



April 2017

6TH GRADE STARS



Science: Round one of ISTEP has ended and we feel confident that our students really worked hard on their science test! We will continue our learning with understanding and identifying the basic parts of a cell and we will learn how to use and identify the parts of a microscopes. In health class, we participated in disabilities awareness month, students learned about disabilities and the daily challenges that people can face. Some students also attended a USI field trip recently where they were doing hands-on activities led by USI professors! Please encourage your children to do their very best and get their homework completed. We have several year-end field trips coming up and students with insufficient grades, behavior, or 6th grade fees not paid will not be permitted to attend the trips. Please restock your child's pen and pencil supply!

Math: Students are preparing for the second round of ISTEP, which will be taken on the ThinkPad. In math, students will be reviewing decimals, fractions, percentages, order of operations, ratios, proportions, probability, and integers. They will also be practicing the different tools on the ISTEP and how to put their answers on the ThinkPad for ISTEP. Mrs. Hall's honors math class has been working with simplifying polynomials. Mrs. Humm's advanced honors math class has been using formulas to solve geometry problems. Please continue to check that your child is doing his or her math homework each night, and please check RDS to keep track of your child's progress in all of his or her classes.

ELA: In language arts we have been working on punctuation in order to help develop diverse and properly structured writing. We have been working on poetry in literature, examining various types as well as writing our own poetry. We have been examining poetry to look for meaning while looking for evidence to support our findings. We will be transitioning to a novel after we return from spring break.

Social Studies: Students have learned about several Enlightenment Thinkers: John Locke, Thomas Hobbes, Mary Wollstonecraft, Montesquieu, Rousseau, and Voltaire. We have also studied the early industry and inventions of the Industrial Revolution. The students have been competing in an Achieve contest that ended March 17. I am very proud of their hard work! The winning class will be announced soon.

Pumas of the Week: Madison Hartman, Anna Hoffman, Michael Woehler, Dadrien Chinn, Kennedy Flake, Elizabeth Sergesketer, Carlee Jost, Hannah Loesch and Hannah Martin.



It's not too late

It's not too late to sign up for RDS Parent Access. RDS Parent Access allow you to use your smart phone or computer to check your student's grades, track attendance and email teachers. When you set up

your RDS Parent Access account, you create your own user name and password that will work next year, and every year your child is in school. Need help setting up your account? Contact the school, or visit the EVSC website at <http://www.evscschools.com/>.

Spirit Days

April 7, 13, 21, 28

Spirit days are days students are allowed to wear a Helfrich Park or Reitz t-shirt or sweat-shirt to school. They are still required to wear khaki or navy uniform pants. *No hoodies or front pocket sweatshirts.*

April Dates to Remember:

April 3—PTSA Meeting
April 14—NO SCHOOL
April 17-28—ISTEP Part 2
April 28—Fun Night

May Dates to Remember:

May 8—6th & 7th Grade Honors Program 6 PM
May 10—8th Grade Honors Banquet 6 PM at Reitz
May 12—8th Grade Dance 6 PM
May 19—8th Grade Recognition 10 AM

7TH GRADE M&M'S



Science: The Christian Life Center will be at Helfrich Park the first week of April instructing a program called, "Truth Talk". The students returned permission slips to participate in this program. Please discuss topics learned at home with your child. We will be learning about Newton's Laws. As part of the unit, they will also learn about the engineering process. Students will build prototypes and test them in class. It is going to be an exciting month for students!

Math: Mrs. Todd, Mrs. McDurmon, and Mr. Hartmann want to thank all of the students for their tremendous effort on the ISTEP exam taken in early March. As we look to the next round of testing in April, our classes completed work on angle measurements as well as the qualities that make one or more triangles. Classes are beginning statistics and probability as we head into Spring Break.

Mrs. McDurmon's 7th Grade Honors Math: Mrs. McDurmon is so proud of how hard all of her math students worked to prepare for the first round of ISTEP. The Honors class is finishing up transformations and will be moving on to probability and statistics after spring break. Keep up the great work!

ELA: After spring break, students will be finishing the Legend series by Marie Lu. In addition, we will be focusing on standard review questions.

Social Studies: Mr. Carnahan, Mr. Loehrlein, and Mr. Tekoppel are excited about April! We will continue talking about modern countries while focusing on the Culture Fair. The Culture Fair will allow 7th grade students, in groups, to research and analyze individual countries in Africa and Asia. By the end of the project, students will be presenting their country to the public.

Pumas of the Week: Alizabeth Friday, Natalie Downs, Dakota Bettes, Markaylyn Banks, Trace Fulton, Katelyn Miller, Sarah Reynolds, Kylee Young and Nicholas Kornberger.

PTSA—Boxtops

Be sure to bring in your Box Tops. We will be collecting them all year long. Be sure to put your homeroom teacher on your baggie or paper so your homeroom gets credit for a party. Let's see which homeroom can be the winner! Good luck!



LOST AND FOUND

STUDENTS SHOULD CHECK THE LOST AND FOUND LOCATED NEAR THE GYM. PARENT SHOULD CHECK FACEBOOK FOR OCCASIONAL PICTURES OF OUR LOST AND FOUND ITEMS.

THE MORE VALUABLE LOST ITEMS ARE KEPT IN THE OFFICE.



HPSA on Social Media



We want our social media sites to be a positive place to showcase things that are going on at school. If you have questions about school policy and procedures, please contact the school directly.

Website: <http://helfrichpark.evscschools.com/> (includes our events calendar)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Helfrich-Park-STEM-Academy-537578926331112/>

Twitter: HPSA@HelfrichPark

Instagram: @helfrichparkstemacademy

8TH GRADE G.8.T.O.R.S.



Science: In 8th grade science, we have just finished our genetics unit. The students have recently learned about Punnett squares, inheritance, hybrids, natural selection and much more. We want to thank Dr. Rick Hudson from USI for spending 2 days with us to teach the students how to use Tinkerplots, a computer program that incorporates science, math, and technology. After spring break, we will spend the first couple of weeks completing the Truth Talk program for health and dissecting frogs for science! Lastly, thank you to Dr. Seyler from USI, parents, and students who participated in the You Be a Chemist Challenge on March 18th.

Math: All 8th grade math classes have been working on the six categories being tested this year. These include: Number Sense, Computation, Algebra & Functions, Geometry & Measurement, Data Analysis and Probability, and Problem Solving. Look at progress being made by checking daily homework, weekly Common Formative Assessments, ALEKS assessments, and NWEA scores.

ELA: In our English classes we will be writing compare and contrast literary analysis papers and preparing for the second round of ISTEP. In our Literature classes we are reading The Westing Game while working on various skills to help us analyze the novel.

U.S. History: Students are working their way to the Civil War. Recently we studied the Industrial Revolution, slavery, and differences between the North & South to name a few.

Honors Social Studies: Students are finishing National History projects for the competition on Saturday, April 8th at U.S.I. Students have been working hard on exhibits for this year's theme, "Taking A Stand." Each group is responsible for writing a process paper, an annotated bibliography, and creating a poster exhibit to present to a panel of judges. Good luck to all groups in their competition!

Pumas of the Week: Aidan Kearns, Jaydon Taylor, Ariana Smith, Shengui Lin, Marissa Oatess, Amanda Kessler, Mason Paul, Mohammed Alhayani, Emma Winiger



Our **Spring Choir Concert** will be on May 11th in the Helfrich Park Gym at 6:30 PM. If you have a student interested in being in Choir for the 2017-2018 school year, please contact Mr. DeKemper at andrew.dekemper@evsck12.com.

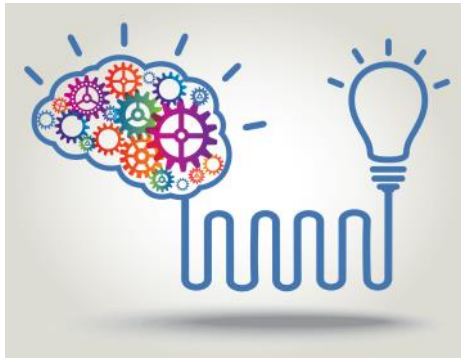
Mr. Loveless will be taking some 8th grade students to St. Louis to see the St. Louis Cardinals play the Cincinnati Reds at Busch Stadium on April 7th.



Sick Child? If your child is ill, please call Helfrich Park Attendance at 812-435-8246 extension 1 before 9 A.M. Please leave your child's full name and the reason they will be absent. If you would like homework to be collected, please ask. This request should be sent before 9 A.M. and will be available in the front office between 3 and 3:30 P.M.



The 2017 Washington D.C./New York City 8th grade trip will be here soon. Detailed information will be sent to each 7th grade student. Sign up early to get an "early bird" special rate. Please plan to attend the parent meeting on April 25 at 6 PM in our cafeteria. Don't let your child miss an opportunity of a lifetime. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Loveless at gary.loveless@evsck12.com.



Science Fair

6th Grade

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| 1st Place | Sanitizer vs Soap and Water—Tyler Weinzapfel |
| 2nd Place | Parachute Challenge—Gabe Raber |
| 3rd Place | To drink or not to drink?—Elizabeth Sergesketter |
| Honorable Mention | Investigation of Nitrate Level Using A Flowing Filter Apparatus—Paul Sellers |
| Honorable Mention | MTW Rocket Launch—Michael Woehler |
| Honorable Mention | Apples to Apples—Lydia Jourdan |
| Honorable Mention | Archimedes Squeeze Alek Greene |



7th Grade

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| 1st Place | How do carnivals guess weight? Grace Wagoner |
| 2nd Place | Sharp Shootin' —Madison Wigg |
| 3rd Place | Wasted Space—Alex Hartmann and Loden Greenwell |
| Honorable Mention | Germ Invasion—Kaleigh Meritt |
| Honorable Mention | Nocturnal Eyes—Alex Donahay |
| Honorable Mention | Sizzle 'N the fruit—Ben Gollaher |
| Honorable Mention | Diffraction Action—Diaz Quiroz |
| Honorable Mention | ?_____?—Kayla Isom and Lindsey Moore |



8th grade

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| 1st Place | The calorie surprise—Ella Talley |
| 2nd Place | Caffeine: What Does It Dew?—Anna Gollaher and Lilly Beyers |
| 3rd Place | Water Are You Wearing?—Elise Umbach |
| Honorable Mention | Balancing Act—Claire Graham and Audrey Parker |
| Honorable Mention | Build your own battery—Cynthia Griest and Claire Whitehouse |
| Honorable Mention | You Mad Bro—Ethan Morrison Drew Crowell |



Engineering

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| 1st Place | Rocket Launches Using Green Technologies—Dillon White |
| 2nd Place | H2O Lifter—Carter Loveless |
| 3rd Place | Dry Ice Soundlens—Cade Hibbs |
| 3rd Place | H two OH—Abigayle Snyder and Emilee Cheshire |
| Honorable Mention | Catapult Launch—Jackson Tanner and Jacob Carroll |
| Honorable Mention | How Hydraulics Work—Emma Moesner |
| Honorable Mention | Green Energy—Jackson Wood |

