



Clark Middle School

December 2023

Newsletter
2023



For daily announcements and additional school information, visit us at: <https://clark.lcsc.us/>



A MESSAGE FROM

Mr. Graber

CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Happy December! Wow, it's hard to believe that we are at the end of the first semester. The holidays are right around the corner. For those of you that will be celebrating the holidays, I hope that you are blessed with great memories with friends and family. If you are traveling, please be careful and remain safe.

As we finish the first semester, a huge shout out to the students, staff, and parents for your hard work this semester. For some, the transition to middle school has been a bit rough, but for others, it has been smooth sailing. Whatever your experience has been, I hope that you know that the staff at CMS are here to support and help you through this journey. Please remember that free tutoring is offered on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:00-8:30. Additionally, students can see a teacher if they have questions about an assignment on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday during advisory. As the saying goes, "it takes a village to raise a child," the same type of analogy works at CMS. It takes everyone to have a successful school. So, Thank You.

Entering into the winter season can be a bit difficult for some students due to family issues, etc. If you find that your child is struggling academically, please reach out to the staff. Our goal is to see all students succeed. Our counselors have a list of outside therapists that can help you manage if you are finding that your child needs some additional help. Feel free to contact us and they can explain what is available. CMS has partnered with Edgewater Counseling in an attempt to provide support for our students during the school day. If interested in this service, please contact your child's counselor for more information.

A special "Thank You" to our kitchen manager, Mrs. Kim Kookan, who provided hats and gloves for students. The NJHS has painted some of the windows for the holidays and they look super! The students have been bringing in food for the food drive...What a great way to serve others! As we continue to work diligently daily, please keep in mind that there are multiple ways for your child to become involved at CMS.

Our Best Buddies group had its first meeting in November and we had so many students that wanted to be a part of it that we now have two groups. Each student has been paired with a buddy. For some buddies, they will now have 3-4 students that are supporting them weekly. It's great to see the camaraderie amongst the students.

Our students have been working very hard this semester so if you have some free time, please come out and support them.

Happy Holidays!

Mr. Graber

Hello everyone!

Hard to believe we are already in December!

I would like to take this opportunity to stress the importance of consistent school attendance. Students who are consistently in school achieve at higher levels than those who are chronically absent. According to National Center for Education Statistics, a recent study looking at young children found that absenteeism in kindergarten was associated with negative first grade outcomes such as greater absenteeism in subsequent years and lower achievement in reading, math, and general knowledge. The same information can be applied at the middle school level as well.

With that being said, we are entering cold and flu season. If your student is sick and cannot make it to school, please contact CMS and state the reason for your student's absence. Students who are not called off are considered "unexcused." Ten unexcused absences can result in a referral to the Lake County Juvenile Probation Officer.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.



Clark Cares

This year, Clark donated hundreds of dollars worth of food during the food drive. We are so proud of the contributions from our staff, students, and families. Thank you!



Hello Clark Families. Another Washington DC trip is in the books and what a weekend it was! The experience we had on this trip is not only full of fun and excitement, but an array of enriching activities and sights to be taken in. These students never cease to amaze me as they navigate their way through the city learning the history and honoring memories. I look forward to next year's trip and hope to see a lot of our upcoming 8th graders.

Mrs. Beach
Assistant Principal



Current
7th
graders,
**CHECK
IT OUT!**

Sign up by: 12/20/23

Our Trip Dates: 10/24/24 - 10/26/24

When signing up, use Trip ID: 212389

Don't Miss this Trip! Sign up at
worldstrides.com/register
or by calling 800-468-5899



Scan to Register

Questions? Contact: Bob Gustas at bgustas@lcscmail.com



Mrs. Churilla
echurill@lcscmail.com
Last names (A-Har)



Ms. Vail
svail@lcscmail.com
Last names (Has-Pin)



Mr. Biscan
jbiscan@lcscmail.com
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Personal Safety Presentations

In November and December, the counselors gave personal safety presentations to the 5th and 6th grade students in a small group setting. The 7th and 8th grade students received an abbreviated video presentation in their advisory classes. The students were very respectful of the presentation topics, participated, and asked appropriate questions.

As a reminder, the presentation topics were to help children better recognize appropriate vs. inappropriate behaviors and use their critical thinking skills to make safe and healthy choices. This year's lesson reviewed some of the warning signs for abusive situations, provided information about healthy relationships and personal boundaries, and covered online safety issues middle school students may encounter.

Coming Soon--Scheduling 8th Grade Students for High School Classes

The second semester of school is right around the corner. As we move into February and March, the counselors will be working with all 8th grade students to talk about high school. While specific dates have not yet been determined, the middle school counselors will touch on topics such as graduation requirements and earning credits, what a day at Lake Central High School might look like, and what classes should be taken freshman year. In January, the middle school counselors will collaborate with the high school counselors to plan for the presentations. Stay tuned for additional information!!

CogAT Testing

On December 5th, the CogAT (Cognitive Abilities Test) was administered to students currently not identified (or only identified in one area) for high ability. If a student qualifies with a high enough CogAT score, they will then take the IOWA test for final placement into advanced classes. Families will receive communication from Central Office when test results are obtained.

The Role of the School Counselor

If you would like to better understand our role as counselors in the school, please check out this digital presentation: [Role of a School Counselor](#)

Attention Parents of 6th Grade Science Students:

Permission forms for our Challenger Learning Center Field Trip went home and are due back to Mrs. Klein and Mrs. Davis no later than Thursday, December 21st. If you have lost a copy, please click [HERE](#). Our students will be attending the Challenger Learning Center the week of January 22nd.

This field trip is unlike any other. "It's not about walking through an exhibit - looking and reading static information. It's about being immersed in the experience - being assigned to a job, working as a team, communicating, problem solving and applying math, language, science and technology skills to complete a high energy and exciting task." (Challenger Learning Center of NWI website) Reminder sheets will be sent home shortly before we attend. We look forward to this wonderful experience with our students.



7th grade SCIENCE

Students will be working on a fun and creative project this quarter! Students will be creating a company name/logo that will use either a renewable or a nonrenewable resource to manufacture a product that they would be able to "sell" to their classmates.

They will be designing this on large color paper to show their classmates their creations! It's a creative and fun way to learn about our resources on Earth and how we can better utilize those resources for the enjoyment of kids their age.





Project LIT Family Challenge

Create a Literary Gingerbread House with your family for a chance to win a prize!

Due: December 11

Location: Bring them to the library

Prize: Candy and a copy of a book of your choosing (up to \$15.00)



The Clark BOOKFAIR is a Holiday SUCCESS!

Mrs. Genovese, in the Clark Media Center, hosted the amazing anual BOOKFAIR last week. Thousands of dollars were well spent on books, books, and more books! Thank you to all of the parent volunteers who help make this week a success.





CLARK HOLIDAY

Dress up Days

MON DEC 11

TOASTY TOES DAY

TUE DEC 12

WINTER WONDERLAND

WED DEC 13

JINGLE BELL ROCK

THU DEC 14

MOVIE CHARACTER DAY

FRI DEC 15

FLANNEL SHIRT DAY

MON DEC 18

WINTER PJ DAY

TUE DEC 19

HOLIDAY HEADGEAR

WED DEC 20

TROPICAL VACATION DAY

THU DEC 21

UGLY SWEATER DAY

FRI DEC 22

NO SCHOOL

ENJOY YOUR BREAK!

AND

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!





Happy Birthday

TO OUR CLARK STAFF

Janel Tobias

Sidney Hudi

Deb Hadu

Gorana Kosanic

Scott Graber

Matt Schneider

Kyle Scheffer

Karen Sulek

Tori Thompson

Benjamin Grimler

Michelle Taylor

NOVEMBER STUDENT OF THE MONTH

For November, Clark Middle School focused on the character trait of kindness. Clark staff looked for students who treat others with respect, offers a helping hand when needed, shows gratitude and uses kind words when speaking to others.

Congratulations to Clark Middle School’s
November Students of the Month!

5TH GRADE	6TH GRADE	7TH GRADE	8TH GRADE
Noah Sanchez Joshua Failor Emma Platopoulos Autumn Prince Brady Carbon Meela Turay Adam Musleh Sophia Budzowski Abigail Jonas Reina Amescua Alina Rodriguez	Maggie White Landon Gilmartin Maeve Vartabedian Maci Gross Matthew Levinson Georgia Urban Keely Tiljak Sabrina Matucha Maci Goeringer Olivia Kozak	Alex Webb Ben Szafasz Vinnie Lale Alysse Godoy Ivy Belicek Dana LaForte	Ashtyn Adams Jeff Vlastic Quinn Hooker Elliot Comparon Chyler Schuster



December Birthdays

Clark Middle School would like to wish the following students a very
Happy December Birthday!

5TH GRADE	6TH GRADE	7TH GRADE	8TH GRADE
Taylor Wagner Rayah Whiteman Konstantinos Tsahas Novalee Devine Robert Ciurkot Vincent Majewski Evee Macak Jaxon Thom Taylor Jacobs Cordero Parker Giovanni Gilmore Robert Taylor Harper Schilling Eliana Thompson Jeremi Williams	Gavin Hallett Bradley Luchene Nolan Warner Kyla Koedyker John Duke Nora Marlow Ambreal Anthony Alejandro Gonzalez Declan O'Shaughnessy Jeremiah Flores Logan Noy Hugh Tripp Daniela Zych Jaydan Perez Isabella Cruz Abigail Daly Anabella Garibaldi Kevin Villalvazo Cecilia Flores Kelsie Rendak Jerome Burkes	Mackenzie Glinski Alexis Porter Mila Flamini Gabriella Sigrist Falynn Larson Sophia Dukes Thomas Romeli Frederick Leonard Zane Matuszak Zoe Salgado Audrey Heavilon Jayden Carpenter-Mansfield Aaron Carlson Emma Graber Owen Graber Mabel Salmen Lucas Silsby Trevor Skiba Brayden Lytle Joycelyn Cole Audrey Fealey Nova Eghbali-Mitchell Connor Molitor Natalie Schneider	Kaylie Folgers Matthew Kulig Enzo Lucido Chloe Tawlks Amariyana Flores Annalise Yanez Julia Pezzuto Alex Rodriguez Jackson Safranek Tashawnee Doston Liam Govert Benjamin Tobias Emmylou Moeller Kylee Onik Carter Lyon Anthony Plascencia Brooke Sarcinella Brady Junkin Kendall Junkin Brady Wessel Jackson Orlick Logan Biedron Rainbolt Emma Hall Charles Schriner Kenley Lalich Wes Lalich Evan Smith Vincent Vescovi Makeo Maragh Raymond Mettert Lexi Smith Hunter Segal





PAWS FOR A CAUSE

Earlier this year, we covered an amazing jumping dog named Diesel. Now we got to MEET him! He competes in a sport called dock diving. It is where a dog runs off a 40 ft. dock and jumps into a 45 ft. pool. The most common event in dock diving is distance jumping, which Diesel usually competes in. His personal best is 20 feet, which is really good considering he's only 14 inches tall! His owner and trainers name is Claudia. She takes him to all of his competitions and her granddaughter, Clark student Mabel Salmen, usually goes along. She gets to compete in the Junior Handler events, and she holds Diesel when grandma is competing with him. Thank you for visiting with us Diesel!





Clark Middle School would like to recognize the
following students on having PERFECT
ATTENDANCE in the month of November!

Xavier Abell
Chase Adams
Luke Adraneda
Madison Alexander
Olivia Alford
Prince Alford
Giselle Alvarez
Hector Alvarez
Camila Alvear
Uthman Alzeer
Reina Amescua
Sonia Andresen
Octavio Avina
Addison Baker
Samantha Bandyk
Kailey Barbosa
Dru Barkauskas
Isaiah Barnes
Brooklyn Barrett
Arya Barrios
Mia Barsich
A'Vion Bates
Stella Beasley
Damien Beavers
Bryce Beitler
Ivy Belicek
Dominic Belko
Sophia Bennett
Brandon Bergner
Logan Biedron Rainbolt
Jailah Billot
Brielle Bishton
Jackson Bogacki
Kayden Boyd
Sarah Brach
William Brach
Ella Brandon
Anthony Bravo
Jaden Brown
Justin Bruce
Willow Bruggeman
Michael Bryant
Sophia Budzowski
Giana Bukvich
Brayden Burger
Audrey Byrne
Arwen Cahill
Sydney Cahill
Lance Jaden Carangcarang
Emerson Carl
Jayden Carpenter-Mansfield
Alexander Carr
Martin Carreon
Adalynn Carroll
Claire Carson
Noach Carson
Dallas Carter
Dee Castle
Leah Castle
Mia Chambers
Efrain Chavez JR
Ethan Chiz
Robert Ciurkot
Nathan Clark
Scarlett Cmejrek
Katie Cnudde
Elliot Comparon
Cameron Cook
Ethan Cordova
Natalia Cordova
Isabella Cruz
Michael Denny II
Mason Denton
Novalee Devine
Gianna Diaz
Xavier Diaz
Charles Dicks
Victoria Dietz
Andre Dixon-Edmondson
Melanija Djurich
Sofija Djurich
Morgan Dominik
William Dominik
Michael Dorneanu
Connor Durkin
Ryan Durkin
Alexander Faris

Makenna Fazio
Audrey Fealey
Franciszek Ferek
Zoe Figueroa
Mila Flamini
Daniel Flora
Cecilia Flores
Amir Fonville
Austin French
Dylan Fridrich
Xavier Garcia
Blare Gatlin
Bryce Gatlin
Maxwell Germeraad
Jake Gerritsen
Glenn Gervais JR
Kaylee Giddins
Landon Gilmartin
Aidan Glista
Maci Goeringer
Noah Goeringer
Alejandro Gonzalez
Emma Graber
Ian Gray
Gavin Green
Sullivan Grimler
Carter Guillory
Caleb Gurley
Grace Gutierrez
Dominic Guy
Emilee Habas
Julene Haigh
Courtney Hajduk
Maxwell Hall
Gavin Hallett
Hanna Hallett
Gwendolyn Hankins
Jonah Hardesty
Katelin Harding
Ammaris Harper
Jett Harper
Helena Hasier
Theodore Hasier
Aubrey Hatfield
Avery Hawkins
Jacob Hays
Audrey Heavilon
Maxwell Heavilon
Ashley Henrikson
Wyatt Hester
Kathryn Hiller
Bryson Hines
Chloe Hodges
Allison Holmquist
Nathan Holmquist
Peyton Hoogeveen
Griffin Hooker
Quinn Hooker
Marlo Houk
Chad Hovanec
Skylar Hubbard
Lucia Huertas
Niko Huertas
Ava Hulverson
Sitota Hunt
Ava Hutton
Beckham Hutton
Angelica Ibarra
Kate Isom
Makkiyah Jackson-Bey
Elena Jevdosic
Hozen Jiang
Grace Johnson
Londyn Johnson
Maxwell Jonas
Benjamin Jongsma
Manmeet Kaleka
Raymond Kappel IV
Megan Karl
London Keaton
Frank Keelan
Taylor Kerner
Camille King

Rylan Kleminski
Mateo Kluga
Brody Knight
Kyla Koedyker
Jaxson Konicki
Aiden Kowal
Olivia Kozak
Abel Krauklis
Noah Krauklis
Adam Krol
Quinn Krugman
Emilia Krupa
Henry Kuipers
Liv Labadie
Dana LaForte
Gino Lale
Vincenzo Lale
Kenley Lalich
Wes Lalich
Hanna Lane
Jake Lane
Samantha Lane
Sophie Lapointe
Camryn Lavery
Juliette Lawrence
Natalie Lawrence
Kemiyah Lee Williams
Jaxon Lehman
Isabelle Lenart
Vivien Lenart
Jordan Limoncu
Christopher Lopez
Bradley Luchene
Enzo Lucido
Brayden Lynch
Michael Maatman
Kaelynn Maddox
Mason Majewski
Vincent Majewski
Londyn Malloy
Armaita Manhani
Zarall Manhani
Charles Mann
Milan Manojlovic
Haralambos Manousopoulos
Makeo Maragh
Ahnali Marin
David Marin
Novak Marjanovich
Leo Martinez
Tristan Mata
James Matlon
Matthew Maximtsev
Anthony McCloskey
Macy McDonald
Neven Melendez
Logan Mencl
Adrian Mercado
Mia Merritt
Gavin Mesko
Jack Messmer
Alexis Michalski
Grace Michalski
Maxim Mills
Connor Molitor
Domenico Montano
Ethan Moore
Riley Moore
Liam Moran
Alexavier Moreno
Ava Morgan
Carmen Mosley
Avery Mrzlock
David Muniz
Damian Munoz
Sofia Munoz
Adam Musleh
Scarlett Myers
Alaina Nava
William Nellemann
Blake Newtoff
Owen Newtoff
Benjamin Nguyen
Hieu Nguyen
Niko Nikolovski
Joshua Nowinski

Tyler Oakes
Lola Olejnik
Jeffrey Olson JR
Mia Onohan
Cole Ores
Jackson Orlick
Gavin Orrico-Feltz
Grace Orrico-Feltz
Kamdyn Ortega
Anthony Oster
Caleb Ostryzniuk
Eliot Ostryzniuk
Silas Oswald
Jacob Paat
Summer Palmer
Charlotte Parise
Jack Parise
Rachel Pasko
Phoibe Pavell
Cameron Pelletier
Jaydan Perez
Samantha Perez
Mia Pervan
Olivia Pervan
Nicola Pezzuto
Emma Platopoulos
Gianna Pogorzelski
Vivian Polusky
Lauren Pompy
Trevor Popa
Ashley Powell
Phoebe Pramuk
Raven Preusser
Autumn Prince
Carter Prince
Tyler Prospal
Anthony Prusko
Abigail Puskarich
Allison Ramirez
Hailey Ramirez
Elina Ranich
Layna Redus
Salvador Rinella
Hunter Robertson
Lila Rockey
Carlo Rodriguez
Leonardo Rodriguez
Luke Rodriguez
Roberto Rodriguez
Santino Rodriguez
Anthony Roppolo
Harper Ruffner
Miranda Russell
Jack Rybicki
Tyler Rybicki
Ava Saenz
Mo'ien Sahawneh
Sidra Salah
Matteo Salazar
Mabel Salmen
Brooke Sarcinella
Kaylie Schaffenberg
Kayla Scheuneman
Alaina Schmidt
Aubree Schmidt
Benjamin Schneider
Natalie Schneider
Finn Schoon
Sawyer Schoon
Lily Schriner
Justin Schuck
Ethan Schuller
Max Schultz
Aaron Scott
Noah Scott
Colton Seale
Keshawn Sebolt
Drew Sensor
Ryan Sensor
Jaxson Sessa
Yousef Shatat
Charles Shimala
Claire Shires
Gabriella Sigrist
Isabel Silvas

Michael Sirbas
Parker Sisk
Connor Skiff
Kristopher Skurka
Evan Smith
Matthew Smith JR
Maximus Smith
Mia Snoreck
Isabella Socia
Jacob Socia
Emily Solorio
Brody Soto
Joshua Soto
Jack Spila
Joseph Spila
Samantha Steele
Brady Stoming
Benjamin Stooksbury
Luca Storino
Rayfield Stringer IV
Jayden Sufie
Grace Sullivan
Isla Sullivan
Garrett Suroviak
Cierra Swalina
Nathan Swanson
Ben Szafasz
Jack Szafasz
Daniel Szpak
Dominic Taffora
Ethan Tampuskas
Rylan Tatum
Chloe Tawlks
Abdullah Taylor
Robert Taylor JR
Eliana Thompson
Jaylyn Tobin
Cody Travis
Hugh Tripp
Jayda Truitt
Zachary Tyburski
Sofia Ungureanu
Georgia Urban
William Urban
Abigail Urbanczyk
Addison Usher
Brittany Usher
Maeve Vartabedian
Noah Vera
Emily Vigil
Kevin Villalvazo
Claire Vinson
RJ Virostko
Sophia Vjestica
Charlyn Vlasic
Henry Vollink
Taylor Wagner
Trevor Walsh
Nolan Warner
Kenan Washington
Caleb Webb
Lucinda Wermeling
Maggie White
Haven Wilcox
Jeremi Williams
Keilan Williams
Layla Williams
Joseph Wojcik
Collin Wood
Ethen Wright
Bentley Wucka
Smaragda Xidias
Jonah Yannuzzi
Zachary Yates
Allison Yott
Michael Yunker
Vanja Zakula
Gia Zarlengo
Isabelle Zenner
Zachary Zimmerman
Daniela Zych
Neven Zych

PARENT INFO

Does your child need to leave school early? In an effort to keep Clark safe for our students and staff, please send them to school with a note stating the time of departure.

Please note, students without a note will not be released to anyone outside of the emergency contact list without prior approval from the parent.

Are you looking for daily information about Clark? Visit the Clark website at

<https://clark.lcsc.us/>

The announcements, which are read to the students daily, are also posted here.



Mrs.
Gonzalez



Mrs.
Danielson



Ms.
Rodriguez

Cold and Flu season is beginning.
Please see the state guidance below.



Indiana Department of Education

How Sick is too Sick?

This information sheet is designed to be used as a general guidance for parents. If parents have medical questions, they are encouraged to consult with a healthcare provider.

Symptom	Send to School	Keep at Home
Fever	During the past 24 hours, the student's temperature has been below 100.4 degrees and no fever-reducing medication has been taken.	During the past 24 hours, the student's temperature has been more than 100.4 degrees.
Diarrhea	During the past 24 hours, no more than one watery stool has occurred.	During the past 24 hours, more than one watery stool has occurred.
Vomiting	During the past 24 hours, no vomiting has occurred.	During the past 24 hours, vomiting has occurred.
Eye Irritation	Eyes may be itchy, but are not red, crusty, or draining.	Eyes are pink, draining, crusty, itching, painful, sensitive to light, or student has vision changes.
Cough/Runny Nose	Slight cough or runny nose, but no fever, and the student is able to cover cough, blow nose, and wash hands.	Symptoms are severe enough that the student is unable to learn. The student has a fever, or is unable to cover cough, blow nose, or wash hands.
Rash	Rash is not draining or spreading. The student does not have a fever, and symptoms of itching are not severe enough to impede learning.	Rash is bothersome and distracting. The student has a fever or severe itching, or rash is spreading or draining.
Asthma	Symptoms are well controlled, and the student knows when to contact a school adult for assistance or the student has an asthma action plan on file at the school and is following the plan.	Symptoms are not well controlled. The student is not able to recognize when he/she needs assistance, and no asthma action plan is on file at the school.