



PUMA Team,

Greetings to our PUMA family!

I hope this note finds all our students and families doing well and thawing out from our big snow storm...and I thought winter was over!!

Big kudos to all of our students who participated in our annual science fair! The range and creativity of the projects were outstanding! Incredible work students! Place winners and honorable mention awards were given at each grade level. Winners are as follows:

#### **8th Grade**

1st - Elyse Talley (Don't Blink, It's Pink)

2nd - Madyson Harper (No Pain, No Gain)

3rd - Hannah Nelson & Grace Gill (Sugar and Ice Makes Everything Nice)

Honorable Mention - Snow Mathews (Dirty Laundry)

Ellora Daily & Alaina Fritts (To Chew or Not to Chew)

#### **7th Grade**

1st - Victoria Garland (Man versus Machine)

2nd - Olivia Frayer (Temperatures Effect on Catalase Enzyme Activity)

3rd - Amanda Meuth (Air Ball)

Honorable Mention - Bailey Menacher (Bridge Design)

Mackenzie Groben & Blake Michel (Colored Chemicals)

Owen O'Reilly (The Cup Walk)

Amariah Greenwell & Kyla Terry (Healthy Gum)

#### **6th Grade**

1st - Elise Umbach (Doggy Droll Disinfect)

2nd - Conner Alford (UV Protection)

3rd - Tori Deig (Amount of Co2 in Soda)

Honorable Mention - Maggie Reagan (OMG)

Max Welch (Bridges Under Pressure)

Matt Robey (Magnetic Picker-Upper)

Hardin Mills (Mechanical Energy)

A big shout out to several students in Mrs. Greenwell's English Honors classes who were recognized for their wonderful writing talents by the Vanderburgh County Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Society. Shannon Lindsey, Hannah Bryan, and Olivia Frayer placed first through third respectively at the seventh grade level and eighth grader, Kylie Helming earned a second place. Also, kudos to Natalie

Yeh, Justin Clark, and Hannah Nelson for winning gold rating at the ISSMA Solo and Ensemble State Competition this past weekend. Congratulations to these students for their fine work and outstanding effort!

I would like to thank the anonymous donor who so graciously sent roses to the HPSA staff to celebrate Valentine's Day. What a treat for the entire staff!

Well, if you have read the paper lately, you may have enjoyed the leadership displayed by state leaders regarding the ISTEP testing. Our message to the students is to continue to do the best they can every day in school, improve in their classes, have good manners, and be helpful to others. If your children work toward those goals, their lives will turn out super and they will be happy, productive citizens. All the hoopla over one test is really a statement about public posturing and other interests and agendas. If you would like to know more about the test content, please go to <http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/istep-grades-3-8>.

Students will be given a school survey; they have already had an opportunity to take one home for their parents. The EVSC uses the information to improve areas needing attention.

Well, I am looking forward to spring flowers soon! Remember, Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 8; set your clocks ahead one hour. All the best to our students and their families!

Mac

### **CITIZENS OF THE WEEK**

**6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:** Riley Johnson, Grace Kelley, Garrett Pritchett, Sarah Smith, Brynn Duvall, Raelyn Kelle, Anthony Tribbey, Cameron Williams, Mikehl Adamson, Alyssa Beliles, Olivia Lothamer, Jarvis McKinney

**7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:** Kylie Drysdale, Baylee, Crase, Kaeleigh Hart, Chris Hayden, Corina Durham, Kayleigh Ensinger, Madalyn Hall, Caleb Jones, Christian Wheeler, Keniyah Walling, Kyla Terry, Cierra Parrish

**8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:** Terry Adams, Jacob Currington, Nautica Brown, Emily Herron, Amanda Coleman, Rachel Kercher, Matthew Vaught, Dalton Morris, Lexie Robinson, Jeremiah Dockery



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

In science, the students have been studying air pollution and how to protect our natural resources. The sixth grade has also been studying water. The students have learned the three states of water, properties of water, and they have participated in several labs that demonstrate density and cohesion of water. Soon the students will be studying the ocean. They will learn why oceans are critical to our existence and what we can do help keep the oceans clean.

The sixth grade recently took a trip to USI where they were instructed by a college professor and had the opportunity to experience science with a hands-on lab. There were also a few students who had the opportunity to tour Alcoa power plant where they met plant engineers. Energy has also been a standard discussed recently and some students created roller coasters as they learned about potential and kinetic energy.

Mrs. Brown's classes are warming up for ISTEP by practicing reading and writing skills. The focus is using textual evidence. Students are reading and completing two Achieve articles a week. They are currently reading the novel *When Zachary Beaver Came to Town* along with the other sixth grade classes. In Mr. Kahle's English classes, students will be continuing to work with sentence structure and different types of sentences. They will be applying these new skills to their persuasive essays. In literature, they will be continuing *When Zachary Beaver Came To Town*, examining the book and completing projects to aid that process. In Mrs. Burkhart's ELA class, students have been preparing for the upcoming ISTEP test. They have been practicing writing skills, improving reading stamina, and discussing various rubrics that are used for grading. Students are enjoying the novel, *When Zachary Beaver Came to Town*. When they finish reading it, they will watch the movie version in order to compare and contrast the two. Understanding the difference between argumentative and persuasive writing has been the key focus as well.

In social studies, Mrs. Brown's and Mr. Kahle's classes will finish studying Rome and begin learning about the Middle Ages. Mrs. Burkhart's class finished learning about Greece. They are currently learning about Rome and the Middle Ages, also.

In math classes, the sixth graders have been completing a 25 day challenge by doing problem solving each day to prepare for the first round of ISTEP. They have been finding the area of two dimensional complex figures and have been finding the surface area and volume of rectangular prisms. The students have found this is pretty easy when they use the formulas on their reference sheet and plug in the numbers given. The students have been doing a good job showing all of the steps in working out problems, as this will be very important to carry over to the first round of ISTEP. The students have become very good at determining when surface area and volume are found in the real world! Please check that your child is doing his or her math homework each night, and please check EdEase to keep track of your child's progress in all of his or her classes. Thank you for your support!

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



Science students are currently studying the idea of pangea and plate tectonics. Students have learned about this idea through hands-on activities, and online labs on mountains, fault lines, and earthquakes. Students will explore the different types of each of these, evidence of pangea, and facts about our Earth as they continue throughout the next few weeks. Students are looking forward to presenting their Science Fair experiments and results to their peers and the Helfrich Park community.

Mrs. Antey's social studies classes will begin their studies of the Eastern World. They will explore places such as modern day China, India, Japan, Australia, Vietnam, and the Middle East. Students will study their governments, geography, climates, natural resources, major industries, and cultures.

Math students have had a busy month! Students have been working on the three dimensional figures, as well as slope. In the coming days, they will explore linear relationships including rate of change, x-intercept, y-intercept, and equations in two variables. Mrs. Todd, Mrs. McDurmon, and Mr. Hartmann are VERY proud of their students and look forward to Acuity C in the coming weeks.

English and literature students are working to increase their writing and argument skills while using textual evidence to add support and strength to their ideas. As part of this, they are reading fiction and nonfiction articles. After ISTEP, students will begin a book study focusing on characterization and how the author uses elements of fiction and nonfiction to develop the central idea.



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

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade G.8.T.O.R.S. are completing the math unit on how to use, interpret, and display data. They have taken the data and used it to create scatterplots and determine the line of best fit. From there, they used it to write a linear equation in slope-intercept form. Ask your 8<sup>th</sup> grader to sing the  $y = mx + b$  song for you. You can also ask how they did on the Jump, Jump activity as a class. Students will continue to prepare for the Applied Skills ISTEP test. Please be sure your child has a calculator for this test. This will be the only part of the math ISTEP test where students will be allowed to use their own calculators. If your child cannot get one, please have him/her talk to their teacher so one can be made available for their use.

Students in ELA are reading a variety of non-fiction pieces and working on response writings using textual evidence. Also, please don't forget to refill your student's pencils, paper, pens, etc. Students are coming to school without supplies and it is difficult for them to be prepared without the necessary materials.

In social studies, Mr. Whipkey's U.S. History classes just finished the Indian Removal Act of 1830 and the Trail of Tears. They are headed West next as they discover the Western Movement. Mrs. Antey's classes will wrap up their Westward Expansion Unit with a challenging and engaging "create a board game" and viewing parts of the American classic, *Little House on the Prairie*. After Spring Break, classes will begin their unit on "The North and The South."

Science students are finishing up their Genetics unit. Science Fair was a huge success, and now students are looking forward to dissecting frogs before spring break. After spring break, they will move into learning about earth and space sciences.

### DIGI-COM

Classes finished another amazing 12 weeks in Digi Comm. All students created a project using Paint and displayed them in the hall. There is an improvement in their oral presentations from last year. As the new grading period starts, students will be working with our ePals, PowerPoint, and typing skills.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students are in the 5<sup>th</sup> grading period, how time flies. Sixth grade will begin a unit on Newcomb Ball. This game is very similar to volleyball; students catch and throw instead of bumping and volleying the ball. Seventh and eighth grades will be working on volleyball. When the weather warms up a bit, classes will be taking archery. Students will go through safety instructions before they are permitted to use any of the equipment.



## CHOIR

General music classes are learning how to play simple songs on the guitar and singing. Choir classes are preparing for the Spring Choir Concert on April 21 in the Helfrich Park Gym at 6:00 p.m.

## ENGINEERING TECH

Robotics, for all grade levels, will begin Tuesday, March 10 after school until 3:50 p.m. Students will work in teams of 2 to 4 to build and program robots to complete tasks. There will be a Robotics Competition at Helfrich Park on Tuesday, April 7 from 4:30-6:00 p.m.



## BAND AND ORCHESTRA

Congratulations to Natalie Yeh, Hannah Nelson, and Justin Clark for receiving a Gold rating at the ISSMA State Solo and Ensemble competition. It is a HUGE honor for a middle school student to qualify for state, and an even bigger accomplishment to receive a Gold rating! The Band and Orchestra are working hard to prepare for their upcoming concert on March 19 and Contest on April 10/11. The Varsity Orchestra will be rehearsing after school on March 10 and 16 until 5:00 p.m. in the Orchestra room. The Cadet Orchestra will be rehearsing on March 12 and 17 until 5:00 p.m. in the Orchestra room. If there are any conflicts, please contact Mr. Clark at [adam.clark@evsc.k12.in.us](mailto:adam.clark@evsc.k12.in.us). We look forward to seeing you on March 19!!

## ART

In art class, students just finished up the grading period with Pop Art. Some beautiful pieces have been created. They were also able to do a quick clay project the last week. All grades have done a great job. Check out our website for the latest artwork. Many of these pieces will go into the Reitz Art Show coming up the beginning of March. Sixth grade Art Club will be starting this last 12 weeks. Be listening to morning announcements for meeting times.

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM



Congratulations to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball team for a great 10 win season! They worked hard all year and showed Puma Pride every time they walked out on the court. Team members were:

- #10 Stephen Hazlett
- #14 Jacob Currington
- #15 Kelten Byrley
- #20 Trevor Fulton
- #22 Ben Malchioni
- #23 Jalen Head
- #25 Matt Ruckman
- #30 Max Ashby
- #31 Kameron Kingsbury
- #33 Aneas Dulin
- #35 Josh Craddock
- #42 Ryan Whitehouse

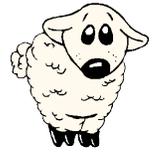
## TALENT SHOW

Helfrich Park Talent Show and Family Night will be Friday, April 10 at 6:00 p.m. The talent show is open to Helfrich Park, Cynthia Heights, and Tekoppel students. Entry forms are due by April 3; all acts and music must be approved by Mr. McIntosh. There is a \$5.00 fee per person to audition. A mandatory audition will be held April 7. Information/sign-up sheets are in the school lobby. Admission is \$3 for adults, high school, and middle school students and \$1 for elementary students. Come join the entertainment and silent auction on April 10. It's a great way to start your weekend!!





## CALENDAR OF EVENTS –MARCH 2015



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2 Choir 3-4 Computer Club 3-4 3 on 3 (Burkhart) 3-4 Study Hall 3-4  PTSA 4 pm-Media Neighborhood Assoc. 6 pm-Media	3 Hockey to Swonder 4 pm Math Team 3-4 Science Team 3-4 Study Hall 3-4	4 Social Studies Team 3-4 Study Hall 3-4	5 Orchestra 3-4 Science Team 3-4 Track Call-Out Meeting 3-4 Study Hall 3-4	6 Chess Club 3-4 English Team 3-4	7
8	9 Choir 3-4 Computer Club 3-4 Track 3-4 3 on 3 (Burkhart) 3-4 Study Hall 3-4  4.0 Luncheon  Daylight Savings Time Begins	10 Hockey to Swonder 4 pm Band & Orchestra 3-5 German, 7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> 3-4 Math & Science Teams 3-4 Robotics 3-4 Student Council 3-4 Track 3-4 3 on 3 (Kahle) 3-4 Study Hall 3-4	11 Robotics 3-4 Social Studies Team 3-4 Track 3-4 3 on 3 (Kahle) 3-4 Study Hall 3-4	12 Orchestra 3-5 Science Team 3-4 Track 3-4 3 on 3 (Burkhart) 3-4 Study Hall 3-4  USI Science Fair	13 Student Council 6:50-7:23 am Chess Club 3-4 English Team 3-4 Track 3-4  USI Science Fair-6 <sup>th</sup> gr. 9-11:45 am	14
15	16 Student Council 6:50-7:23 am Band & Orchestra 3-5 Choir 3-4 Computer Club 3-4 Track 3-4 3 on 3 (Kahle) 3-4 Study Hall 3-4	17 Student Council 6:50-7:23 am Academic Meet @Cedar Hall 5 pm Math & Science Teams 3-4 Orchestra 3-5 Robotics 3-4 Track 3-4 3 on 3 (Kahle) 3-4 Study Hall 3-4  St. Patrick's Day	18 Student Council 6:50-7:23 am Art Club, 6 <sup>th</sup> gr. 3-4 Robotics 3-4 Social Studies Team 3-4 Track 3-4 Study Hall 3-4	19 Student Council 6:50-7:23 am Science Team 3-4 Track 3-4 3 on 3 (Kahle) 3-4 Study Hall 3-4  Band & Orchestra Concert-Gym-6:30-7:30 pm	20 Student Council 6:50-7:23 am Track 3-4 Study Hall 3-4	21
22	23 Spring Break No School	24 Spring Break No School	25 Spring Break No School	26 Spring Break No School	27 Spring Break No School	28
	30 Band 3-5 Choir 3-4 Computer Club 3-4 Track 3-4 Study hall 3-4	31 Math Team 3-4 Robotics 3-4 Study Hall 3-4 Track 3-4				

