

Dear Sterling Families,

Happy Memorial Day! We are entering into the final weeks of the school year and there are many school-related events happening at this time of the year. We will try to list them as accurately as possible. If you have any questions, please ask

- **This past Tuesday (5/22), students completed the STAR reading and STAR math assessments in their classes.**
- **Congratulations on a successful 8th grade trip to Boston!** We hope it was a memorable experience and broadened student horizons! Thanks to all who supported this trip in numerous ways!
- **Power to the People Presentation - June 7th at 6:00pm**
- **We will have a final celebration as a team on June 13th when students present their Summit Projects. More information soon!**
- **8th grade celebration will happen on Thursday, June 14th starting at 6:30pm in the Middle School Gymnasium.**
- **Students last day of school will be on Monday, June 18th. This will be a half day for students.**
- **This Week's Sterling Stars:**
  - **Taylor Dowling**
  - **Otis Hecker**
  - **Evan Noel**
  - **Avery Hemingway**
  - **Kindness Award: Lydia Abair**

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#### Summer Opportunities -

- 1) [Natural Resource Management Academy](#)- Grades 7-12. July 13th-15th (\$125) 2018  
Workshops include: Wildlife Biology, Orienteering, Geology, Herps/Salamanders, Watersheds, Soil Science, Alternative Energy, Let's Go Fishing and more!
- 2) <https://younghacks.com/about/> - A summer camp for those who are interested in coding and programming.

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### News from Core Classes

- **Math**- The last common assessment for the year in both grades will be given late in the week of June 4th.
  - **Grade 7**-We are near the end of the Rational Numbers unit. Integers, positive and negative numbers, fractions, and decimals are now part of their experience. The four basic operations in each format have been explored. We have also begun using letters to represent unknowns and are continuing to work at expressing solutions to word problems with arithmetic, models, and algebraic equations along with their solutions.
  - **Grade 8**- We are working with transformations: translations, rotations, and reflections of a figures in a plane. The original are named with and the images are noted as primes. Each of the transformations has rigid motions associated with it. Students have been working with transparent papers and measuring angles to describe transformations.
- **Social Studies** - Students continue to work on research and drafting their research paper on a changemaker. First drafts were due before the Boston trip; however, many students are missing their first drafts. All students should have research packet, outlines and 1st drafts turned in by Wednesday 5/30/18 at the latest. If they are significantly behind, they should be working on the paper at home.
- **Science**- This upcoming week, students will begin a final engineering group project. They will create homemade weather stations. The weather stations need to have: 1) a temperature gauge, 2) a barometer, 3) a weather vane, 4) a rain gauge and 5) an anemometer. The 5 instruments must be functional and attached on the same station. Students can add an additional instrument such as a hygrometer or humidity gauge for extra credit. The final product will be due on Friday of this week and will be used to determine report card grades for the last Trimester for science.
  - I returned back 2 quizzes on Tuesday: 1) Water cycle and 2) Earth Timeline. Earth Timeline will show up on the report card and the water cycle quiz will not. However, students are encouraged to make corrections on both and take requizzes. Please ask them if they did and encourage them to follow up with me until they demonstrate proficiency!
- **Language Arts** - This week in Language Arts we are continuing our work on our Power to the People unit. Students will be focusing on creating art for our community showcase and writing an accompanying Artist Statement. Students may need to work on their art at home. Ask your students who they are studying and what they are doing for their artwork! Feel free to help students brainstorm and narrow down their ideas.

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### Resource Library:

- **Team Sterling Blog** (Team's website for nightly homework and other communication)
- **PowerSchool Login for student/families** (access to grades and other information)
- **Milton Town Food Services and MySchoolBucks** (lunch menu and login to student lunch account)

- [Middle School Transition Guide](#) (General Information guide and contact information for MMS faculty)
- [Khan Academy](#) (Math lessons, practice and games)
- [MMS Facebook page](#) (please 'like' us on our new page for school-wide updates)