

# MARINER NATION NEWS

## Murdock Middle School

17325 Mariner Way, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

941.255-7525 Attendance: 941.255-7525

Hours Operation: 8:35 A.M- 4:20 P.M.

### Administration

Principal: ..... Lyman Welton

Assistant Principal: ..... Jamie Verwey

Assistant Principal: ..... Deshon Jenkins

Counselor: ..... Sandra Tavares

Counselor: ..... Kim Ceballos

ESE Liason: ..... Shelly Kramer

School Resource Officer: ..... Officer Morse

## Principal's Message

Mariners,

Hurricane Ian caused many of our families and staff to experience damage and loss to their homes, vehicles and businesses. To those suffering loss, our thoughts and prayers go out to you. For those who did not suffer damage, we are glad for you.

Murdock Middle experienced some damage as well. Like most, we lost numerous trees. Some of those fell on awnings covering our walkways. Several buildings lost soffits and most buildings lost shingles. Water got into a number of classrooms due to flooding or roof damage. Our Gym, Café, Administrative Bldg., and classrooms in the 7th grade pod were hit the hardest.

Within a matter of days, crews were on our campus clearing debris, and putting up blue tarps. The following days saw dehumidifying equipment in every room, office and hallway. Air scrubbers and driers ran day and night. Soon more help arrived and we had a small army of workers replacing ceiling tiles, and checking all electrical equipment. Our faculty and student computer equipment were tested. While the repairs continued, deep cleaning began. Every surface was cleaned, desks, bookcases, furniture, floors, window blinds, even the sporting equipment and clothing were cleaned. Once this neared completion, inspectors began to enter every building, room and office. They check everything from lighting and computers to air quality. Once the rains returned, inspectors came back to ensure that everything was water tight. Then on Friday, I got the good news. our buildings were safe for staff to return on Monday and students to return on Tuesday.

On Monday faculty and staff met. We shared our individual and collective experiences of Ian. Following

...continues on next page

ISSUE 4 VOLUME 3

November 2022





## Principal's Message *continues...*

our time together, each teacher went to prepare classrooms and staff to offices. We were all focused on getting everything ready for the return of our students. On Tuesday we welcomed our students back and gave them the opportunity to reconnect with their classmates. Our students treated each other with kindness, listening and sharing their Hurricane Ian experiences. Over the next few days campus routines began to return.

Now, we are back into the swing of teaching and learning. Like most homes, our campus still has damage to repair, but everything is functional and safe. As time passes, we hope that each of you are able to come back stronger after Ian than before. I am confident that this is exactly what we will experience at Murdock Middle School. Between now and then, we will HOLD FAST to your hope for a better tomorrow and STAY TRUE to what is right and good, and as always remain MARINER STRONG.

Lyman Welton  
Principal

## Media Center News

Fall into a good book!

We are well into another exciting year in the library. Students have many opportunities to use the library and get involved in a variety of fun learning activities. Once again students can take part in the Reading Regatta starting in January.

Students are welcome to visit the library during the school day to check out books, work on research projects, and enjoy a little quiet reading time. In addition to the school day, the Media Center is open in the morning before 1st period. During this time, students can work on homework, read, check out books, do personal research, play a game, and catch up on current events.

In addition to the Art Club, which meets Mondays, we will be opening our morning art center starting in December. This will allow small groups of students to explore their creativity.

With so many choices it's a great time to read. School library books, public library offerings, eBooks, and audio books there's something for everyone. Reading can lead to a better life. The benefits of regular reading include stronger vocabulary, better communication skills, increased attention span, stress relief, increased knowledge and empathy, and a safe way to explore the world.

As the holiday season approaches, remember books make a wonderful gift. A family read-aloud or listening to an audio book is a great way to spend time together. Thanksgiving and Winter Break provides time to explore the public library and sign-up for a library card. In addition to books, the public library also has movies and activity packs available to borrow.

We wish all Mariners a safe and prosperous winter season.

## End of the Year Field Trips

PTO and SAC Parents recommend that Murdock continue to offer end of the year field trips for our students. They are also planning fundraising activities to help decrease the per student cost of the field trips. The end of the year field trips usually take place the 2nd or 3rd week of May depending on the State Testing Schedule, Final Exams, Awards, and PCHS Graduation. The Student Government Association will survey 8th grade students and then make recommendations to school administrators. Once the destination for 8th grade is determined then 7th and 6th will follow.

# Field-Trip!



Lyman Welton  
Principal

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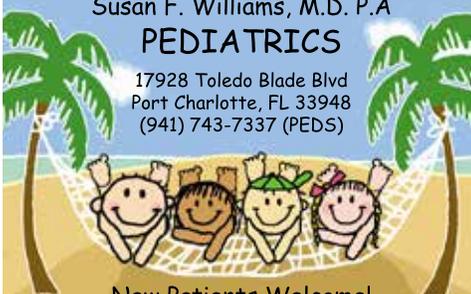
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**Mariner Nation News**  
 November 2022  
 Published Four Times Per Year  
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 1445 Education Way  
 Port Charlotte, FL 33948  
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# Upcoming Events

Check with MMS to confirm all dates and times.

- Nov. 15th – Referral Free Fall Social – 4:10 – 5:10PM
  - Nov. 15th – PTO / SAC Meeting @ 5:00
  - Nov. 15th – Charlotte Honor Band Sectionals @ Port Charlotte Middle School @ 6:00 PM
  - Nov. 22nd – Awards Ceremony
  - Nov. 23rd-Nov.25th – No School – Thanksgiving Break
  - Nov. 30th – Student of the Month – Dessert with the Principal
  - Dec. 1st – Basketball Game @ Port Charlotte Middle School – 5:30-7:30
  - Dec. 6th – FAST ELA Testing
  - Dec. 8th – Basketball Game @ LA Ainger – 5:30 – 7:30
  - Dec. 13th – FAST Math
  - Dec. 14th – Holiday Concert @ CPAC – 7:00-8:00
  - Dec. 16th – Student of the Month – Dessert with the Principal
  - Dec. 20th – PTO / SAC Meeting @ 5:00
  - Dec. 21st – Referral Free – Field Day
  - Dec. 22nd – Jan. 3rd – No School
  - Jan. 4th – Students Return
  - Jan. 9th – Girls Volleyball Try outs
  - Jan. 17th – Mid Term Exams – Periods 1 & 2
  - Jan. 18th – Mid Term Exams – Periods 3 & 4
  - Jan 19th – Mid Term Exams - Period 5 & 6
  - Jan 20th – Mid Term Exams – Period 7
- Civics and Algebra 1 DRI #2 will be given during the Midterm time frame




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# Murdock Middle School Awards Ceremony

Due to the changing of the current quarter. The 1st Quarter award ceremony is now scheduled for Tuesday, November 22nd. The awards program will be beginning with 6th grade at approximately 10:10, 7th Grade will start at 1:30 and 8th grade will follow at approximately 2:30. This award ceremony honors students who receive a 3.0 or higher. Family members are invited to attend. For those who are not able to attend the ceremony will be livestreamed through our YouTube channel. Please check our website for the link before the ceremony begins. We hope you will be able to join us in recognizing the hard work these students have demonstrated.

## After School Clubs

Hello Mariner Families! We hope you and your families are recovering well from the storm. We would like to remind you about our after-school clubs. If a student wants to participate in one of these programs, they must have a ride home. Pick up times vary for each club with no club going past 5:15 PM. Please call the school for specific pick up times for the club your student is interested in.

- Mondays: Band Enrichment – This club is for students that already participate in a band class to help enhance their musical abilities. Location: Band Room
- Art Club – This club is for any student that enjoys making art of all kinds! Location: Media Center
- Tuesdays: Robotics Club – This program is every other Tuesday and is for any student interested in robotics and 3D printing. Location: E1
- Running Club – You guessed it... if you like to run, this club is for you! Location: Gym
- WyldLife – This is a Christian club; all students are welcome! Location: Cafeteria
- Wednesdays: GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance) – This is an all-inclusive club for any student that would like to show support for equality. This club is every other Wednesday, alternating with SGA. Location: G4
- SGA (Student Government) – You don't need to be an officer to join our SGA! This club is the link between the administrators and the students. "The people's voice" This club is every other Wednesday, alternating with GSA. Location: B9
- Thursdays: PBIS Kids – Any student is welcome in this club. Activities include, party planning, fund raising, and helping with sporting events! This club is every other Thursday. Location: D8
- Fridays: Recycling Club – This activity involves helping with the recycling for the school, all students that love the environment are welcome! Location: G5

We hope to see you all at one of our clubs!



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# Robotics Club

Join Robotics Today!

The MMS Robotic club meets every other Tuesday from 4:10-5:00 in Mr. Reagle's room – E1. This club is for students interested in learning about and working with robots. Students are learning how to prepare for competitions, practice maneuvering their robots around a course and completing specific tasks. Come and get some real hands-on experience learning about robotics, coding and engineering.



1st Place winners team for Spike Robotic Challenge 1



## PE

Our newly designed Mariner Athletics Shirts are here! We have two different designs to choose from – each are \$10. Sizes range from Adult Small to Adult 2XL. Get your Mariner Gear while supplies last!

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## Gift Ideas?

Need some gift ideas? The holidays are approaching!! Mariner gear is available for purchase or order in the main office. We have short and long sleeve tee shirts as well as hoodies. Orders are processed every Friday! Call your order in to the main office (255-7525 ext. 5200) or come in and place your order in person.

- Short sleeve \$15.00
- Long sleeve \$20.00
- Hoodies \$25.00

Thank you for all your support!



## Family Engagement: Title 1

Murdock Middle school will be sending out quarterly notification letter to families with students who may have a teacher out of field. These notifications will go home with students in October. parents can also review the schools PEFP (Parent and Family Engagement Plans) "School Compact" and "Parents Right to Know" Letters on our website, in the front office and at the Family Resource Center.

Thanks to Young life for their generous donation for our PTO/SAC meeting on Tuesday night.



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### Local Law Enforcement

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### State-Level Officials

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FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. FortifyFL was created and funded by the 2018 Florida Legislature as part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.

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# Anti-Bullying Policy

Charlotte County Public Schools does not tolerate bullying, which includes cyberbullying. Throughout the school year, our schools do a variety of classroom, large group, and small group lessons on bullying and bully prevention.

Though we teach all of our students that bullying is wrong, it still occasionally occurs. And, while we would like cases of bullying to be reported to the administration, they are not always reported.

Parents - if you have a bully (or cyberbullying) concern please let us know. If your child is a target and is being bullied or if you believe your child bullies others, please let us know. Open and consistent communications with the school will not only help your child but will help many others and the school. Unfortunately, some bully situations take a number of interventions before it subsides. Please continue to communicate with the school and provide any additional information that will help the school put an end to the situation.

It is important to note that investigation of cyberbullying can occur regardless of whether the bullying was conducted using public or private property (cell phone, computers, etc). Please reference Florida Statute 1006.47

Report bullying by filling out the Bully Report form which can be found on the district website at: <https://www.yourcharlotteschools.net/Page/11977>

You can also find a "Bully Button" on our website to report bullying.



**We need spots filled...**



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# Murdock Middle School

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## Athletics

Our Boys and Girls Basketball teams have been working hard since August! We have had to take a brief intermission due to Hurricane Ian, but we will finish up the season with two regular season games and the championship game on December 10th at Port Charlotte High School.

Due to Hurricane Ian, Lady Mariner Volleyball season will be moved to January. All girls must have a current Sports Physical Packet on file to try out. If you have any questions please contact Coach Summers.

Girls Weightlifting/Volleyball intramurals will begin November 1st and will run from 4:15 to 5:15 Monday-Thursday until Christmas Break. All Lady Mariners are welcome – no sports physical needed, only a signed permission slip. If you have any questions please reach out to Coach Strauss or Coach Summers.

## Middle School Athletics Schedule 2022-2023 \*Subject to Change\*

### Basketball (Boys/Girls)

Games: 5:30pm/6:30pm

- 12/1 MMS @ PCM / LAA @ PGM (Boys/Girls)
- 12/8 MMS @ LAA / PCM @ PGM (Girls/Boys)
- 12/10 Playoffs at PCHS at 9am (Saturday)

\*Top two seeds only

### Wrestling

Dual Matches

Match time: 5:30pm

- 4/20 PGM @ PCM LAA @ MMS
- 4/27 MMS @ PGM PCM @ LAA
- 5/4 PGM @ LAA MMS @ PCM

**County Tournament**

**Time: 10am start**

- 5/6 (SAT) @ Charlotte High School

### Volleyball

Games: 5:30pm

- 1/26 MMS @ PCM / LAA @ PGM
- 2/2 PCM @ MMS / PGM @ LAA
- 2/9 LAA @ MMS / PCM @ PGM
- 2/16 LAA @ PCM / PGM @ MMS
- 3/2 MMS @ LAA / PGM @ PCM
- 3/4 Playoffs at LBHS at 9am (Saturday)

### Track and Field

Meet Time: 9am start

- 5/20 (SAT) @ Charlotte High School