

THE COYOTE HOWLING



SPRING Newsletter



Winter—Volume 9, Issue 3

From the Desk of Principal: Scott Graber

Wow! It is amazing how fast the school year is flying by. Incredibly, within a month, the 2017-2018 school year will be over. As we approach the end of the year, please remember to keep communication lines open with the teachers, guidance counselors, and administration if you are having a problem or concern. We are here to assist and help you!

As the year winds down, please continue to check the school website for a host of activities that will be taking place. From band and choir banquets and concerts, Riley's Dodge ball tournament, Shakespeare's birthday bash, to boys' and girls' track meets, orientation for incoming 4th grade students, AR field trip to Zao Island, 5th grade *Drugs R Dangerous* program, and Unified Special Olympic day at the high school, there are many things still to accomplish in six weeks. Please make an effort to attend some of these events, if you are able. The website will list the times for these events.

Round 2 of the ISTEP testing window is from April 16-May 4. I ask that you plan ahead and make it a point to have your child in attendance daily. It is very difficult to try and schedule make-up tests for a school that has an enrollment of over 1,100 students. If you can, please schedule appointments for after school hours; it is greatly appreciated. Please remind your child to eat a good breakfast, get plenty of sleep, and be prepared to take the online tests.

During the month of March and April, students were given the opportunity to select their "specials class" for the 2018-2019 school year. If you did not see the slip of paper, which requires your signature, please check with your child. All students are required to take a semester of PE-Health/Digital Citizenship. For the upcoming year, students that are in grades 6-8, can take band or choir as an elective. This is a full-year class. Once you sign up for the full-year class, the expectation is that you remain in that class for the entire year. The other special would be PE-Health/Digital Citizenship. If your child decides that they do not want to take band or choir, then your child would take the rotation, which would include a semester of PE-Health, and a semester of Digital Citizenship, along with a semester of art and PLTW (Project Lead the Way). One other option is for your child to sign up to be a peer mentor and work with our students with special needs. This option would take the place of the art/PLTW rotation. If this interests your child, they must complete an application and turn it in to the main office. Unfortunately, we cannot accept every student that wants to be a peer mentor, as we have limited spots. If you have questions, please let us know. We are happy to assist you!

Congratulations to Mrs. Arroyo and the choir department as they also received GOLD ratings at ISSMA. Also, congratulations to Mr. Walton and the 6-8 grade band programs as they received GOLD ratings for their performance at ISSMA. We are very proud of you! Great Job! A special congratulations goes out to Yara Hijaz and Leah O'Connor, who earned a silver and a gold rating. These two young ladies were the only middle school students in the corporation that qualified for state. Great job with your ensemble!

Congratulations to Emilee Martin (1st Place) and Emily Denny (3rd Place) for their essays in the local V.F.W. Patriot Pen Essay Contest. Awesome Job! Emilee received a \$300 cash prize and Emily received a \$100.00 cash prize.

Congratulations is also extended to our new National Junior Honor Society members. On April 10th, CMS inducted 73 new members into NJHS. The CMS staff members are very proud of you!

Until next month, stay safe. Please continue to check the school website daily for updated information.

Notes from Mr. Stanisz, Assistant Principal



Bring on spring! I am sure everyone is ready to get outside and enjoy some warmer weather here in the region! We recently completed the 7th and 8th grade girls basketball seasons. Congratulations to our 8th grade girls for their LMSAC Championship! Congratulations to both teams on their seasons and continued dedication as student-athletes.

We recently completed our paper/pencil ISTEP testing. We are continuing to prepare the students for the second round of ISTEP testing April 16th through May 4th. This portion of the test will be computer based. The students will be using Chrome Books and computer labs in the building for testing. Grades 6-8 will be testing April 16th – April 19th, and Grade 5 will test April 23rd – April 27th. We appreciate your hard work and effort with having your children in school during the testing windows. Thank you for your continued support in these areas.

Be mindful of our new safety drills and language that we are using in our buildings. We continue to run drills with our local authorities to allow them to become familiar with our building. An email was sent to all parents regarding this standard response protocol for students and teachers through the I Love U Guys Foundation.

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 or stop in the middle of the row. (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 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!!!

SCHOOL COUNSELOR CT



The Guidance Department has been busy with scheduling next year's freshmen students for high school and collecting Specials Requests (choice of Band, Choir or Art/Tech) from students currently in grades 5-7 for next year. Be on the lookout for applications to be a Peer Mentor or Office Aide, which will take the place of the special. Mrs. Bowman and Mrs. Churilla recently met with all 8th grade students to explore some career activities in Naviance, a program that is also utilized at Lake Central High School. In addition, the counselors have been assisting with ISTEP testing for all grades and will be meeting with the remainder of students in grades 6-8 during health classes to present a lesson on identifying and preventing bullying.

The 21st Century Scholarship application is available online at the following link. <https://scholars.in.gov/students/grade-7-8>.

To be considered for the scholarship, eligible students MUST enroll by **JUNE 30th of the 8th grade year**. Please review the eligibility guidelines on the website. Students enrolling will need to create a Scholars Track account and follow the Scholar Success Program each year during high school. This is a great opportunity to earn tuition money for an Indiana college or university! Check it out TODAY!!

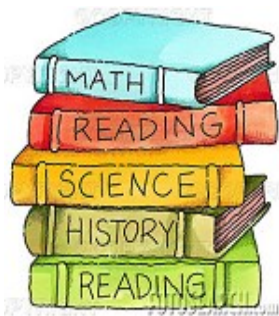


THE SCHOLARSHIP

Earning the 21st Century Scholarship provides students up to four years of undergraduate tuition* at any participating public college or university in Indiana. If you attend a private college, the state will award an amount comparable to that of a four-year public college. If you attend a participating proprietary (for-profit) school, the state will award a tuition scholarship equal to that of Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana.



The annual National Geographic Geography Bee has concluded at Clark Middle School. This year's winner was 8th grader, Matt Szabo. Congratulations to Matt, who received a medal and certificate of achievement from National Geographic. Additionally, a reminder that students in both 5th and 7th grade will take the Social Studies ISTEP test this year. If you have any questions about the Social Studies ISTEP test, please contact your child's teacher or Mr. Jason Putman -Social Studies Department Chair.



The Math department at Clark Middle has been getting ready for the last round of ISTEP. We have been doing multiple activities to be sure each child is ready and prepared for the test. Just because ISTEP tests are finishing up, does not mean the school year is over. Students still need to remember we have the rest of the nine weeks to finish. Check with your student to see if they are bringing home assignments and reviewing for tests and quizzes.

A reminder if extra help is needed, students can come to tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Tutoring is open for any student. Tutoring starts at 8:00 a.m. It is important that students bring questions or work that needs to be reviewed when coming to tutoring. As always, if there are any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the student's teacher.

6th Grade

Students enjoyed their Mission Mars exploration at the Purdue Campus this past month.

Students incorporated the information that they learned in class to their experience at the Challenger Learning Center!

7th and 8th Grade

Students participated in a Weather Photo Contest that will be judged by the Science Teachers here at Clark. The photo submissions were amazing!

Trophies for 1st and 2nd place overall photo for each grade level were awarded before spring break.

This contest tied in with the topic of weather, cloud formations, and the water cycle, which were topics that were covered in class this quarter.





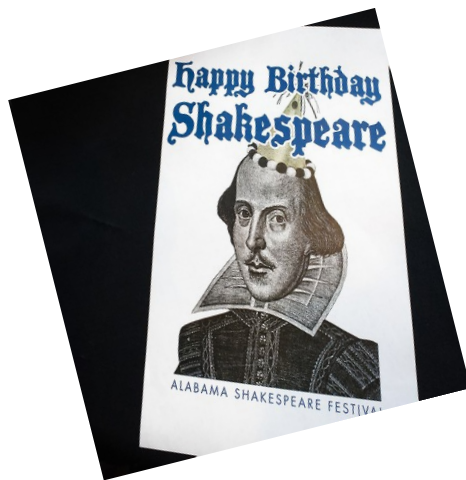
Any parent of next year's 7th or 8th graders, please be mindful of the following. Applications for potential new members will be given to students who have qualified to be a part of the National Junior Honor Society early second semester. While that is a long way off, there are a few items to keep in mind to ensure your student meets the requirements for membership. Students in the 7th and 8th grade must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.33 to receive an application. In order to become a member of the Clark Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society, members must complete the application and be selected by a faculty committee. Just getting and/or completing the application does not guarantee membership. **Students must have at least two in-school and two out-of-school activities** (these must be from 6th, 7th, or 8th grade) and write a one-page essay. **For out-of-school activities, students need to have some sort of documentation to prove they were members.** If signatures/proof of membership is not provided, it will **NOT** count as an activity. So for any summer programs, sports, activities, etc., please keep receipts, rosters, a letter from the sponsor/coach, etc. These might be hard to track down next spring if they happened in the summer, so keep it in mind now! In the fall, when call-out meetings are going on, please encourage your student to get involved! Membership cannot happen at the time of application and count towards their activities. Students must be in an activity for **at least** one semester or a full athletic season for the activity to count. Also, if a student plans to participate in track or other spring activity, they cannot count that as one of their activities since the season has not happened at the time of application.

In-school activities are those sponsored by Clark Middle School and/or Lake Central School Corporation. The following are examples of activities that count for membership in-school: Jazz Band, Swing Choir, **SOLO** ISSMA (not the group required for class), Chess Club, Friendship Club, Science Olympiad, Academic Superbowl, dance, cheer, sport teams, etc. The following activities **DO NOT** count: any classes (band, peer mentoring, office aid, etc.), babysitting, pet sitting, bake sales or other one-day fundraisers, races/color runs or other one-day events. **Any questions about activities can be directed to Mrs. Giannini at mgiannin@lcscmail.com.**

FROM THE NURSE:

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.





Second Annual Bard's Birthday Bash

Seventh and eighth grade Advanced English/Language Arts students will be celebrating William Shakespeare's birthday on Thursday, April 19th. This year's party is bigger and better, with plenty of activities and games. Seventh graders are preparing learning stations on various Elizabethan topics which they will teach science fair-style during the party. Eighth graders are re-searching Shakespearean tragedies and perhaps preparing to act out scenes during the party in our LGI. Teachers, Lucas Bolz, Allison Castle, and Laurie Rosine have been planning the bash for months. The goal this year is to create more opportunities for students to engage with acting, as Shakespeare's works were not created to be read and studied, but to be experienced. The teachers wrote a grant to the Lake Central Education Fund and were able to purchase nicer props and games for the day. Some party activities are charades, card games, learning to write with a quill, and a photo booth. Many thanks go out to the LCEF, Mr. Graber, Mr. Stanisz, and Clark's custodial department for their support.

AR Field Trip

The Language Arts AR field trip will take place on May 16th (for 5th and 6th graders), and May 17th for 7th and 8th graders) at Zao Island in Valparaiso. Students who met 100% of their AR goals for the first three grading periods will be allowed to attend.

Additional info will be sent home in late April/early May with students who qualified.



BOX TOPS INFORMATION

The deadline date for box top submission is May 11th if you want them counted for the second semester contest. Gift cards will be awarded the last week of school to the top three students. Thank you for sending in the box tops!!!!

UPcoming EVENTS

ISTEP testing . . April 16—May 4, 2018.
Please make sure your kids are in attendance
daily.



LAST DAY of SCHOOL

The last day of school is Friday, May 25th! School is in session for the full day.

The 8th grade Awards Ceremony will take place May 25th, beginning at 1:45. Doors open at 1:15. Please remember, if you or a member of your family require handicapped seating, please call Maria Raichle, 365-9203 x100, to reserve a seat on the main floor. Due to limited floor seating, only one family member will be allowed to sit with the handicapped family member(s).

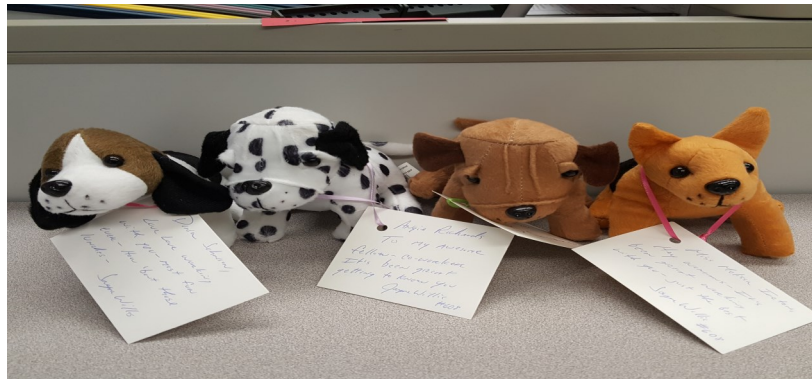
The 8th grade dance is Friday evening, May 25th, from 7:00 to 9:00. Doors will open at 6:30.

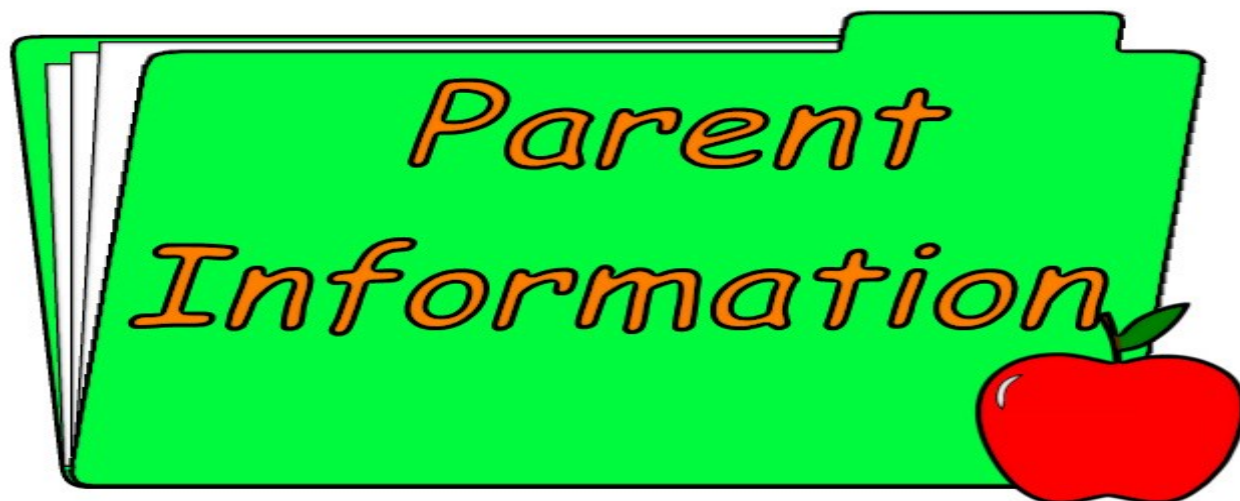
THEATER

The Spring Musical, Mary Poppins Jr., was performed at Clark on April 12th, 13th, and 14th. It was quite successful!!!! Thank you to everyone who came to see the play and support the Clark Theatre Guild.



Paws for a Cause delivered
PuppyGrams on March 20, 2018.
The furry, stuffed puppies were a
huge success and put a lot of
smiles on the faces of our
students and staff!





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.