



Optional Scholars Newsletter

Quarter 4

Congratulations! You have completed another year of your academic journey. Wishing you a safe and successful summer. ☺

Continue to strive for excellence in all you do!



Optional Scholars participate in International Studies, learning about the cultures of others in our world. Our focus countries for the year are:

6th grade – Greece

7th grade – South Korea

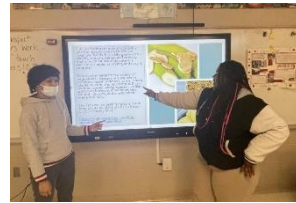
8th grade – Equatorial Guinea

Memphis in May 2023 – Malaysia

Thank you to everyone that celebrated with us on May 11, 2023 at our International Festival.

Chiefs Believe!

Chiefs Achieve!



Mariah Claxton (8) with the assistance of **Leiyah Crumb** (8) explored the interesting history of

Liberia with Optional scholars in **March**.

Liberia began in the early 1800's as a project of the American Colonization Society. They

believed free black people would face better chances for freedom and prosperity in Africa rather than in the

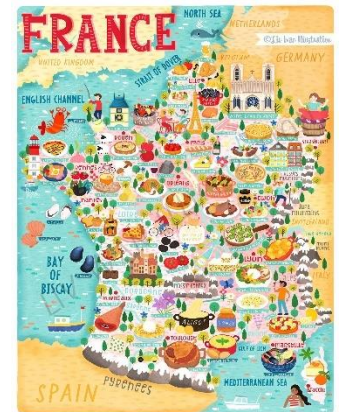
United States. Liberia is Africa's first and oldest modern republic. It is among the few African countries to maintain its sovereignty during the scramble to control/rule Africa.



Scholars tasted Fufu from Bala's Bistro (4571 Elvis Presley Blvd, Memphis, TN 38116). Fufu (or fofoo or foufou) is a common west African "swallow" food. It is usually served as a side dish. We also tasted ginger beer. Liberian Ginger Beer is a non-alcoholic beverage made with ginger, pineapple and lemon for a healthy, zesty and tasteful drink.



April was led by **Jaliyah White** (7) and **Nekeriah Pleas** (6) who took us to France. We learned that the rooster is France's national animal – a symbol of faith, hope, and love.



Scholars also learned it is bad luck to turn a baguette upside down while eating. Did you know that the French eat 25,000 tons of snails each year? We also learned each resident of France eats approximately 500 snails per year!





To taste, our very own Ms. Monroe made macarons. Macarons are a meringue-based sandwich cookie made with almond flour, egg whites,

confectioners sugar, and food coloring. Scholars got to try two different flavors. We also tasted Orangina. It originated in French Algeria, which is a part in Africa but was controlled by France. Algeria is now an independent country. The different flavors of Orangina include red orange, orange, blood orange, and others.



World Wise Wednesdays continued in Quarter 4! Scholars volunteer to research about a



culture and share what they find interesting with the CMS family during morning announcements.

Quarter 4 presenters were: **Anrico Vaughn** (6) and **Malik Murphy** (7) – Greece, **Malachi Jones** (7) – India, **Christopher Jones** (6) – Brazil, **Kayleigh Strong** (6) – Madagascar, **Ibrahim Thiw** (8) – Ramadan, **Selah Allison** (8) and **Itiya Allison** (7) – Liberia, **Martavious Beauregard** (8) – Nigeria, and **Amira Mims** (6) – Russia.

We truly appreciate all the scholars who participated in World Wise Wednesdays this school year. CMS Chiefs are International Learners.

Congratulations!

Craigmont Middle School
8th grade class of
2023!

As you begin your high school journey, remember you will always be a CMS Chief. Chiefs Believe! and Chiefs Achieve! Continue to strive for excellence in all you do. Best wishes to our 8th grade Optional scholars as they continue their education journey.

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Ethan Allen | Alex Harrell |
| Selah Allison | Jesse Jarrell |
| Ty'neria Austin | Melanie Jimenez |
| Jazmyne Bowen | Josiah Lloyd |
| Mariah Claxton | Christopher Maldonado |
| Leiyah Crumb | Jammes Salamanca |
| Lilian Duty | Alana Smith |
| Brissa Femat | Makayla Stinson |
| Addisyn Gool | Jamayah Tate |
| Nyelah Harper | Sebastian Zarate-Mora |

CMS Website
Are you in the know?

Our website is a great place to keep up with events at Craigmont Middle School.
<https://schools.scsk12.org/craigmont-ms>

Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns for your Optional Scholar(s). If you need help with PowerSchool access, please let me know.

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On **May 11, 2023**, Craigmont Middle celebrated its **International Festival**. We celebrated the countries of Greece (6), South Korea (7), Equatorial Guinea (8), Australia (PBL), and Malaysia (schoolwide). Our ESL scholars presented a Heritage PowerPoint. Selected 8th graders presented information about Mathematicians from all over the globe. Choir, Band, and Orchestra scholars shared music from the celebrated countries. Each country had a taste for visitors! Greece – Tzatziki dip on a pita chip, South Korea – seaweed, Equatorial Guinea – casava chip, Australia – Vegemite on a cracker, and Malaysia – variety of common Malay snacks. A wonderful time was had by all who participated! Thank you to our parents and community members who also came to celebrate with us. ☺



Chiefs Believe!

Chiefs Achieve!