

**FROM THE
DESK OF
PRINCIPAL:
MR. GRABER**

CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

8915 West 93rd Ave. St. John

WINTER NEWSLETTER—2019

Winter—Volume 10, Issue 3

Happy 2nd semester! It's amazing how fast the first semester zoomed by but I am sure that the students don't mind. It seems that as we get older, the time does go faster. Anyway, I hope everyone had a great first semester and is ready for the remaining 4 months of school. As of now, the last day of school will be Tuesday, May 28 pending any additional snow days.

As we prepare for 2nd semester, I am asking you to please plan ahead. Our state testing (ILEARN) is scheduled from April 22-May 17. We need all students to be present during the testing window. This test requires that all students take a practice test in all subject areas prior to the actual test which means that we will be doing practice tests in March and early April. The new test, ILEARN, is computer-based and aligns with the students' academic ability. The test has a computer adaptive component and a performance task that is associated in the areas of math and ELA, as well as science. The new test is untimed. This year 5th grade is the only grade level that will take a social studies component, while 6th grade will take a science part. All grade levels will test in ELA and math.

Students continue to work hard at school. Whether it is in sports or in the classroom, students are putting forth their best effort. It was great to see the students perform in their holiday concerts in band and choir, school play, as well as in fall sporting events. Great job to all student-athletes. Keep up the hard work. If your child is not involved in activities at CMS, they should be. CMS offers numerous clubs and activities and I encourage you to have your child become involved.

As a reminder, free tutoring is offered on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:00-8:30 am. Students are allowed to go to any teacher for help. They do not need a ticket or pass—just attend the free session. Parents, please take advantage of the extra help if your child needs some additional support in the classroom. If you feel that your child needs more academic help than just tutoring, please contact the Guidance staff and they can assist you.

Communication is still one of the most important aspects with your child being in middle school. Please take time to talk with them about how school is going, check on their grades, ask what they did at school today, ask about their friends, and continue to keep communication lines open. It's amazing how many parent conferences I attend and the parent/guardian has no idea about their child's grades. Be an active participant in your child's education. They need to see you actively involved.

Until next month, stay safe.

Mr. Graber





From the Desk of Mr. Stanisz, Assistant Principal....

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

Our 2018 Veterans' Day celebration was a success! The students did a great job of representing Clark Middle School during the celebration. We had an extremely large turnout of veterans to celebrate with their families, as well. I personally want to thank all the students, staff, parents, and veterans for your overwhelming support for our celebration. It would not be possible if it weren't for your support! Veterans, we thank you for keeping our country safe and free!

Thanks 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 pass the unloading sign we have placed on the sidewalk. (2) If you are parking your car, please use a proper parking spot and do not pull out into oncoming traffic if you are parked in the front row. (3) The handicapped parking spots are needed for our students with disabilities and we appreciate your help in keeping those spots available. (4) When 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.

Clark Middle School club members will be taking pictures on Wednesday, January 23rd.

Stay warm out there and enjoy the snow!!!



The Lake Central School Corporation is looking for substitute teachers and para-professionals to help with special needs students.

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.





**The
Counselor's
Corner**

The 2nd semester has started and the guidance department has been busy preparing for several events. All 8th graders met with the counselors during their Language Arts classes on January 24th to discuss all the information pertaining to scheduling for 9th grade at Lake Central. The counselors talked to them about the various diploma types and appropriate courses they can elect to take, along with all the freshman required classes. The students will schedule on Skyward February 19th – 25th, and the counselors can assist the students as needed. All of the required classes will be preloaded into Skyward.

Parents will be notified by email FEB 11th if their child was selected for summer Pool or PE. This information is also posted on the LC and Clark website.

The **Straight A Breakfast** will be held during 1st period on February 7th. All students making A's for the first semester will be invited.

The counselors will be meeting with all 6th, 7th and 8th graders during the PE/Health classes in February to discuss issues with bullying and social media.

21st Century Scholars

High school is right around the corner. College isn't far off either! As an Indiana middle school student, you may qualify for a scholarship that can help you pay for your college tuition. You can enroll as a Scholar as early as 7th grade—but no later than June 30th of your 8th grade year. There are a few things you'll need to do first—like keeping your grades up, pledging to do your best and completing activities each year of high school. Plus, you'll need to meet a few eligibility requirements. You'll also need to create a "ScholarTrack" account. This is where you will log in to complete your Scholar Success Program requirements each year.

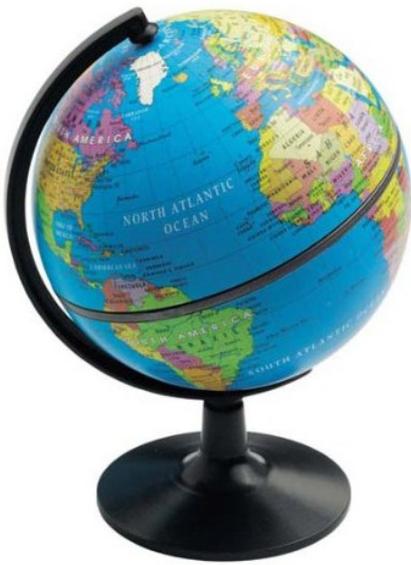
Earning a 21st Century Scholarship provides students up to four years of undergraduate tuition at any participating public college or university in Indiana. If you attend a private college, the state will award an amount comparable to that of a four-year public college. If you attend a participating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

The scholarship amount may be reduced depending on the availability of funds and the availability of the student's family to contribute to college

The website for applying is as follows:

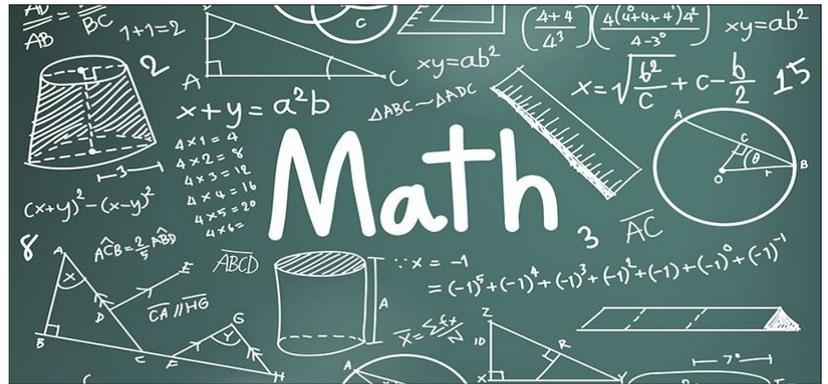
<https://scholars.in.gov/>





From the Social Studies Department:

Congratulations to the following students for being grade level champions in the National Geographic Geography Bee: Niko Marinkovich (6th), Leo LaVoie (7th), and Ryan Dyra (8th). Leo LaVoie was the overall school champion and will represent Clark in the statewide competition in Indianapolis pending his qualifying score. Great job Geography Bee competitors and champions!



From the Math Department:

As with first semester, the math department has been quite busy. One of the biggest areas we will be concentrating on is ILEARN, the new state test Clark will be giving in the spring. The teachers have already started this, and will continue until the test takes place. Hopefully with the extra practice, our students will do quite well.

Please remember that tutoring is offered to any student on Tuesday and Thursday morning at 8. We ask the students come prepared and ready to go over whatever is needed. If any parent has questions or concerns about your child's progress, please contact your student's teacher. We look forward to a great second semester!





From the Science Department:

The 7th grade Science classes are beginning second semester with a unit on WEATHER!

They will be looking at how climate has changed over the last 100 years in a specific area of the world and will be presenting this information to the rest of their class.

The 8th grade Science classes are beginning second semester with a unit on CELLS. They will be studying cell structure and will be applying this knowledge to create an original 3D CELL CITY that functions like the organelles in a cell.

During the second semester, Language Arts classes will be studying new units. To help promote these units and extend them beyond the classroom, we encourage you to discuss the following essential questions with your child at the dinner table, on the way to practice or game, or whenever you have an opportunity.

5th Grade:

1. What is the difference between fact and opinion?
2. How can people's differences of opinion lead to a revolution?
3. What words are used in a text to express an opinion?

6th Grade:

1. How do individuals react when dealing with disaster?
2. How do people deal with and explain the impact of damaging events?

7th Grade:

1. How do I step outside of my own perceptions and to allow myself to look at a situation objectively?
2. How are people's perceptions shaped?

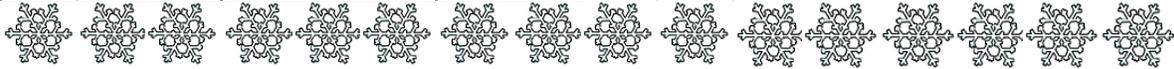
8th Grade:

1. At what point do you transition from childhood to adulthood?
2. How do major economic events change and/or influence your life?
3. How can lack of communication interfere with the relationship between you and your parents?





Thank you to everyone who came out to see our fall presentation of *Making Nice*. We are currently in production of our spring musical, *Annie, Jr.* There are over 45 students involved in the cast and crew. Dates for the musical will be April 4, 5, 6 at 6 pm and a performance at 2 on April 6. We will be having a special event before the matinee for kids under 12. Look for information on the Clark website and theatre board for more information about this. Tickets for the show will be only \$5, so we hope to see many of you there! Any questions, please contact Mr. Gustas.



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.

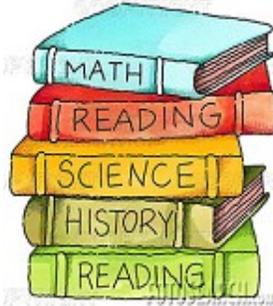
In-school activities are those sponsored by Clark Middle School and/or Lake Central School Corporation. The following are examples of activities that count for membership in-school: Jazz Band, Swing Choir, **SOLO** ISSMA (not the group required for class), Chess Club, Friendship Club, Science Olympiad, 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 mgiannini@lcschools.com.**





CONGRATULATIONS to the following 5th Grade Math Bowl Team members!

1. Max Wernersbach
2. Allison Huppenthal
3. Matthew Taylor
4. Derek Walker
5. Layla Torres-Regnier
6. Riley Hanson
7. Izzie Hill
8. Anna Girman
9. Gabe Wheaton
10. Christian Schultz
11. Miriam Lung
12. Zack Klaich
13. Jacob Milla
14. Logan Carroll
15. Cameron Barry
16. Tegan Tripp
17. Addison Doloszycki
18. Kailyn DeBartolo
19. Kyle Lagalo
20. Jacob Guirgus



MATH COUNTS

The Math Counts Club has achieved Silver Level Status this year. The club has earned a Silver Level Pennant and award certificates will be given for each member that has participated on the team this year. Congratulations to all members on a job well done!!

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Math



ECOTEENS

The Ecoteens Club has been working on designs for the “4 Little Free Library” boxes that will be placed throughout our community this Spring.

****All book donations from pre reader through 9th Grade reader will be accepted any time at Clark Middle School in St. John. Please drop donations off in the main office marked ECOTEENS.**

Thank you to all who donate!!





UPcoming EVENTS



8th Grade Dance Parent Meeting

February 12, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria

Parents WE NEED YOUR HELP!!! Come out to the 8th grade dance meeting to help with a variety of tasks needed to make this years' dance AMAZING!!!

VALENTINE PARTY!!!

Students in grades 5, 6, and 7 are invited to join us for a Valentine's Day Party. Student Council will be hosting the event on February 14th from 3:45-5:45. Join us for music, snacks and fun! More information will be announced as we get closer. Check the Daily Announcements on the Clark Website for future details!



**PRESIDENT'S DAY
FEBRUARY 18, 2019
NO SCHOOL**

SPRING BREAK
MARCH 25—MARCH 29

BAND CONCERT
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019

CHOIR CONCERT
THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2019





PARENT

COMMUNICATION



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

Do you need to know when school is in session or when you have school events for the 2018-2019 school year? Please check out the LCSC website at www.lcsc.us and look for the Academic Calendar link on the lower left side or open the Full Lake Central School Corporation calendar. **All the information you need at your fingertips!!**

Did you know?

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

<http://clark.lcsc.us>

MAKE US A



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.

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.

Lake Central High School Field House Open for Walking on Monday and Wednesday Evenings

Lake Central School Corporation will permit access to the field house for walking on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7:00–9:00 PM from November 5, 2018 through March 20, 2019. There will be no walking during winter break. Walking will resume on Wednesday, January 9, 2019.

Additional times may be made available depending on the popularity of this community exercise opportunity..

Visitors should park in the front of the school near the pool and enter through Door C, turn right, and sign in prior to entering the field house. Walkers will be asked to sign an injury waiver upon entering the facility for the first time.

