



YORK INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL



Winter 2024

Keith McSwain, Principal

From the Principal...

Dear Parents,

Wow! We have now entered the second semester of the school year! It's amazing how fast the school year goes by! With that being said, this semester will be extremely busy as students are continuing to learn new grade level standards in all content areas of reading, writing, math, science, and social studies. As we continue to move forward with second semester, it's very important that our students maintain good habits such as get a good night's sleep, attend school every day, participate in class, and do their very best.

Our Winter MAP data provided us information that our students are maintaining adequate academic growth from the Fall to Winter Assessment. It's always great to see our students showing improvement. Please continue to monitor your child's grades and if you need to reach out to one your child's teachers, please do so. All of our teachers have a classroom Canvas page and I encourage you to look and see what your child is learning. Furthermore, on behalf of the faculty and staff of York Intermediate School, we thank you for your support!

"Learn, Serve, Give, as One"

Sincerely,

Keith McSwain, Principal

"To Learn, Serve, and Give as ONE"

YIS Calendar of Events

February

- 1-Cookie Dough Fundraiser Begins**
- 12-First day of Elective 6**
Chorus Fundraiser Begins
- 13- Dominos Night (4pm-9pm)**
- 14-Interim Reports Issued**
- 15-Cookie Dough Fundraiser Due**
- 19-23 Winter Intercession – NO SCHOOL**
- 27-Kidz in Lids**
- 29-YIS *Connected As Readers* Deadline**

March

- 1-Read Across America Day**
- 4-Chorus Fundraiser Ends**
- 12-Dominos Night (4pm-9pm)**
- 15-Career Day**
- 18-21 Spring Book Fair**
- 19-YIS Family Night: Cookie Dough pickup 6-7:30 p.m.**
- 20-First Day of Elective 7 and Quarter 4**
Spring Picture Day
- 22-Teacher Professional Day – NO SCHOOL**
- 26-Kidz in Lids**
- 27-Report Cards Issued**
- 29-YIS *Connected As Readers* Deadline**

April

- 1-5 Spring Break**
- 9-Dominos Night (4pm-9pm)**
- 15-19 Spring MAP Testing**
- 23-Kidz in Lids**
- 24-Interim Reports Issued**
- 25-YIS Chorus & Band Spring Concert**
- 26-YIS *Connected As Readers* Deadline and Senior Walk**
- 29-First Day of Elective 8**

May

- 10 – Final *Connected As Readers* Deadline**
- 6-17 SC State Testing**
- 14-Dominos Night (4pm-9pm)**
- 21-Kidz in Lids**
- 24-6th Grade Awards Program**
- 27-Memorial Day NO SCHOOL**
- 28-5th Grade Awards Program**
- 30 – Last Day of School 10:30 Dismissal**
- 31 – Graduation/Teacher Workday**



From The Library Media Center

YIS students have been reading lots of books! All kinds of books: mysteries, fantasies, biographies and poetry books just to name a few. But the big reads are the books in the *YSD#1 Connected As Readers* program! The Library Media Center offers incentives to students who read these books by specified deadlines. All students who complete the reading program will be invited to a district-wide party in May **and** recognition on Awards Day. Below are the remaining program deadlines:

February 29

March 29

April 26

May 10

Each school will hold an election in April to vote for their favorite book! Students in grades 5-6 must read 5 books to be eligible to vote!

All students visit the media center each week with their Language Arts teacher for a time of independent reading and an opportunity to check out new books. Ask your child which day of the week is library day for his/her class and encourage him/her to have all library books at school on that day so as to avoid overdue books. We do not want any student to be without a library book at YIS!

The **Spring Book Fair** will be held March 18—21. Hours are 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. We will have a family night on Tuesday, March 19 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm. Students may pay for books with cash or a check made out to “YIS”. Please **DO NOT** make out checks to *Scholastic Book Fairs* because we cannot accept them. For your convenience, parents may pay for purchases with credit/debit cards. You may also create a free eWallet account for your child online instead of sending money to school. Use this website to shop online and create eWallet accounts: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/yorkintermediateschool1> . Book Fair materials will be sent home on March 13 so read all the details in my book fair letter!

I want your child to be successful with educational goals at YIS and research has shown that reading is the best and fastest way to increase student learning. Please let me know if I can be of assistance to you as we work together to develop a life-long love for reading and learning in your child. If you have any questions, or if I can be of assistance in any way, please give me a call at 818-6117!

YSD#1 Connected As Readers!

Kay Falls
Library Media Specialist

TIPS FROM THE LITERACY COACH

Lisa Beck

Critical thinking is about curiosity, flexibility, and keeping an open mind. Critical thinking skills for kids are essential in developing their ability to analyze information, solve problems, and make informed decisions. These skills are necessary in getting a child ready to understand how things work in the real world. Encouraging children to ask questions, consider different perspectives, and evaluate evidence helps them become independent thinkers and prepares them to face challenges with confidence and creativity as they grow and learn. Besides gaining problem-solving skills, being able to think independently will allow your child to resist peer pressure, form their own opinions and trust their own thinking when they are asked to do things they don't want to do. Listed below are some ways you can help your child become a better critical thinker.

8 WAYS PARENTS CAN SUPPORT CRITICAL THINKING AT HOME

- 1 Think critically as a habit
- 2 Debate everything!
- 3 Provide access to diverse, quality reading materials
- 4 Practice Claim-Evidence reasoning
- 5 Help them learn from everything
- 6 Make critical thinking a game
- 7 Teach critical thinking as a mindset
- 8 Explore the benefits of critical thinking

teachthought
WE GROW TEACHERS



YIS Notes



PTO



Greetings from the PTO! Our spring fundraiser began February 1st. Once again, we are selling Cookie Dough. Our Cookie dough fundraiser has always been a huge success. The fundraiser will end on February 15th. Pick up will be March 19th from 6:00pm-7:30pm. YIS PTO sponsors our weekly Cougar Kindness winners as well as the quarterly perfect attendance and honor roll winners!

YIS SPIRIT ROCK



The *YIS Spirit Rock* is available for painting. Please call the main office or email Beth Bridges at bbridges@york.k12.sc.us to paint the rock for your student's birthday, accomplishments, and other celebrations!

YIS Yearbooks

2023-2024 Yearbooks are on sale! Use the code or website below to order your copy today!



<https://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A01124182>

Physical Education News



Students in Physical Education recently completed a unit in Pickleball. If you have not heard of it, Pickleball is a fast-growing, popular, and fun sport for all ages. Pickleball is best described as a combination of badminton, ping-pong, and tennis. Players use a paddle that is reminiscent of ping-pong paddles but is bigger and usually made of more advanced materials. The ball used is very similar to a plastic whiffle ball with holes covering the surface. Pickleball courts are located at Field

Day Park in Lake Wylie and many community centers.

Nurse Notes



*If your student has a fever 100 or higher they will need to stay home until they are fever free for a full 24 hours without taking any fever reducing medication such as Tylenol, Motrin or Ibuprofen.

*If your student vomits or has more than 3 diarrhea stools, they will need to stay home a full 24 hours from the last time they get sick.

*If your student complains of not feeling well at home before school, please keep them home. It is not fair to the other students and staff.

Students are not allowed to bring medication to school without permission. This includes inhalers and over-the-counter medications.

All 6th grade parents are reminded that they will need to present a S.C. Certificate of Immunization to York Middle School during Annual Registration. Parents will not be allowed to register their child without it.

Melanie Myers, RN-School Nurse

Art News



Fifth grade art students are currently working on *Folk Art Cityscapes*, comics, futuristic cities, and *Tim Burton Spooky Snowmen*. Sixth grade students have created landscapes, beautiful Georgia O'Keeffe flowers, one-point perspective names, and circle weavings. Students learn and create art based on the Elements of Art which are Line, Color, Value, Space, Shapes, Texture, and Forms. They also explore various mediums such as: oil pastels, markers, watercolor pencils, tempera paints, collage, and clay. Some of the artists students have learned about include Van Gogh, O'Keeffe, Paul Klee, Kandinsky, Matisse, Jacob Lawrence and others.



YIS FAMILY NIGHT

March 19, 2024

6:00 – 7:30 pm



You're invited to join us for:

- **Book Fair!**
- **Cookie Dough Fundraiser pick up!**
- **Pizza, Drinks, and Dessert will be for sale!**
- **Spirit Gear will be for sale!**
- **Makerspace Projects in the Literacy Lab!**
(bookmarks, journals, book trackers, etc.)

There will also be a representative from the York County Public Library to help students get a free library card. The YCPL is a great way for students to access free books all year, especially in summer, and to also use reading apps like "LIBBY". Be sure and stop by this station and fill out an application!

From the School Counselors

Hanna Wilkerson – 5th Grade

Felicia Mackins – 6th Grade

Tips for helping kids manage stress:

- Exercise and get outside
- Let kids be problem solvers
- Combat negative thinking
- Sleep well—sleep is essential for the well-being
- Limit time on Social Media
- Healthy diet and hydration
- Talk it out with a trusted adult
- Write about it- Journaling
- Practice deep breathing
- Make time for fun, connect with others



Career Day

Friday, March 15, 2024

8:15 AM – 2:00 PM

What is your child's career plans for the future? Students will be exposed to a variety of careers at YIS! They will learn about the skills, training, and education needed to be successful for today's careers. It is going to be a great experience! Bag lunches will be served. Students will either sign up for a bag lunch or bring their own lunch from home. Since we will be operating on a different schedule that day, all students will be eating lunch with their teachers in the classrooms. Please try to avoid signing your child out early this day to prevent them from missing this great opportunity.

Career Clusters

<https://ed.sc.gov/instruction/career-and-technical-education/career-guidance/career-cluster-guides/>

<https://careertech.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/default/files/CareerClustersPathways.pdf>

SCREADY Testing Dates

May 7 – Writing

May 9 – Reading

May 14 – Math

May 16 – Science (6th grade only)

A FROM THE CHORUS



Mrs. Rachel Hoff, Choral Director

The YIS Cougar Chorus is busy learning new music for our upcoming Spring 2024 performances! Not only will we present an April 2024 Spring Concert along with our YIS 6th Grade Band, we will also participate in the Carowinds Festival of Music in May! I can't wait for these wonderful young singers to share their vocal talent with you as we present a variety of songs at our concert. I know you will greatly enjoy their performance!

A FEW REMINDERS

➤ **Spring Chorus Fundraiser is February 12 – March 4, 2024!**

The YIS Cougar Chorus will have our 2024 Spring Fundraiser event February 12-March 4. We will be selling the super yummy Poppin' Popcorn, which comes in a variety of flavors, and Shine Bright Candles! In addition to incentives offered by the company, students who sell items will earn \$3 for each item sold to go into their chorus account which can be used for our Carowinds Festival of Music trip in May! Remaining profits will help purchase choral supplies, music, and other chorus costs. Interested in buying an item? Check out the links below, and please contact Mrs. Hoff at rhoff@york.k12.sc.us if you have any questions. Thank you for your support of the YIS Cougar Chorus!

Poppin' Popcorn Brochure - <https://pleasehelpmyschool.com/brochures/popcorn23/>

Shine Bright Candles Brochure - <https://pleasehelpmyschool.com/brochures/shine-bright23/>

➤ **Spring Concert 2024 presented by the YIS 6th Grade Cougar Chorus & YSD1 Beginning 6th Grade Band**

The concert will be on **Thursday, April 25, 2024**, and we look forward to seeing you at York Comprehensive High School in the Auditorium beginning at 6:30 pm. Chorus students will need to meet in the HS Chorus room by 5:45 pm. Concert admission is free, but donations to the YIS Music Programs will be graciously accepted. The YSD1 6th Grade Band, under the direction of Miss Madeline Bailes (YIS Band Director) and Miss Abby Traylor (Hickory Grove-Sharon Band Director), will join us in presenting an evening of music.

➤ **Chorus Concert Attire**

Chorus members are to wear their Chorus T-shirt and black dress pants (no leggings/no holes) with shirts tucked into pants. They will need to wear black socks, a black belt (if needed), and all-black shoes (no sandals, slides, or shoes that have the toe or heel exposed).

➤ **Mark Your Calendars**

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming Spring 2024 performance dates. We hope to see you there!

Thurs., Apr. 25 th	YIS Cougar Chorus & Band Spring Concert	6:30 pm YCHS Auditorium
Sat., May 11 th	YIS Chorus at Carowinds Festival of Music	11:15 am Aeronautica Theatre

YIS
Cougar Chorus



#treblemaker 

Band News! 🎵

Ms. Madeline Bailes, Band Director

Our YIS 6th Grade Band has had a fantastic year so far! We had an awesome holiday performance and Winter Showcase! Let's continue working hard and getting better! This semester, we will have a fundraiser, reward field trip and our spring concert!

Reminders

Please be sure that band students are practicing for about 30 minutes, several nights each week. This ensures that we all progress at the same rate and are very prepared for our remaining performances this year!

Our Spring Concert will be on Thursday, April 25th at 6:30 pm in the YCHS Auditorium. This will be a combined concert with the YIS Cougar Chorus! Attire for this concert will be concert black. More information concerning the concert will be released soon!

Our Solo and Ensemble reward field trip is currently scheduled for Saturday, April 27th. Students will prepare a solo to perform and receive a rating. We will then have a fun activity that afternoon! More information about our spring field trip will be released soon!

Questions? Please contact Ms. Bailes anytime at mabailes@york.k12.sc.us or call 803-818-6112

