



CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT NEWSLETTER

Fall 2020—Volume 12 Issue 1



From the Desk of Principal: Scott Graber

Thank you, thank you! From the CMS administration, a huge thank you to the parents, teachers, students, support staff, custodians and kitchen staff for an excellent start to the school year. With COVID-19, many questions were raised about how school would go, concerns about sanitizers, students, water issues, wearing masks all day long, lunch, etc. AND I am very proud to say that everyone has done a tremendous job! Thanks for reminding your children about cleaning and washing hands, using sanitizers and bringing water bottles to school. The extra supplies that have been donated from parents are greatly appreciated. Thanks to those who have donated water as we are providing water bottles to students that forget to bring one to school...students just need to stop by the office and ask for a bottle of water. A huge THANK you to you!

In regard to COVID-19 protocol, we continue to follow the state guidelines. If you are unsure about an issue, please feel free to contact either the school nurse or myself. Our school nurses are Mrs. Christina Gonzales and Mrs. Lisa Jorsch.

Starting October 1, the Lake Central School Corporation received a grant from the state which provides a free breakfast and lunch for all students. Students that are riding a bus to school need to tell their driver to let them off of the bus so that they can come to the cafeteria and eat breakfast. All students are enjoying the meals provided by the kitchen staff and food service manager, Mrs. Kim Kookan. Please ask your child about Bosco sticks, the chicken patty sandwich or the infamous pizza and fries. All seem to be a big hit with the students. This grant will hopefully last through December 2020. Students are able to purchase an additional meal if they choose; they just need to let the kitchen staff members know when they go through the cafeteria lines.

Communication continues to be a focal point this year with students, parents, and teachers. Since several students are eLearning, it is critical to make sure that open communication is occurring between all stakeholders. For eLearners, please make sure to contact the teacher with questions or concerns. Students that are in person are able to do that daily. Communication is KEY for everyone. If in person students are struggling academically, they can go to their teacher during Academic Assistance time on Tuesday-Friday mornings (8:50-9:12). Students that are eLearning can also make arrangements with a teacher during the Academic Assistance time as well. Please email the teacher and let them know your concerns. If you are having a difficult time contacting a staff member, please contact me at CMS and I will try and assist with your concern.

Desperate need....parents we are in desperate need for PTO help. Currently, we have a president. We need officers and parents willing to help at CMS. If you are interested in helping out or being on the board, please send an email and I will share with your information with our PTO President, Karley Kutka. Thanks in advance for your support.

Please make sure to check out the school website daily for announcement and important information.

Until next newsletter, stay safe and be healthy.

Mr. Graber, Principal

Notes from Assistant Principal, Mr. Stanisz

Fall sports are finishing up and the weather is cooling off! Time seems to be moving very quickly! Congratulations to all our fall sports teams! We have had a great showing by all student-athletes.

The end of the nine week grading period is approaching very quickly (October 19th). Students, please continue to access Canvas and Skyward to keep up with all assignments. We appreciate all your hard work and effort!

Have you signed up for Twitter? Twitter is gathering support from parents and students around CMS. 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.

Kudos to our staff and students for all their hard work and dedication throughout the first nine weeks of school! Keep up the good work! Go Coyotes!!!



Notes from Assistant Principal, Mrs. Beach

I want to start by thanking all the parents, staff and students for your patience and understanding as we started this school year. As you know, in addition to masks and eating in rooms, there have been many changes to the schedule. I must say, the students are adjusting well to all the changes and settling in nicely.

The fall sport season will be ending soon. Congratulations to the coaches and players on a successful season!

Did your child come home without their glasses, jacket, lunch box or water bottle? Did they misplace a book? If so, please have them check the lost and found located just outside the main office by door J.

Despite all the unique characteristics of 2020, the year has been flying by. In just a few short days the first quarter will be over and before you know it the holiday season will be here. Hope everyone stays safe and healthy!!!





Counselor's Corner: From the Guidance Office



Greetings from the Clark School Counselors! We'd like to update you on several activities that have been taking place through Guidance. This past spring, when we were not able to be in the school building, the counselors used Canvas and Skyward to submit weekly lessons and resources for all of the Clark students to participate in. The lessons included topics such as dealing with disappointment, showing kindness, the pros and cons of competition, and positivity. We even shared some virtual field trips for students. As this school year begins with a combination of in-person and elearners, we continue to use the "Clark School Counseling" page on Canvas. Whether in-person or elearning, our hope is all students will take a look at the lessons and resources we provide to them for support.

In September, the counselors met with the 8th grade students enrolled in the Digital Citizenship class, and provided career lessons using Naviance. Students completed interest inventories in an attempt to see what future careers might fit their interests. This activity will take place again, for those 8th graders enrolled in Digital Citizenship second semester.

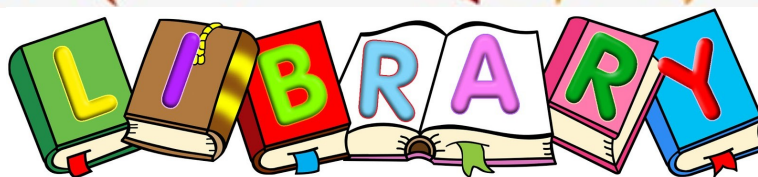
The week of October 5th was recognized as College GO Week! This comes from a state of Indiana initiative. Students participated in activities during advisory using a PDF version of the *Learn More Indiana* magazine. The hope is that students will begin to think about their future; the importance of doing their best in middle school and high school, and then upon high school graduation, following the career path that fits them best.

The days of October 7-9 were spent giving Bullying presentations to the 5th grade students. Counselors shared information on bullying and how students can recognize the differences between someone who is mean, rude or bullying.

October 14th, the 8th grade students took the PSAT. The PSAT is a practice version of the SAT, which is one of two exams some colleges use for admission purposes. The test is designed to measure the ability to understand and process elements of reading, writing and mathematics. If students try their best, it also gives counselors and teachers some data as to academic areas of strength and improvement needed. When students receive their PSAT results, they can link to the Kahn Academy, which provides free, online academic assistance.

October 26th is the kickoff to Red Ribbon Week. During Red Ribbon Week, students and teachers will use their advisory time to learn about the dangers of using e-cigarettes and vaping. The 6th, 7th and 8th grade students will watch a great, positive video from Chicago Cubs star, Jason Hayward.

And please remember, your child is always welcome see one of the counselors for assistance with any issues they may be experiencing.



CMS Library News

by Tina Genovese, Temporary Librarian



Welcome to the 2020-21 school year!

New in the library this year is a dedicated entrance and exit to allow for social distancing. Students are keying in their student ID numbers into Library Track, upon arrival into the library when visiting on a pass. After their library business is taken care of, they check out. This time stamps the students' visits to the library. Being proactive, this tool allows for contact tracing if ever needed. Hopefully, we are being extra cautious and this precaution won't have to come into play.

The CMS Library kicked off the 2020-21 school year by hosting the ELA Department staff meeting to align synergies with the library and ELA teachers. This year, teachers chose what day/time works best for their needs in the classroom. All ELA teachers have access to the shared Google sheet document to be able to reschedule, if need be. So far, so good! Our schedule seems to be running smoothly!

Attention e-Learners : All LC middle schools are now offering a new and exciting opportunity for e-learners -- the ability to check out books from their respective libraries. While this will not be a requirement of e-learners, we hope that many of the at-home students will take advantage of this great opportunity here at Clark Middle School.

To help spread the word, the Language Arts teachers have shared the link with all e-learners. All the at-home students will need to do is fill in the blanks and submit. An email will be sent

to the parent and student's email address when books are ready for pick up in the vestibule of Clark.

Below is the link for e-Learners:

<https://forms.gle/D4sv8beFjSmFtm2D7>

Twenty new Young Hoosier books are on display for CMS students to check out! So far, reviews have been favorable.

Also new, this year on both sides of the circulation desk, we are featuring titles suggested by our ELA teachers. We highlight four teachers every three to four weeks and display the books recommended for their grade-level students.

Finally, the Library is highlighting the horror genre for the month of October. Scary stories are flying off of this display and new ones replace them. Students seem to enjoy books pulled out and highlighted for their reading pleasure!

Keep up the reading! Today's readers are tomorrow's leaders!



BUY YOUR YEARBOOK LIKE, NOW

**YEARBOOKS ON SALE
ORDER TODAY**

YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM

Keep your order number handy when you log on.

Hal E. Clark Middle School

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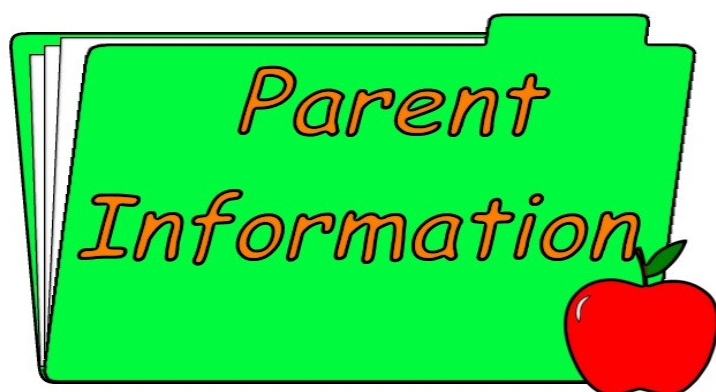
HERFF  JONES.





Notes from the Nurse's office:

- Parents/guardians, we will be sending out vaccination letters via email. Please be on the look-out.
- With flu season and Covid-19 upon us, please keep sick kids home.
- Please check the LCSC website for guidance and FAQ's on Covid-19.



Did you know?

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

<http://clark.lcsc.us>

**MAKE US A
FAVORITE!!**

Do you need to know when school is in session or when you have school events for the 2020-2021 school year? Please check out the LCSC website at www.lcsc.us and look for the **Revised Calendar link** on the lower left side or open the **Full Lake Central School Corporation calendar**.

**All the information you need is at
your fingertips!!**

The Lake Central School Corporation is looking for substitute teachers!

Please visit 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.

Need to pick your child up during the school day?
Remember to send a note to the office in order to receive a pass out of class.