Welcome New Sixth Grader

We hope you are looking forward to the 2023-24 school year as much as we are! It promises to be an exciting year filled with interesting field trips, celebrations, projects & learning activities.

As you know, our school is an **authorized International Baccalaureate middle school**, and as such, all students in attendance will be participating in the **IB Middle Years Programme**. You will find that ours is a **rigorous and enriching academic program** that will challenge you to **meet high expectations and prepare yourself for high school and beyond**.

We are providing you with a **general list of supplies** that you will need for your 6th grade classes.

**Other items may be required at a later date for specific subjects.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2 Folders - with pockets and prongs</th>
<th>Erasers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Composition notebooks (100 pages)</td>
<td>Glue sticks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pens – assorted colors (at least one that is not black or blue)</td>
<td>No. 2 Pencils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - 8½ x11 (or larger) one-subject notebooks</td>
<td>Colored pencils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One 1 -inch 3-ring binder <strong>with pockets</strong></td>
<td>Supply case/pouch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pencil sharpener (with cover)</td>
<td>25 clear sheet protectors (optional)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loose-leaf notebook paper (lined &amp; white)</td>
<td>Wired earbuds/headphones (NOT wireless)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 highlighters – Yellow, Blue, and Green</td>
<td>Reusable water bottle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Please note – for the first three days of school, students ONLY need: a folder, loose leaf paper, and something to write with. Students may also bring a string bag to carry supplies.**

Williams is a mandatory uniform school. Please review the uniform policy and information contained in this packet. NOTE: Williams PTSA will be selling Williams Spirit Gear (uniform shirts, spirit shirts, hoodie sweatshirts) at our Back-to-School Open House scheduled for August 8, 2023. Order forms for PTSA Spirit Gear are also available in the Student Affairs Office. Students are not required to wear uniform shirts sold by PTSA. Uniforms must comply with uniform policy in this packet, however.

We look forward to an exciting year filled with continued academic excellence. Please look for more information later in the summer regarding our August Orientation. You may also visit our website at [http://williams.mysdhc.org/](http://williams.mysdhc.org/) for updates, as well as a copy of this packet if needed.

**Thank you!**
Arlene Tannascoli-Mahapat & Emily Hunt
*Williams Middle Magnet 6th Grade Team Leaders*
Williams Middle Magnet School  
IB Middle Years Programme

Dear Students and Parents:

On behalf of the teachers and staff, let me welcome you and your family to the IB Middle Years Programme offered at Williams Middle Magnet School.

You will find our standards to be quite high. The academics are rigorous and challenging. Our school prides itself on its students’ exemplary behavior, good citizenship, and outstanding performance whether it is in the classroom or in the community.

Because of our challenging curriculum, students are advised to maintain good attendance throughout the year. Likewise, healthy study habits, specifically at home, are strongly encouraged. Family involvement is welcomed. There are many opportunities for you to support our stellar program. We have opportunities such as PTSA and School Advisory Committee, Parent Booster Club for Music, or at our annual teach-in event.

Students should be prepared to work hard, make new friends, laugh and learn, and reap the benefits of attending the first authorized three-year IB Middle Years Programme in North America.

Sincerely,

Shellie Blackwood-Green, Principal  
Williams Middle Magnet School  
IB Middle Years Programme
Canvas
Canvas is our social learning platform where all your child’s work and grades will be available!

Your participation is a key to your child’s success!

Create an account:
1. Complete New Account Registration:
   https://mspot.sdhc.k12.fl.us/public/register/
2. Log in to Canvas:
   https://sdhc.instructure.com/login/ldap

Open House — August 8th
* Receive your schedule
  * Meet your teachers
  * Find your classrooms

Calling all Athletes!
Extramural Sports Program
• after-school
• open to ALL grade levels
• both boys’ and girls’ teams
• compete against other middle schools
1st Season: Basketball; Boys & Girls
2nd Season: Volleyball; Boys & Girls
3rd Season: Track; Boys & Girls
4th Season: Soccer; Boys & Girls
5th Season: Flag Football: Boys & Girls

Eligibility requirements/student forms:
• Maintain a 2.0 academic average
• Completed ONLINE District sports packet (see below)
  o Your completed sports packet is valid for the entire year
• Athletic paperwork for BASKETBALL due ONLINE mid-late August.

ATHLETIC FORMS ARE ONLY AVAILABLE ONLINE. PLEASE VISIT THE WILLIAMS DISTRICT WEBSITE FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO COMPLETE REQUIRED PAPERWORK:
https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/domain/2320

Guide for getting started with paperwork:

Stay Informed!
Williams’ families can stay informed by checking the Williams Middle Magnet School website located at:
http://williams.mysdhc.org/

Get the latest Williams news on Twitter @WilliamsIBMYP and Facebook: Williams Middle Magnet School
# 2023-2024 Student Academic Calendar

**Board Approved 9/20/22**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students’ First Day of School</td>
<td>Thursday, August 10, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Day/Non-Student Day</td>
<td>Monday, September 4, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of 1st Grading Period</td>
<td>Thursday, October 12, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Student Day</td>
<td>Monday, October 16, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Day Observed/Non-Student Day</td>
<td>Friday, November 10, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Break/Non-Student Days</td>
<td>Monday, November 20 - Friday, November 24, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students Return to School</td>
<td>Monday, November 27, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of 2nd Grading Period (End of 1st Semester)</td>
<td>Friday, December 22, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Break/Non-Student Days</td>
<td>Monday, December 25, 2023 - Friday, January 5, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students Return to School</td>
<td>Monday, January 8, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King, Jr./Non-Student Day</td>
<td>Monday, January 15, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Student Day</td>
<td>Friday, February 16, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Student Day</td>
<td>Monday, March 4, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Break/Non-Student Days</td>
<td>Monday, March 11 - Friday, March 15, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students Return to School</td>
<td>Monday, March 18, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of 3rd Grading Period</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 20, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Student Day</td>
<td>Friday, March 29, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Day of School/End of 4th Grading Period (End of 2nd Semester)</td>
<td>Friday, May 24, 2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hurricane Day(s) if needed:** October 16, November 10, November 20-22, and November 24

Student Early Release Day schedule has not been finalized.
The last day of school is a 2.5-hour early release.
Williams Middle Magnet School
Uniform Policy

Williams IB Middle Magnet School’s uniform policy promotes a positive learning environment and contributes to school spirit and safety. The wearing of uniforms at our school is a direct result of our School Improvement Plan whereby stakeholders requested and received district approval for the school to become a mandatory uniform school.

The Student Uniform shall consist of the following:

**Shirts**
Only navy collared polo shirts shall be worn. **Solid white, black, or gray undershirts may be worn underneath, but they must be tucked in.** Only the top two buttons of the polo may remain unbuttoned.

**Bottoms**
Only khaki beige pants, mid-thigh shorts, skirts, skorts, capris, and jumpers may be worn. No jeans are allowed on any day. All pants and shorts must be worn fastened at the waistline. Pants should not drape on the ground, should not have frayed bottoms, should not have holes or be cut-offs. Pants with colored stripes or designs are not allowed.

**Note**
Short shorts or mini-skirts are not acceptable by established School Board Dress Code. The correct length for any type of shorts or skirt is mid-thigh, which is half-way between the top of the leg and the top of the knee **when seated.** All leggings must be a solid color.

**Feet**
Closed toe shoes must be worn. Flip-flops, shower shoes, skate shoes, Crocs, or similar type shoes, including slippers, are not permitted. High heels or platform shoes are not permitted.

**Head Gear**
Hoods, hats, and bandanas are **NOT** permitted.

**Outerwear**
Wearing an oversized outer garment, pullover garment or long-sleeved shirt over the school uniform is **NOT acceptable. NO PULLOVER SWEATSHIRTS OR HOODED SWEATSHIRTS** (exception – Williams Middle Magnet School hooded sweatshirt). **Solid black or navy blue full zipper/buttons (top to bottom), Hoods are not to be worn in school.**

**Logos**
Only official IB or Williams’ logos will be allowed. Prints, plaids, stripes, or other graphic designs are not permitted on any uniform clothing.

**Fridays**
Only on Fridays and field trips will students be permitted to wear team T-shirts or any official Williams shirt. PE shirts are not allowed to be worn other than in PE classes. Khaki bottoms shall always be worn.

**Early Release Days**
Only on last Monday of each month will students be permitted to wear college and university t-shirts. **All logos shall be official logos of the college or university.** Khaki bottoms shall always be worn.

### Consequences for Non-compliance with the Uniform Policy

**First Offense:** Verbal warning to student. Student changes into loaner-shirt if available.

**Second Offense:** Letter or email contact with parent. Student changes into loaner-shirt if available.

**Third Offense:** Detention will be assigned. Student changes into loaner-shirt if available.

**Fourth and Further Offenses:** A referral is written for willful disobedience. Student changes into loaner-shirt if available. A mandatory parent conference is conducted; In-School Suspension assigned.

Any student wearing inappropriate clothing, including shoes, that violates School Board Dress Code will wait in a designated area for a change of clothing brought by a parent/guardian and be subject to the same consequences listed above for uniform violations.

**Students are required to be in uniform before entering the Williams campus and to remain in uniform while on the Williams campus unless otherwise instructed by a teacher or supervision adult.**
HOST
Hillsborough Out of School Time

SUMMER PROGRAM
MIDDLE SCHOOL

OUTDOOR GAMES, STEAM, INDOOR GAMES, VENDORS, FIELD TRIPS

OPENS 7AM-6PM MONDAY-THURSDAY JUNE 5TH- JULY 27TH

MIDDLE OPEN SITES
BARRINGTON
BURNS
EISENHOWER
FARNELL
HILL
LIBERTY
WILLIAMS

$90
WEEKLY PER STUDENT PLUS $30 REGISTRATION PER STUDENT

HURRY! LIMITED SPACE

REGISTRATION
WWW.HILLSBOROUGHSCHOOLS.ORG/HOST

*SITES SUBJECT TO CHANGE
Williams Middle Magnet School IB Middle Years Programme Summer Reading

Incoming 6th graders “Reading in the Sunshine”

The summer reading assignments for incoming Williams 6th graders includes a blend of required reading and optional assignments. The assignments reflect the Williams faculty commitment to the IB Student Learner Profile Traits and our desire to meet the needs of all students.

Every incoming 6th grader is required to read one novel (student choice) from the 2023-2024 Sunshine State Young Readers Award Books Nominees List Grades 6-8. (the annotated book list is included on the following pages) and a second novel of their choice.

Plan ahead by ordering your books online, from your local bookstore, or reserving at your public library. Students also have free access to the books (using their student number) through Axis360 and the Hillsborough County Public Library Cooperative. Incoming 6th graders can access these resources through the HCPS Elementary Virtual Library [www.galepages.com/doem](http://www.galepages.com/doem) using their log in information from their current HCPS elementary school.

### Summer Reading Assignment Student Checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_____ Read a novel (student choice) from the 2023-24 SSYRA Book List Grades 6-8.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ Read a 2nd novel (student choice)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students should be prepared to discuss and complete an assignment related to the selected novel in language arts within the first two weeks of school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional (Encouraged)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_____ Prepare a 2D art piece or 60-second Book Trailer entry for the Williams SLAM. (Must be on a book from the 2023-2024 SSYRA list.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Optional: Williams Middle Magnet participates in the Student Literacy and Media Showcase (SLAM). SLAM is a celebration of reading and literacy. Participation in SLAM is voluntary. Our intent is to give students a chance to READ, EXPLORE and CREATE! Students can choose to participate in SLAM by creating a 2D Creative Expression (art piece) or a Video Creative Expression (60 second book trailer). More information and guidelines can be found on the Media Center website: [williams.mysdhc.org/Resources/Media_Center](http://williams.mysdhc.org/Resources/Media_Center).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2D CREATIVE EXPRESSION STUDENT CATEGORY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>· Create 2D Art or other 2D Creative Expression for one of the current year’s SSYRA (6-8) nominee books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· 2D media only. Accepted media is drawings, paintings, collage, and digital media.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Work should be created on a standard sized sheet of paper, not to exceed 8.5” x 11”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Entry must be appropriate for “PG” rated audiences.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VIDEO CREATIVE EXPRESSION STUDENT CATEGORY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>· Make a video for one of the current year’s SSYRA (6-8) nominee books. Maximum length for the video is 60 seconds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Video must include visuals, audio, title and author, and a book citation within the video.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Entry must be appropriate for “PG” rated audiences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Must be submitted in MP4, MOV or WMV format.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BRAG TAG BONUS** Brag tags will be available for the 2023-2024 SSYRA books. Students can collect their tags from the Media Specialist when school returns in the Fall.

This summer packet will be available on our school website at [http://williams.mysdhc.org/](http://williams.mysdhc.org/)
What can I do to prepare for 6th Grade Math?

The first two units in our 6th Grade Math curriculum are Operations with Decimals (Unit 1) and Operations with Fractions (Unit 2). To prepare for these units, we recommend that you:

- Master basic math facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division). Flash cards are helpful!
- Know how to work with fractions. This includes converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions as well as simplifying fractions.

There are some online resources that offer wonderful practice problems. We encourage you to continue to practice the 5th grade skills (improve understanding), and expose yourself the 6th grade skills that will be taught to you. Khan Academy and IXL are wonderful resources to practice these skills.

Khan Academy: [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org) – free!

AAA Math: [http://aaamath.com](http://aaamath.com) – free!

Math is Fun: [http://www.mathsisfun.com](http://www.mathsisfun.com) – free!

IXL: [www.IXL.com](http://www.IXL.com) – cost to use
**Year 1 Topics** | **Year 2 Topics** | **Year 3 Topics**
---|---|---
Earth’s Spheres | Linnaean Classification | Types of Forces
Layers of the Earth | Cell Theory | Factors Influencing Non-Contact Forces
Heat Transfer through Earth System | Cells Structure and Function | Force Effects on an Object's Motion
Rock Cycle | Human Body Systems & Homeostasis | Graphing an Object Motion
Physical & Chemical Weathering, Erosion, and Deposition | Human Body Systems & Interactions (Reproductive and Immune) | Energy (Part 1)
andforms | Infectious Agents | Potential Energy
Slow & Rapid Changes to Earth | Sexual Health Education | Kinetic Energy
Plate Tectonics | Frog Dissection | Energy Transfer
Continental Drift | Heredity & Genetics | Energy Transformation
Measuring the Age of Earth | Asexual and Sexual Reproduction | Energy Waves
Human Impact | Punnett Squares and Pedigrees | Thermal Energy Flow
Sun & Earth’s System | Mutations | Structure & Properties of Matter
Weather Fronts | Evolution, Natural Selection & Adaptation | Atoms
Water Cycle | Evidence of Common Ancestry | The Periodic Table
Ocean Currents | Roles & Interactions in Ecosystems | SSA Review Nature of Science
Distances and Relationships in Space | Limiting Factors | SSA Review Earth Science
Electromagnetic Spectrum | Interdependence | SSA Review Life Science
Gravity | Matter & Energy in Ecosystems | SSA Review Physical Science
Earth – Sun – Moon Systems | Carbon Cycle | FL Statewide Science Assessment (SSA)

**STEM FAIR**
All students in all grade levels will be responsible for completing a long-term independent research project (STEM FAIR).

PREPARE NOW by coming up with your ideas for your project!

**HOW:**
- IDENTIFY 3-4 areas of interest for you
- BRAINSTORM several testable questions regarding your areas of interest (see examples).
  - How can you make it easier/better/cost effective/more accessible?
  - Can you model it using common items or recycled materials?
  - How can you share your interest and enthusiasm for your topic with others?

**WHEN:**
STEM Fair Projects begin in September and are due by December 1, 2023.

By thinking of possible topic(s) and testable questions NOW, you will have a more meaningful outcome to your project! All topics will be approved by your Teacher.