



February 2016

Puma Team,

Happy 2016 to all of our students, families and staff! I wish all the very best in terms of health and happiness!

It is wonderful to be back at school, seeing the students and staff work so hard as they begin the new semester. Kudos to them!

Congratulations to Jack Weinzapfel, Jesse Meier and Loden Greenwell for earning the opportunity to compete at the Indiana State Chess Tournament on January 23rd in Indianapolis. These young men, in addition to Cooper Thompson, Abbie Steinhart, Grace Kelley, and Jackson Lawhon, participated at a regional chess competition on January 9th. Job well done to all of our chess team competitors.

Students that earned citizenship for the third grading period were treated to a free period on January 15th to recognize them for their excellent leadership. Students that earned A and B honor roll received an ice-cream treat, and our 4.0 students for the grading period enjoyed a nice lunch in the Media Center. Outstanding work students!

I am very proud of the kids and the efforts that they put forth each day. Thank you parents for your support as well!

Mac

FROM THE NURSE

Staying Home: Students must remain out of school for 24 hours after their last documented fever, last time vomited, or last diarrhea.

Medication: If students need medication, it must be in the original container.

Cold and Flu Season Is Here: Cold symptoms come on gradually and may include a sore throat, sneezing, and coughing up mucus. Flu symptoms appear quickly (in 3-6 hours) and involve at least 2 of these 3 symptoms: dry cough, body aches, and fever (100° and higher).

Fever: A child is considered to have a fever when their temperature is 100° or greater. For a fever between 100° and 102°, it is recommended that you contact a medical provider or the Nurse Hotline (for children served by Hoosier Healthwise). Children with a fever greater than 102° may need to be seen for urgent/emergency treatment.

Nurse Hodgson



6TH GRADE STARS



Science: The students have been working hard learning about the states of matter. We have been discussing the different types of matter and their properties. Several labs investigating the properties of water have been conducted. We have also started science fair projects. Every sixth grade student is required to complete a project for the Helfrich Park science fair. All projects are due on February 29. On March 3 the science fair will be open for viewing from 5:00-6:30 in the gym. The science fair will re-open for viewing on March 4 from 7:45-2:00. Your student should have brought home a science fair packet which details the requirements for the project. If there are questions or concerns, please contact your child's science teacher.

Math: Sixth grade math students have been doing multistep problems on a daily basis to prepare for the first round of ISTEP in March. Students have been practicing writing and solving equations. Mrs. Hall's honors class has been working with function tables and graphing equations. Mrs. Humm's advanced honors class has been working on linear and nonlinear functions. Mrs. Humm and Mrs. Hall have started sending reminder texts and emails to parents and students who have signed up to join. Each student has received the information to sign up. If you have questions on how to join the group to get texts and emails, please email your son or daughter's teacher. Please check that your child is doing his or her homework each night.

ELA: Sixth grade literature classes are currently working on a unit of folk literature. We also continue to prepare for the upcoming ISTEP. In English we are working on phrases and clauses and continue to write essays on a variety of topics.

Social Studies: The sixth grade is completing a study of Ancient Greece and Rome and will soon begin the Middle Ages.

Congratulations to the following Citizens of the Week: Jalen Robbins, Jasa Franklin, Vivica Chinn, Jay Smith, Cameron Decker, Abigail Harrison, Katelan Huffman, Marcellus Carson, Madison Stilwell, Brayden Tevault, Kyla Sallee, Evan Briody, Aidan Dorman, Faith Gill, Gabriel Goldy, and Holly Hopkins.

Don't forget to re-stock
your child's supply of
pens, pencils, and
paper!



Helfrich Park Science Fair open for viewing:

March 3 5:00 PM-6:30 PM

March 4 7:45 AM-2:00 PM

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



We are currently finishing up our Weight Room Unit with the girls and some of the boys (thanks to all that were willing to switch up classes with us). We will be switching the girls to Floor Hockey and the boys to Weight Room for the remainder of this grading period. Due to the fact that the weather is not warm enough for outside units at this time, we will have an inside Capture The Football Unit instead of regular football. Students will work on passing (throwing), catching, and sportsmanship during this unit.

Just a reminder, if you have not paid your \$5 equipment and locker rental fees, please do so.

Mrs. Redd and Mr. Mahan

7TH GRADE M&M'S



Science: Students are investigating earth science. They will be learning about the layers of the earth and plate tectonics. The forces that shape the earth create features that can be studied to learn about the earth's past. Using current information from the USGS regarding earthquakes and volcanoes will be incorporated, as well as using fossils to learn about geologic time.

We will focus heavily on science projects this month. Students should check with their teachers for important due dates and assignments. Parents are encouraged to check web sites and communicate with teachers at any time. Projects are due on February 29th; the science fair is March 4th. We are excited to see the final projects!

Math: Math classes have been simplifying expressions and solving one-step and two-step equations. They will be moving on to solving inequalities as they prepare for the upcoming ISTEP test. Algebra students are currently working on exponential equations and Geometry students are studying triangle similarity.

Honors math students have finished linear equations and systems. They will be moving on to geometry topics which include 2 and 3 dimensional shapes. They will also be investigating triangles and special angle relationships.

ELA: Students are analyzing figurative language while reading poetry. The students will also find the main idea, tone, and mood. There will be many essay prompts focusing on standards that the students may encounter on ISTEP.

Social Studies: At the end of January, all 7th grade social studies classes began their studies of the Middle East's three monotheistic religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Next, classes will learn about Western African civilizations in medieval times, and the impact of the gold and salt trade in Islam on these societies.

Congratulations to the following Citizens of the Week: Aaron Tucker, Justin Tucker, Emily Sylvester, Aaryn Palermo, Jacob Carroll, Jason Andrews, Madison Eagan, Emma Francis, Claire Schaffer, Emilee Smith, Jordan Jarvis, Alazah Goodloe, Heather Kaelin, and John Snyder.

School WILL be in session on the following dates to make up for missed days due to snow:

February 15 (for January 11), April 15 (for January 19), and April 18 (for January 22).

CAFETERIA NEWS

When sending in lunch money, please be sure that the telephone number is on the check. Remind your students to only make deposits before school (not during class time and not in the lunch line). Deposit slips are available in the cafeteria. Students should complete the deposit slip, attach the check or cash to it, and place it in the deposit box in the kitchen. We greatly appreciate your kindness and polite behavior.

HELFRICH PARK IS THE BEST!

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



Science: Students are beginning their science fair projects. Much of the grading period will be focused on the science fair. Please check the timeline to be aware of the lessons and when they are due. We are also learning about genetics. Students are completing two labs using planarian and bacteria in order to observe asexual reproduction of organisms. We look forward to beginning meiosis, Punnett squares, DNA, and genetic variation soon.

Math: We are finishing up with the algebra and functions unit. Students are graphing linear systems and interpreting graphs. Students are also starting to prepare and focus on standards for the upcoming ISTEP test. Please be sure to look at your child's grades and be sure they are keeping up with homework. Practice makes students better.

ELA: English classes have been hard at work learning about the research process by writing papers over a career chosen by each student. The students have really enjoyed getting to learn more about what they want to do in the future. We will soon be starting a narrative writing unit where the students will be able to show their creative sides. In Literature, we have been reading articles and learning how to cite evidence and evaluate whether or not that evidence is good. We will continue honing our reading skills in preparation for ISTEP.

U.S. History: Students are studying the Electoral College System and how President George Washington and members of Congress established a new national government.

Mrs. Antey's 3rd and 4th period classes are continuing to work on their National History Day Competition research projects. Although the competition is in April, National History Day is a HUGE undertaking and requires a lot of time. Most students have chosen to research local Evansville history or Indiana history – awesome!

Congratulations to the following Citizens of the Week: Jersey Brown, Elias Courter, Josiah Williams, Sophia Rexing, Kylie Drysdale, Kyle Hartmann, Cierra Parish, Gage Wade, Kaelin Douglas, Blayze Handegard, Brianna Kloenhamer, Jacob Wolfe, Kieran Paddock, Aliviya Pope, Adam Reynoso, and Keegan Williams.

FROM THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE

Please call in sick for your student by 9 AM. At that time, please request any homework for your student that needs to be picked up after 3 PM that day. Homework requested *after* 9 AM will be ready the following day. Also, please remember to put your student's name in their jackets and on their lunchboxes.

GENERAL MUSIC

General music students are learning guitar chords and how to play simple 3 and 4 chord songs. Students are also learning about song structure and how to accompany themselves playing guitar while singing.

CHOIR

Students in choir are singing songs in two and three part harmony and learning about sight singing. The Spring Choir Concert will be on May 12th at 6:30pm in the Helfrich Park gym.



Mr. DeKemper

February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1 Student Council 6:50-7:25 AM PTSA Meeting 3-4 (Media Center) Choir, Band, Computer Club 2:30-4 Boys Basketball practice 2:30-5	2 Student Council 6:50-7:25 AM Math Academic Team, Guitar Club, Band, 3 on 3, Science ASB 2:30-4 Boys Basketball Game vs Cedar Hall at 4:30 at Helfrich Park -Dance at game Hockey Game at 4:30 (Swonder)	3 Yearbook Team Pictures Student Council 6:50-7:25 AM Art Club (grade 7), Robotics (grade 6) 2:30-4 Boys Basketball Practice 2:30-5	4 Dance, Science ASB 2:30-4 EVSC Solo & Ensemble (North Jr. High)	5 USI Field Trip (grade 8) Boys Basketball Practice, Chess, English Academic Team, Science Academic Team, Band 2:30-4	6 EVSC Solo & Ensemble (North Jr. High)	
7	8 Student Council 6:50-7:25 AM Choir, Computer Club 2:30-4 Boys Basketball practice 2:30-5	9 Student Council 6:50-7:25 AM Alcoa Field Trip (grade 6) Dance, Math Team, Guitar Club, 3 on 3, Science ASB 2:30-4 Boys Basketball Game at Plaza Park at 4:30 Hockey Game at 4:30 (Swonder)	10 Art Club (grade 7), Student Council 2:30-4 Grade 6 Robotics Competition 2:30-4 Boys Basketball Practice 2:30-5	11 3 on 3, Science ASB 2:30-4 Boys Basketball Game at 4:30 vs NJH at Helfrich Park -dance at game	12 Student Council 6:50-7:25 AM Fun Night 2:30-4:30	13	
14	15 Snow Makeup Day Student Council, Choir, Computer Club 2:30-4 Boys Basketball Practice 2:30-5	16 Dance Team, Guitar Club, 3 on 3, Science ASB 2:30-4 Boys Basketball Game at Perry Heights at 4:30 Hockey Game at 4:30 (Swonder)	17 Boys Basketball Tournament (TBA)	18 Dance, 3 on 3, Science ASB 2:30-4 Student Council 2:30-4 Boys Basketball Tournament (TBA)	19 Report Cards Go Home Boys Basketball Practice, Chess, English Academic Team, Science Academic Team 2:30-4	20	
21	22 4.0 GPA Lunch Choir, band, orchestra, Computer Club 2:30-4 Boys Basketball practice 2:30-5	23 Math Academic Team, Guitar Club, 3 on 3, Science ASB 2:30-4 Hockey Game at 4:30 (Swonder) Boys Basketball Tournament (TBA)	24 Student Council, Band, Orchestra, Art Club, Robotics (grade 6) 2:30-4 Boys Basketball Practice 2:30-5	25 Boys Basketball Tournament (TBA) Science ASB 2:30-4	26 SWIP Party USI Field Trip (grade 7) Boys Basketball Practice, Chess, English Academic Team, Science Academic Team 2:30-4	27	
28	29 Boys Basketball City Finals (TBA) Computer Club 2:30-4	Notes: TBA: To Be Announced All Science Fair projects are due February 29th.					

