



January 2017

PUMAS ROAR!!!

It's hard to believe that half of the 2016-17 school year is over already. It seems like just yesterday we welcomed our new principal and teachers to Helfrich Park and here we are on the back-side of this school year.

Beginning first thing in 2017, we will be introducing our new Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS) slogan and expectations to students and families. PBIS is based on having clear expectations and rewarding good choices. Neither of these are new to Helfrich Park, however, the intentionality with which we approach it is.

The acronym "ROAR" will be used to remind all Pumas that we strive to be: **R**esponsible, **O**rganized, **A**chievement driven, and **R**espectful in all we do here at "The Park." We hope these expectations and goals might be repeated and reinforced at home as well as at school.

Positive Behaviors are always a good idea. Happy Holidays and we'll see you in 2017.

Mr. Scherry

YEARBOOKS

Yearbook order forms will be sent home with students on January 3, 2017. The full-color yearbooks are \$18 and orders must be in by January 20, 2017. Checks should be made payable to Helfrich Park. Be sure to get your order in by the deadline so your child will have this school keepsake for years to come!

Spirit Days

January 6, 13, 20, and 27

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

NO SCHOOL:

Winter Break is December 22-January 2.

Students return to school on January 3.

January 16, M L King, Jr. Day, No School

6TH GRADE STARS



Science: In science, the 6th graders are finishing up their study about space. They learned about the planets, moon phases, the relationship of the Sun, Moon, Earth, our galaxy, and how the atmosphere is critical to our existence on Earth. The students have participated in several hands on labs in the classroom demonstrating our movement out in space. The students have also enjoyed some songs that help them remember the planet order and phases of the moon. When we come back from break, we will kick off Science Fair. Please start brain storming some ideas with your child over break.

Over Holiday Break, please re-stock your child with paper, pencils, and pens so we get off to a great start in January. Happy Holidays from the 6th grade team!

Math: If you are shopping over the break, ask your sixth grader to help you determine which store has the best deal. The sixth graders have been working on rate, unit rate, and ratios. When we come back from break, we will work with geometric measurement involving surface area and volume. The break is a great time to make sure your child is stocked up on pencils. Please help make sure your child is prepared for class by having a pencil and his or her math homework done each day. Thank you for your help, and have a wonderful winter break!

ELA: We are finishing up our informational writing that went along with the book we have been reading about Alexander Hamilton. While reading and writing, we have been working on summarizing and picking out the best supporting evidence. As we move into the new grading period, we will be switching to fiction and reading novels. We will begin working on writing arguments as well.

Social Studies: Sixth grade social studies classes finished up their Middle Ages Unit by creating Kahoots. They learned a lot about the role of the Christian Church, life in a feudal system and manor system, and changes in Medieval society such as the Magna Carta and the Black Plaque. Achieve continues, and it is very important that students come to class prepared daily with charged Thinkpads. Thank you parents for your continued support!

Pumas of the Week: Charli Miller, Stephanie Ramirez, Hunter Scott, Noah Nenneker, Ali Payne, Liberty Rister, Whitley Price, Paul Sellers, and Motaz Alhayani

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.



7TH GRADE M&M'S



Science: Students will finish up Earth Science in January and February. They will learn about the geology of Indiana and geologic time. As part of the Earth Science unit, they will learn about non-renewable and renewable resources. Students will be getting information about the Science Fair at HP. Students will be working each week to help prepare for their experiments. Please look for a permission slip to come home in early January. All science projects will be due to teachers on February 27. Thanks for supporting the HP Science Fair!

Math: Mrs. McDurmon, Mr. Hartmann, and Mrs. Todd have had a tremendous December. Students were taught how to create and solve proportions. Students then moved to percentage questions involving tax, tip, markup, discount, commission, and interest. Calculating percent of change is another important Indiana standard.

Mrs. McDurmon's 7th grade honors math class finished up the year with functions and reviewing for the final exam. I am very proud of how hard they worked to study for their final! I hope their grades reflect their effort! We will start the new year by studying geometric solids and the Pythagorean Theorem.

ELA: Mrs. Bateman, Mr. Loehrlein, and Miss Thompson's classes are focusing on answering short essay prompts and will be reading a new fictional novel at the beginning of the year.

Social Studies: Mr. Carnahan, Mr. Loehrlein, and Mr. Tekoppel's 7th grade Social Studies are focused on moving into ancient China and talking about the great dynasties of the region.

Pumas of the Week: Jay Smith, Aubrey Schneider, Brandon Strouse, Jason Alspaugh, Zion Cole, Allison Tieken, Piper Ashby, Haley Mattes, and Eli Simms

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!



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



Science: In 8th grade science, students have been finishing up the chemistry unit. We completed some fun labs while learning about chemical properties and reactions. Students are now able to balance simple chemical equations. We will begin preparing for the Science Fair as soon as we return from break. Please help your student come up with a project idea they will enjoy completing. Have a wonderful and restful holiday!

Math: Your awesome 8th graders are currently working on the Algebra and Functions standards. They have been practicing how to find the rate of change, writing linear equations and graphing linear functions. You can ask your child what makes something linear and I am sure they will be able to tell you. With Christmas right around the corner, you can surprise your child by stuffing their stockings with graph paper, pencils, paper and a new calculator! After Christmas break, we will be working on Geometry and Measurement.

The 8th grade math teachers wish you a wonderful Christmas season and a Happy New Year!

ELA: Eighth grade ELA students will work once again with short pieces of fiction, citing textual evidence to support a claim. Students will also be working on literary analysis writing.

U.S. History: Eighth graders are learning about the U.S. Constitution as we head into 2017. Ask your son/daughter — How many amendments make up the Bill of Rights? What does “ratify” mean? The authors of the Constitution were known as what? Can changes be made to the Constitution?

Pumas of the Week: Morgan Hobbs, Reese Wines, Cynthia Griest, Hope McGuire, Shenghui Lin, Cruz Quiroz, Emily Sylvester, Tori Deig, and Jordan Jarvis.

LOST AND FOUND
STUDENTS SHOULD
CHECK THE LOST AND
FOUND LOCATED IN
THE GYM AND THE
OFFICE.

HPSA on Social Media

Helfrich Park is diving deeper into the realm of Social Media: we have a new website, continuing with Facebook, and added Twitter and Instagram. We want this 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 direct-

To give you
the most
updated
information,
our school

happy
new year!