Welcome to VISTA!

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to sixth grade at MTMS! We are looking forward to meeting and working with you as you embark on your first year in middle school.

Our team name establishes our goals and identity. The word VISTA is defined as, “a scenic or panoramic view.” As a member of the team, we want you to open your eyes and see the many vistas in front of you. We want to guide you as you become visionaries, explore the infinite possibilities, see beyond, take new perspectives, and achieve your maximum potential.

We chose the tiger as our team mascot because of its keen eyesight. “The eye of the tiger” also means rising to the challenge and not giving up. The beautiful tiger eye stone is said to draw upon the best qualities of a tiger – patience, focus, and determination.

As members of Vista, we believe the possibilities are infinite. While exploring new vistas, we will also embrace different perspectives and respect individual differences, in order to create a unified community. Welcome to the team!

Sincerely,
Your Vista Teachers

ORDER YOUR VISTA T-SHIRT!!

Our t-shirt design will include the VISTA logo on the front and the team name with tiger eyes on the back. The t-shirt will be in our team colors of orange and black. Order forms will be distributed to students during the first week of school.

MEET THE TEAM!

English Language Arts – Susanna Sullivan and Nicole Stevens
Science – Anju Chawla and Mark Antioquia
Mathematics – Melissa Manderski and Chip Booher
Social Studies - Meaghan Ewanis and Dina Dale
In Class Resource – Daniella Stabile
World Language - Kristina Peterson
Project Based Learning (PBL) Scott Messinger

CONTACTING THE TEAM

Our daily team planning time is from 8:40-9:05.
Feel free to contact us by email (recommended):
firstname.lastname@monroe.k12.nj.us
or by phone (732) 521-6042

CALENDAR

September 5 - First day of school
September 16 - Back to School Night at 6:00 pm
September 30 & October 1 – Schools closed
October 8 – Four-hour session
October 9 – Schools closed
October 14 – Schools closed for staff in-service
Sixth Grade Supply List 2019-20

**Binders & Backpacks**
Students will use a locker to store their supplies. For safety purposes, backpacks are not allowed in the classroom. As a result, students have choices for organizing their binders. The following are 2 recommended options:

1. Separate 1-inch binders for each core academic class (science, social studies, world language, PBL). Students do not need a binder for ELA. See below for ELA supplies.
2. Two 2-inch binders: One for morning classes, one for afternoon classes

**Please note that with either option above, students need a separate 1.5-inch binder for mathematics.**

When purchasing backpacks, keep size in mind as they will hang in the lockers throughout the school day. Wheeled backpacks are not permitted.

**General Supplies**
- Zippered pencil case
- Loose leaf paper
- Index cards
- Pencils and erasers
- Blue or black ink pens
- Colored ink pens for editing
- Binder dividers
- Homework folder
- Highlighters
- Thin dry erase marker
- Colored pencils

**Supplies for ELA**
- Two marble composition books (instead of a binder)
- Post it sticky notes
- ELA folder for handouts
- Two Ziploc bags (gallon size)
- Scotch tape and glue sticks

**SUMMER MATH**
For all mathematics classes, students are required to complete a summer preparation packet, which highlights the skills necessary to move to the next grade level. In these packets are skills that students should have mastered by the end of their previous year in school. Students need to complete these packets to the best of their ability. *The packet is due on the first day of school.* Students may locate and print this packet at the MTMS website under “2019 Summer Assignments”.

**SUMMER READING/LANGUAGE ARTS**
Students entering sixth grade are being asked to read books of their choice by authors they love. To help narrow the search, a *suggested* list has been prepared for viewing on the Monroe Township Middle School webpage under the “2019 Summer Assignments” link. Over the summer, students are expected to read a volume of text (one book - or more) and engage actively in their reading. Therefore, they should prepare to come to class in September with evidence that they have been writing sticky notes or taking notes in a reader's notebook about their thinking as they read (reactions, questions, literary elements, new learning, summaries, vocabulary, etc.) Students should arrive ready to engage in book talks about their summer reading. Enjoy!

**VISTA theme songs**

„Eye of the Tiger” by Survivor
Risin’ up, straight to the top
Have the guts, got the glory
Went the distance, now I'm not gonna' stop
It’s just me and my will to survive
It's the eye of the tiger...

„Roar” by Katy Perry
I got the eye of the tiger, a fighter
Dancing through the fire
'Cause I am a champion, and you're gonna hear me roar
Louder, louder than a lion
'Cause I am a champion, and you're gonna hear me roar!