down)
May 25	8 th Graders May Leave at 11:30 with parents' permission (after exams and locker clean-out)
May 26	6 th and 7 th Grade Field Day on campus
May 26	8 th Grade to King's Island – 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
May 27	8 th Grade Recognition and MS Awards Ceremony 10:00 a.m. C. V. Whitney Gym Reception for 8 th grade families following the Ceremony – Commons
May 27	11:30 Dismissal for Sixth and Seventh Grade

Important Information

- **Eighth Grade and Algebra Exams:** All eighth grade students take semester exams in their math and modern language classes; seventh graders enrolled in Algebra or Spanish 8 will also take the Algebra or Spanish exam.

Tuesday, May 24

MS Math 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Algebra and Geometry in KUA; Introduction to Algebra in Amy Sheehan's room

Wed., May 25

MS Language 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Spanish in KUA; French in the Upper School French room with Madame Froehlich

Spring Exams are Dress Down

- **Eighth Grade to King's Island:** On Thursday, May 26, the eighth grade will celebrate their three years of Middle School with a pre-Recognition Ceremony hurrah! The trip to King's Island is one of the beloved traditions of our eighth graders...by that point, they will have finished their exams and cleaned their lockers. Their minds will be on dressing up for their Recognition Ceremony and on becoming high school freshmen. But for the day at King's Island, they will celebrate their status as Sayre Middle School eighth graders with rides and terribly unhealthy food!

• **Middle School Awards and Eighth Grade Recognition Ceremony:** On Friday, May 27 at 10:00 a.m. we will recognize our eighth graders for successful completion of Middle School and their move up to Upper School. The event also serves as our Middle School Awards Ceremony. How time flies! Please note that for this special event Special Program Dress is required. For this time only, we allow eighth grade girls to wear dresses with one sleeve, strapless, or spaghetti straps as long as they wear a cardigan or shrug for the entire time. Please note that students are not permitted to wear a strapless, spaghetti strap, or one-strap dress without a cardigan or shrug. Sixth or seventh graders who choose to wear a dress must have straps the width of two fingers; dressier pants and tops are also allowed for all three grades. Also, heels must not exceed two inches. Boys wear Special Dress, including a jacket and tie, dress shoes, dress pants, and a belt.

After the ceremony, eighth grade parents, students, siblings, and their families are invited to a reception in the Middle School Commons hosted by seventh grade parents.

• **Summer Reading, Math, and the Library Book Fair:** Sayre School and Joseph-Beth Booksellers have partnered again this year to bring your family the best Book Fair in town! For the week of May 16-20, the Book Fair will be open in the library. Not only will all of the school's required reading selections be available, but other excellent choices for the readers in your life will be there. The following is the list of summer reading selections for our students:

[Summer Reading List](#)

Incoming 6th Graders:

One Came Home by Amy Timberlake

Incoming 7th Graders:

Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard Book 1: The Sword of Summer by Rick Riordan

Incoming 8th Graders: Note that eighth graders have an assignment on the Constitution (see below)

Outsiders by S. E. Hinton AND

The United States Constitution: A Graphic Adaptation by Jonathan Hennessey and Aaron McConnell

[Incoming Eighth Grade Assignment](#)

Summer Math: Students in grades five, six, and seven will be given a math assignment to complete during the summer. Summer math is assigned simply to prevent the loss of math skills over the weeks of summer.

• **WSMS Podcast:** If you haven't yet heard, the Middle School has a regular

[Middle School Podcast](#)

Listen to these talented young people broadcast community news, jokes, interviews, stories, and features. Currently in its second year, the idea first came from students, and Mr. Brad Becker immediately responded to their request. The brainstorming of a handful of kids evolved into a regular aspect of the community that has generated lots of buzz. Check out our podcast by logging into the parent portal and, under “Resources,” clicking on “WSMS Podcast.”

• **Green Team:**

Sayre Middle School’s Green Team will go to Washington D.C. to accept the award for the best project in the Commonwealth and to represent Kentucky at the National Energy Conference, to be held June 24-27. Please congratulate the Green Team on their hard work and tremendous success!

• **Teacher Professional Development:**

Delia Pergande Selected to Attend Brown University Leadership Institute:

Global Refugees: Human Rights, Responsibilities, and Responses

Delia Pergande, Upper School history teacher at Sayre School, was recently selected to attend the Choices Program's annual Summer Leadership Institute at Brown University. This year's institute is focused on helping teachers develop the knowledge and skills needed to examine the global refugee crisis and its implications for international relations.

"Choices provides valuable tools for fostering the critical thinking and analytical skills my students need to develop as citizens in our democracy," says Pergande. "I am excited to learn more about the global refugee crisis, human rights issues in general, and responses to the refugee crisis in Europe. It can be challenging at times to teach students about this constantly changing issue and its impact on U.S. foreign policy decisions. The Choices Program provides valuable pedagogical tools for approaching difficult international topics, and I look forward to sharing my knowledge with other educators."

The Choices Program is affiliated with the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University and housed within Brown's School of Professional Studies.

[Watson Institute for International Studies Official Press Release](#)