

**PUMA Team,**

Greetings! October began with perfect weather for yet another wonderful week of festivities at the Westside Nut Club Fall Festival. The Nut Club is very generous to our school and we certainly appreciate their support for our community. Thank you, Nut Club members, for your time, efforts, and commitment to so many!



The students have been quite busy with their classes during the school day, as you would expect. The students also have homework commitments after school. Parents, please assist us in monitoring your child's homework and in some cases, making up missed assignments. Teachers should be in contact with you when your child has grades at unsatisfactory levels. Together, it is our hope to put your children in a position where they can be successful academically.

Congratulations to our Reserve Volleyball team. The girls finished the season undefeated! Team members are (names deleted). They were coached by Mrs. Ashlee Deal. Congratulations to (deleted) for earning first place at the EVSC City Speech Tournament. Other students placing are (name deleted). Helfrich Park's team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Congratulations to the entire team and coaches Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Kluesner.

On November 7, beginning at 1:15 p.m. we will honor past and present members of our armed forces with a reception in the Media Center, followed by an assembly. Parents or family members wishing to be recognized should contact Mrs. Goebel in the main office.

Thanks for all your support and Happy Halloween!

**Mac**

**FROM THE COUNSELOR**

Applications for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars Program are available in Mr. Connors' office. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars Program is based on

financial need and can give students the opportunity to receive in-state college tuition for four years. All 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students interested in this opportunity need to see Mr. Connors.

**6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STARS**

In science, students just wrapped up, "It's Out of This World," a solar system unit where the students learned cool facts about all of the planets. They also learned how the planets interact with each other in space to make up our solar system. The students also had the opportunity to participate in a lab, testing the water quality of the Ohio River. Thank you to Toyota for providing Helfrich Park with all the lab equipment and a free t-shirt.



The excitement for LBL is growing by the day! In preparation for the Land Between the Lakes trip, the 6th grade was taught how to use a compass and GPS. Each student had the opportunity to practice navigating courses through and around school. Also, the students are busy learning about vertebrate animals and much more to get ready for Land Between the Lakes. Remember, LBL is November 22-24. Land Between the Lakes money is due by November 19. Don't forget there is an LBL parent meeting on November 19 at 6:30 pm in the Helfrich Park cafeteria.

In math, the students have been working with ratios, percents of numbers, and adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing mixed numbers. Some students made bar graphs about the Fall Festival. These graphs showed favorite rides, favorite food, favorite game, and days that students went to the Fall Festival. The students also have done problem trails and problem solving stations. This has given them a chance to work on problem solving skills. Students also began preparing for the LBL trip by learning how to use GPS receivers and navigating the playground. In the coming weeks, look for integer problems and remember to be sure your student is doing his or her homework each night. Thanks!

Mrs. Brown's English classes are finishing their essays for Patriot's Pen. In reading, students are finishing a unit that looked at fiction and nonfiction side by side. Mrs. Jarrell's students are reading the novel, *My Life in Dog Years*. Within the novel, students are discussing a lot of new vocabulary words and using context clues to find their meanings. Mr. Kahle's English students have recently completed work with adjectives. They have also continued work on writing an essay on patriotism. In literature, students have recently finished *Heart of a Champion* by Carl Dueker. Students completed several projects while working with the novel including a final poster over one of the main characters. Students are now starting *The Phantom Tollbooth*. While reading this novel, they will be working with figurative language. Mrs. Alford's language arts classes have been working diligently on writing skills. The focus continues to be on the traits of good writing--ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions, and presentation. The students used these skills recently while completing narrative and descriptive writing pieces. They read aloud *Haunted House* recently, while the audience actively listened, writing down examples of elaboration (PUMP). Before the students travel to LBL, they will complete animal research projects. Literature classes have been working with figurative language, sound devices, and point of view while exploring fiction and poetry. The students have written a variety of poems as well: people, bio, "I Am", diamond, concrete, and voice. Parents, if possible please save cereal boxes for an upcoming literature project for Mrs. Alford.

Mrs. Brown's social studies classes are completing lessons on population, government and economy. In Mr. Kahle's social studies classes, students have been working with ancient civilizations. Mrs. Alford's social studies students are learning about three remarkable and complex civilizations: the Maya, the Aztec, and the Inca. They are also studying the text features on nonfiction while exploring social studies chapters.

## 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE M&MS

Math students have had a busy month in Mrs. McDurmon's, Mrs. Todd's, and Mr. Hartmann's rooms. Math 7 students are completing a unit on percents. Topics have ranged from percent conversion to a comparison of 'part' and 'whole.' Students now have a grasp of tax, tip, markup, and discount. Algebra students are graphing using slope-intercept form as well as standard form. They will continue to focus on rate of change as it compares to slope. Good job Pumas!



Science students are finishing their cell projects. Next, they will be moving on to further study cells by investigating cell processes and cell reproduction.

Social Studies classes have just finished their studies of Ancient Egypt and will be traveling to Ancient Kush next. This rival kingdom of Egypt became very powerful through trade and warfare. After Ancient Kush, students will go west to the Western Sahara empires of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai. Trade routes were established through the Sahara desert and Islam began to spread widely through Africa at this time. Once students have learned about these African cultures, they will journey to Asia to explore Ancient China! Chinese dynasties, emperors, innovations, writing, examples of Chinese architecture (such as the Great Wall and the Forbidden City), social divisions, customs, traditions, and Confucianism will be the main topics of learning in this unit.

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE G8TORS

Once again, Helfrich Park will be hosting a Veteran's Day assembly. The assembly will take place on Thursday, November 7 at 1:45 p.m. Family members who have or are currently serving in the armed forces are invited to attend the assembly and reception. Please RSVP through the school office by November 5.



Eighth grade math students have had a busy month! They traveled to the Fall Festival to go through an interdisciplinary unit. In the

classroom, students worked on probability and interest. In the near future, they will work on volume and square roots.

In science, students finished the physics unit. During the Fall Festival field trip, the students measured the speed of different rides in the park. Over the next two weeks, they will be talking about the different types of energy and then move into the chemistry unit. Mrs. Jarrell's students have recently studied a unit on Newton's laws of motion which they used when they studied the physics of the Fall Festival.

In English, students are working on various sentence structures and functions to improve the variety in their essays. They wrote an essay about the Fall Festival, and next will be an essay with a patriotic theme. Students have been reviewing some reading skills such as main and supporting ideas. Soon, they will be reading the novel *Catching Fire*.

### ART

Sixth graders studied proportion and have been drawing self-portraits. Seventh graders learned how to use chalk pastels and invented their own creatures. Eighth graders used acrylic paint to paint a monochromatic landscape or cityscape.

Art Club finished decorating pumpkins and are helping decorate bulletin boards around the school. Thank you, Mr. Yurks, for all the pumpkins!



### ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

As the first 12 weeks comes to a close, 6<sup>th</sup> graders are beginning to use the power tools to make wooden games. Seventh graders are designing, making and racing dragsters. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders are making cam toys and beginning on Rube Goldberg projects.

### DIGI-COM

Students have made contact and started receiving emails from students in Colorado. Last week, due to a systems cliché, our epals in New

Hampshire have been delayed in sending their responses. Uganda, Africa is roughly six hours ahead of us and it has been difficult maintaining smooth communications; finally, we have received our first letters from those students. They currently are writing the letters, then scanning them to us. This is a great way for the students to see how fortunate they are to have a 1:1 program within the EVSC.

### TECH

This month, students have launched a Facebook page-Helfrich Park STEM Academy. This will be used as another source to get information out. Please note, there are several other pages with the Helfrich Park name--PTA and a fan page. These pages are not controlled by the school but are also a nice source of data.



Facebook itself has changed some policies. Facebook is now allowing students between the ages of 13-17 to have their information posted publicly. Until now, minors were only allowed access to post on their friends' and their friends' pages, this is no longer the case. Students can post and have their posts seen by the "general public." If your student is on Facebook, please review the security settings and test the new changes so you know what they can and cannot post.

### GERMAN

German students finished the unit on German-Americans and their influence on our culture. They are now working on giving a weather report in German, using various weather words and temperatures in Celsius. Ask your child to tell you in German what the weather is like today.

### P.E.

Currently in Physical Education, students are ending the softball unit. Since the weather is changing, they will start an inside unit on line soccer. Students will learn how to maneuver the soccer ball by passing and trapping. This unit will last for three weeks. Students will then begin the basketball unit, learning to dribble, pass, and shoot the ball. The 3-on-3 basketball tournament will take place during class after these fundamentals are learned.



## VOCAL MUSIC

We are winding down the end of our 12 weeks together in music class. In 6th grade, students are working on understanding and using dynamics in music by playing guitar and rhythm instruments. In 7th grade, students have been learning how to compose simple songs using two and three chords on the guitar. In 8th grade, students have been creating and presenting family music projects on the student netbooks. Choir is preparing for their concert November 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the school gym.

## BAND

The 6, 7th, and 8th grade bands continue to achieve at a higher level each day! We are greatly looking forward to "showing off" our work at the fall concert on Thursday, November 21 at 6:30 p.m. All 6th grade students and instrumental students new to Helfrich Park will need to order a HPSA Band or Orchestra polo. These are purchased through Mr. Clark or Mr. Farny. Order forms will be sent home soon. All students who rent a school instrument should have taken a rental contract home and returned it to school with their \$30.00 instrument rental fee. If this has not been taken care of, please do this ASAP. Please check the calendar included in this newsletter for information about all important dates for instrument music. Also, feel free to check the calendar at any time on the HPSA website under "activities" then "band/orchestra."

## PENNY WARS

### Sharing is Caring Thanksgiving Baskets



In place of a canned food drive this year, Helfrich Park students will be raising money for Thanksgiving baskets by holding Penny Wars. Penny Wars will take place November 4 – 15. The first week, students can deposit pennies in their homeroom boxes. Each penny counts for one point. The second week, students can bring in silver coins and cash to bomb the other homeroom boxes, this money will count as negative points. The homerooms raising the most money will receive

a pizza party. All money will be used to purchase food for Helfrich Park families in need.

Students are still encouraged to bring in non-perishable food to Mrs. King's room. Each food item will count as 75 points toward their homeroom's penny total. If any family would like to donate a turkey, please contact Mrs. King at Helfrich Park 435-8246 or by email [Virginia.king@evsc.k12.in.us](mailto:Virginia.king@evsc.k12.in.us). Families in need of assistance can also contact Mrs. King for more information.

## WE THE PEOPLE

Mrs. Antey's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors We the People classes are gearing up for the District Competition on Friday, November 15. Students have been studying American government, Constitutional principles, Supreme Court cases, current events, and important events from early American history. Students have been working incredibly hard on preparing statements and preparing answers for interview-type questions. Good luck, Pumas!

## EZSCHOOLPAY.COM

### ***DID YOU KNOW?***

EzSchoolPay.com is an easy, convenient and secure online option available to parents of any student attending an EVSC school. Use EzSchoolPay.com to:

- Check your child's school meal account balance – **NO CHARGE FOR THIS SERVICE**
- Check to see what your child is eating daily (regular meal/al a carte items, etc.) – **NO CHARGE FOR THIS SERVICE**
- Sign up for lunch account low balance email reminders – **NO CHARGE FOR THIS SERVICE**
- Deposit money in your child's school meal account using Visa or MasterCard - **\$2.50 CHARGE PER TRANSACTION ADDED TO YOUR CREDIT CARD**

Using the site is easy. Please follow the steps outlined below:

- Go to [www.ezschoollpay.com](http://www.ezschoollpay.com) and follow the prompts for "Parents Register Now" to fill out the necessary information. You will need your child's 7 digit student ID number and the school zip code to set up an account. If you do not have this information, please call your school cafeteria manager or the EVSC Food & Nutrition office at 435-8262.
- You will receive a confirmation e-mail. Follow the directions in the e-mail, and you will be logged in and ready to manage your child's school meal payments.

If you have any questions or experience any problems setting up this account, please contact Carol Schmidt at 435-8262.

### PTSA

Thank you to everyone who brought in Box Tops. Our school has collected 5,874 Box Tops so far. Our 6th grade classes brought in a total of 1,482, 7th grade brought in a total of 1,899 and 8th grade brought in 1,488. The entire school has done a tremendous job. Thank you to our wonderful Student Council for helping count the Box Tops. To find a complete list of Box Tops go to <http://www.boxtopsforeducation.com/>. Remember to keep on clipping, saving, and bringing in your Box Tops with your homeroom teacher's name on the bag.

**Exciting News! Get ready for a new contest!** The homerooms in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade that start bringing in Box Tops from now to December will win a doughnut party in the month of December. Good Luck to everyone!

Homerooms winners for the Box Top kick-off party s are: 6th grade--Mr. DeKemper with 454 Box Tops, 7th grade--Mrs. McDurmon with 464 Box Tops, and 8th grade--Miss Rostad with 622 Box Tops. Congratulations!

Our PTSA memberships are still going strong. You may still join PTSA for \$6 per

person. Envelopes are located in the office. You may send in cash or check made out to Helfrich Park PTSA. Please include your child's name and homeroom, along with your name, phone number, and email address. Congratulations to our teacher, Mrs. Bateman won a \$25 gift certificate to ElCharro's and to our parent, Kathy Jones, who won another \$25 gift certificate to El Charro's. Thank you to everyone who has joined PTSA so far. Please join us for our next PTSA meeting on Monday, November 18 at 4:00 pm in the Media Center. Thank you, Lori Koonce

### FROM THE NURSE

Almost all Helfrich Park students are up-to-date on their immunization records. GREAT JOB!! If your child still needs to send in their record, you have until November 8 to do so. Unless you have spoken to Mrs. Moore, all students who do NOT have an updated immunization record with the required shots will not be allowed to attend school.

We are seeing a rise in stomach virus symptoms. If you have any abdominal cramping and/or vomiting in your household, please do the following: isolate the person who has symptoms until they are symptom free. Remember, GOOD HAND WASHING is the best defense in keeping the rest of your family healthy!!



## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Veteran's Recept./Assembly, 1:15 pm	Nov. 7
Veterans' Day, No School	Nov. 11
8 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Enroll.Night@Reitz, 6 pm	Nov. 13
Picture Retake Day, 10-11 am	Nov. 19
LBL Parent Meeting, Café, 6:30 pm	Nov. 19
Fall Concert, 6:30 pm	Nov. 21
Thanksgiving Break, No School	Nov. 28-29
Winter Break, No School	Dec. 23-Jan. 1
MLKing, Jr Day, No School	Jan. 20
Presidents' Day, No School	Feb. 17
Spring Break, No School	Mar. 24-28



**Remember, there are Helfrich Park decals  
and magnets available in the office.**



CALENDAR OF EVENTS – NOVEMBER 2013



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1 Chess Club 3-4 GBB 3-4	2 Honors Band & Orchestra Retreat @ Reitz-TBA
3	4 Cheer 3-4 Choir 3-4 GBB @ Wash. 3-6  Honors Band&Orches@Rtz 6-8 pm	5 Dance 3-4 GBB 3-5 McDur. Tutoring 3-4 Orchestra 3-4 Robotics 7/8 3-4 Tutoring 3-4	6 GBB 3-5  STAFF MEETING	7 BBB Open Gym 5-6 Dance 3-4 GBB 3-5 Orchestra 3-4 Robotics 7/8 3-4 Tutoring 3-4 Veteran's Recept./Assembly 1:15 pm	8 Chess Club 3-4 GBB 3-4	9
10	11  VETERAN'S DAY (No School)	12 GBB vs. Lodge home game 3-6 Cheer/Dance @ game 3-6 McDur. Tutoring 3-4 Orchestra 3-4 Robotics 7/8 3-4 Student Cncl. 3-4 Tutoring 3-4 Honors Band&Orchs @Rtz. 6-8 pm	13 Art Club 3-4 Choir 3-4 GBB 3-5 Orchestra 3-4 Student Cncl. 3-4 Weight Room 3-4	14 BBB Open Gym 3-4 Dance 3-4 GBB @ Plaza 3-6 Orchestra 3-4 Robotics Comp. 4-5 Student Cncl. 3-4 Tutoring 3-4	15 Chess Club 3-4	16
17	18 Cheer 3-4 Choir 3-4 GBB 3-5 Student Cncl. 3-4 7/8 <sup>th</sup> Band Rehearsal 3-5  Honors Band&Orches.@Rtz 6-8 pm PTSA Meeting-4 PM-Media Ctr.	19 GBB vs. NJH home game 3-6 Cheer/Dance @ game 3-6 McDur. Tutoring 3-4 Orchestra 3-4 Tutoring 3-4  LBL Parent Meet. 6:30 pm	20 Art Club 3-4 GBB 3-5 Orchestra 3-4 Student Cncl. 3-4 Weight Room 3-4	21 BBB Open Gym 3-4 Dance 3-4 GBB @ Lincoln 3-6 Orchestra 3-4 Tutoring 3-4  Winter Concert 6:30 pm	22 GBB 3-4   LBL	23   LBL
24  LBL	25 Cheer 3-4 Choir 3-4 GBB 3-5 BBB 6/7 <sup>th</sup> Try Out 6-8 pm  Honors Band&Orches.@Rtz 6-8 pm	26 GBB vs. Thomp. 3-6 Cheer/Dance @ game 3-6 McDur. Tutoring 3-4 Orchestra 3-4 Tutoring 3-4 BBB 6/7 <sup>th</sup> Try Out 6-8 pm	27 Art Club 3-4 GBB 3-5 Orchestra 3-4 Weight Room 3-4	28   THANKSGIVING (No School)	29   THANKSGIVING BREAK (No School)	30

