



Berlin Middle School



SAFETY WARNING FOR PARENTS WHO DROP OFF OR PICK UP STUDENTS AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

****** If you drop off or pick up students, please use the lower parking lot on Swetting St. Do **NOT** use Swetting St. or Johnson St. upper parking lots.

****** After school, middle school bus students should get on the appropriate bus at the middle school and **NOT** walk to Clay or the high school. Any student who walks will not be permitted to get on the bus at Clay or the high school.

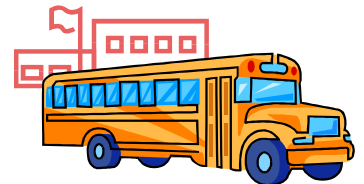
****** The only door open to the middle school building during the school day is the Johnson Street parking lot door. When you enter the building push the button on the wall and wait for directions from the office. The doors will be opened so you can come to the office.



Welcome Back!

Picture Day at the Middle School

Wednesday, September 7, 2011
Starting at 8:00 a.m.



Respect for self, Respect for others.

Welcome to the new school year!

We are looking forward to a great year and welcome all of our students to the Middle School, especially our incoming 6th graders. We also would like to welcome our new Speech/Language Pathologist, Robyn Morris. Ms. Morris replaces Mary Tynan. We also welcome the return of Mrs. Konrath. She taught at Clay Lambertton last year and will be teaching 7th grade social studies this year.

The middle school student handbooks are in each students' planner. Students and their parents are encouraged to review the handbook together as it contains the rules and expectations for middle school students. A reminder that the middle school does have a dress code and it will be enforced. Again, please review what proper dress is for students at the middle school and we ask both students and parents to abide by our dress code.

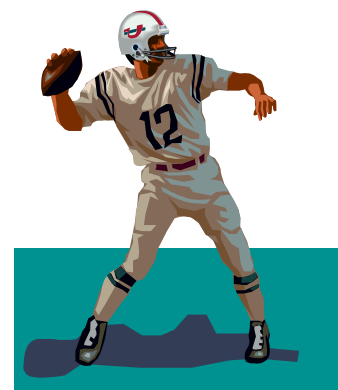
Again, we are looking forward to a great school year and let's all make it a great one!

2011-2012

Football Schedule

All 4:00 Starts (unless otherwise noted)

Tues., Sept. 20	Ripon - 8th Home 7th Bye
Tues., Sept. 27	Waupaca - 8th Away 7th Home
Tues., Oct. 4	Omro - 8th Away 7th Home
Tues., Oct. 11	Winneconne - 8th Home 7th Away
Tues., Oct. 18	FVL - 8th Home 7th Away



PARENT LUNCH

Monday, September 19

- Menu—Ham Slice on a bun
Macaroni & Cheese
California Vegetables
Mandarin Oranges
Fresh Fruit

Lunch Times—6th gr. At 11:03
7th gr. At 12:16
8th gr. At 11:47



**2011-2012
Volleyball Schedule
All 4:00 Starts**

Tues., Sept. 13 Winneconne - 8th Away 7th Home

Thurs., Sept. 15 Ripon - 8th Home 7th Away

Tues., Sept. 20 Waupaca - 8th Away 7th Home

Thurs., Sept. 22 Omro - 8th Home 7th Away

Thurs., Sept. 29 Winneconne - 8th Home 7th Away

Tues., Oct. 4 Ripon - 8th Away 7th Home

Thurs., Oct. 6 Waupaca - 8th Home 7th Away

Tues., Oct. 11 Omro - 8th Away 7th Home

Mon., Oct. 17 Waupaca - 8th Away 7th Home

Tues., Oct. 18 Ripon - 8th Home 7th Away





Allegro and Encore Band Notes – September!

Welcome Back! Thank you to everyone who attended summer band lessons. We have the year off to a great start and you have earned some extra credit! I thought we made incredible progress in just two weeks!

NEW!!! A website with lots of great information about the BMS Seventh and Eighth Grade Bands! Check it out at <http://bmsband.pbworks.com>.

Band Lessons will begin on Tuesday, September 6 for students unable to attend summer band and Monday, September 12 for all others. Be sure to check the lesson schedule!

We will get the year off to a fast start with our **first performance on Saturday, October 1** in the Berlin Tractor parade. Students should report to the band room in uniform at 12:30. The parade begins at 1:00. Uniform is khaki pants, brown shoes, brown socks, and **green BMS music polo**. Shirts should be ordered from Mrs. Walheim for \$13 ASAP. Students should be working to have America memorized by this date.

Next up is the **Homecoming Parade on Friday, October 7**. Students should wear their **band uniforms to school** that day.

I am looking forward to another great year of successful performances, and musical and personal growth for our band students! Working together, we can reach new levels of excellence! Please feel free to contact me at school if you have any questions or concerns about your student or our program, or if you would like to share some good news! – Mrs. Walheim

Math 6

During September, sixth grade mathematicians will be completing an introductory unit on whole numbers and beginning a unit on algebra. For homework help, see www.go.hrw.com. The keyword is MR7TOC. Please contact me if you would like to check out a math book.

Ms. Bauman

6th Grade World History

Hopefully this will be an exciting year for your child in 6th Grade World History. We will spend time studying the ancient cultures of the Middle East, Mediterranean, Europe, and Asia. We will look at how these cultures developed, changed, and became the modern nations that exist on our planet today.

During this first grading period, we will be working on prehistory and the world's first civilization: Mesopotamia. Each student will make a poster that will explain what they learned in this unit. The rough draft for the poster will be done in class during the next few weeks. Then your child will work on the final product at home over a ten day period. The poster project will be due on Tuesday, October 4th.

A letter explaining how to make the poster will go home with your child on September 8th. The letter will need to be signed and returned to Mr. Tronoff, the 6th grade World History Teacher. If you have any questions about the project please contact him.

6th grade band students and parents

Our first day of band at the middle school will be Tuesday, September 6. Band students should bring their instruments/mouthpiece and book to band that day.

The week of Sept. 6 we will be fitting polo shirts to make sure we order the right size for each student. The shirts are suppose to be shipped two weeks after we fit the kids.

An hour of practice a week will help your child be successful in band. Look for practice sheets coming home to sign so that we work together to encourage our children become successful.

Feel free to ask questions via email of Mrs. Breza (jbreza@berlin.k12.wi.us).

What is Literacy?

Dear Middle School Families,

For those of you new to the middle school, you will notice that there is a class called Literacy. This class is an addition to the core Language Arts classes and will give your student more time for reading and writing.

The purpose of the literacy class is to teach reading strategies that will enhance the strategies taught in the core language arts classrooms. It will give students a chance to deal with shorter, themed nonfiction pieces. I strive to give your student(s) the tools to succeed in reading and comprehending any type of novel, textbook, map, or direction that they will encounter.

I have created a website for you to see what literacy class involves and for students to use throughout the semester. Please go to <http://mrsmaticeliteracy.weebly.com> to keep up to date on what your child is doing in class.

If you have more questions about what this class entails or have a specific concern regarding your student(s), please contact me at the middle school at 920-361-2441 or at jmattice@berlin.k12.wi.us.

Partners in education,

Jen Mattice

6TH GRADE FUNDRAISER

The 6th graders will be selling holiday products (chocolates and wrapping paper for example) later this month to raise money for their class fund. The sale will begin on Friday, September 30th and end on Friday, October 14th. The money raised will be used this year to help pay for a field trip to the Milwaukee Public Museum, speakers at camp, and a class trip at the end of the year. Excess money will stay in their class fund and be used in the following years in the middle school. A letter will be going home to further explain this activity. Contact Mrs. Dederling or Ms. Plato if you have any questions about this sale.

6th Grade Language Arts

Independent reading (or Self-Selected Reading/S.S.R.) is an important part of our 6th grade Language Arts curriculum. Here are some of the independent reading guidelines for students:

- Students are required to read two books on their own every grading period. Their SSR book should be within 100 points of their lexile level. Students can check their levels with Mrs. Dederling at any time.
- Students must complete a weekly SSR assignment to show they met their reading requirements. This assignment is worth 50 points and is due each Friday. This is a large part of the student's overall Language Arts grade.
- When a student is done reading his or her book, he or she must take a Reading Counts quiz. Reading Counts is a program that the middle school uses to determine what reading level students are at, and it has pre-made quizzes on over 3,000 books.
- If the student does not pass, he or she can retake the quiz two more times.
- Students are given 15-20 minutes of class time, each day, to read and are required to read at least 25 pages a week. BUT, if a student only reads their 25 page a week, they will not finish 2 books in a grading period.

Please encourage your child/children to read their SSR books at home so they can meet their reading requirements. Independent reading can greatly affect the development of the reading process for your child/children.

7th grade Math

Welcome to a new school year. If you have any questions or concerns you can contact me through e-mail dclark@berlin.k12.wi.us or call the school at 361-2441.

The 7th graders will start with a unit on Algebraic reasoning. They will be doing many activities that include patterns and order of operations. They will finish the unit solving equations. I look forward to an enjoyable year of teaching your children.

Mr. Clark

Berlin Middle School Facebook Page

Berlin Middle School now has their own Facebook page. We will be posting events, pictures and other announcements on this page. If you would like to join our page, log in to Facebook and in the search box, put in Berlin Middle School. When the page appears, just click "LIKE" and you will receive all the updates to our page.

Middle School Hosting a Dinner For Parents

Mark your calendar for Monday, October 3. From 5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m., the middle school will be hosting a dinner for parents and followed by a presentation by Shelley Joan Weiss. Ms. Weiss is the consultant we are working with on best practices for middle schools. She will provide an update on what we are working on and on the most current adolescent brain development. If you ever wondered why your middle school child behaves the way (s)he does, this presentation could provide some answers!

Middle School Webpage

Check out the Berlin Middle School Webpage. It contains lots of useful information, including sports schedules, teacher websites and calendar of events. To access the page, just go to www.berlin.k12.wi.us and click on Middle School. If you have any suggestions about things you would like to see on the website, please let us know.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

If your child is sick, please call our school right away in the morning at 361-2441 and leave a message on our answer machine **before 7:30 a.m.** Please leave your name, your child's name, the date and the reason for your child's absence after the beep. If you would like to talk to a secretary, please call from 7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Report Cards

You will be receiving your child's report card 6 times during this school year.

This year's report card will not contain a conduct or effort grade. In its place will be a comment reflecting how hard your child is working and how well he/she is behaving. Our goal is to provide more meaningful feed back to you.