

# Clark Middle School May 2025 *Dive into Learning*



Clark Track and Field-2025  
Photos by: **Daziah Johnson**  
8th Grade





Happy May! Wow, where did the school year go? As we enter the last month of school, I encourage you to check the school website daily for announcements on events taking place. May is BUSY! I am so excited for the students and staff as they put together the final finishing touches on a great school year. The end of the year concerts, awards ceremony, field trips, field day, and the school picnic are all events that signal, summer is just around the corner.

While this is an exciting time for the students, we say a very special THANK YOU to our certified staff members that are retiring/relocating. For our certified staff:

**Mrs. Kerry Cooper**, retiring after 26 years in education. Thank you for your dedication and service for students. In addition, thank you for your service as the Science Department Head.

**Mrs. Ashley Schroll**, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, who was on a temporary contract this year. Thank you for an excellent year. Best wishes.

We also say a special THANK YOU to the following classified staff members who are retiring from their positions at CMS:

**Mrs. Kim Kookan**, Kitchen Manager

**Mrs. Sandy Morgan**, Product Specialist

**Mr. Gary Szymborski**, Head maintenance

**Mrs. Julie Myers**, Guidance secretary

Thank you for your continued help with the ILEARN tests this year. While I am aware we had a lot of testing (CFA's, checkpoint tests, and then the ILEARN) and I appreciate your support with having your children attend school regularly.

Best wishes to our current 8<sup>th</sup> grade class as they prepare for high school. To those students that are going to Lake Central and other high schools, the CMS staff is proud of your efforts over the past 4 years. Best wishes. May you always continue to shine in whatever you decide to pursue in life.

I hope that you are able to enjoy the summer.... Relax, rest, and enjoy family and friends. Until next fall, be safe.

Scott Graber, Principal



# Notes from Officer Nick

Good morning Clark Coyote families! What an amazing year it has been! As we approach the end of the school year, I'd like to first say thank you to all the parents and guardians for their help in the mornings and afternoons driving safely and keeping student safety in mind. We did have some speeding complaints which I addressed with the patrol division where tickets and or warnings could be issued for violations. Remember to SLOW DOWN and please go hands free with your cell phones. We discussed crosswalk safety with all of the students earlier in the year but we also need your help in ensuring to please yield and stop at all of the crosswalk locations at Clark Middle School. Lastly, please remember to keep the communication going with your kiddos in regards to cell phone, lpad devices, and gaming systems for safety concerns. We are now discussing these issues as early as the 4th grade level. Social media continues to be one of the biggest challenges at the middle school level but has improved this year overall. Smartsocial.com is a great resource for parents and guardians to keep up on the latest trends, scams, and dangers with social media and gaming. They also have a user-friendly app that can be downloaded to your devices. We have five weeks to go before summer!! I thank you all for another great year and as always, feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I hope you all have a fun and safe summer vacation!!

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## 8th Grade Award Ceremony

- 8th grade academic award ceremony--May 28
  - The ceremony will take place in the gym and begins at 10:00 and as a reminder, the gym is not air conditioned
  - Door I (gym doors) will open at 9:30am
  - No tickets are required
  - Parents will sit on the bleachers—if you need handicapped seating, please notify the office by May 22. Due to the class size, we can only allow one parent or family member to sit with the individual(s) needing handicapped seating
  - All students are recognized at the end of the ceremony
  - Parking—please park in the south lot of the school
  - 8th grade students will be able to leave with their parent/guardian once the ceremony is over
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A special THANK YOU to the PTO for donating flowers for staff appreciation week. Flowers were courtesy of Zandstra's!

The extras were planted near door J by Mrs. Govert and her advisory. Thank you for making our school look beautiful!







## Counselor's

**Mrs. Churilla**



**Ms. Vail**



## Corner

**Mr. Biscan**

We are in the home stretch of the school year! That is how it often feels after spring break during the final grading period. However, we do not want our students to lose momentum - we are still working toward the same goal of having a successful year. It is important to continue to put in a full effort until the finish line is reached!

When parents or students are concerned over academic progress, motivation, scheduling, or emotional concerns, Clark counselors are always glad to offer support. Students can request to see their counselor through online request, via email, or by completing a form in the office.

### **Good Luck to Our 8th Graders!**

The counselors wish our 8th graders the best of luck as they move on to high school! We hope that your time at Clark has prepared you for this next big step in your life and educational journey. High school is an exciting time that is full of wonderful opportunities to better yourself and set yourself up for current and future success. We hope you take full advantage of those opportunities. Remember, hard work always pays off and will get you far!

### **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](#)

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In observance of Earth Day, Mrs. Klein's classes made some amazing Eco Jewelry. These gorgeous pieces were all made with 100% recyclable materials!



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Dance Tryouts

**When:** May 19, 20, and 21 from 6-8 pm

**Where:** Kahler Middle School - Main Gym

**Who:** Any current 5th-7th graders can audition for the 25-26 season.

All students trying out will be required to have an updated physical turned in to final forms. Feel free to contact Coach Nadia with any potential questions.





# In the classroom



## **Members:**

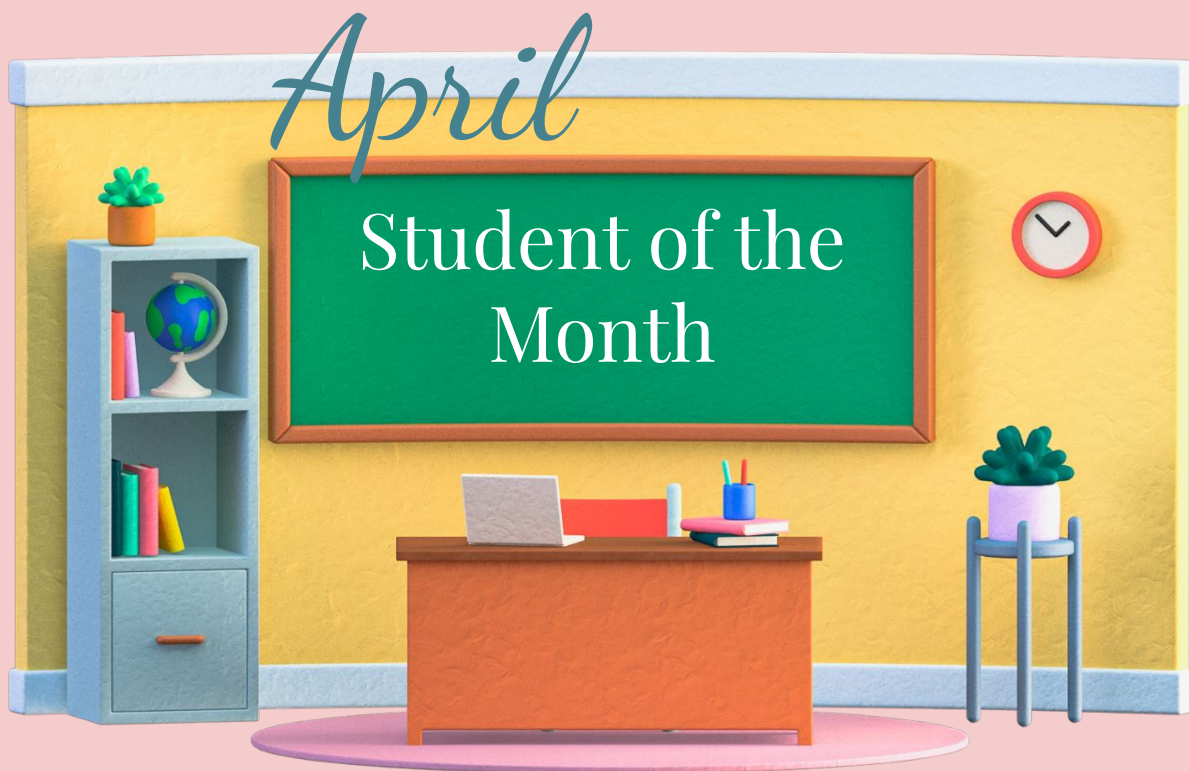
Austin French, Niko Huertas, Matt Levinson, Niko Nikolovski, Roberto Rodriguez, Mabel Salmen, Conner Smith, Ben Szafasz, and Jack Szafasz

Congratulations go out to Clark's Academic Super Bowl team who competed at Pierce Middle School. The math squad earned 3rd place in their division. Team members included Conner Smith, Matt Levinson, Jack Szafasz, and Ben Szafasz. The Interdisciplinary team for Clark earned 1st place in their division. Team members include: Austin French, Mabel Salmen, Niko Huertas, Niko Nikolovski, Ben Szafasz, and Jack Szafasz. In Social Studies the incredible team of Ben Szafasz, Jack Szafasz, and Roberto Rodriguez got a near perfect score. They had 24/25 questions correct in their division. This score earned them 1st place in the area competition and 2nd place at the state level! Congratulations to all team members! Everyone did an outstanding job this year!

Mrs. Hart's 5th grade advanced social studies class visited the Indianapolis Statehouse on May 2nd. They took part in the "We the People" congressional mock hearings sponsored by the Indiana Bar Association. Over the past few months, the students have worked hard writing and practicing their speeches, and preparing for the follow-up questions they could be asked. Each student presented their speech to a panel of judges, answering questions about the Constitution, and showcasing their understanding of the American government. Mrs. Hart's class brought home the second place medal, and was given a rating of "Outstanding".



Mrs. Guzman's 8th graders searched the school for some high touch surfaces and WOW, did they find some good samples. While learning about germ transfer, bacteria growth, and mold growth, students swabbed high traffic touched surfaces. Students then transferred their swabs to a petri dish and into an incubator. The growth was almost immediately noticeable! Within days, samples had grown with some taking over the entire petri dish! Things like door handles, keyboards, smartboards, and personal belongings like cellphones were all showing signs of bacterial growth. Lesson learned - always wash your hands!



## 5TH GRADE

## 6TH GRADE

## 7TH GRADE

## 8TH GRADE

CHARLOTTE KRUGMAN  
 ANGELO BRAVO  
 ABIGAIL JIMENEZ  
 CALEB WOOD  
 ELLE FONTANETTA  
 NINA PATYK  
 CAMDEN OSTER  
 AYMAN ALSHAMALEH  
 LUCAS MENCL  
 GAVIN JOHNSON  
 LIAM JOHNSON  
 REAGAN NARJES  
 MAISIE KOVACS  
 ALLIE EDELSON  
 FRANK ROMELI  
 CHLOE SMITH  
 ELIJAH BICKLEY  
 BRHILEY GRABER  
 ALAYA EAGAN  
 ISABELA PRITCHARD  
 NICHOLAS JOHNSON  
 KNOX EMIG  
 ARI FETSI  
 JACK SCUDELLA

KENNEDY TILJAK  
 LANIE COLLINS  
 SOPHIA BUDZOWSKI  
 ELINA RANICH  
 CALLIE HOLMES  
 SOPHIE NEESE  
 MAX HALL  
 BEN NGUYEN  
 EVAN DORNSEIF  
 CAMILA MUNOZ  
 MASON MAJEWSKI  
 AVA BRANN  
 CALLIE HOLMES  
 JOZLYNN PATRICK  
 PAIGE OSZUST

ELLIOT FAILOR  
 SOPHIA VELAZQUEZ  
 DANIELA ZYCH  
 KARA BLEY  
 NATHAN ELLIS  
 KEVIN VILLALVAZO  
 FRANCISZEK "FRANK" FEREC  
 MEGAN RUSSELL  
 ALEXANDER THIROS  
 LEO BRUGGEMAN  
 MICHAEL OWENS

ISABELLA MARQUEZ  
 RYLAN KLEMINSKI  
 NASIRA CALLAWAY  
 JACK SZAFASZ  
 MAKENNA FAZIO  
 MYA MANYAK  
 AMY PIETA  
 MYA MANYAK  
 MILA FLAMINI  
 CLAIRE SHIRES  
 TAYLOR KERNER  
 ABBIE DRZEWIECKI



# LAKE COUNTY 4-H

## *Invention Convention*



INDIANA 4-H  
**iNVENTION  
CONVENTION**



### *Location*

Lake County Extension Office

2291 N Main St.  
Crown Point, IN 46307



### *When*

Every Monday in June starting  
June 2nd

9 - noon



### *STEM + Invention*

### *+Entrepreneurship Education*

Inventors in grades 3-12 will research, design, build, and pitch an original invention to solve a relevant problem that has identified in their life or community while having the chance to present their projects at the Lake County Fair!

## **JOIN 4-H TODAY!**

<https://inventionclub6-2025.4honline.com>

\$5 supply fee

\$15 Indiana 4-H Program fee

Cash or Check payable to  
Purdue University

Registration closes May 22nd

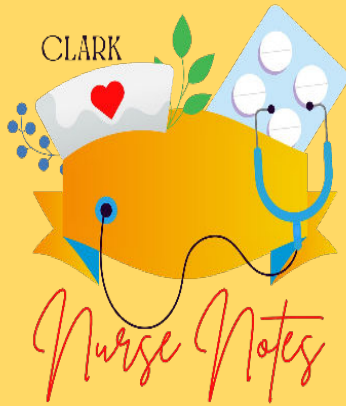
Purdue University prohibits discrimination against any member of the University community on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, or status as a veteran.

If you are in need of accommodations to attend events, please contact Kasey Wilhoit at [kwilhoi@purdue.edu](mailto:kwilhoi@purdue.edu) at least 2 weeks prior to the event.

For special dietary needs contact the Extension office at 219-755-3240 at least 2 weeks prior to the event.

If you need an interpreter or translator, please contact the Extension office at 219-755-3240 at least 2 weeks prior to the event.





If your child has any medications in the nurse's office, please be sure to pick them up by the last day of school. Any medications that are not picked up will be discarded. Thank you and have a wonderful summer!

# SAFETY FIRST

## Parents/Guardians

When picking up your child early from school, they must have a note in the morning notifying the office of what time and who will be picking them up. Your child's safety is very important to us. Have your child bring the note to the office before going to class in the morning.

