

618-239-0000

MR. MARK HEURING, SUPERINTENDENT

WHITESIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MR. NATHAN RAKERS, PRINCIPAL

MRS. KIM BOSSLER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

WHITESIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

MRS. MONICA LAURENT, PRINCIPAL

MR. JAIME COTTO, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1

Book Club Meeting 3:10 PM

2

Kindergarten Field Trip - Braeutigam Orchards

5

NJHS Meeting
First Day Elementary Book Fair
PTC Monthly Meeting 6:00 PM

6

STEM Club Meeting

7

Elementary School Hat Day
Early Dismissal (MS 1:45 PM, ES 2:00 PM)
Whiteside Spaghetti Dinner 4:30 - 7:00 PM

8

First Grade Field Trip - Willoughby Heritage Farm
Math Team Meeting
Final Day - Elementary Fall Book Fair

9

No School - Teacher Institute

12

No School - Columbus / Indigenous Peoples Day

14

Booster Club Meeting - 6:00PM

15

Math Team Meeting
Book Club Meeting 3:10 PM

16

End of 1st Quarter

17

Math Team Competition - Belleville West HS

19

NJHS Meeting

20

Early Dismissal (MS 1:45 PM, ES 2:00 PM)
Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00 - 7:30 PM

21

Early Dismissal (MS 1:45 PM, ES 2:00 PM)

22

Early Dismissal (MS 1:45 PM, ES 2:00 PM)
Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00 - 7:30 PM
Washington D.C. Fundraiser - Texas Roadhouse

24

No School - Teacher Conferences

26

Elementary and Middle School Food Drives Begin
Middle School Red Ribbon Spirt Week Begins

27

STEM Club Meeting

29

Math Team Meeting

30

Elementary Fall Class Parties
Final Day - Food Drives & Red Ribbon Week
PTC Fall Fest & Trunk or Treat 6:00 PM



NO SCHOOL

- OCTOBER 9

- OCTOBER 12

- OCTOBER 23

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following elementary students who were selected by their teachers for showing Responsibility!

Zaya Adkins
Amiyah Brown
Shawn Brown
La'Nijah Edwards
Treasure Holmes
Trey Houston
Maryam Nijmeh

Adedamola Osikoya
Ayotunde Osikoya
Norah Shaw
Arabella Tucker
Jaxson Tucker
Joellen Wilhelm

Congratulations to the following middle school students who were selected by their teachers!

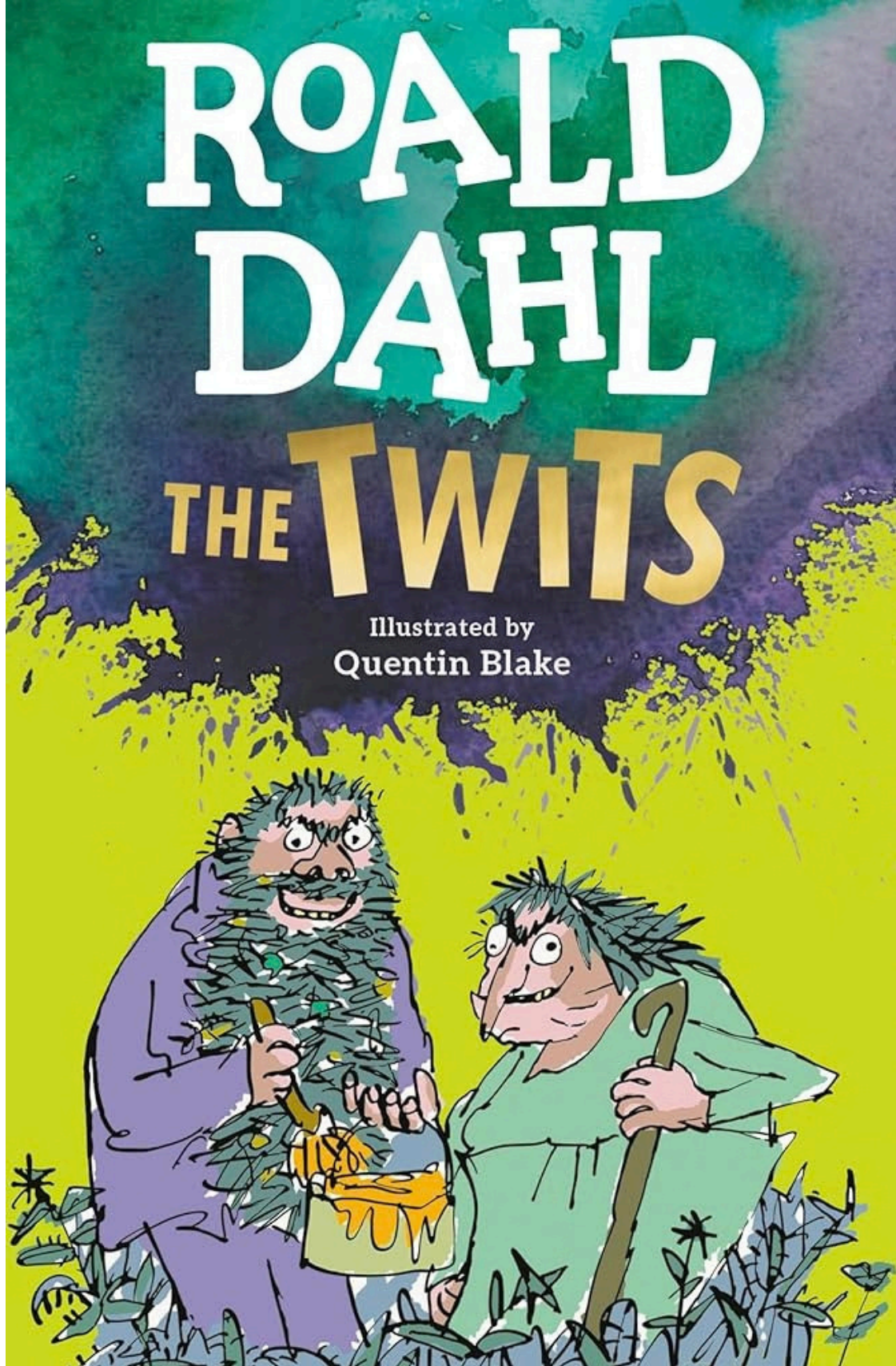
Anna Byrne
Nia Carr
Brooklyn Carter
Carter Doyle
Kamarion Sams
Easen Woods

1ST SEMESTER
CHARACTER COUNCIL

The following fourth graders were selected by their teachers for showing exemplary character and leadership in our school community.

Eli Ahring
David Byrne
Henry Byrne
Sofia Gutierrez
Abigail Jackson
Samuel McNeil
Charlotte Peterson

Laila Reed
Drayvon Savage
Enoch Smith
Kassie Todd
Zurich Wilson
Madeline Wood



Book Club!

First Book Club meeting on October 1st! We will be reading, *The Twits*, by Roald Dahl. We will meet at 3:10 p.m. in the Middle School library to hand out the books. Second Book Club meeting will be October 15th at 3:10 p.m. to discuss the book and watch the movie! Students will need to arrange transportation home if they choose to stay for the movie at 5:30 p.m. Bring your favorite beverage and snack to share!



STAFF SHOUT OUTS

A special THANK YOU to these staff members for their hard work and dedication to excellent service for our students.

Cody Schmitz Kayla Nowak
Emma Nowak Allyson Nowak



Whiteside Education Foundation Fundraisers

Need groceries? Why not make them count for something bigger? Every Instacart Gift Card you buy through our fundraising page helps support Whiteside Education Foundation. Redeem it on the Instacart app for delivery or pickup nationwide from top stores like Target, Walmart, Costco, Safeway, Kroger, and CVS. Get all your groceries, snacks & essentials while giving back at the same time. Groceries that give back? Yes, please! Get yours [here!](#)



Doughnuts for a cause!! Whiteside Education Foundation is giving you the best reason to indulge in a dozen (or two) Krispy Kreme doughnuts. 50% of your order will be donated back to Whiteside Education Foundation when you purchase via our fundraising sales page! Simply buy online, visit your local store & redeem using your code. Treat yourself or even gift them to friends and family [here!](#)





DINE TO DONATE! FUNDRAISING NIGHT



Support
**WHITESIDE 8TH
GRADE CLASS**
THUR., OCTOBER 22
4 - 10PM

(618) 628-8811
1412 CENTRAL PARK CIRCLE
SHILOH, IL

10%

DONATION NIGHT

Support WhiteSide 8TH Grade Class by presenting this flyer to the Shiloh, IL location and Texas Roadhouse will donate 10% of your total food purchases to WhiteSide 8TH Grade Class!

Scan the barcode on this flyer or enter the 7-digit code before checking out using the tableside Ziosk or Mobile App. This is the only way to ensure sales are credited to our group! Ask a Legendary Roadie for assistance if needed.



VKWD8TX



Whiteside's

SPAGHETTI *Dinner*

Join us for an evening of great food, music, and fun — enjoy a delicious spaghetti dinner, performances by the Glee Club and Band, and shop the Book Fair all in one night!



Whiteside Elementary
2028 Lebanon Ave



Wednesday
October 7, 2026



Dinner
4:30 – 7:00 PM – Kitchen & MPR

MS Band Concert
5:15 PM – Gym

Glee Club Concert
6:30 PM – Gym

Book Fair
4:30 – 7:00 PM – Library



REGISTER NOW:



**Questions? Contact us at
WhitesidePTC@wssd115.org**

Whiteside Education Foundation Fundraiser

Book lovers, this one's for you! Every ThriftBooks \$40 Book Bundle you buy through our fundraising page helps support Whiteside Education Foundation. Receive a one-time promo code redeemable for up to 8 books from the ThriftBooks Deals section and free U.S. standard shipping. Enjoy over 19 million popular titles while giving back. Get yours [here!](#)

WHITESIDE PTC

October

Monthly Calendar

Together we support our students, teachers, and families!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 ES BOOK FAIR BEGINS	3
4	5 PTC MEETING 6:00 PM AT MS BOOK FAIR OCT 5-8	6 BOOK FAIR OCT 5-8	7 SPAGHETTI DINNER 4:30 - 7:00 PM AT ES GLEE CLUB & BAND PERFORMANCES	8 BOOK FAIR OCT 5-8	9 NO SCHOOL	10
11	12 NO SCHOOL	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES (EARLY DISMISSAL)	21	22 PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES (EARLY DISMISSAL)	23 NO SCHOOL	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 ES FALL ROOM PARTIES (ES) FALL FEST & TRUNK OR TREAT 6:00 - 8:00 PM AT MS	31

Thank you for supporting students, teachers, and families!

VOLUNTEER SUPPORT ENCOURAGE

Volunteers Needed!

- Elementary Bookfair: [sign up here!](#)



- Parent Teacher Conferences: [help us serve dinner!](#)

Whiteside's

SPAGHETTI

Dinner

SODA DONATIONS

The PTC is looking for Soda Donations. The top class that donates the most packs (12 cans) of name brand soda before September 29th will be treated with a pizza lunch. Soda can be dropped off at either building office. Be sure to attach a note with your student's teacher's name on the cases.

Every 12 pack of Coke, Diet Coke, Coke Zero, Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Dr. Pepper or Sprite will earn 2 points. All other 12 packs of sodas or capri suns will earn 1 point towards the collection.

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, October 30

NEW

District-Wide Fall Fest Middle School

More Information Coming Soon!

November 1 - 15

Fall Spiritwear Sale

Items delivered before the holidays!

Friday, December 11

Elementary School

Gingerbread House Night

Athletic Arena

Congratulations!

Shoutout to our Baseball, Cross Country, and Softball teams for excellent seasons!

You should be proud of your accomplishments. Thank you to all the Coaches, Players, and Parents for a GREAT fall season!!

Basketball Season is here!

Students MUST have a current sports packet & physical on file, be in good academic standing, and have **ALL** fees paid to be eligible.

Admission Prices for Basketball Games:

Adults - \$3

Students - \$2

Seniors (65+ with ID) - Free

Under 5 - Free

- Athletic Director Luke Ryterski

Sports Calendar

- 1 4:00 Highland Cross Country Meet
5th & 6th Girls Basketball Tryouts
- 2 5th & 6th Girls Basketball Tryouts
- 5 4:30 PM Belleville East Cross Country Feeder
- 9 TBD Cross Country Regionals
- 10 12:45 Whiteside v. St. Clare 8th Boys @Althoff
4:30 Whiteside v. St. Clare 8th Girls @Althoff
TBD Cross Country Regionals
- 19 TBD Hoops for Heart 8th Girls @JAMS
TBD Whiteside v. Milton Wiley 8th Boys @Central
- 20 TBD Hoops for Heart 8th Girls @JAMS
TBD Whiteside v. Milton Wiley 8th Boys @Central
- 21 TBD Hoops for Heart 8th Girls @JAMS
TBD Whiteside v. Milton Wiley 8th Boys @Central
- 22 TBD Hoops for Heart 8th Girls @JAMS
TBD Whiteside v. Milton Wiley 8th Boys @Central
- 27 4:00 Home v. Signal Hill 5th Boys
4:00 Whiteside v. Signal Hill 5th Girls
5:00 Home v. Signal Hill 6th Boys
5:00 Whiteside v. Signal Hill 6th Girls
6:00 Home v. Signal Hill 7th Boys
6:00 Whiteside v. Signal Hill 7th Girls
7:00 Home v. Signal Hill 8th Boys
- 29 4:00 Home v. Shiloh 7th Girls
4:00 Whiteside v. Shiloh 5th Boys
5:00 Home v. Shiloh 8th Girls
6:00 Whiteside v. Shiloh 7th Boys



Booster Club

The Whiteside Booster Club is looking for more members and encourages everyone to participate in these upcoming events.

- Wednesday, October 14th - Booster Club Meeting in the MS lobby at 6pm



TREATS FOR TROOPS



A CANDY GIVE-BACK PROGRAM

NOT SURE WHAT TO DO WITH ALL OF THAT EXTRA OR UNWANTED HALLOWEEN CANDY?

SEND IT TO SCHOOL FOR OUR 'TREATS FOR TROOPS' SERVICE PROJECT. WE WILL BE COLLECTING ALL OF THE CANDY AND SENDING IT TO SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE IN BAGS DECORATED FOR VETERAN'S DAY!

JUST PLACE YOUR CANDY IN THE BIN LOCATED AT THE ELEMENTARY MPR OR MIDDLE SCHOOL OFFICE EACH MORNING NOVEMBER 2ND-5TH.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

QUESTIONS? CONTACT MRS. BRUEGEMAN AT MAURA.BRUEGEMAN@WSSD115.ORG

Let's be PurposeFULL about Responsibility in October!

In The Classroom

Focusing can be a challenge and takes practice! In 1st grade, we are learning focusing strategies alongside Responsibility. Focusing on a task, instructions, or even a conversation helps us practice Responsibility and be more successful.

Strategies to focus our minds:

- Breathe it out (take a nice deep breath and remind yourself to pay attention)
- Move it out (get a drink or get some wiggles out, then refocus)
- Ignore or move away from distractions

Remind your student about these strategies at home when they are having trouble focusing!

RESPONSIBILITY

is taking action and understanding the impact of our choices

Sing along to character songs with the PurposeFull People Family Playlist:

<https://www.characterstrong.com/purposefull-playlist>



Responsibility Overview

This month we are talking about Responsibility. One way to define Responsibility is "taking action and understanding the impact of our choices." Taking action can mean doing the right thing or completing the tasks you have been assigned. Understanding the impact of our choices means that our actions matter. Positive and responsible actions can help people and irresponsible actions can hurt others.

Responsibility is 1 of 3 traits we will focus on throughout the year that helps students **Be Strong**.

Across grade levels students will be developing skills like focusing, organizing, and goal-setting.

WHITESIDE BAND

A special welcome goes out to our 5th graders who are getting started in band. We are excited to have you join our program!

Important Reminder:

October 7 Spaghetti Dinner performance at Elementary School (6th Grade Band and Concert Band)

October Rehearsal Schedule:

7:15 - 8:00 AM

Mondays & Wednesdays - Drumline

Tuesdays & Thursdays - Jazz Band



MIDDLE SCHOOL RED RIBBON

SPiRiT WEEK

OCTOBER 26-30

MONDAY

"WE ARE RED-Y TO CELEBRATE HEALTHY CHOICES"

WEAR AS MUCH RED AS POSSIBLE TO KICK OFF THE WEEK

DONATE NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS (NO GLASS) IN THE FRONT LOBBY BEFORE SCHOOL EVERY DAY THIS WEEK!

TUESDAY

"THE CHOICE IS YOURS, BE DRUG FREE."

YOU CHOOSE... DC COMICS VS. MARVEL WEAR A SHIRT REPRESENTING YOUR FAVORITE SUPERHERO UNIVERSE.

DONATE TO THE FOOD DRIVE TODAY AND RECEIVE ONE EXTRA CREDIT POINT PER ITEM DONATED (MAX 10 POINTS).

WEDNESDAY

"HEALTHY CHOICES CAN MAKE YOU AN EVERYDAY HERO."

WHO IS YOUR REAL-LIFE HERO? SOMEONE IN THE COMMUNITY, A TEACHER, FIREFIGHTER, FOOTBALL PLAYER? DRESS AS YOUR HERO BY WEARING WHAT THEY WOULD WEAR OR SOMETHING THAT REPRESENTS THEM.

DONATE TO THE FOOD DRIVE TODAY AND RECEIVE A PASS FOR FREE ADMISSION TO A WHITESIDE BASKETBALL GAME

THURSDAY

"FRIENDS SUPPORT EACH OTHER IN SAYING NO TO UNHEALTHY CHOICES"

DRESS UP AS ANY DYNAMIC DUO. (EXAMPLES-BUZZ LIGHTYEAR & WOODY, BATMAN & ROBIN, MAC & CHEESE), NO MASKS OR FACE COVERINGS PERMITTED.

DONATE TO THE FOOD DRIVE TODAY AND RECEIVE A NO DRESS PASS FOR P.E.

FRIDAY

"A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE IS NO SWEAT"

WEAR SWEATPANTS WITH A HALLOWEEN SHIRT

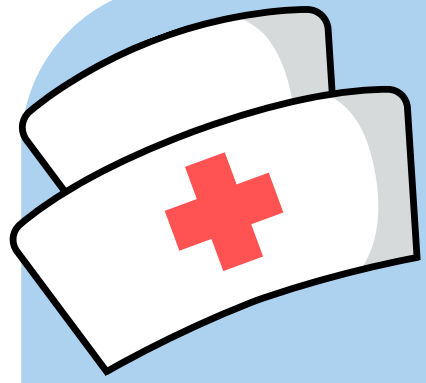
PRIZE DRAWING TODAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE MADE A DONATION THIS WEEK!

CHARACTER COUNCIL, MRS. SELLERS & MRS. SPILLER WILL BE COLLECTING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS FOR THE HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE EVERY DAY DURING RSP WEEK BEFORE SCHOOL. RECEIVE ONE ENTRY INTO OUR PRIZE DRAWING FOR EACH ITEM YOU BRING IN! THE DRAWING WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 30TH

THIS YEAR'S RED RIBBON WEEK THEME IS:

"MAKE A DIFFERENCE. BE A HERO. STAY DRUG FREE."





NURSES' NOTES

Reminder for Dental Days:

Please turn in the consent forms that have been sent home with your child. Forms can even be turned in on the dental days.



Keep an eye out for the announcement for the Elementary and Middle School dates!

Thank you,

~Nurse Heather ~Nurse Morgan

RED RIBBON WEEK FOOD DRIVE OCTOBER 26-30



RED RIBBON WEEK PROMOTES CHOOSING TO LIVE A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE.
WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO DO THIS BY MAKING POSITIVE CHOICES
FOR YOURSELF AND OTHERS AROUND YOU.



PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING US SUCCEED IN OUR CHOICE TO HELP FAMILIES IN
OUR SCHOOL DISTRICT BY DONATING TO OUR FOOD DRIVE.



EXAMPLES OF FOOD NEEDED INCLUDE: CANNED
MEATS, SOUPS, PASTA NOODLES, TOMATO SAUCE,
CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, CEREAL,
MACARONI AND CHEESE, RICE, DESSERT ITEMS,
BOXED STUFFING, BEANS, AND BOXED OR CANNED
POTATOES.

CHARACTER COUNCIL, MS. SELLERS & MRS. SPILLER WILL BE COLLECTING
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD TO FILL HOLIDAY BAGS EACH MORNING
BEFORE SCHOOL DURING RED RIBBON WEEK.
RECEIVE ONE ENTRY INTO OUR PRIZE DRAWING FOR EACH ITEM YOU DONATE!
PRIZE DRAWING WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 30TH.

Elementary Food Drive

The Elementary will be collecting non-perishable food items during the month of October to fill holiday food baskets.

Items will be collected starting Monday, October 26th until Friday, October 30th. Collection bins will be in the MPR and in the front foyer at the Elementary.

Examples of food needed include canned meats, stews, pasta, canned fruits and vegetables, cereal, macaroni and cheese, soups, instant mashed potatoes, rice, and beans. Please do not send any glass. All food collected will be distributed to Whiteside families in need during the holiday season. If we reach **our goal of 300 items**, we will all celebrate with a Gym Jam dance party during Specials time. Please show your Whiteside Pride by making a contribution!



Responsibility

CHARACTER COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026

RESPONSIBILITY IN ACTION

This month, our school community is focusing on **responsibility**: taking action, understanding the impact of our choices and being accountable for our actions. Responsibility helps us build trust and make positive contributions to our community.

SET UP FOR SUCCESS

Middle school students are gaining greater independence and making choices that affect themselves and others. Taking responsibility helps students solve problems, meet commitments, learn from mistakes, and develop the confidence to make thoughtful decisions.

CHARACTER COUNCIL NEWS

Congratulations to the following elected officers:

- President: **Zoe Howse**
- Vice President: **Jillian Costello**
- Secretary: **Micheal Carlisle**
- Spirit Coordinator: **Rocco Fares**

WAYS TO PRACTICE

- **Own your words**- pause and consider how your words and actions may affect others.
- **Follow through**-complete tasks on time.
- **Make a plan**- break larger tasks into steps and check you progress before the deadline.

UPCOMING EVENTS

10/1: shirt order forms due
10/13: Red Ribbon Committee meeting
10/26-10/30: Red Ribbon Week, food drive & spirit week