

FROM the MIDDLE

Dates to Remember In August, September, and October

August 29	Middle School Back to School Night – 7:00 p.m.
September 2	Labor Day – School closed
September 3	Sixth Grade Parent Trip Meeting – 8:15 a.m. – KUA (Basement of the Library)
September 11-13	Middle School Sixth and Seventh Grade Trips
September 24	Community Service Day – 9:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Snack and Lunch provided
September 25	Student Council Elections – 10:30 a.m. – Flex – Commons
September 26	Community Service Day – 9:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Snack and Lunch provided
September 27	Fall Festival at the SAC (Sayre Athletic Complex) – 3:30 – 6:00
October 3	Eighth Grade Parent Trip Meeting – 8:15 a.m. – KUA (Basement of the Library)
October 11	Fall Break/Records Day (no school; end of first term)
October 14	Fall Break (no school)
October 16	Picture Day – Special Program Dress required Art Exhibit
October 18	Fun Day

Important Information

• **Hepatitis A Vaccination:** Please note that the school is following the recommendation of the American Academy of Pediatrics that all students Preschool – 12 receive two doses of Hepatitis A vaccine six months apart. You should contact your individual pediatrician to see if your child has received the first (or both) vaccinations. Many practices were already giving this vaccine as a matter of course, but not all. If s/he has not received the first dose, please contact a pharmacy or your doctor to receive the first vaccination within the first two weeks of school. This is a mandatory vaccination. For more information, contact Kristin Seymour or Sarah Leer.

• **MS 1-to-1 iPad Program for Grades 6 – 8; iPads in Classrooms for Fifth:** For answers to all of your 1-to-1 iPad program questions, follow the link to the Middle School 1-to-1 page. In fifth grade, students will have access to a cart of iPads and, for the most part, those devices will stay at school. For grades 6 through 8, each new student or sixth grader has an iPad given to them by the school and included in tuition. No need to purchase a device. Email Mr. Becker any time at bbecker@sayreschool.org

• **Check out Sayre's website for trip forms and information:** Please read the email letter to all 6th and 7th grade families regarding grade level trips. 6th grade students will be going to the Life Adventure Center in Versailles. The 7th grade students will be traveling to Chicago, and the 8th grade will be heading off to Washington, D.C. in November. Sixth and Seventh grade trips will take place from Wednesday, September 11th to Friday, September 13th.

We will plan the fifth grade overnight for the spring, May 11th -12th when they are fully ready to spend the night away!

• **Dismissal Procedures:** Afternoon dismissal begins when students leave their Advisory or Homeroom Wrap-up sessions at 3:30 (or 2:30 on Tuesdays). Parents drive up N. Limestone St. and then turn into the Front Circle for dismissal. All Middle School students dismissing from the Front Circle are required to stand in the grassy area between the Headley deWaal Building and Limestone Street. From there, students will be individually asked by the faculty on duty to go to their cars. It is imperative that all students remain in the grassy area until a faculty member has specifically asked them to get into their car. Drivers are asked to circle the block and reenter the Front Circle if their children are not ready to dismiss.

Please note that Lower School dismissal takes place in the Front Circle beginning at 3:00 (2:00 on Tuesdays). If you are picking up a Middle School student, therefore, please do not arrive prior to 2:50 (2:20 on Tuesdays).

Although the safe dismissal of our students is our primary concern, it is also our intention to move the line of cars as quickly as possible without compromising safety. Therefore, we ask you to use the family name signs in your car window. These signs will be distributed to students by their advisors during the Middle School Open House and on the first day of school. Thank you in advance for your patience and flexibility. **We ask that there be no use of cell phones in the car line once the line is moving.

• **Dismissal Options:** Unless an extracurricular activity is scheduled immediately after school, there are two options for students at Dismissal: **pick-up in the dismissal line or Homework Clinic. In an effort to maintain a safe and organized dismissal, Middle School students are NOT ALLOWED to walk to other areas of the campus for pick-up.** However, parents/guardians/ Upper School siblings are encouraged to walk to the Middle School's dismissal line to pick up a student if there is a wish to avoid the car line.

Students who live within walking distance of the school must have a note from home in order to walk home from school. Walkers must leave the campus and are then considered under the supervision of the parent and may not return to campus. Please note, walkers who are attending sports practices must report to sports along with other students, not leave and then return.

Homework Clinic is an option for students who are not picked up at 3:30 p.m. Students who are not picked up from Homework Clinic by 5:00 p.m. (4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays) will be accompanied to Extended Day, which is open until 5:45 p.m. On Fridays, students will go to Extended Day at 4:00. Homework Clinic incurs an additional charge.

• **Spartan Shop:** Sayre's school store is located in the basement of the Buttery. This is the place for you to purchase t-shirts, sweatshirts, umbrellas, raincoats, pens, bumper stickers, and much more. The Spartan Shop is also online!

• **Attention Athletes:** Will your child be participating in a sport any time this school year? Please note that a KHSAA (Kentucky High School Athletic Association) form is required for participation in school sports. This is a different form from the Sixth Grade Physical Form. Please bring forms to Sarah Leer in the Middle School Office or turn them in to Middle School Athletic Director Cindy Eason.

• **Back-to-School Night:** The annual Middle School Back-to-School Night will begin at 7:00 PM on Thursday, August 29th. This is an evening program during which parents/guardians go back to school and are introduced to their child's teachers and classes. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet teachers, familiarize yourself with the curriculum, and meet the families of your child's classmates and advisories. More information will follow!

• **Asthma or anaphylaxis concerns:** An amendment regarding the self administration of medicines to treat asthma or anaphylaxis allows students to carry their own medications and self administer if the proper authorizations and statements are provided, the families acknowledge that the school incurs no liability, and all forms are on file in the Middle School Office. For the release of liability form: [Asthma and Anaphylaxis Form](#)

• **Allergy or anaphylaxis:** Any parent of a child with a known food allergy should have completed a new food allergy form, which came home with the summer mailing. This form allows the faculty and staff greater understanding of food allergy concerns. A new form should be completed this year even if you have filled out allergy information in the past.

• **Information Is Available Online:** Information regarding the Dress Code, our academic expectations, the policies on tardies and absences, the traditional Middle School programs and trips, the behavior slip program, and much, much more are included in Middle School Student/Parent Handbook. Parents and students are responsible for the information contained in the handbook. Remember that every year changes are made. Therefore, it is imperative that you read this new publication.

• **Cell Phone Rules:** Many students may come to school without a phone, and we strongly support this decision. There is always a phone available in the office or in the classroom if a student needs to make a phone call. For those who do have cell phones, they are to be turned off and stowed in lockers during the school day. No student should have a cell phone in class or in a pocket. Parents, if you need to communicate with your child, feel free to call the Middle School Office at 254-7177. Sarah Leer will be sure to deliver a message to your child between classes. Alternately, if you wish to text your child on a phone, please ask your child to come to the Office at the end of the day to check for messages. At dismissal, students who are expecting a text should feel free to come to the Office to check phones. With our new rules in place we will be better able to help parents communicate with children regarding pick-up plans, and will reinforce the idea that class time and school time are uninterrupted. Thank you for your help! (Please note: students using a cell phone outside of these designated times will have to turn the phone in to the office).

• **Middle School Building After Hours:** Please know that after 6:00 p.m. and on the weekends, campus buildings are equipped with an alarm system. Please do not attempt to enter buildings after hours. Although you may not hear an alarm, the system is set to alert the police that an intruder is on campus. The police will come if someone attempts to enter the building after hours.

• **Dismissal Signs:** The Middle School duty teams are awesome! Though we may know your car and your child in the first week, we may need a reminder the next time we are on duty. Please keep your car signs in the front window and use them throughout the school year. Thank you! Also, remember that once cars begin to move, cell phones must not be in use. We value safety above all else.

• **Dress Code:** Please note a couple of the topics that come up most often within our Middle School Dress Code. Leggings are to be worn with tops or tunics that come to a student's fingertips or beyond.

• **Attendance:** Please help your child have an outstanding educational experience by helping them come to school regularly! Parents are asked to call (254-7177) or email Sarah Leer at sleer@sayreschool.org before 9:00 a.m. to inform the school of a student's absence due to illness. Parents are urged not to take their children out of school early before or to return them late after vacation periods, since this causes disruption for the child concerned and the class as a whole.

All extracurricular activities should be planned outside of school hours. In those cases where medical and dental appointments cannot be scheduled outside of school hours, parents should send a note or email to inform the school. Students are expected to present the note to the Office at the beginning of the day. Students must also sign in and sign out in the Office. Upon their return from any doctor's appointment, the student or parent must present a doctor's note to the Office. A student must have checked in at the school office by 10:00 AM of the day of a special evening event, such as a play performance or a concert, in order to participate. In case of an emergency, it must be cleared by the Division Head.

Thank you for helping us ensure a terrific experience for your child!