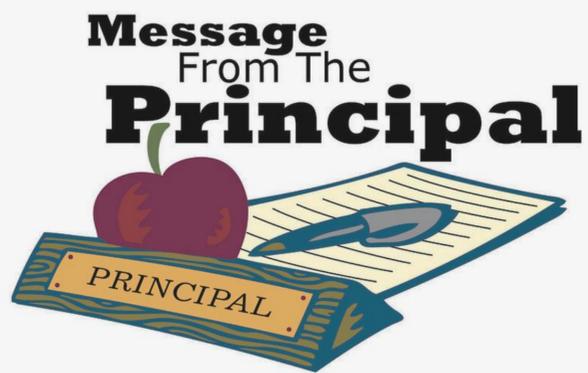
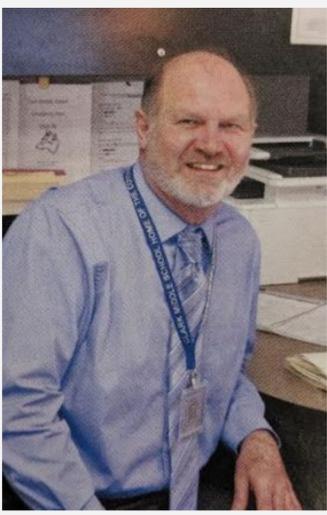




Clark Middle School
February-March
Newsletter
2022

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



Mr. Graber

The second semester is in full swing. Hopefully, the snow and ice storms are behind us and the beautiful sounds of nature are just around the corner. As with every year, this season of school can be very difficult for many of our students as there is more to do with spring approaching, summer around the corner, and the anticipation of no more school for a couple of months...trust me, I get it. However, it is important to note that school does not end until May 23 unless there is a snow day or the year gets extended. With that in mind, please remember the following items when sending your child to CMS:

- It's not Spring yet, so let's leave the shorts at home
- The blouses must be long enough so that we are unable to see skin
- The shorts need to be fingertip length
- Spaghetti straps are not allowed unless covered by a sweater or jacket
- Phones need to remain in the locker or in a backpack—not on the person
- It's ok to wear a jacket to school when it's only 15 degrees outside
- All shirts must have sleeves
- Pants are not allowed to have holes above the knees

With this small list of items, it helps out tremendously if you can remind your child(ren) about daily expectations at school. I appreciate your help with the above items.

Thanks for your support over the past month with Penny Wars, Animal Grams, and Crush Can sales. The students had a lot of fun with the different events. Also, thanks for your support for "We LOVE our school" week which was Feb. 22-25. Students and staff members dressed up each day to support the color of the day...once again, CMS rocks!

Communication continues to be one of the most important facets that keep our lines open between students, staff, and parents. If you have a concern, please do not wait until it has festered and then there is hostility or frustration...call the school; contact a teacher, counselor, or an administrator and let's meet to resolve whatever the concern or issue might be. In most situations, it's possibly a misunderstanding or miscommunication between the parties. Feel free to contact me as well if you need to discuss an issue or you feel that you are not being heard. I am here to support your child(ren) daily within the school environment. As the law says, "in loco parentis" which means that as principal, I have to make the best decision "in place of parent" everyday while they are under my supervision at CMS.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS----The yearly state-mandated test, ILEARN and IAM, will be taking place from April 18-May 13. Currently, our plan is to begin testing on April 19 and finish up the following week. Students will be testing the first 3 hours of the day, so if at all possible, PLEASE try and have your child at school every day and on time during the testing window. Students need to be in their assigned classrooms by 8:47 daily. The state prohibits smartwatches or cell phones in the testing sessions; students that are caught with cell phones or smartwatches in the testing area will be subject to disciplinary measures as this constitutes an irregularity and a violation of the testing protocols. Therefore, all students and staff must keep their cell phones in their lockers or backpacks (outside of the classroom) during the testing sessions. Please remind your child about this important issue with testing... Naturally, as principal, I will be making daily announcements in advance of the testing sessions and the teachers will also be reminding the students as well.

Continued on P2

Thanks to our PTO for their continued support this year. The students and staff appreciate the extra water that has been provided this year. If you are able to make a donation of water, please drop it off in the main office. You might be surprised at the amount of water that is consumed by almost 1100 students and 130 support staff over the course of a few weeks. Again, thank you!!

Over the past few weeks, the administration and counselors have been meeting with students that are on the probation list. As a reminder, students that fail 2 or more classes may be recommended to attend summer school and/or be retained if their grades are not where they should be. All students can receive tutoring help from staff on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:00-8:30 without charge. Students can attend any class where additional help or clarification is needed in regard to an assignment. If possible, please drop your child off if they need extra help on tutoring days.

Middle school scheduling will take place during the month of March for the students in grades 5, 6, 7. Students will be selecting their "special classes" for the following year. If a student is interested in being a peer mentor or office aide, an application will be coming out soon. Students that are selected as a peer mentor or office aide will only have 1 special. Once the forms are available, the staff at CMS stick to a very firm deadline so please remind your child to listen for the announcements and submit their form if interested. Students that are currently enrolled in band or choir will remain in that special for the 2022-2023 school year unless we receive notice that they wish to drop out of the class. More information will be on the announcements and on the school website soon.

Until next month, stay safe. Feel free to contact me with any concerns or issues at sgraber@lcscmail.com or 219-365-9203 ext. 7104.



Mrs.
Beach



Hello,

Congratulations to all the students who participated in ISSMA!! Clark was well represented and had numerous students receive scores in the GOLD range.

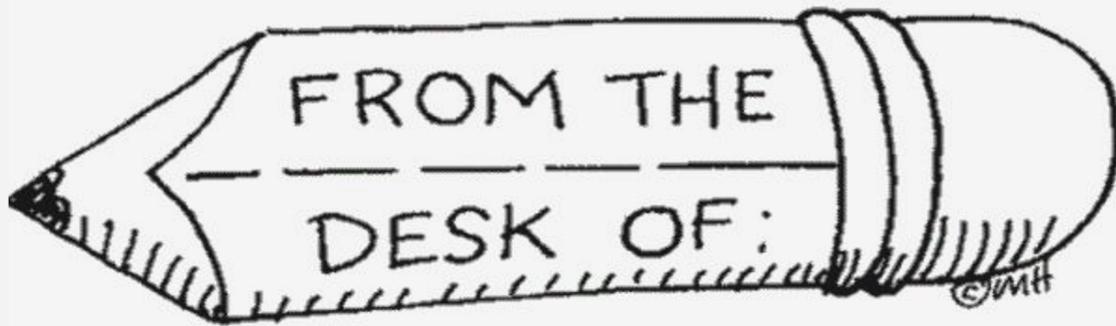
Indiana State Alternative test, I AM, testing window opens April 4th and closes May 13th. If your child is participating in this test, please encourage them to do their best and get plenty of rest.

Just a reminder tutoring is offered every Tuesday and Thursday at 8:00am. This is an excellent opportunity for your child to receive additional help or make-up work.

Is your child missing their glasses, jacket, lunch box or water bottle? If so please have them check the lost and found located just outside the main office by door J. The table is full of missing items just waiting to be claimed.

Best of luck to all the athletes and coaches of winter sports!!

Hope everyone stays safe and Healthy!!



Hello everyone!

Mr. Stablein, Assistant Principal

It is hard to believe that we are more than halfway done with Quarter 3! We are busy preparing for end of the year activities, like 8th grade awards and scheduling for next year. Before we know it, our 8th graders will be off to high school, and we will be welcoming another group of 5th graders to CMS!

As we approach the end of the year, we have been encouraging our students to keep up their hard work in the classroom and remain diligent in turning in their assignments. Parents play a vital role in this as well. Skyward remains the best way to check assignment submission and student grades, and Canvas, specifically the Canvas calendar, provides parents with important information on what is happening in the classrooms. Canvas is also a great tool for organization. Technology help can be found at the following link:

<https://lcsc.us/departments/technology/>

The office staff, guidance staff and school administration are always available to assist parents, students, and the community as we work together to provide an excellent education to every student. If you have any questions, concerns, or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 365-9203.



Library News

Tina Genovese, Media Specialist

Beanstack was kicked off in January and students are busy reading and logging minutes! We are excited to see the overwhelming participation by Clark students! Overall, Clark students have earned over 2,000 reading badges and counting!

Just a reminder about Overdrive. Overdrive is LC's online book repository. Students are able to check books out from an online Library and read from their Chromebook or mobile device using the Sora App. Instructions for accessing on-line books can be found on the LC website – <https://library.lcsc.us/middle-school-electronic-resources/>

To log in, students are to use the first part of their LC email account. Example, if the student's email address is FMLastname@lcstudents.com, the username would be everything before the @ and their password is their ID number. Any problems signing in, please come visit the Clark Media Center – we are happy to assist in getting students logged in. It's a great way to read without having to carry a book or waiting until the book is available. Suggestions for titles are always welcome as well.

Happy Spring!



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Ms. Vail

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Greetings from the Clark counseling office! The Clark counselors kicked off the month of February meeting with the 8th grade classes regarding upcoming scheduling for high school, diploma requirements, and beginning their journey as a freshman. A second meeting will be held with 8th graders during their language arts classes to review adding electives in Skyward, and to also answer any questions regarding future classes, diploma tracks, and other pertinent information. National School Counseling week was February 7-11th, and the Clark counselors were honored with special treats and a delicious lunch. On February 8th, Mrs. Bowman was a featured virtual guest for a "Coffee Talk", sponsored by Counselor Connect, and hosted by Amanda Culhan, school counseling consultant. The counselors interviewed were the elementary, middle school, and high school counselor of the year for the state.

The Great Kindness Challenge started the last week of January and continued through the second week of Feb. Students caught doing "kind acts" had their names put into a raffle for small prizes, and each student name was added to the Clark "Galaxy of Kindness" board outside the main office. Every student locker, staff member and support staff found a "heart" with a positive message affixed on the locker or doorway prior to February 14th.

During the month of March, all 5th, 6th and 7th grade students will need to decide what special they plan to take for the upcoming year. Students (6th and 7th grade) currently in BAND or CHOIR will automatically roll into the next level of BAND or CHOIR for the following school year. If your student does not plan to continue with band or choir, the guidance office must be notified prior to spring break. Fifth grade students will have the option to take Band, Choir, or Art/PLTW (tech) in 6th grade. The band director will be conducting a special meeting for the students/parents who plan to take band in 6th grade.

As always, please reach out to your students' counselor with any questions or concerns!

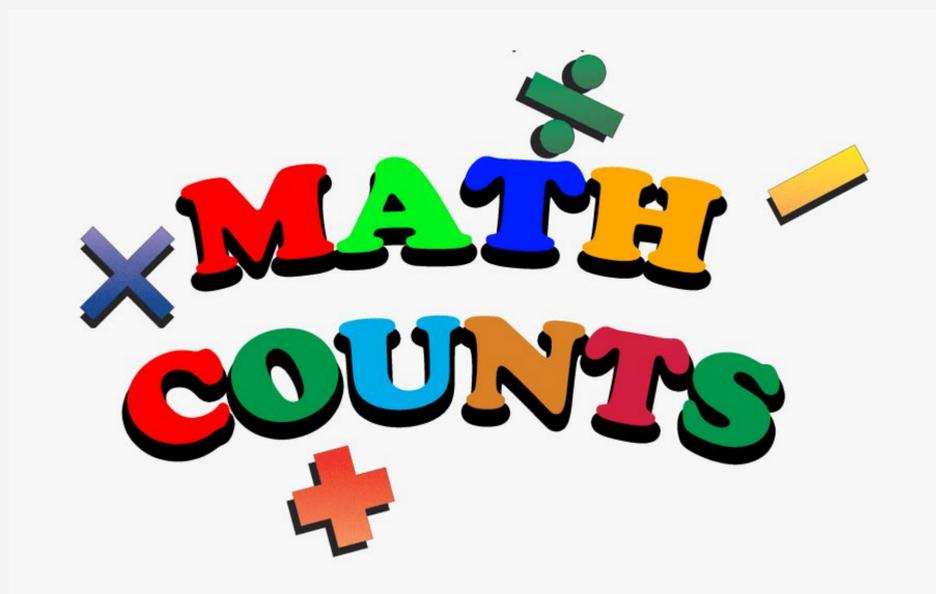


Community Tree

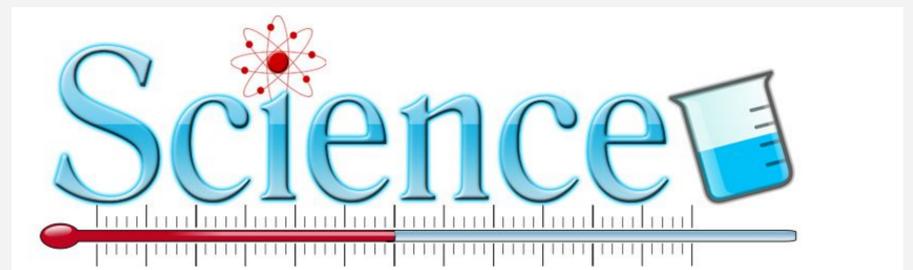
Our 6th, 7th, and 8th graders designed circles in their language arts classes to add to our community tree. This activity not only brightens the upstairs hall, but it also serves as a symbol of our unity.

Beanstack!

Reach new heights and discover more this school year! Log your reading to earn badges all year long to reach our 2 million minutes goal for Lake Central School Corporation! This new program is off and running with several challenges and activities for the students to participate in all while actively reading. Stay tuned for much more excitement with Beanstack.



The Math Counts team competed in the regional competition online again this year. The competition was held on Thursday, February 17th. The students have done an incredible job this year investing time and effort into improving their math skills over the course of the last few months. Best of luck to all of our Math Counts student participants. We will announce the final results when they arrive!



7th Grade Science classes have been studying weather and the atmosphere this month. Defining air pressure was shown with an imploding pop can lab which the students loved!

The advanced level students will be putting together a slide show presentation on a storm of their choice while the regular level students will be putting together a brochure on a specific storm of their choice. Their research and creativity makes this a great activity that they all enjoy.



In Ms. Bridgeman and Mrs. Thompson's 5th grade classes, students were surprised to find their classrooms transformed into an operating room where students were told they were going to be operating on some very important VIPs. They used their Order of Operations skills to help them achieve 6 successful surgeries.



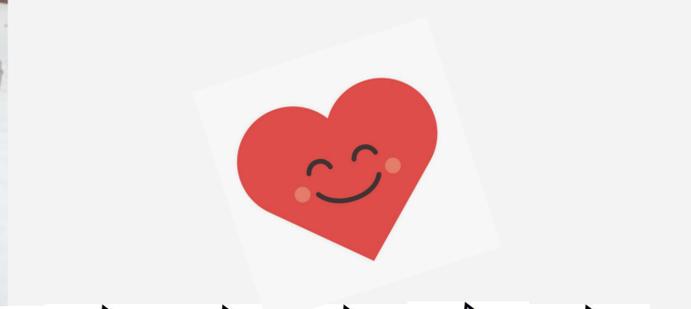
In Ms. Bridgeman's science class, students wrapped up their unit on "Human Impact on Earth's Systems" by discovering the effects of the 2010 BP Oil Spill. They had 30 minutes to figure out the best way to clean the feathers in the water which mimicked many of the birds that were in the water during the oil spill, in addition to figuring out how to clean the oil (cocoa powder & oil mixture) out of the water using the supplies they were given. They learned about different STEM jobs that such as environmental engineers & then later found out that Mrs. Beach's husband helped clean up the Bp Oil spill!





WE LOVE OUR SCHOOL

During the week of February 22-25, Clark staff and students were challenged to wear a designated color or themed costume to support our school. Whether it was black, red, green or blue everyone showed their support and proudly supported CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL. Students who participated were entered into a daily drawing for gift cards and we definitely had a huge amount of participation! Thank you to everyone who dressed up!



The Clark Theatre Guild is currently working on the spring musical, School House Rock, Live JR. The musical will be directed by Mr. Gustas and Mrs. Arroyo. Dates for the musical are April 7, 8 and 9. The students and directors are excited to present their production to a LIVE audience after 2 years of having to do their show virtually.

CLARK GIRLS AND BOYS TRACK 2022

The Track practice schedule for the week prior to spring break is listed below.

BOYS AND GIRLS SCHEDULES FOR THAT WEEK ARE DIFFERENT! PLEASE READ! We are hoping to test various events. What we do in practice will be determined on the weather and if we can go outside or not. Bring clothes for both inside and outside to be safe.

<u>GIRLS: MON-WED</u>	<u>BOYS: TUES-THURS</u>
<u>MONDAY MARCH 14th 4:00-5:30pm</u>	<u>TUESDAY MARCH 15th 4:00-5:30pm</u>
<u>TUESDAY MARCH 15th 4:00-5:30pm</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY MARCH 16th 4:00-5:30pm</u>
<u>WEDNESDAY MARCH 16th 4:00-5:30pm</u>	<u>THURSDAY MARCH 17th 4:00-5:30pm</u>

PLEASE HAVE RIDES PROMPTLY AT 5:30pm!

*******You must have the following in order to participate. If you do not have these you will be sent home!**

- 1. You must have a physical on file with the Athletic Director that is dated after APRIL 1st 2021.**
- 2. You MUST have completed the online FAMILY ID registration process: The link and instructions are below. Everything is now online.**

<http://clark.lcsc.us/athletics/>

Right in the middle of the page there is a grey button that says REGISTER NOW you can register for Family ID there. Also, after clicking on the link there is also a link on the bottom right where parents can print off the physical form needed.

******CALENDARS AND UNIFORM ORDER FORMS WILL BE HANDED OUT ON TUES. MARCH 15th. WE MUST HAVE ORDERS IN BY MARCH 19th SO IT IS IMPORTANT YOU ARE PRESENT THE FIRST WEEK!!**

Thanks,

Coach Gurnak

Coach Simmons

