



CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

8915 WEST 93RD AVENUE, ST. JOHN,



Winter—Volume 9, Issue 2

From the Desk of Principal: Scott Graber

Happy Second Semester.....I hope everyone had a great holiday season!

As we prepare for the upcoming semester, I encourage you to continue to keep communication lines open with your child's teachers in regard to any academic concern. Our approach at CMS is that all staff members are expected to respond to your concerns within a 24-hour period. If you feel that you need to have a meeting with the teacher to discuss a concern, please let us know.

Second semester is busy with 8th grade scheduling, upcoming ISTEP tests, as well as student selection in grades 5-7 for their specials (full year for band-choir OR the rotation.) Please make sure to check the school website daily for announcements regarding the events and deadlines.

The winter season can be a bit dicey, so please consider the following situations:

If a two-hour delay takes place, what will my child do? Do I have an alternate plan? Where will they go until school starts, AND what if the delay turns into a cancellation? Do I have a plan?

If an early dismissal occurs, what are my plans?

Is my child dressed appropriately for the weather (warm jacket, boots, etc.)?

Does my child have access to the house in case of an early release?

Please plan on having an emergency plan, just in case.

With the ending of the holiday season, many students have received a new piece of technology called a "cell phone." While cell phones are a good thing, we seem to deal with a lot of unfortunate issues with the devices. We ask all parents to refrain from sending cell phones to school; however, if a child brings one to school, it must remain in the locker area or in the back pack. If there is an emergency situation, the administration will be contacting you via the Alert Now system. Also, students should not be using their cell phones to text you, asking you to bring them lunch, or pick them up because they don't feel good. If your child is not feeling good, then they need to stop by and see the nurse who will then contact you. We have many situations where a parent shows up to school and states that my child texted me and told me to pick him/her up due to illness. Please remind your child to follow proper procedures. We appreciate your help in this area.

The enrollment at CMS continues to grow daily. Over the holiday break, we enrolled five new students. It's great to see the new students at CMS and we look forward to working with them at Clark. Thanks to the CMS students for assisting and making the new students feel welcome. It's great to see the students finding someone to sit with at lunch on day one. Coming to a new school can be very difficult for children, and I appreciate the help that our CMS students provide to make them feel welcome.

Thanks to YOU, as parents and guardians, for supporting CMS in so many ways prior to the holidays. We were able to provide over 200 pairs of hats, mittens and gloves, along with barrels of slightly used and new shoes to Sojourner Truth House in Gary. Also, the holiday concerts from our band and choir students were incredible. Thank you for your support!

Until next newsletter, stay safe.

Notes from Mr. Stanisz, Assistant Principal:



Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope that you had a safe and happy holiday season.

Thanks for your support of all our band, choir, clubs, and extracurricular teams during the late fall and early winter! It was great to see great parent/staff support in the stands and at events. Our 7th and 8th grade girls' basketball teams kicked off action on January 23rd against Taft Middle School. This was the beginning of our winter sports season. Come out and support our student-athletes!

We recently completed our winter portion of the I-Ready test on reading/language usage and math. We will continue to prepare the students for the first round of ISTEP testing that will take place in late February, early March. Thank you for your continued support in these areas.

Also, a big thank you for your help when dropping your children off by door J on the south side; however, please be mindful of the following issues: (1) please make sure that you remain in the car line, and do not allow your child to exit the vehicle until they are motioned out or told verbally to unload. (2) If you are parking your car, please use a proper parking spot, and do not pull out into oncoming traffic. (3) The handicapped parking spots are needed for our students with disabilities, and we appreciate your help in keeping those spots available. (4) If you are escorting your child to door J, please use the cross-walk located by the three orange cones. Thank you for your continued help in this matter!

Have you signed up for Twitter? Twitter is gathering support from parents and students around the school. To sign up, go to www.twitter.com or download the app to your Smartphone and create a username. You can follow us at @Clark_coyotes for news and information regarding CMS.

Stay warm out there and enjoy the snow!!!

The Lake Central School Corporation is looking for substitute teachers and paraprofessionals to help with special needs.

Please go to the main website: www.lcsc.us under Administration>Human Resources.

Scroll down and click on *Steps to Substitute Requirements*. The document will explain the steps needed to become a substitute in the corporation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Central Office at 365-8507.

West Lake Preschool Screenings

It is not too early to begin thinking about pre-school enrollment for next school year. All pre-school students must be screened prior to enrollment. Please see the upcoming screening dates below, and call Sara Pietrzak at 365-8507 x2946 to schedule your appointment.

Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at Munster Town Hall

Thursday, April 19, 2018

FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELORS:

8th Grade Scheduling for Freshman Year:

Incoming freshman at Lake Central have the opportunity to take PE, pool, or both during the summer. A lottery will be held to determine placement in the classes. Parents may register their student for the lottery through a Google form link that is available on the LCHS main website from Monday, January 22nd, starting at 7:30 a.m. to Wednesday, January 31st, ending at 3:00 p.m. The link is under NEWS (which is below the Quick Links). The lottery will be held on February 1st. Parents will be notified via email by February 7th if their student is selected.

Counselors at Clark will meet with all of the 8th graders during the school day on Monday, January 22nd and Tuesday, January 23rd to review important scheduling information for high school. The meetings will take place during their Social Studies class and students will receive information on SKYWARD scheduling, which will open for parents and students on MONDAY, January 29th. The students will be given paperwork to bring home for your review along with information on their course selections.



From the nurse's office:

If your child has any medications in the nurse's office, please be sure to pick them up by the end of the school year. If they are not picked up they will be discarded.





"10 years of Keeping the Magic Alive"

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

WINTER 2018

Media Specialist,
Denise Snyder

Author, Gordon Korman visited Clark Middle School Friday, November 17, 2017

We had an amazing day with author, Gordon Korman. He gave two inspiring presentations in the morning and the remainder of the day was spent talking with students, signing books and having lunch with twenty-eight reading contest winners. Our fantastic day concluded with a writing workshop attended by twenty students who worked with Mr. Korman on a short story. It was a fantastic memory for all!



5th Grade Book Club

On December 14th, the 5th Grade Books Clubs from Clark, Kahler and Grimmer met author, Chris Grabenstein. He wrote their discussion book, *Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library*. All 5th graders were bused to the LC theatre for a reading extravaganza like no other!





SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

November 20th through 22nd was our 70's themed book fair. All proceeds will be used to purchase new books for our collection.

Thank you to everyone who shopped at the fair and made online purchases. A special thanks to parent volunteer, Karley Kutka for organizing another fantastic group of parents to work each day. Thank you to all the volunteers who did an incredible job. You're all invited back to work again next year!

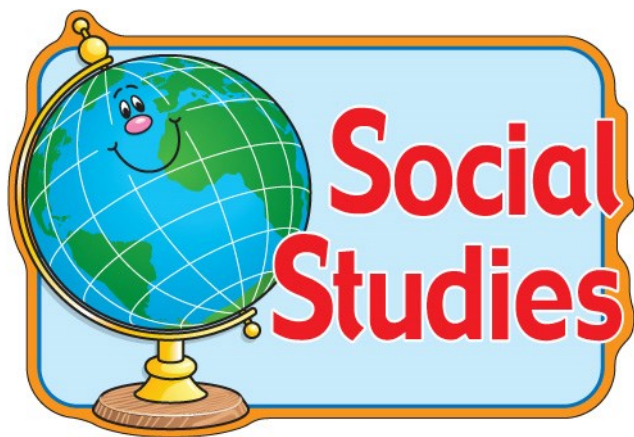
YHBA READING CONTEST

The Young Hoosier Book Award contest is underway and will end on March 1st. We use the list of twenty middle grade novels. Any student who reads and passes the AR tests on all twenty titles will earn a \$25 gift card. For each AR test passed a small prize will be awarded and the AR test becomes an entry form in a raffle for a chance to win larger prizes. The prizes are: mystery tote bags filled with books and cool stuff, autographed books by Gordon Korman, Chris Grabenstein and Mike Lupica & bright yellow emoji pillows. Keep reading, there's plenty of time to participate in this contest!

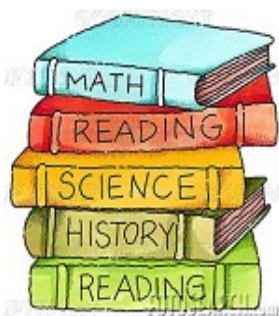
LCEF GRANTS

The CMS library received funding from the LCEF Grant Round 46. Funds are to purchase books written by author Gordon Korman for the library collection.

The library also received funding from the LCEF Michele Tyler Fall 2017 Grant. Funds are to purchase copies of Chris Grabenstein's Lemoncello Series books 2 & 3.



The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students are currently taking part in the National Geographic Bee. Each social studies class has competed for their class championship. Now, in the week of January 22nd, we will be deciding grade-level and school-wide champions. The Clark champion will take an online test in order to qualify for the state championship at IUPUI in Indianapolis in March.



Second semester is quite busy for the students and teachers in the math department. With the upcoming ISTEP tests approaching, we have been preparing the students for the upcoming tests. Teachers are still continuing to do I-Ready in classrooms, which can also be done at home if parents are looking for something extra to be done. Please remember that tutoring is offered to any student on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:00. We ask that students come prepared and ready to go over whatever is needed. Finally, if any parent has any questions or concerns about your child's progress, please contact your student's teacher.



The 6th grade Science classes will be attending the Challenger Learning Center during the first week of February. The students will be participating in the MISSION TO MARS. They will be taking the material they learned in class and apply it to several jobs that will be performed during their time at Purdue.

The 7th grade classes have been studying The Water Cycle. Some of the students were able to construct an aquifer from common household products. They will also be researching weather systems. The ADV classes will be researching a topic in WEATHER and presenting their information to their peers during class.

8th grade classes have been reviewing the CELL and creating a CELL CITY as their project for 3rd quarter.

The creativity that the students have shown this year has been incredible. These projects will be displayed in their science classrooms throughout the quarter.

PAWS FOR A CAUSE PRESENTS:

Puppygrams

Send your friends a 5 1/2" stuffed dog with a cute note.

We'll be selling Puppygrams from
Monday, Feb. 26th through Friday, March 2nd
during lunch periods.

The puppies will be delivered on
Tuesday, March 20th during lunch periods.
Cost is \$3.00 each or 4 for \$10.00



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Sorry, we can't promise a certain breed of dog. Sponsored
by:



How can lack of communication interfere with the relationship between you and your parents?

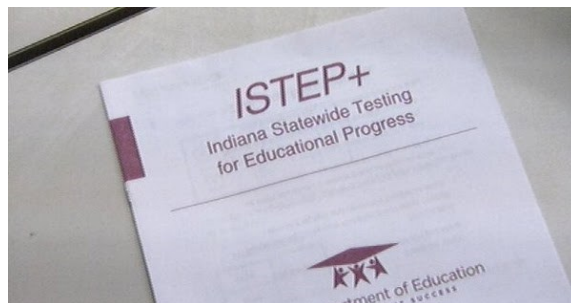
MAKE OUR SCHOOL A CUT ABOVE!



8

UPcoming EVENTS

ISTEP testing . . February 26—March 9, 2018.
Please make sure your kids are in attendance
daily.



8th Grade Dance Parent Meeting

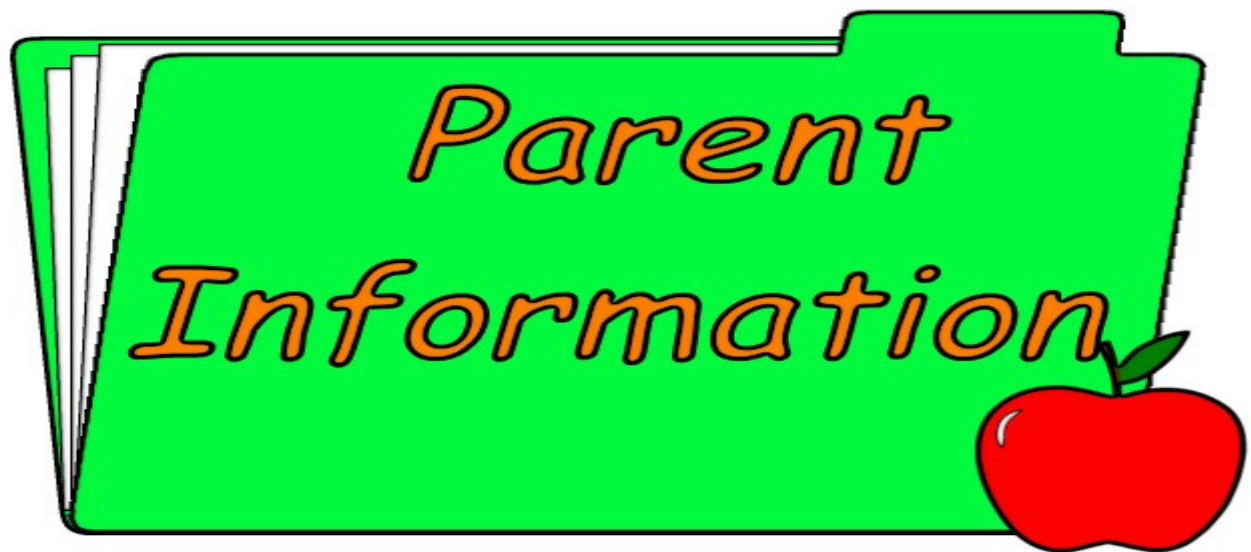
February 1, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in the
cafeteria

Parents....we need your help! At the last meeting, only 12 parents showed up. As a reminder, 8th grade parents DO NOT chaperone the dance, but rather CMS staff are the chaperones. The parents that attended the first meeting need your support and help!



The Valentine's Dance will be held for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students on Monday, February 12, 2018, after school until 5:30. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$3. Concessions and cotton candy will also be sold at the dance.





WELCOME TO TWITTER, CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

CMS is officially on the Twitter wire! What is Twitter, you ask? Twitter is a social network site set up for parents, students, and staff for news and information. We will be providing information regarding all the happenings around the middle school and important dates to remember. We WILL NOT be responding to questions on the twitter line as it is used strictly for information only. You can set up a twitter account by visiting www.twitter.com.

THIS IS NOT MANDATORY! It is just another helpful tool for those of you that access your cell phones on a regular basis.
@Clark_coyotes



Students are not allowed to enter the building before 8:00 a.m. unless they are under the direct supervision of a staff member. Door A will not be unlocked until 8:30 a.m. Walkers/bikers need to walk around to Door J (south entrance) if arriving before 8:30 a.m.

Did you know?

Announcements are posted daily on the website. Check us out at:

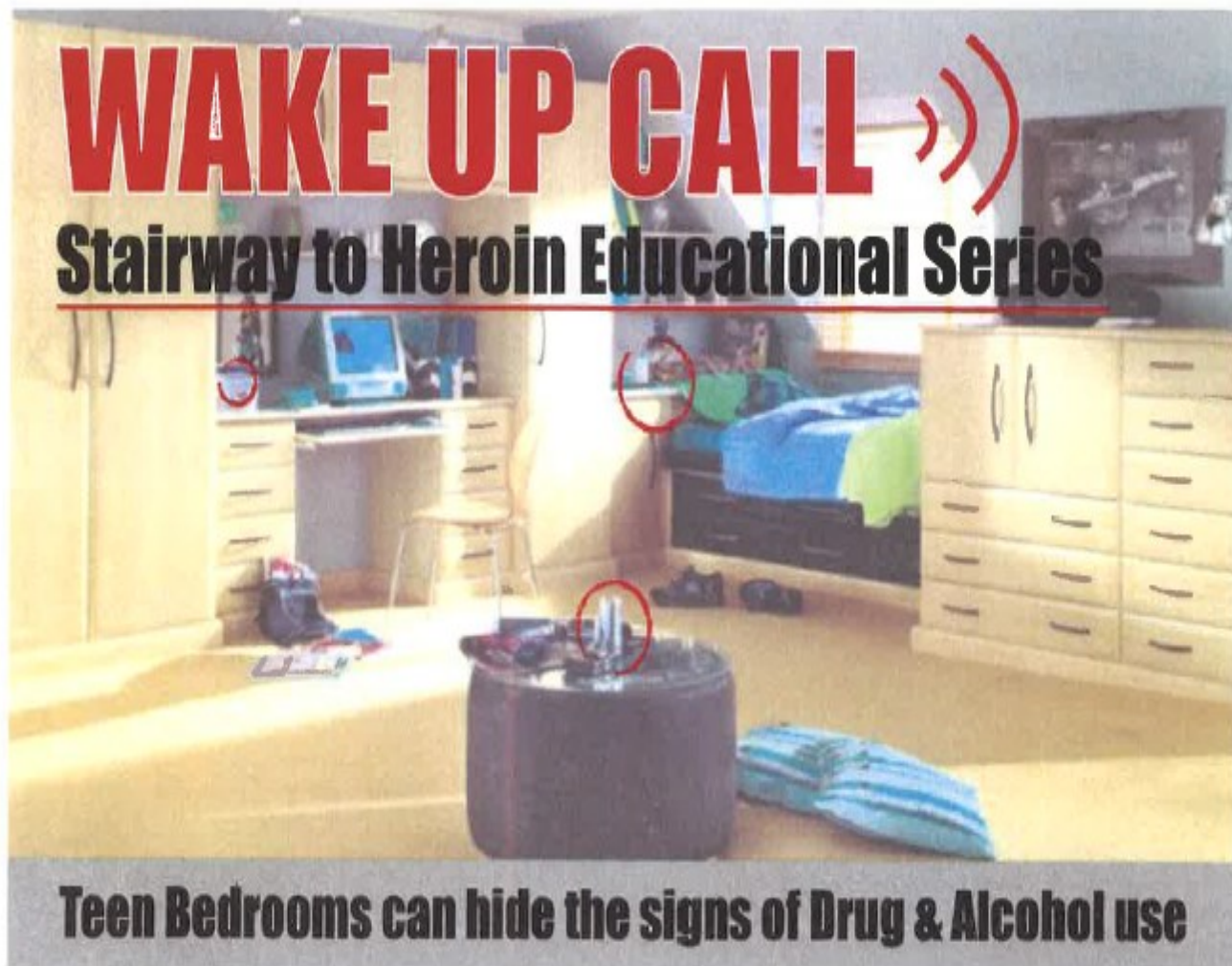
<http://clark.lcsc.us>

MAKE US A
FAVORITE!!

Before and after school care for 5th & 6th graders can be provided by

Adventure Club.

For more info call 865-6283.



Wake-Up Call is a life-size exhibit of a teen's bedroom with more than 20 "red flags" that can signal drug or alcohol use. The bedroom identifies spots where teens may hide drugs, household items that can be used as drug paraphernalia and ways teens try to cover up drug and alcohol use. Our goal is to educate parents and other adults who are influential in the lives of youth so they know what seemingly innocent items can actually be an indication of substance abuse.

The Wake Up Call presentation will take place:
Thursday, March 1, 2018

Lake Central High School
8260 Wicker Avenue, St. John, IN 46373
Please enter the school through Door F

6:30-8:00 PM

Please register for this FREE event at
<https://lcswakeupcall.eventbrite.com>

For questions about this event, please contact Al Gandolfi at (219) 558-2718, agandolf@lcscmail.com or Sandi Lybert at (262) 367-9901

This presentation is for adults only (21 years of age and over)

CLASS OF 2022

LAKE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

FRESHMAN SUMMER PE and Pool

Lake Central High School will hold a lottery for to determine 2018 Summer PE and/or Pool enrollment.

Parents may register their student for the lottery through a Google form link that will be available on the LCHS website from Monday, January 22 at 7:30am to Wednesday, January 31 at 3:00pm

- Lottery will be held on Thursday, February 1.
- Parents will be notified of results via provided email by February 7.
- If chosen in the lottery, PAYMENT MUST BE MADE by Friday, February 23.
- Information regarding a wait list and how to make payment will be included in the February 7th email.
- Complete the form only once. If you have more than one student to register, you will make note of that in the survey. Siblings are then "drawn" together so they get the same session or sessions.
- Completion of the lottery form is not a guarantee of enrollment in the courses requested. It serves only as registration in the lottery.

Summer PE and Pool Dates and Times:

- Session 1 June 5 to June 22 from 8am - 11:38am
- Session 2 June 25 to July 12 from 8am - 11:38am

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Due to the condensed length of these classes, students must be in attendance and participate for the entire session to earn credit.

Potential conflicts could occur between Summer PE and Pool and athletic team conditioning.

There is no bus service for summer school.

