



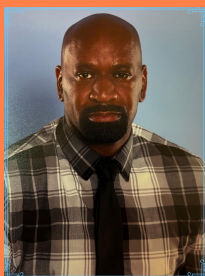
**Martin
Luther
School**

AT **gemma** SERVICES

Let's Go Eagles!!

MLS Messenger January 2023 Edition

Hello MLS Friends & Family



As we turn the page on another year, I want to reflect on the past and look forward to the future. The past few years have been challenging for us all. Still, I am proud of the way our MLS community has come together to support one another and persevere through these difficult times.

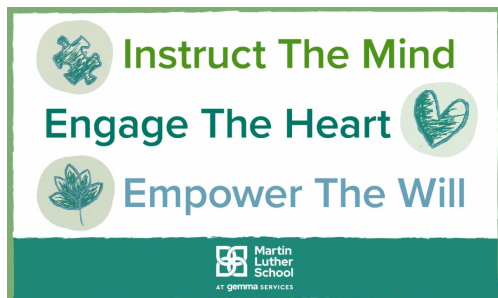
As we begin a new year, I want to remind each one of you that you are capable of great things. The start of a new year is a time for fresh beginnings and new opportunities. It's a time to set goals, plan, and work towards achieving your dreams.

Let us start this new year with a positive attitude, firm determination, and a willingness to learn and grow. Remember, you are the future, and the future is bright.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year.

Sincerely,
Alvin Swindle, Dean of Students

Did you know?



At Martin Luther School, we believe that innovation leads to success. Every day we live out the values of curiosity, creativity, and courage.

MLS has had a lot of success. In the last year, we have seen 13% growth in our math scores and 34% growth in our reading scores. But quantitative data doesn't always tell the whole story. Our math

program emphasizes student talk to grow students' numeracy skills, and students are finding their voice in the math classroom. Students regularly carry around a choice reading book and talk to others about what they are reading. More and more, students are confidently engaging in academic growth, and everyone in our community is reaping the benefits.

During the pandemic, we learned that virtual learning benefits our students. Our experience and research show that schools that prepare students for the future have a tremendous impact on student success. Our virtual days are one of our innovative practices. Many high schools and colleges offer remote learning, and the job market is filled with virtual opportunities. Because of our Mondays, our students regularly use 21st-century technology while practicing essential skills like self-reliance, virtual social skills, and independent learning. Here are some of the reasons we believe in a hybrid schedule:

1. Our families can observe classes, get to know the teaching staff, and communicate easily weekly.
2. Our students can join school without lengthy transportation routes.
3. Our staff gets weekly professional development, making them better educators.
4. Our school can quickly pivot to virtual learning for unforeseen school closures.

At MLS, we prioritize relationships and focus on our students' academic, social, and emotional growth. Virtual Mondays help us to do that important work.

This month's STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Mr. Watson has been with Gemma Services for 24 years. He currently serves as the Teaching Assistant Trainer. Check out the interview link to learn more about Mr. Watson.



Brian Watson
Interview

The image shows a child's hands holding a small white paper cup filled with dried mealworms. The child is sitting on a blue surface. In the background, there are educational materials from 'Explore' including a worksheet titled 'Mealworm Life Cycle' and a diagram of a mealworm's life cycle stages: Egg, 1st Stage, 2nd Stage, 3rd Stage, 4th Stage, 5th Stage, and Adult. The worksheet includes a table for recording data over five weeks and a section for counting the number of mealworms at each stage.

Mealworm Life Cycle

Name: _____ Date: _____

Each day, count the number of mealworms you can identify at each stage of the mealworm life cycle. Record the data on the table below once a week.

Stage	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Egg					
1st Stage					
2nd Stage					
3rd Stage					
4th Stage					
5th Stage					
Adult					

Each day, count the number of mealworms in the cycle the same to record your observations about what happens.

Adult
5th Stage
4th Stage
3rd Stage
2nd Stage
1st Stage
Egg

Explore

Name: Arad Date: 4/15/21

Mealworm Life Cycle

Each day, count the number of mealworms you can identify at each stage of the mealworm life cycle. Record the data on the table below once a week.

Stage	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Egg					
1st Stage					
2nd Stage					
3rd Stage					
4th Stage					
5th Stage					
Adult					

Each day, count the number of mealworms you can identify at each stage of the mealworm life cycle. Record the data on the table below once a week.

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Mealworm Life Cycle

Each day, count the number of mealworms you can identify at each stage of the mealworm life cycle. Record the data on the table below once a week.

Explore

Name: _____ Date: _____

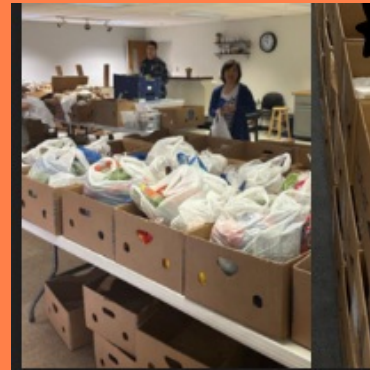
Mealworm Life Cycle

Each day, count the number of mealworms you can identify at each stage of the mealworm life cycle. Record the data on the table below once a week.

Week 1 Week 2 Week 3 Week 4 Week 5

STEMscopes is a STEM
(Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) curriculum used by more than 9 million students across all 50 states. The program is highly adaptable and supports instruction in any kind of learning environment. Students at MLS engage in science in our

- Engage, where they access their background knowledge and are introduced to the content;
- Explore, where they participate in explorations of their grade level content;
- Explain, which offers them opportunities to dig deeper into the content;
- Elaborate, which connects the content to Math and Literacy; and
- Evaluate, where they are assessed in their understanding of the content.



Upcoming Dates to Remember

[View School Calendar](#)

This month Martin Luther School is celebrating Black History Month by recognizing the contributions and achievements of African Americans throughout history. This celebration aims to educate students about the rich culture and history of the African American community and to promote cultural diversity and understanding.



February

9

Showcases for grades 6th & 7th

February

17

Staff Professional Development Day

No School for Students - Offices Will Be Closed
All staff will report to work

February

14-20

Random Acts of Kindness Week

February

20

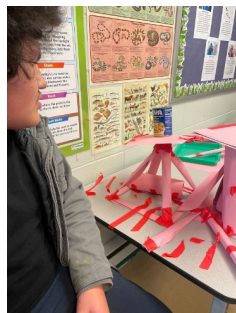
Presidents Day

No School

What Is STEAM?

STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. It is an educational approach that integrates these subjects to provide a comprehensive and interdisciplinary learning experience. STEAM education aims to prepare students for the rapidly changing technological landscape and foster creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. By combining traditional academic subjects with real-world applications, STEAM education aims to produce well-rounded individuals equipped to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Our 2023 STEAM studies at MLS have revolved around the world of engineering! Through daily warm-up questions and hands-on building activities, students have explored the thinking process of a structural engineer. In addition to building fine motor skills, these timed team-working challenges have highlighted our students' abilities to respect each others' voices, communicate their input, and demonstrate grace while making mistakes as they figure out ways to reach their goals successfully.



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