



Robert L. Merritt Junior High School

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“Equitable Education for Every Student”

Principal's Message

As we approach the end of the first semester and the beginning of the Christmas Holiday Break, education does not stop. It is imperative that we continue promoting literacy to ensure our students are successful. We are asking parents to encourage your children to read, read, and read during the Christmas break. As you travel, have books for your child to read and allow them to read directions as you cook or play games that require reading etc. Also, be safe and enjoy your break.

Parent Center Corner, Geraldine Ray

WE ARE STILL WAITING!!.....Come on out and visit our Parent Center at RLMJH. By visiting the center you will receive parenting literature and learning tools for you and your child. Our goals are to make a difference in the lives of children and provide support to parents. I am still looking forward to seeing you at workshops. On Wednesday, November 16, 2016, we had a great time with parents while they ate Thanksgiving Dinner with their children. We are now approaching the Christmas Holiday. Remember; while on break please encourage your children to Read, Read, and Read. Let's work at getting involved in your child education. Such as, Active Parents, PTO/PTA meetings, school events, and you may also volunteer. You may reach me through e-mail at gray@sunflower.k12.ms.us. My hours are: Tuesday, Thursday, and alternate Friday's from 7:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. PARENTS WE NEED YOU!!!



Great things are going in in the Media Center here at RLMJH. **THE CHALLENGE IS STILL ON.....**



Who will have 150-200 AR Reading Points by December 16, 2016, to win the tablet above?

Upcoming Events at RLMJH

- 12/1- Basketball Game: Merritt vs Humphreys (Band) @ 5:30 P.M
- 12/5 Basketball Game: @ Moorhead @ 5:30 P.M.
- 12/7- Basketball Game vs Inverness (Band Performing) @ 5:30 P.M.
- 12/8- How to write a Resume @ 12:30-1:30 P. M.
- 12/8- Basketball Game vs D M Smith (Band Performing) @5:30 P.M.
- 12/12- Basketball Game: vs Ruleville @ 5:30 P. M. (Band Performing)
- 12/14- Basketball Game (Away) Humphreys County @ 5:30 P.M.
- 12/16- PTO Dance @ 6:00 P. M.
- 12/20- Christmas Program @ 1:00 P. M.
- 12/21- Christmas Dismissal @ 1:00 P. M.



A Glance at our Future Merritt Scholars



31 students from Robert L. Merritt Jr. High competed in the International Economic Summit on Tuesday, November 29, 2016, at Mississippi College in Clinton Mississippi. Teams from all over the state were present to represent 66 countries from all over the world. Robert L. Merritt Jr. High, sponsored by Morris Bush, Felicia McKinney, Lamisha Galvin-Johnson, and Timothy Holmes worked diligently with the students to prepare for the competition. 8 teams represented for Merritt: Chile, Ecuador, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Morocco, Japan, Panama, and Saudi Arabia. The students worked hard and competed well. Chile, being composed of 8th graders Makenzie Blackwell, Meghan Curry, Jaleciah Parker, Denise Ginn, and Brayden Bailey, finished 3rd out of 66 teams in the global debate portion of the competition. They also won 1st place in middle income countries in the Delta region.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Counselor's Corner

Homeless Education

When families become homeless, there are two issues that usually occur with the affected children, (1). Students' attendance decrease at a high rate and (2). Financial situations destroy students' interest in school. The SCCSD recognize the importance of education for all children and adopted the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act that addresses the needs of homeless children. For more information email: shale@sunflower.k12.ms.us or call (66)894-1270

CAREER PATHWAY CLUSTERS

From the moment students walk through our doors to the time they walk across the stage to receive their high-school diplomas, it is our job, as educators, to do everything we can to prepare them for college and their careers. With this idea in mind, the Professional School Counseling Department at Robert L. Merritt Jr. High School has been highlighting one of the Career Pathway Clusters each month this school year. In September, the career pathway was *Education and Training*, and for October *Finance*.

During the month of September, students were enriched with tales of the "old days" from retired Superintendent Dr. Cassie Pennington, former principal Mrs. Glenda Shedd and retired teachers, Mrs. Inez Cook, Mrs. Patricia Davis, and Mrs. Dorothy Sykes. Merritt students were enlightened about "the need for more home grown educators" from Dr. Valerie Simpson and "why I want to become an educator" from the Indianola Career and Technical Center's Teacher Academy students.

With a focus on *Finance* in October, the students received valuable knowledge from Community, Guaranty, Planters, and Southern Bancorp Banks about the training needed to become bankers, the importance of saving money and having a good credit score. Merritt's students also participated in fun activities centered on money and finance from Mr. Thad Fairley at Hope Credit Union and SCCSD's Public Relation Director, Rev. Adoris Turner. Merritt's students are learning about their career options as they are preparing to cross the graduation stage in the a few years. November and December's focus will be on the Health Science Cluster.

We greatly appreciate all the support provided from the community in efforts to educate our students about the various career options that are available to them.



