



Mr. Mac

Puma Team,

Holy smokes, the first grading period has gone by quickly. The kids are doing very well and working hard. I am very proud of their helpfulness to others and for the good work ethic many of them have here at school.

The annual West Side Nut Club Fall Festival is right around the corner. The Nut Club is very generous to all of the West-side schools. Please support them if possible and also remind the children to be home at a reasonable hour so that they get a good night of sleep.

Here in the next couple of weeks we will have our student rewards programs for maintaining good grades and citizenship. The programs are wonderful ways to let the students know their hard work and positive behavior is appreciated and recognized!

Finally, thank you students, parents, families and friends for assisting with our fundraiser. This program funds many, many programs at Helfrich Park and your support is greatly appreciated! Have a great week!

Mac

HELFRICH PARK CLUBS

Archery-HPSA Arrows



We have been having a great time in Archery Club. We are improving our aim from last year and sharing the sport with new participants. Oct 8th will be our last meeting until after Spring Break.

Computer Club



Computer Club is starting up on Monday Oct 19th and run until Spring Break. Our focus will be on programming, gaming, video editing, and other topics of interest for the students. Students should make plans to be picked up at 4 or take the after school bus. Please contact Mr. Combs if you have other questions.

FROM THE CAFETERIA

If you are sending a check for lunch/breakfast, please make it payable to "Helfrich Park Café", use blue or black ink only, and include your phone number on the check. Thank you.

Mrs. Gries

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.

6TH GRADE STARS



*In **Science**, we have been working hard to learn the scientific method and apply their knowledge during Science labs. We have also been working on collecting accurate measurements. Soon we will begin our Land Between the Lakes curriculum to get ready for our big field trip.

*In **Health** class, students learned that there are three parts to staying healthy: physical, mental, and social. Students also learned the importance of keeping a balanced health triangle.

*Just a reminder that **Land Between the Lakes** permission slips need to be turned in as soon as possible. The \$85.00 for the LBL trip can be turned in at any time, but it is due by November 16. Checks should be made payable to Helfrich Park. If you have any questions about the trip please contact Ms. Wright or Mr. Scherry.

***Math** students just finished working with ratios, rates, and unit rates. They also have worked with measurement conversions. Students will be working on conversions between fractions, decimals, and percentages. We just finished the first grading period. Please check that your child is doing his or her math homework each night. RDS is a great website to use to check your child's progress in all of his or her classes.

***Language Arts** classes have been studying the elements of non-fiction while reading a variety of articles and biographies. The students have identified author's purpose and structure. Non-fiction articles are also presented to the students twice a week through our online reading program called Achieve 3000. The articles and activities in this program are leveled to each student's reading ability and adjusted as the student performances improve.

*In **English**, review of the parts of speech continues with verbs and adjectives. It is a goal to include vivid verbs and descriptive adjectives to improve writing assignments.

*In **Social Studies**, the students recently researched and presented projects on world climate zones. Next, we will be learning about the development of the world's cultures.

Congratulations to the following Citizens of the Week:

Brandt Dunkel, Aubrey Schneider, Stone Stewart, Allison Tieken, Skylar Courbat, Madison Crook, Zoey Gates, Alex Hartmann, Ben Gollaher, Kaleigh Meritt, Sarah Reynolds, Garrett Rexing, Katelyn Miller, Reese Garza, Mason Mossberger and Damien Dillon

Choir

The 8th grade class has been learning about singing techniques and have been singing several songs. 7th grade choir will start November 9th with Mr. DeKemper, 4th period. If there are any 7th grade students not signed up, but want to be in choir class, see Mr. DeKemper to join.

Choir Concerts for the year are:

*Winter Choir Concert December 3rd 2015 (Helfrich Park Gym) @ 6:30pm

*Spring Choir Concert May 12th 2016 (Helfrich Park Gym) @ 6:30pm

GENERAL MUSIC

All general music classes have been playing chords and bass notes on acoustic guitars. Students have been learning how to follow the music and how to play the instrument correctly.

7th grade students have been researching and presenting information about musicians from Indiana.

8th grade students have been researching and discussing about careers in the field of music.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In Physical Education we are finishing up Fitness Testing. We will be starting up Newcomb Ball with our 6th grade. This is a tossing/catching game that involves volleyball. 7th and 8th grades will begin volleyball. We will start out with fundamentals (bumping, serving, etc.). After the first two days we will form teams and begin our tournaments. We will also have a new student teacher until December. His name is Mr. Wyatt.

Mrs. Redd and Mr. Mahan



7TH GRADE M&M'S



***Math:** Mrs. Todd and Mr. Hartmann have had an exciting September. Seventh graders have been working on exponents, factors, and prime factorization. Students continue to compare rational and irrational numbers. With the end of the first grading period, we look to build on our success as we head to decimal and fraction operations.

*The students have been working hard in **English and Literature!** For the past few weeks, we have been reading *The City of Ember* and *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*. While reading these novels, students have focused on plot development, context clues, and character analysis. In addition, students have been working on figurative language and paragraph structure in English.

*The **Science** classes just finished up learning about microscopes and how to use them. We will begin to study life science, in particular, cells and cell processes. We will put the microscope knowledge to work! We encourage all seventh graders to start thinking about the science fair. It will be here sooner than you think!

*The seventh grade will be taking a **field trip** to Mesker Park Zoo on Thursday, October 8 (rain date on Friday, October 16). We will leave at 11:30 and walk to the zoo. We will leave the zoo at 2:00 to return by 2:20.

***Social Studies:** We are beginning to learn about the first of many ancient civilizations: Ancient Mesopotamia. We will learn about the importance of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, the Sumerian language, cuneiform (writing system), advancements and achievements, Sumerian polytheistic religion, and Sumerian culture.

*Mrs. McDurmon's **Math** classes have had a great start to the year. We just completed rational and irrational number operations and square roots. We will be studying exponent operations and scientific operations during the next few weeks. Keep up the great work!

Congratulations to the following Citizens of the Week:

Kamron Thornton, Audrey Parker, Kylee Wilson, Dylan Mapp, Conner Alford, Malorie Hobbs, Claire Whitehouse, Mason Paul, Robbie Cain, Emma Winiger, Summer Kell, Xavier Ford, Katlynn Hurm, Cameron Miles, Heidi Jeffries, and Cole Hopkins

BAND / ORCHESTRA

Congratulations to the students who were selected to EVSC Honors Band and Orchestra! Seven students were selected from band and 15 from orchestra! Thank you for your hard work. Please be on the lookout for handbook information and contact sheets. Our handbook can be found by following these steps. (1) go to www.evscschools.com/helfrichpark (2) click on 'Clubs and Activities' then select 'Band and Orchestra'

(3) the new handbook is near the upper right - 2015-16 Instrumental Handbook. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Clark or Mr. Goodwin.



ART



In the art room All grade levels are looking at Impressionism and Post Impressionism with Claude Monet and Vincent Van Gogh. 6th grade is creating an Impressionistic style with plastic and foil to give the effect of changing light. 7th grade is recreating a Monet landscape using oil pastel. 8th grade is applying oil pastel thick to imitate the strong brush strokes similar to Van Gogh. They are all doing a great job. Be looking for these beautiful pieces in the hallways here at Helfrich Park. Also 8th grade Art Club begins this week and will go until the end of the grading period. I'm looking forward to creating neat projects with this group.

WRESTLING

The Fall League Wrestling Team will be having sign ups October 27, 2015 at 6:00 PM. The sign ups will be at Reitz. The cost is \$85.00. For more information they can contact Kim Epley at 812-893-0549 or Reitzwrestling@gmail.com.

VARSITY FOOTBALL TICKETS

Tickets for Reitz regular season only home varsity football games will be sold at a discount at Helfrich Park the week of the games. Adult tickets are \$4 and children/students are \$3 if purchased at Helfrich. All tickets are \$5 at the gate. The next home games are October 9 and October 16.

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



*In **Science**, our students spent the first grading period learning about lab safety, the scientific method, and the metric system. They successfully completed many lab activities that taught and gave students practice completing each of the scientific method steps and using the metric system tools and measurements. Our honors students had fun using both their science and math skills to determine the height of a "mystery" person based solely on their shoe print. We are currently working on the states of matter and chemistry in preparation for our field trip to the Fall Festival.

*In **Health**, we have been enjoying the use of the Choices Scholastic magazine. The articles and information are current and relevant to our students' lives. Please remember to check your child's grades on RDS in an effort to keep them caught up on homework.

*The G.8.T.O.R.S. **Mathematicians** are currently working on solving linear equations and trying to establish good study and work habits. Standard 8.AF.1 is one of the four "power" standards in 8th grade. Our math classes will also start to prepare for the Fall Festival by having lessons covering standards over probability and 8th grade geometry/measurement. The key to success is self-discipline. Please talk to your child about their progress in math class.

*Students in Mr. Whipkey's **U.S. History** classes are learning how, who and why the 13 original colonies were established in America.

*The **ELA** team has finished the novel, The Outsiders, and will be reading collections of short stories and studying themes in literature. As fall gets closer, we are noticing more students with illnesses and colds. If you are able to provide a box of tissues for a classroom or two, we would certainly appreciate any help.

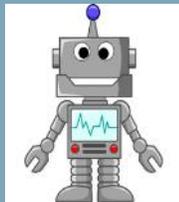
*We the People **Honors Social Studies**: We are beginning Unit 3, which covers our nation's Constitution, three organizations of our three branches of government, and our most basic rights—the Bill of Rights. Beginning the 2nd week of October, unit groups will begin to prepare their speeches for our regional competition on Nov. 17th!

Congratulations to the following Citizens of the Week:

Jayla Collier, Faith Bastain, Alex Mitchell, Isaiah Snyder, Jaden Brown, Justin Hicks, Maddie Hall, Kailey Scales, Rachel Hertel, Eli Burkhart, Naiasha Hutchinson, Nathan Jourdan, Pritish Chaudhary, Brooklyn Pace, Tyler Gustin, and Sophia Rexing

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY CLASSES

Sixth grade students are currently learning about residential structures by designing their own floor plans. They will also learn all of the steps in planning, building and selling a home. Seventh grade is building their own robots. They have a wide variety of robots, from a puppy that will come when called, to a spin art machine, to bulldozers and dragsters. Eighth grade students are working on their capstone project, designing, building and testing a Rube Goldberg machine that will put a penny into a bank in twelve or more steps.



DIGI COMM



We have had a very busy month. The students are making great strides in learning the correct finger positions and key techniques used on a QWERTY keyboard.

The 6th graders have finished up their business letters to companies outside of the Evansville area and we will be sending them out soon. All contact will be made through Mr. Combs's school email and the school's physical address for this project.

The 7th and 8th graders have finished up their PowerPoint presentations on animals, sports, landmarks, and world leaders. We will be taking these finished projects and using them during our oral presentations during the next term.

All grades are starting to receive ePal letters, from our electronic pen-pal program. We have received responses from Cambodia, Colorado, and South Dakota. Our ePals from Romania, France, and Latvia have just returned to school from their summer break and we should be contacting them in a few weeks.

| ◀ September | ~ October 2015 ~ | | | | | November ▶ |
|-------------|--|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | | 1 -Volleyball game @ 4:30 PM -Speech 2:30-4 -Archery 2:30-4 -Band 2:30-4 -Dance 2:30-4 | 2 -STEM/USI Grade 8 -Cheer Camp Grade 8 (USI) 3-7 PM -Spell Bowl 3-4 | 3 Cheer Camp (USI) 3-7 PM |
| 4 | 5 -PTSA 3 PM (Media Center) -Volleyball game TBA -School Board Meeting 5:30 PM -Archery 2:30-4 -Choir 2:30-4 -Student Council 7:30-8:15 AM (Fall Fest) -Cheer 2:30-4 | 6 -Speech 2:30-4 -Orchestra 2:30-4 -Dance 2:30-4 | 7 -Volleyball game TBA -Fall Festival field trip (grade 8) 8-12:30 -Art Club (grade 8) 2:30- -Orchestra 2:30-4 -Band 2:30-4 | 8 -Assembly 1:30 PM -Volleyball TBA -Grade 7 field trip/zoo -Fall Festival field trip RAINDATE -Speech 2:30-4 -Archery 2:30-4 -Orchestra 2:30-4 -Band 2:30-4 | 9 Fall Break No school | 10 |
| 11 | 12 Fall Break No school | 13 -Speech/RR 3 @ 4 PM @ Helfrich -Volleyball game TBA -Dance 2:30-4 -Student Council 2:30-4 -Orchestra 2:30-4 -3 on 3 2:30-4 | 14 -Robotics (7&8th grades) 2:30-4 -Orchestra 2:30-4 -Band 2:30-4 -Art Club (grade 8) 2:30-4 -Girls Basketball tryouts 3-5 | 15 -Speech 2:30-4 -Dance 2:30-4 -Orchestra 2:30-4 -Band 2:30-4 -3 on 3 2:30-4 -Girls Basketball tryouts 3-5 | 16 -Zoo field trip RAINDATE (grade 7) -VB Game @ HP 4 PM -Girls basketball conditioning 2:30-4 -Chess 3-4 -Spell Bowl 3-4 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 -School Board Meeting 5 PM -Student Council 2:30-4 -Choir 2:30-4 -Girls BB Practice 3-5 -Computer Club 2:30-4 -Cheer 2:30-4 | 20 -Hockey 4:30 PM -Speech 2:30-4 -Dance 2:30-4 -Orchestra 2:30-4 -Girls BB practice 3-5 | 21 FALL PICTURE DAY  -Staff Meeting 2:45 -Orchestra 2:30-4 -Band 2:30-4 -Girls BB 2:30-5 -Spell Bowl Meet (N.Posey JH) 6 PM | 22 -Mrs. King/Tech Tour -Speech 2:30-4 -Dance 2:30-4 -Orchestra 2:30-4 -Band 2:30-4 -3 on 3 2:30-4 PM -Girls BB 3-5 | 23 -Girls BB 3-4 -Chess 3-4 -Spell Bowl 3-4 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 -Speech/City Meet at Washington MS @ 4 PM -Choir 2:30-4 -Girls BB 3-5 -Computer Club 2:30-4 -Cheer 2:30-4 | 27 -Hockey @ 4:30 -Girls Basketball @ McGary 4:30 PM -Dance 2:30-4 -Orchestra 2:30-4 -3 on 3 2:30-4 PM -Girls BB Game @ McGary 4:30-6:30 | 28 -Student Council 2:30-4 -Orchestra 2:30-4 -Band 2:30-4 -Art Club (grade 8) 2:30-4 -Robotics (gr 7&8) 2:30-4 -VB Game @ HP 4-7 -Girls BB 3-5 | 29 -Speech Tournament (Washington MS) @ 4 -Girls Basketball vs. PHMS @ Helfrich 4:30 PM -Dance at BB Game -Orchestra 2:30-4 -Band 2:30-4 -3 on 3 2:30-4 PM | 30 FUN NIGHT (GYM) 2:30-4:30  | 31 |