



Clark Middle School Newsletter

REMEMBER! →

March 10 - Early release

March 13 - End of third grading period

March 18 - Spring pictures

March 23-27 - Spring Break

PE Classes

Classes will be going outside if at all possible.
Please come prepared in case it is cold outside.

Students Leaving Early

If your child requires early dismissal, please send them in with a note stating the time you will be picking up. Students should turn the note into the office first thing in the morning, and we will issue a pass so they will be waiting in the office for you at that time.

FROM PRINCIPAL GRABER...



Happy March... I am hoping that spring is just around the corner... Not sure how you feel, but I think I am done with winter for now. Anyway, let us continue to enjoy each season as it comes and goes.

As we enter March, all students will be testing on March 17/18 with Checkpoint # 3. Please make sure your child attends school each day so we can avoid doing make-up testing. If they happen to be absent, we will conduct make-up testing on March 19. Thanks in advance for your continued support and help.

Coming events in March:

March 10—1/2 day early release at 1:10 p.m.

March 11—8th grade panoramic photo in the gym- order forms were distributed to the students on 3/2

March 16—Band fittings for 5th grade

March 19—Band registration from 4:30-9:00 for 5th grade students interested in joining band next year

March 23-27—Spring break—no school

School-home safety—as spring seems to be just around the corner, I encourage you to go over your home safety weather related procedures with your family. What happens if there is a severe storm that comes through our area? Do your children know what to do, where to go? Are there emergency items readily available? Do you know what to do in case of a tornado? At CMS, we continue to practice our safety related drills each month, and I am hopeful that if an emergency occurred, our students would know what to do.

The third nine-week period ends on March 13. I continue to remind students that they need to do their best every day while at school. For students that are struggling, have they been at tutoring on Tuesday/Thursday mornings? Has there been a request for a meeting with staff to discuss the concerns? If not, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher or contact their guidance counselor.

As I mentioned in a former Parent Square message, yes, I will be retiring at the end of the school year. After 40.5 years in education, 32 at Lake Central and 8.5 in Portage and Valparaiso schools, I am blessed to have worked with an incredible staff, students and parents over the years. Therefore, while I will save my "speech" for later, Thanks to those of you who have sent emails, stopped by in the car line, etc. and have wished me well—it truly means a lot to me. THANK YOU!

Until next month...be safe and take care.

COUNSELORS' CORNER

Mr. Biscan

Miss Jacobs

Miss Vail

High School Scheduling

The counselors have been working with all of the 8th graders the past few weeks getting their schedules ready for their Freshman year at Lake Central High School. A presentation about high school diplomas, graduation requirements, scheduling, and so on, was given to 8th grade students on February 12th. All students were given paperwork to complete for Freshman year schedules and were also given some informational papers about high school. Both middle school and high school counselors went into 8th grade classrooms on February 19th to help input their elective class choices into Skyward. The middle school counselors are still able to make changes to these Freshman year elective choices on Skyward. If any changes need to be made, please have your 8th grade child contact their counselor.

Big Thank You!

The counselors would like to give a big thank you to all of the 8th grade parents for their assistance in helping their child choose classes for Freshman year! This is the start of a big transition for these kids and having the help of their parents in this process is invaluable.

Choosing Specials for Next School Year

Counselors will be going into Advisory classes for 5th grade on April 1st and 2nd to provide these students information about specials classes for next school year. Nearly all students will have a semester of Digital Citizenship and a semester of Physical Education. Students will be asked to make a decision between Band, Choir, and Project Lead the Way/Art rotation. Additionally, if your 6th or 7th grade child would like to switch their specials class for next school year, their current specials teacher will have a class change form that they can take to fill out and get signed by a parent or guardian. The form will need to be returned to the school office by April 10th. If any questions arise pertaining to this, please contact your child's counselor.



Library News

By Tina Genovese

The Era's Reading Challenge came to a close on the last day of February. The purpose of this challenge was for students to read books outside the typical genre they would normally read. Book titles were tied to Taylor Swift song titles and ranged from realistic fiction about relationships, friendship, fantasy/adventure, sports, mysteries, historical fiction, etc. After reading three books in the challenge, students were awarded prizes and after reading five books, students could enter for the grand prize drawing, which was a gift basket filled with goodies. This event was funded by a grant that was awarded to the Library through the Lake Central Education Foundation (LCEF).

Nineteen students joined the challenge and four students completed the challenge in the allotted timeframe. Congratulations to Elien Mousa, Kyla Koedyker, Simona Azmy and Elise Mikula who completed the challenge and received their prizes, and were entered to win the grand prize drawing. The drawing was held February 27 and the winner of the goodie basket was Elise Mikula (pictured). Great job, ladies!

New season, new books! A large order of new titles just arrived into the Library. A wide-array of genres and reading levels. We invite students to submit book recommendations to keep our collection up to date with trending middle-school books!

Happy Spring!



Clark Boys & Girls Track

Congratulations! You have taken the first step in becoming part of the Clark track program by coming to the call-out meeting. The Girls and Boys Track practice schedule for the week before spring break is listed below. We are doing 3 days before spring break for conditioning/timing practice week. Then we continue after the break. 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.

<i>BOYS AND GIRLS SCHEDULE (week before spring break)</i>
<i>March 16th 4:00-5:30pm</i>
<i>March 17th 4:00-5:30pm</i>
<i>March 18th 4:00-5:30pm</i>

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 an IHSAA physical on file with the Athletic Director that is dated after APRIL 1st 2025.**
- 2. You MUST have completed the online FINAL FORMS registration process: The link and instructions are below. Everything is now online.**

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

******CALENDARS AND UNIFORM ORDER FORMS WILL BE HANDED OUT ON TUES. MARCH 17th. WE MUST HAVE ORDERS IN BY MARCH 20th SO IT IS IMPORTANT YOU ARE PRESENT THE FIRST WEEK!!**

Thanks,

Coach Gurnak

Coach Simmons



Best Buddies

Clark's Best Buddies group hosted their second Neon Dance! It was a huge success. Thank you to all Clark students and staff who helped make this event successful!
Mrs. Rosenwinkel and Ms. Szymaszek





Advanced 8th grade science class students attended a Health Fair at the Lake County Fairgrounds sponsored by "VicTory 4 Kidz," a local non-profit that exposes students to healthcare careers.

