



Graham Middle School



March 22, 2024

Message from Principal, Heidi Galassi:

Hello Graham Families!

As we venture into the month of March, I am excited to share with you some events we had this week to celebrate Pi Day!

Pi Day, celebrated annually on March 14th (3/14), is a special occasion dedicated to honoring the mathematical constant π (pi), which represents the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter. This day provides a unique opportunity for students to engage in hands-on learning activities, explore the significance of pi in mathematics, and appreciate the beauty of this fundamental mathematical concept.

At Graham Middle School, we are delighted to join in the celebration of Pi Day with a series of engaging and educational initiatives planned for our students. From interactive math lessons and problem-solving challenges to creative pi-themed activities, our goal is to inspire a love for mathematics and foster a deeper understanding of its relevance in everyday life.

I encourage you to take this opportunity to engage your child in conversations about Pi Day and the significance of the mathematical constant π . Ask them about the activities they participated in, the concepts they learned, and how they celebrated this special day with their classmates and teachers. Together, let's celebrate the wonder of mathematics and encourage our students to embrace the joy of learning.

As always, thank you for your continued support and partnership in our triangle of support.

Sincerely,
Dr. Heidi Galassi

School News

Graham Counselors

As we get closer to the state testing, students may start to feel pressure to prepare for such a big exam. These tests can bring anxiety to students who may not feel ready or think they are good at taking tests. Some ways to support students at home between now and a few more weeks include:

1. Practice Tests: Provide students with opportunities at home to take practice tests. This helps them become comfortable with the test structure.
2. Test-Taking Strategies: Teach students strategies for approaching different types of test questions, such as multiple choices. This includes techniques for managing time effectively and eliminating incorrect answers.
3. Stress Management: Help students develop strategies for managing test anxiety and stress. This could include relaxation techniques, mindfulness exercises, or positive self-talk.
4. Healthy Habits: Emphasize the importance of healthy habits leading up to the testing period, including getting enough sleep, eating nutritious meals, and staying physically active.

Please don't hesitate to send us a Parent/Guardian Referral form if you need to refer a student to us for social-emotional, academic or college & career counseling.

Click here: [Parent/Guardian Referral Form](#)

Graham's 8th Grade Panorama Pictures

[Go to My.Lifetouch.com](https://www.lifetouch.com) to order your 8th Grade Pano Picture

Picture Day Date: Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Picture Day ID: BY013030T0

Graham's Yearbook

2024-2025 School Yearbooks are now on sale. The hardback memory books commemorate your student's time at Graham. The all-color pages vibrantly capture memories throughout the year. Reserve your copy today! Order online at [YBPay.com](https://www.ybpay.com) with Yearbook ID Code 14515924 by April 22, 2024. Price is \$40 each.

Graham Wins big at the MVWSD Film Festival sweeping 6-8th grade awards

Yesterday the Mountain View Whisman District hosted their annual film festival in our auditorium and Graham students swept the top awards.

Graham won 8 of the 9 finalist spots and in 6th grade our finalists that were runner ups were Jack and Steven for their film Water Scarcity

The next runner up was by Elise and Yan-Wing for their film Conserve Energy Today

And the winner of the 6th grade film award goes to this team come out here you guys(they come out with their trophies-in front of anchor desk) Elias, Emory and Omri for their film Sustainable Future

And now for our 7th graders our finalists that were runner ups were Nathan, Archer and Yens for their film Troubled Waters: Exploring Water Pollution

And the winner of the 7th grade film award goes to this mixed team come out here you girls(they come out with their trophies-in front of anchor desk) Hailey, Carmen, and Surina for their film The Effects of Plastic Pollution

And now for our 8th graders our finalists that were runner ups were first Sheina for her film Carpooling: A Sustainable Future

The next runner up was by Julia for her film Steak-Out: Bringing a Cow to Justice for Their Environmental Impact

And the winner of the 8th grade film award goes to Meital who also won the award in 7th grade come out here meital(she come out with their trophies-in front of anchor desk) for her film Small Acts, Sustainable Futures

It was a great night for our film makers and thanks for the strong audience that showed up to celebrate their big wins.

[youtube link to the film playlist](#)

Graham's "AWESOME Acts" winners

Pursue Knowledge

Aiden - Ms. Martinez
Artur - Ms. Geoghegan

Together We Can

Josh - Ms. St. Lawrence
Aarav - Mr. Carroll

Reporting an Absence

Please call the 24hour automated Attendance Line at 650-526-3570, ext. 2680 or email grahamattendance@mvwsd.org to report an absence or late arrival. Provide the following information: date of absence, student's name, grade, reason for absence, and name and relationship of the person reporting the absence. After reporting a COVID positive absence on the attendance line or by email click [here](#) to fill out the COVID reporting form.

Bell Schedule

You can access the Graham Bell Schedule [here](#). School starts at 8:25am every day.

Medication Forms

If your child requires medication to be kept at school, please pick up a [medication release form](#) from the school office. We cannot administer any medication without the forms. Please note that all medication, even over the counter medications, need a medication form signed by your doctor. For more information [click here](#) to be linked to the Physical Health webpage.

Drop-off and Pick-up

There are different options for arriving at school. Please check out the Graham website for ideas for [Walking and Biking to School](#). If you plan to drop off your student on campus, please use the parking lot in front of the library for drop off and pick up. Please pull all the way up and then let your students out. Please do not pull out of the line. This is to assure that everyone safely exits their vehicle. The MVSP (Gym) parking lot will be for staff only. Also, Lane Avenue may not be used as a drop off or pick up location for students. Due to the limited space, it causes a safety hazard for our students.

Bike Cage

Please remind your students to lock their bikes in the bike cage. While the bike cage protects student bikes from theft by individuals passing our campus during the day, it does not guarantee theft protection after school from persons entering the bike cage. Locking their bike is the best way to ensure that the only person who walks away with a bike from our bike cage is the bike's owner.

Important Dates

March 25, Teacher Service Day (No School for Students)

March 28, Minimum Day for Students, dismissal time for students 12:50PM)

March 28, New Family Orientation at the Auditorium at 5:45-6:30PM

March 28, Open House at 6:30 – 7:30PM

April 2, 8th Grade Panorama Picture

April 3, Strings Concert at 7:00PM at the Auditorium

April 4, Project Cornerstone Workshop at 6:00PM [ZOOM](#)

April 8 to April 12, Spring Break - No School

April 24, ELAC Meeting at 5:00PM at the MUR

April 25, Reclassification Ceremony at Crittenden Middle School at 5:00PM

April 26, CMEA Choral Festival 4:00-9:00PM at the Auditorium

April 27, CMEA Choral Festival 8:00-4:00PM at the Auditorium

May 8, GRAHAMmys and Ted Talks Event 6:30-8:30PM at the Auditorium

May 10, Dance Show 6:00-7:00PM at the Auditorium

May 14, Jazz Cabaret 7:00-8:00PM at the MUR

May 15, Strings Concert 7:00-8:00PM at the Auditorium

May 20, Band Concert 6:30-7:30PM at the Auditorium

May 23, Choir Concert at 7:00PM at the Auditorium

May 24, End of Trimester 3 - Minimum Day for Students (Dismissal time 12:50PM)

May 27, Memorial Day - No School

May 31, 8th Grade Promotion at 11:00AM at the MV Sports Pavilion

May 31, Last Day of School - Minimum Day for students (Dismissal Time 12:50PM)

2023 -2024 School Year Calendar - [Here](#)

2024-2025 School Year Calendar- [Here](#)

District News

No School: Mar. 25

A reminder that there is no school for students on Monday, March 25. It is a Teacher Service Day (professional development for staff).

No MVWSD+ Afterschool Programs on Thursday, March 21

Due to preparations for Elementary School Open House, there will be no MVWSD+ Afterschool Programs on Thursday, March 21. MVWSD+ families, thank you in advance for making other arrangements. This affects all Right At School programs, all Beyond the Bell programs, and the district-paid YMCA programs. Programs resume as normal on Friday, March 22. For more information, please contact plus@mvwsd.org or call (650) 526-3500 x1061.

Invitations for districtwide Summer Programs will be emailed to those who qualify beginning in mid March

Qualifying families will soon be receiving invitations to one or more programs that will provide summertime care, enrichment, and academic support. The majority of these programs are for students who are English Learners and/or considered socioeconomically disadvantaged. The programs vary in scope and specific qualification criteria.

Students with IEPs who have Extended School Year services documented in their IEPs will be receiving information about that program by March 22.

Parent University: Preparing for Middle School

Date and Time: 4/2/24 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Registration Link: <http://mvw.sd/pu040224>

Nervous about middle school? We get it! Change can be daunting, but it can also lead to amazing new experiences. Join us to learn how to support your children as they prepare for the next stage in their academic and social lives. We will feature a panel of staff and students from Crittenden and Graham who will offer lots of wisdom and details about grades six, seven, and eight. See you there!

To submit your questions prior to the event, go to mvw.sd/questions.

Annual Reclassification Ceremony: Thursday, April 25

Our yearly celebration of former English Learner students who have reclassified as fluent in English this school year will take place on the afternoon of April 25 at Crittenden. Invitations will be sent home to families by the end of March. We are all looking forward to cheering on the students' achievement!

Crittenden Middle musical: "High School Musical Jr."

Crittenden Middle School Performing Arts proudly presents "High School Musical Jr.!" Join us for an unforgettable evening filled with laughter, music, and incredible performances. Mark your calendars, invite your friends and family, and join us for a night of entertainment that will leave you singing and dancing all the way home. We can't wait to see you there!

[Tickets are now available for purchase here.](#) You can see the show at:

Dates and times:

Fri March 22 7:00pm

Sat March 23 7:00pm

Sun March 24 2:00pm

Location:

Leanne Rzepiela Auditorium

Crittenden Middle School

1701 Rock St. Mountain View, CA 94043

Ticket Prices:

Adult \$15 - Child/Student \$10.

National Nutrition Month

March is National Nutrition Month! Eating healthy doesn't have to break your grocery budget. Planning meals, opting for whole foods and seasonal produce, and using frozen and canned veggies are just a few ways to save money while enjoying a nutritious diet. For more tips for eating healthy on a budget [check out this resource from the Centers for Disease Control](#).

MVEF Gala & Graham New Family Potluck

Mark your calendars! This month is packed with opportunities to connect with our school community. Don't miss the MVEF Gala, a chance to celebrate the talents of our middle school musicians and vocalists while supporting vital arts programs. Get [your tickets](#) now to take advantage of early bird pricing! And for our 5th grade families, join us for a welcome potluck at Graham Middle School on March 22nd, [please RSVP today!](#) The Crittenden welcome potluck date will occur in May, stay tuned for updates.

SCCOE Environmental Literacy Summit

Join Santa Clara County Office of Education on Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the third annual Environmental Literacy Summit featuring guest speakers, student-led panels, interactive workshops, and an opportunity to connect with our community-based partners. This year's theme is Building Climate Resiliency Together, and will focus on key themes of reducing our impact, supporting healthy school communities, and providing environmental and climate literacy education. The registration fee of \$50 includes a light breakfast, lunch, resources, and entry into raffle. This event is free for full-time students in grades 3-12. Register at <https://sccoe.to/ELS2024>