Welcome Back Turner Families,

We hope that you were able to relax and spend some quality time with family and friends over winter break. Second semester is packed with lots of activities, opportunities, and learning for our students. Students have new Core X or Seminar classes and electives, and a new sporting season is underway. During the months of January and February we will continue to focus on our 8th grade and 5th grade transitions. Both groups of students will have the opportunity to register and better understand classes offered at either the middle or high school levels. Additional information with dates and times will be sent out soon.

This is great time to revisit conversations with your student around their work habits, staying organized, and being successful. Here are some tips and ideas to discuss:

1. Clean out binders, locker, and backpack of any papers you do not need anymore, especially if you have completed the class. This is a good time to check if you need any more school supplies as well.
2. Use a planner to help stay on top of assignments, projects, tests and quizzes. Knowing when things are due will help lower stress as well.
3. Study smarter this semester by turning off your phone and removing yourself from distractions. This will help you truly study, get your work done well, and use your time more efficiently.
4. Take care of yourself by trying to eat healthy, getting enough sleep each night, and surrounding yourself with positive peers. If you are feeling overwhelmed or stressed make an appointment to see our counselors, Dee or Zac, who can help you with strategies for managing stress.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and their academic and athletic pursuits.

Sincerely,

Brandy Grieves
Hello 6th grade families! December and January have been busy months for your kids! These are some of the things we are up to:

*Side note--Please, please, please refresh your students’ school supplies!! Many students are coming to class without pencils and pens, notebooks, etc. and it’s a disruption for them to try to find something to write with. Thanks!

In Academic News….

In Science, students just finished designing, creating and testing their solar ovens to learn about thermal energy transfer. Some of the ovens actually hit their goal and reached a temperature hot enough to melt a marshmallow!

In Social Studies, students just finished working on their Central America projects. For this project, students planned a trip on the Pan-American Highway, picking destinations of their choice along the way while incorporating math concepts to price out their trip and find gas mileage. Ask them where they traveled!

In Literacy, kids are working on a unit involving conspiracy theories. The kids are really getting into it--ask them about the tree octopus! Also, expect an email to come home from the literacy teachers regarding the unit.

In Math, just a reminder that this is the one subject that you can expect kids to have regular nightly homework. Please help your kiddos get back into their routine of doing their nightly work. They should expect about 20 minutes per night unless they finished some of their work in school!

To celebrate Valentine’s Day, our Student Council members will be pre-selling carnation flowers for $1.00 each before school from January 28th through February 1st only.
Flowers will be delivered on February 14th.

Be sure to check out the TMS Counseling website:
https://turnermiddleschoolcounseling.weebly.com/

This is great way for parents/guardians and students to stay connected.
**SEVENTH GRADE PROJECTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

In math Ms. Nickerson’s students are demonstrating proportions in their cookbook recipes. Mr. Renzelman’s classes are using professional football to analyze data and statistics.

While studying genetics and heredity in science, students will create a model of cell division.

In social studies, all classes are learning about Greece and each student will write their own epic tale.

Mrs. Gatewood’s literacy classes have chosen books of different genres and are assigned a variety of book projects. Ms. Anderson’s classes are finishing their Design a School presentations and will then choose a Greek myth to present to the class.
WHAT’S HAPPENING IN 8TH GRADE……..

Last month, Language Arts classes read a variety of literature about the idea of what makes a person influential and the influences in our lives. Students conducted their own research about who they thought was the most influential person--good or bad--in history.

They worked in groups to share ideas and offer suggestions while completing their individual essays and then selected the essay from their group which they felt best represented their choice for influential person. These essays became candidates for each class period’s ultimate vote for “Most Influential Person Ever!” Students created campaign posters to promote their candidate and an election process was held, resulting in six overall winners representing the six Language Arts classes.

From Ms. Brown’s classes, the votes were for Thomas Edison, Malala Yousafzai, and Harriet Tubman. From Mrs. Rector’s classes, the votes went to Joseph Stalin, Malala Yousafzai, and Winston Churchill. The people have spoken! Congratulations to the authors of these winning essays and for everyone who voted and wore their “I Voted!” stickers with pride all day! Way to go!!!

THIS AND THAT IN ELECTIVE CLASSES

In TED, our 8th graders are designing/building/racing CO2 drag cars. 7th grade students are designing/building/testing balsa wood bridges and our 6th graders are building spaghetti bridges.

In FACS 6th grade will be working on self-esteem, decision making and goal setting, while 7th and 8th grade classes are starting the sewing unit.

8th grade Spanish students are producing “Best of/Worst of” List using Spanish comparisons and superlatives . 6th grade Spanish students are doing introduction skits.

Lifetime sports classes are enjoying hacky sack and floor hockey.
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February 2019