Home of the Emerald Knights Isaac E. Young Middle School Growing Minds of All Kinds



Dear Families,

Welcome to our school. Our sixth-grade staff is excited about meeting your child and working collaboratively with you. This detailed presentation offers you insight into what you can expect when your child enters IEYMS as a 6th grader. When thinking about the creation of this presentation, we included information that we believe is the most important for your child's transition into middle school. We also looked back at past questions asked by parents to determine what was best to include. There is a lot of information in this presentation. We hope that your questions have been answered. The information included in this presentation is based upon a regular school opening in September and is subject to change should conditions or regulations mandate otherwise.

Isaac is a school on the move. Each year, we revisit our practices, program offerings, services, allocation of resources, instructional delivery, and curriculum. It is our goal to create a remarkable place for students to learn and grow! Our commitment at Isaac E. Young is to provide a robust middle school learning experience in a nurturing environment. We seek to empower students to see themselves as independent learners, problem solvers, innovative thinkers, and next-generation courageous leaders prepared to pursue their best life in a global society. This can best be accomplished when we all work together! We hope to meet you soon and look forward to a great year.

Go Team Green! Go Knights! #Isaac Pride

Dr. Robinson, Ed. D. Principal



Our Expectations

In our school, we have high standards and expectations for all students regarding academic performance, ownership of behavior, civic responsibility, and positive, respectful interactions with others. These values are of the utmost importance. We proudly ask each of our students to commit to and hold themselves accountable to these expectations.



We will encourage students to be leaders, to ask questions, to build positive peer relationships, to challenge themselves, to consider the perspectives of others, to advocate for themselves and others, to resolve conflict in healthy and appropriate ways, to be kind, and to take advantage of all that life has to offer.

What can I expect to learn from this presentation?

Brief introduction to the school. Slides 1-5 Important contact information Slides 6-10

How is middle school different than elementary school? Slides 11-15

What is a day like at IEY? Slides 16-23

What courses will my child take? What will they learn? Slides 24-49

What if my child is learning to speak English? Slide 48

What if my child has an IEP? Slide 50

What if my child has a 504 plan? Slide 51

What if my child was in Italian, Mandarin, or SILA Spanish? Slide 39

Who supports my child if they need assistance or help? Slides 7, 9, 10, 12

How do you support the social and emotional needs of students? Slide 10

What happens if my child gets into trouble? Slide 52

How do I communicate with staff during the summer? Slides 8, 55

What school supplies will my child need? Slide 54

Are there after-school activities or school field trips? Slides 56, 57

How often is homework given? Slide 58

How will my child be assessed? Slide 59

What can we do over the summer to get ready for middle school? Slides 60,61

Credits: Slide 62

How can I be involved in middle school? Join the PTA and stay connected to staff.

Isaac E. Young Middle School 6th Grade Academy



WHO'S WHO AT THE

The next few slides will provide you with important contact information.

Isaac E. Young Middle School Leadership Team

Dr. Robinson	Principal
Mr. Trujillo	Assistant Principal: 7 th Grade and 8 th A-N
Mr. Francaviglia	Assistant Principal: 6 th Grade and 8 th O-Z
Dr. Lopez-Tucker	Humanities Chairperson (ELA and Social Studies)
Mrs. Verville	Science Chairperson
Mrs. Hafiz	Mathematics Chairperson
To be determined	Assistant Director of Special Education

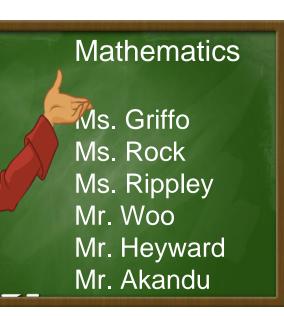
Mrs. Morris, Principal's Secretary	576-4360
Mrs. Wagstaff, Main Office	576-4361
Ms. Tarantino, Assistant Principal's Office	576-4834
Mrs. Walker, Assistant Principal's Office	576-4379
Ms. Oliveros, School Counseling Office	576-4367
Mrs. Petrellese, Registrar and Attendance	576-4362
To be determined, Office of Special Education	576-1193
Mrs. Schepp and Mrs. Trozzi, Health Office Nurses	576-4368

Isaac E. Young Middle School Important Contact Information



The numbers provided will connect you to the office secretary. The nurse's number is a direct line to the school nurses.

6th Grade Teachers (Subject to change)







English as a New Language

Ms. Salas
Ms. Salazar
Mr. Krasner
Ms. Merianou
Ms. Antunes
Ms. Neto





Isaac E. Young Middle School Support Services Team

- Mrs. Gabr, Counselor
- Mr. Roberts, Counselor
- Mrs. Rhett, Counselor
- Mrs. Smith, Counselor
- Mrs. Schepp, Nurse
- Mrs. Trozzi, Nurse

- o Dr. Billups, Psychologist
- Ms. Villalona, Psychologist
- Mrs. Guel, Social Worker
- Mrs. Littlejohn, Social Worker
- Ms. Coley, Social Worker
- Mr. Martinez, Attendance Teacher



The support services team is available to assist with children's academic, attendance, social-emotional, mental, and medical health needs. They provide a variety of in-school services including group and individual counseling. They are also available to recommend community resources and support systems.

How is middle school different from Elementary School?

All students are required to have the following prior to entering 6th grade.

- Tdap vaccine before starting grade 6.
- Students can be subjected to exclusion without mandated vaccine.
- Any student with food allergies will require an Allergy Action Plan from their physician. Parents/legal guardian must provide emergency medication for their child and bring it to the health office on the first day of school.
- Information regarding any student with new or existing medical conditions must be provided to the nurse by the parent/legal guardian on the first day of school.
- Any medication that has to be administered in school must be accompanied with current medical orders and medication provided by the parent on the first day of school.
- The nurses will need a copy of the most current annual physical.

All medical forms can be found and downloaded from the school district website under Health Services Dept. If you have any questions or concerns, please email nurse Schepp or nurse Trozzi.

- eschepp@nredlearn.org
- ktrozzi@nredlearn.org

Notice from the IEYMS Health Office



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Expect your child to change

Adolescence is a developmental period in which children experience tremendous change physical, socially, emotionally, and intellectually. During the next three years of middle school, students will spend a great amount of time trying to figure out who they are. This is a natural part of maturation and development. A few common changes you **may** see in your child during grade 6 and into grade 7:

- 1. Puberty/Growth spurts
- 2. A change in attitude, maybe not so sweet anymore
- 3. Fluctuating emotions
- 4. Questions will become more sophisticated and complex
- 5. Experimentation with different styles and looks (physical appearance becomes important)
- 6. More time socializing/trying to fit in with peer group/new peer group (friends, acceptance and peer connections matter to children during this time of development)
- 7. Expressed need for privacy and more independence

Emotions are a part of adolescence development!

Sometimes, students struggle to find the words to express how they are feeling. They may also find it difficult to explain why they are feeling a certain way. At IEYMS we will use the YALE Ruler Model and the ReThink curriculum to support students' emotional well-being and development. Students will learn how to name their feelings and identify their triggers. Students will learn and practice strategies to manage the daily challenges of middle school and adolescent development.



What do we mean when we say...

- Core classes refer to English, Math, Science, and Social Studies.
- **TAMPEL classes** refer to Technology, Art, Music, Physical Education, World Languages, Family and Consumer Science (FCS), Health and Computer class options.
- A period is a 48-minute period of class time.
- A block is a 70-minute to 75-minute period of class time. Only English, Math, Science and Social Studies are held during the block. There are 3 blocks each day.
- Clinicians refers to social workers and psychologists.
- **SOAR** is a period when teachers focus on developing social skills, social-emotional health, bully prevention, organization, mindfulness, community building circles and STEAM.
- Next Generation Learning Standards refers to the New York State Education Department standards that determines what we teach and what students must be able to do by the end of a grade for each subject.
- Academic Skills is a period for students who require additional support and instruction in literacy, math, and organizational skills.
- Response to Intervention refers to a process we use to support learners who are struggling academically or behaviorally.

LIFE INSIDE THE CASTLE

Isaac E. Young Middle School is affectionately known as "The Castle."

School starts at 8:15. 6th grade students enter the building at 8:10 and have 5 minutes to get to first class. 6th grade is a combination of blocks and periods. All periods are 48 minutes. Blocks are approximately 70 minutes. 6th grade students go to their lockers three times per day. Sixth grade teachers determine the locker schedule and will share it with students. Dismissal is at 3:07. After-school help and activities for 6th graders are usually held from 3:07-3:45. This schedule is tentative and may change based on local or state guidelines related to the current pandemic.







Attendance Matters!

Good Attendance

Student has missed **fewer than 5%** of school days (generally less than 4 or 5 days in a semester)

At-Risk

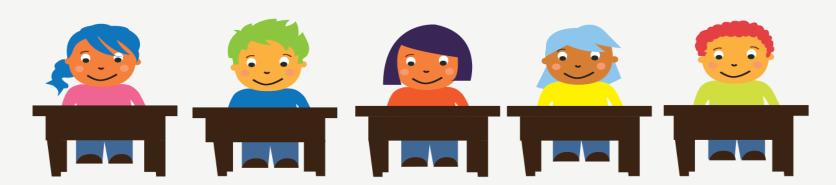
Student has missed **between 5% and 10%** of school days (generally between 5-9 days in a semester)

Chronic Absence

Student has missed **10% or more** of school days (generally 9 days or more in a semester)

Attendance Matters!

It is important that students are in school on time everyday. We know that life happens, and sometimes children become sick, have doctor's appointments, and families have emergencies. If your child is absent from school, please send a note to the attendance office. We ask that whenever possible, schedule vacations during the times when schools are officially closed like during the holidays or Spring Break. During the school year, if your child struggles with morning routines or you need additional support getting your child to school, please contact our attendance teacher, Mr. Martinez or one of our school social workers.



Tardy to School

In middle school, class instruction begins at the beginning the period. When IEYMS scholars enter the classroom, they are expected to take out their materials and prepare for learning. Instruction begins immediately. The beginning of class is an important part of learning. If a child is late to period one by 10 minutes each day, they will miss important information such as announcements for the day, a review of the homework, an introduction to learning that explains what students will be learning about in class, and the introduction of new materials and concepts. If a child is 15 minutes or more late for class, they can miss the above in addition to valuable core instruction.

Please work with your child to ensure they arrive to school on time.



Our year is broken down in the following scheme:

- Year long: Class meets for the entire year (ELA, Math, Science, SS)
- o 2 semesters: Each is approximately 20 weeks long.
- o 4 marking periods: Each is approximately 10 weeks long.
- o 4-day cycle: Day 1, Day 2, Day 3, Day 4. Each class meets on a cycle.

Some classes meet every day, while others meet every other day. Some classes meet for the entire year, while others meet for a semester or marking period. There are currently no semester classes in 6th grade.







<u>Sample Schedule: All students will have this schedule in some variation.</u> The blocks are always English, Math, Science, or Social Studies.

Enter at 8:10 first locker visit

Period 1: 8:15: TAMPEL

Period 2: Block 1 English Language Arts

Period 3: Lunch

Period 4: Block 2 Science/Social Studies

Period 5: AMPEL

Period 6/7: Block 3 Math

Periods 8: SOAR

Dismissal 3:07 or After-school activities



We believe it is extremely important that 6th grade students, most aged 10-11, feel comfortable and safe in their new environment. We use a 6th Grade Academy model. 6th grade core teachers only teach grade 6 students. The teachers have keen insight into the unique needs of 6th grade students.

One component of our Academy deals with hallway transitions. 6th graders arrive to school and enter the building 10-15 minutes earlier than 7th and 8th grade students. 6th grade students are dismissed earlier than the upper grade students. In addition, during hallway change of classes, the 6th grade students move as a group when no other grades are in the hallways to the greatest extent possible.



6th grade content classes are located in one area of the building with the 6th Grade Assistant Principal's office in the midst.

6th graders have very limited contact with upper grade students. Inside the Castle, 6th grade is commonly referred to as the *Private School* as they mostly function independently from the rest of the building.

6th grade students eat lunch in two groups, A and B. This is to reduce the number of students in the cafeteria and allow for greater levels of supervision during recess.



WHAT CLASSES WILL MY CHILD TAKE?

All students will take a course of study in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, and Music. Other courses are determined by need.

Mathematics class meets every day

Students entering middle school as a 6th grader will be placed into 6th grade math where they will be exposed to a challenging and appropriate curriculum. Sample learning includes:

Create a story context for $(2/3) \div (3/4)$ and use a visual fraction model to show the quotient; use the relationship between multiplication and division to explain that $(2/3) \div (3/4) = 8/9$ because 3/4 of 8/9 is 2/3.

Interpret -3 > -7 as a statement that -3 is located to the right of -7 on a number line oriented from left to right.

In a problem involving motion at constant speed, list and graph ordered pairs of distances and times.

Mathematics 6 Five Areas of Focus

- 1. Ratios and proportional relationships
- 2. Number systems
- 3. Expressions, equations, and inequalities
- 4. Geometry
- 5. Statistics and probability

Students must also demonstrate understanding of the 8 mathematical practices. For more information about the 6th grade NYS Next Generation Learning Standards, please click on the link below.

http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/curriculum-instruction/nys-next-generation-mathematics-p-12-standards.pdf

DOES IEYMS OFFER ADVANCEMENT IN MATH?

Yes, we do! Please see the next slide for more information.

Some students will be enrolled in advanced math because they have demonstrated a very strong ability to problem solve, think critically, and understand complex math concepts while in elementary school. Students who receive a strong recommendation from the elementary principal, those who consistently scored a level 4 on multiple formal and informal assessments, those who have consistently maintained a grade of A in elementary school, and those who have demonstrated a strong work ethic will be considered for advancement in math.

There are no guarantees of placement. Students must demonstrate readiness. During September, all students will be assessed to determine their readiness and understanding of 5th and some 6th grade math topics including important foundational math skills.

It is okay if children are not accelerated in math. This does not mean they are not on track for graduation or that they are not smart enough. Students learn, grow, mature, and develop at different times. If your child is scheduled for Math 6, they are right where they need to be for where they are developmentally. No worries!

English Language Arts class meets every day

Reading and writing are necessary for participation in nearly every aspect of day-to-day, 21st-century life. All students in New York State must develop advanced literacies. Students must be able to communicate through speaking and writing, in different ways for different purposes, and with a variety of audiences. English Language Arts instruction focuses on developing the lifelong practices of readers and writers. The reading and writing skills that students will learn are necessary for success well after students graduate from college. Click the link below to learn more about lifelong literacy practices and the Next Generation ELA Standards that guide our instruction.

http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/curriculum-instruction/introduction-to-the-nysenglish-language-arts-standards.pdf

English Language Arts: Reading

In grade 6, students will read a range of reading material. Students must be able to read, write, think about, and talk about texts in a variety of ways and for a variety purposes. Students will read literature and information text including stories, drama, poetry, fiction, myths, graphic novels, nonfiction, biographies, autobiographies, books and articles about science, art, history, social studies, and information displayed in charts, graphs, or maps, in both print and digital sources.

English Language Arts: Writing

Students must be able to write for a variety of reasons. In grade 6, we focus on four major types of writing:

- Write arguments to present and support a claim
- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately
- Write narratives to understand an event or topic
- Develop personal, cultural, textual, and thematic connections within and across genres through responses to texts and personal experiences

For more information during the school year contact blopez@nredlearn.org

Social Studies class meets every other day opposite science

In grade 6 Social Studies, students study the geography and history of the Eastern Hemisphere, including the development of cultures, ancient civilizations, empires, and world religions; interactions between societies; and the comparison of trends in government and economics related to Early River Civilizations and ancient kingdoms including but not limited to Mesopotamia, Mali, Kush, Egypt, China, Greece, and Rome.

Click on the link below to learn more information. Scroll to grade 6. http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/curriculum-instruction/ss-framework-k-8a2.pdf



Social Studies

Students are also expected to read a variety of text types and write for a variety of reasons. Social Studies teachers mostly focus on argumentative and claim-evidence-reasoning writing. Readings include historical documents, articles, book excerpts, charts, graphs, and maps. Students will also complete several projects.

For more information during the school year contact blopez@nredlearn.org





Science class meets every other day opposite social studies

Science 6 introduces students to middle school science. Students will focus their studies on life science, chemical, and physical sciences to provide a foundation in the core ideas of the field and introduce students to inquiry-based practices. Students will continue to strengthen their science thinking skills throughout their middle school science experience. Topics of Study Include:

- Measurement and Tools of the Scientist
- Scientific Inquiry and Experimental Design
- Structure and Properties of Matter
- Forces and Interactions
- Energy
- Cell Structure, Function and Information Processing
- Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
- Human Body Systems



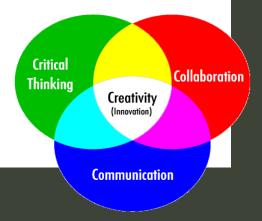
For more information during the school year, email <u>jverville@nredlearn.org</u>

Science

Students will develop and conduct organized scientific experiments and solve problems about the natural world through the exploration of phenomena. As is in alignment with the New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards, we recognize that science education provides a natural opportunity for students to explore and enhance 21st century skills, which are imperative for successful educational and career pursuits.

Learn more about Science and Engineering practices and the Next Generation Science Standards that guide our instruction at the middle school level. Scroll to middle school standards:

http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/curriculum-instruction/p-12-science-learning-standards.pdf



World Language Options for 6th Graders

Spanish 1A, Italian 1A, and Mandarin 1A <u>are offered to students who</u> <u>were enrolled in these languages while in elementary school</u>. Latin 1A is offered to select students entering middle school. English Language Arts grades, test scores, maturation, and overall academic achievement are considered when selecting students for Latin. Once enrolled in Latin, students are expected to take a three-year course of study. Parents will be notified if their child is selected for Latin. If selected, participation is not mandatory. However, it is highly recommended.

World Language meets every day

World Language courses meet every day for the entire year. Students enrolled in a World Language will not take Technology, Robotics, Home and Careers or Architecture and Construction in grade 6. These courses may be taken in grades 7 or 8. Upon entry into middle school, if it is determined that a student needs academic support in English or Math, they may be removed from World Language and placed into a support class. This decision will be made in consultation with parents and guardians.

World Language Will my child continue in the SILA program from elementary school?

In most cases, yes, your child will continue to learn a language upon entering grade 6. However, if your child demonstrates a need for additional instruction and support in reading, math or learning English as a new language, depending on the degree of need, a student can be removed from World Language and placed into a reading or math support class. We will notify parents if this should be the case.

Physical Education and Music

All students will take physical education and music regardless of their academic needs. This is a universal class. PE and music meet every other day for the entire year. Music options include general music, choir, instrumental (band) or strings (orchestra).

Sample Schedule:

Period 2: Days 1 and 3 Physical Education

Period 2: Days 2 and 4 Music

Physical Education and Music Will my child need special equipment or materials for music or physical education?

Physical Education: Students must dress in approved athletic wear including sneakers. Gym uniforms are sold throughout the year for a cost of around \$20. Your PE teacher will provide specific ordering information.

Instrumental and Strings: Families are encouraged to provide their child with their own instruments. When this is not possible, the school has a limited number of instruments to loan to students.

Technology, Robotics, Health, and Family and Consumer Science meets every day for ten weeks, one class per marking period.

These classes are commonly called exploratory classes. Enrollment in these classes allows students the opportunity to explore areas of interest beyond English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Technology and Robotics include STEAM activities. Technology and Family and Consumer Science are offered again in grade 7. Technology and Health are offered again in grade 8. **Students enrolled in a World Language do not participate in exploratory classes in grade 6.**

What will my child learn in Technology?

In Technology Education, students will learn to use science, mathematics, social science, language arts, engineering, and computers to problem solve and design models. Students will explore career options in Technology. They will create a variety of projects requiring engineering, computer, and building skills. Students will use a variety of tools and materials. Safety and proper use of tools and materials is of the utmost importance.

What will my child learn in Robotics?

Like Technology, students will use a variety of skills and programs to build working robots. Students will participate in a variety of robot challenges to test the design and use of the robot. Students will apply principles of science, technology, engineering, math, and critical thinking.

What will my child learn in Architecture and Construction?

Students will learn and use a variety of mathematical, engineering and construction principles as well as creativity, design, and planning skills to explore how societies build cities, spaces, and structures for sustainability and safety. Students will participate in real life design challenges such as conceptualizing green cities and building earthquake resistant buildings. Students will also learn about career clusters such as Civil Engineering, Surveying and Mapping, Drafting,

and Architecture.

What will my child learn in Health?

Students will learn about human growth and development. They will study how healthy choices impact growth and development. They will learn ways to promote health and prevent disease and will demonstrate and practice positive health behaviors (NYSED, 2020).

Learning units include:

Respect of self and others

Adolescent changes and care Impact of risky behaviors (fad dieting, vaping, smoking, use of alcohol, and drugs) Stress management Decision making Developing healthy self-esteem

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NUTRITION

POSITIVITY

PURPOSE

What will my child learn in Family and Consumer Science?

Students will understand and learn to manage personal resources of talent, time, energy, and money and make effective decisions in order to balance their obligations to work, family, and self. Students will learn to develop and maintain positive relationships in their homes, workplaces, and communities. Students will learn how to access and use community resources. They will also learn how to plan for their future college and careers (NYSED, 2020).

Learning Topics include

- Self-awareness
- Financial and Consumer Responsibility
- Health and Wellness
- Character Development
- Culinary Arts
- Career Development

English as a New Language: ENL meets every day

This class is for students who are learning to speak, read, write, and understand the English language. In May, students in this class must take a mandatory assessment to determine if the student no longer requires instruction in English as a New Language.

During the school year, please contact Mrs. Salas at <u>csalas@nredlearn.org</u> for further information.

SOAR class meets every day

SOAR is an important part of the 6th grade experience. During this time teachers, counselors, administrators, and support staff focus on developing healthy middle school students. There are five units of study:

- 1. Orientation to Isaac E. Young Middle School: Students learn how to navigate middle school.
- 2. SOAR curriculum focuses on organizational and study skills necessary for school success.
- 3. Conflict resolution instruction focuses on teaching student's skills and strategies to de-escalate and resolve social conflicts in healthy and responsible ways.
- 4. STEAM Challenge focuses on developing critical thinking skills, teamwork, collaboration, and problem solving.
- 5. Mindfulness and social-emotional instruction focuses on teaching students to understand and pay attention to their triggers and emotional signals. Students are taught strategies to regulate and manage their emotions.

What if my child has an IEP?

Children with Individualized Educational Plans will receive programs and services as mandated by their IEP. Students will be placed in the least restrictive environment as per the IEP. Students also have access and are able to participate in <u>all aspects</u> of the IEYMS school community including after-school activities, field trips planned by their teachers, assemblies, award ceremonies, and sporting events.

Please contact 576-1193 for more information regarding special education.

What if my child has a 504?

Children with 504 plans will receive services as mandated by their 504. All teachers and staff are trained to provide 504 services and accommodations as mandated by the plan. Students also have access and are able to participate in <u>all aspects</u> of the IEYMS school community including after school activities, field trips planned by their teachers, assemblies, awards ceremonies, and sporting events. Medical restrictions will be followed as indicated in the plan. In the fall, please contact your child's school counselor regarding the 504 plan.

We adhere to the New Rochelle Code of Conduct. We encourage all students and families to become familiar with the behavioral expectations outlined in the Code of Conduct. Our administrative team, school counselors, and staff are trained in restorative practices. We will use a restorative and progressive approach to discipline whenever possible.

In the event of misbehavior, responses might include but are not limited to

Parent telephone call Note to parent Administrative conference Parent-teacher-student conference **Detention: AM, PM, or Lunch** Loss of recess or other privileges Loss of trip participation Social skills group Short term counseling Apology letter Completion of school service project Restorative circle Restorative conference Completion of a learning module Completion of a project that teaches us more about the impact of a behavior **Behavior Contract** Referral to a community agency

We believe that teaching replacement behaviors, supporting students, and reinforcing positive behaviors are powerful tools to change behavior. However, sometimes it becomes necessary to suspend a student from the school environment. We do not take suspensions lightly. You will receive immediate notification and a conference should the team consider a suspension from school.



- 6th grade students eat together in one or two groups. This includes recess.
- □ Students will use their student ID as their lunch number.
- Daily cost for lunch and a la cart items will be provided at the beginning of the year.
- ☐ Those students who qualify for free or reduced lunch will receive information for the Fall.
- □ Breakfast is available every morning beginning at 7:40 a.m.

School Supplies

At IEYMS, we use a color-coded system for each class to help our students stay organized. Other supplies may be requested in September.



Social Studies (Red)	Science (Green)	Literacy (Purple)	Math (Blue)	•	General Supplies 1 MASTER combination lock
1 red marble	1 green marble	2 purple marble	1 blue marble graphing		with a key
composition notebook	composition notebook	composition notebooks	notebook	•	Basic earbuds (to be kept at school)
			2 blue plastic pocket	•	Black 3 section spiral
2 red plastic pocket	1 green plastic	2 purple plastic	folders		notebook for TAMPELS
folders	pocket folder with	pocket folders		•	Pencil case
	prongs			•	Supply of pencils
				•	Blue and black pens only
	Clear glue sticks			•	Post it notes
				•	Highlighters
				•	Markers: <u>Please no Sharpies</u>

Additional Supplies

Zipper Binder with storage: 2 or 3-inch 3 ring: Case-it Mighty Zip or Five Star Zipper Binder available at Staples, Wal-Mart, Amazon, Target. Other brands of binders are acceptable.

Chromebook Case: Gumdrop Slim Tech Case Designed for Lenovo 300e Chromebook Gen2 (Intel) Laptop for Students, to protect from Bumps and Scratches available at Amazon



For now, please continue to contact your elementary school staff until July 1.

During the summer, the Assistant Director of Special Education, the school registrar, the assistant principals, and the principal are available to answer any questions you may have. When you do begin to communicate with IEYMS staff, please include your child's name.

School counselors, clinicians and teachers do not work during the summer months and have limited access to email. School nurses will be available in late August. Children's schedules will be made available in August via the parent portal.

6th grade students may have the opportunity to participate in a variety of field trips and activities during the school year. Some trips will be based on what students are learning. Other trips are to celebrate and reward scholarship, citizenship, behavior and service to the school.

All trips and assemblies are subject to district guidelines as well as current Covid-19 regulations and restrictions.



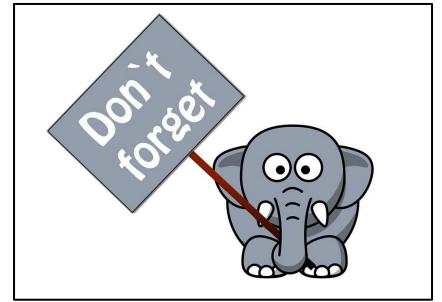




We have several after-school clubs available for students. After-school club options will be made available in September. As per the NYS Education Department, students must be in grades 7 or 8 to participate in modified sports.





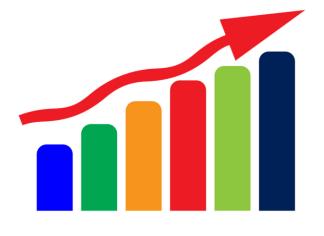


How much homework can we expect?

We know that family life can be busy, and students have responsibilities when the school day ends. Teachers will assign homework when students need to practice skills, prepare for the next day of learning, or complete long-term projects and writing assignments. When homework is assigned, students can expect a minimum of 30 minutes to a maximum of 2 hours worth of homework. Homework is not always assigned every day. But READING and reviewing is considered homework and is expected to be completed every night.



What tests given in middle school? How will my child be assessed?



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During the year, teachers will evaluate children's learning in a variety of ways.

- Content assessments are created by the teacher and are used to determine if students have mastered the topics covered in class. This might include tests, quizzes, projects, writing assignments, quarterly exams, and final exams.
- Benchmarks are assessments we use to measure if students are on grade level and making progress specifically in literacy and math. Benchmarks are given to all students three times per year, Fall, Winter, and Spring.
- New York State assessments in ELA and Math are state exams given to students in grades 3,4,5,6,7,and 8 to determine students grade level performance. Google NYSED assessment program for more information.
- Students who require extra support in reading comprehension and math will have their progress monitored more frequently than other students to ensure they are making adequate progress.

Lingering Thoughts

What else can I do to prepare my child for middle school?

- Reassure your child that middle school can be a great experience.
- Review your expectations for grades, homework, behavior, and good choices.
- Reinforce good reading habits by setting aside daily time for reading. Children should continue to read, uninterrupted, for at least 30 minutes every day.
- Reinforce math skills by making sure your child understands basic math.
- Encourage your child to participate in an afterschool club or activity.

- In late August, begin to practice your morning and evening school routines so children will know what to expect.
- Practice the way your child will walk to school. Pay attention to the time it takes your child to walk to ensure they arrive to school on time.
- Help your child to organize their supplies.
- Create an afterschool plan for walking home, chores, and homework completion.

Last but not least...

Enjoy this time with your child and allow your child to enjoy the summer break as much as possible. Middle school is only a short three years and will fly



What are the Summer Learning Assignments?

The Summer Learning Assignments will be posted on the website by the last day of school. Summer Assignments are due on the first day of school.

Credits

The knight logo was designed by Michael Fry, IEY art teacher.

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