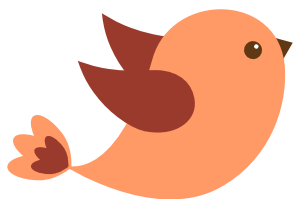




# CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



**IMPORTANT**

- May 12 - Early Release
- May 25 - Memorial Day no school
- May 28 - Last Student Day

## FROM PRINCIPAL GRABER...



Happy May! Wow! It is hard to believe that the school year is almost over. Less than 20 days and the students will be off for summer break.

Thank you to our wonderful PTO and parents who provided mints for ILEARN testing. I am not sure if you realize how much a little mint can help when you have a state test to take. Thanks again.

As I write my last newsletter, I want to express my sincere appreciation to YOU, the parents, students, and staff! For the past 20 years, I have regarded Clark as my home away from home. From countless hours of supervision, to incredible students and staff, to awesome parents (some were students at Kahler when I was an administrator there) to this moment, and numerous experiences, my appreciation to you goes beyond words. Sometimes, a mere "thank you" does not seem suffice when such a situation develops.

As I depart from CMS, I am very excited for Mrs. Kristen Peterson, my replacement to step into the family at CMS. She comes with a wealth of knowledge having worked in a middle school and now at Chesterton High School as the Associate Principal. She will be shadowing several days during the month of May so the students will get to meet her during those visits.

May is a very busy month. Please take time to review the monthly calendar and try to attend some of the events at CMS. The band and choir will be having their end of year concerts on May 12 (band) and May 13 (choir). These end of the year concerts and award ceremonies are incredible. For our staff that will be leaving, via either retirement or other means, I want to wish them well in future endeavors. Thanks goes out to the following retirees: Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Hempenius, Mr. Simmons, Mr. Skvarek and the following teaching staff: Ms. Chavez and Mr. Grubl. Good luck and best wishes to everyone.

With the new Indiana law and advanced math classes, a student who scores "Above Proficiency" and has a C or better in math class, will be enrolled in the advanced math class for the fall semester. More information will be coming to you over the summer. Parents will receive a letter from CMS and you, as parents, have the choice to either accept the enrollment or deny the placement. Again, more information coming out soon.

Thanks again. The CMS family will always be a special part of my life.

With sincere appreciation.  
Scott Graber, Principal



# COUNSELORS' CORNER

Mr. Biscan

Miss Jacobs

Ms. Vail

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](#)



LAKE CENTRAL EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.

## TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

May 4-8, 2026

The Lake Central Education Foundation is so grateful for all that teachers do! In fact, TEACHERS are a huge reason why our organization exists at all. In 1996, some community members gathered together and raised funds for the first round of teacher grants, and it has been continuing ever since. We want to be a resource for teachers so that they can maximize learning for their students without digging into their own pockets. It's our way of saying thanks!

If you are looking for a simple and unique way to show your appreciation, check out our [Honor an Educator or Staff](#) program. A minimum contribution of \$10 per teacher/staff will allow you to select whom you'd like to honor and write a personalized message that will be sent on your behalf. It shares your gratitude while also supporting the mission of the LCEF and all it does for teachers. Click [HERE](#) for more info.



### Seed Grants Awarded

At the April 20th Lake Central school board meeting, the Lake Central Education Foundation awarded two Seed Grants totaling \$3, 938.53. These grants will support innovative projects that are of a larger scope

than those funded through the normal LCEF grant rounds, which are given twice a year. Approximately 500 students will be impacted!

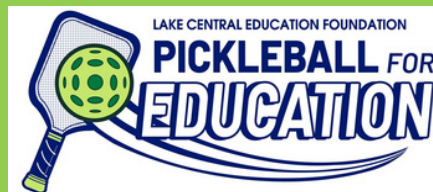
**Sara Sjoquist, Lake Central High School: Buddy High School Art Exchange Program with Elementary School (a.k.a. "Creature Creations").**

**Mary Joan Martin, Lake Central High School: Exploring Nuclear Chemistry with Hands-On Activities.**

Congratulations and thanks to these two teachers for being bold and striving to enhance the learning experience of their students!

**SAVE THE DATE: JULY 18, 2026**

Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more info to come!



For more information or to support the Lake Central Education Foundation, visit [lakecentralef.org](http://lakecentralef.org) or contact [admin@lakecentralef.org](mailto:admin@lakecentralef.org) or (219) 682-8917.



Students have recently been learning about bacteria and how they reproduce--through binary fission! This type of reproduction allows bacteria populations to grow rapidly, so students put the concept to the test. They first swabbed different areas of the school, such as items in the office, teachers' classrooms, door handles, and stair railings. The students then transferred the bacteria to petri dishes, and we gave them everything they needed to survive and reproduce. Students were able to observe if any bacteria colonies grew over time. Some staff members were relieved to find out that their items were delightfully low in bacteria; others, however, found that some disinfecting was in their future!

## WASHINGTON, D.C. TRIP 2026

Soon to be 8th grade parents...there is still plenty of time to get your student signed up for the Washington DC trip in the fall. The trip takes place October 23-25, 2026. Information below on how to sign up. Any questions, contact Mr. Brandner (mbrandne@lcscmail.com).

SIGN UP TODAY

# Don't miss this trip!

Online:



[worldstrides.com/register](https://worldstrides.com/register)

Call:

**800-468-5899**

Use this trip ID to sign up:

**226133**

### Tools to help pay for your trip

We offer several tools to help make these experiences possible for every student!

#### Financial Assistance

Over \$2.5 million in assistance is given out each year to families with annual adjusted gross incomes of \$85,000 or less

#### Gift of Education

An effective fundraising tool where 100% of the money raised goes to pay for your trip

#### Payment Plans

Spread out payments and set up auto-deductions to save time and money

Visit [worldstridesfundraising.com](https://worldstridesfundraising.com) for more details.

### The amazing benefits of Educational Student Travel

Students who travel have a...



**54%** increased willingness to know, learn, and explore new things



**36%** increased desire to attend college/university

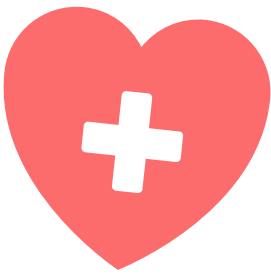


**50%** increase in self-confidence, independence, and self-esteem



**37%** increased marketability to potential employers

 **WorldStrides**  
Educational Travel & Experiences



# Nurses' Notes....

Parents, 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. Please see below for school medication policy and info for medication procedures for next school year. Thank you and have a wonderful summer!

## Lake Central School Corporation Medication Guidelines

When possible, give your child medicine at home. Indiana Law 287 requires that schools observe certain regulations when administering medication to students. The following procedures must be followed and renewed each year. The complete Lake Central School Corporation medication policy is found in the Student Agenda.

### Prescription Medications:

1. No prescription medication shall be given or dispensed unless a medication authorization form is signed and the medication is in the original container bearing the current pharmacy label and the child's name.
2. Written permission from the child's parent or guardian must also be on file at the school.

### Non-Prescription Medications:

1. Over-the-counter medication requires medication permission form to be completed by the parent or guardian, stating the amount of medication and the hours for administration.
2. It must be brought in the original container labeled with the student's name.
3. Over-the-counter medication includes ibuprofen, acetaminophen, nasal sprays, cough and cold medication, cough drops etc..

### For Self-Carry Medications:

1. Are for emergency medications only.
2. Self carry form MUST be completed and signed by physician and signed by parent/guardian and turned into the nurse's office.
3. Medication must have pharmacy label attached with instructions provided

### Please Note:

1. Medication forms are available at the school's main office, the nurse's office, or on Lake Central School Corporation/Clark's website.
2. Medications must be brought to the school and picked up from the school by a parent or guardian.
3. All medications must be picked up by the last day of school by a parent or guardian. Otherwise, all medicine will be disposed of according to the Lake Central School Corporation Medication Policy.

**\*ATTENTION 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS ONLY!\***

# Field Day

Fun in the sun

Inflatables

Crafts

YEARBOOK

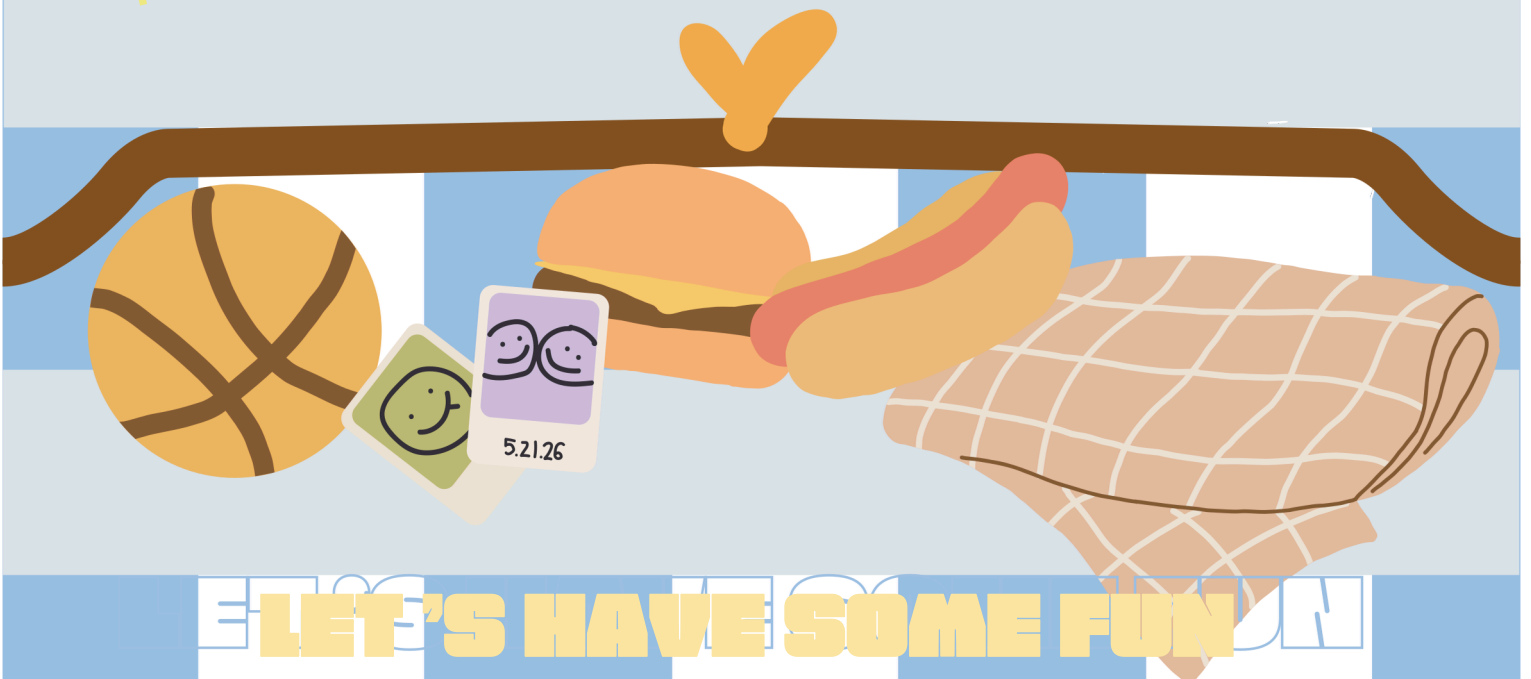
Tug of war

FRIENDS

Make memories

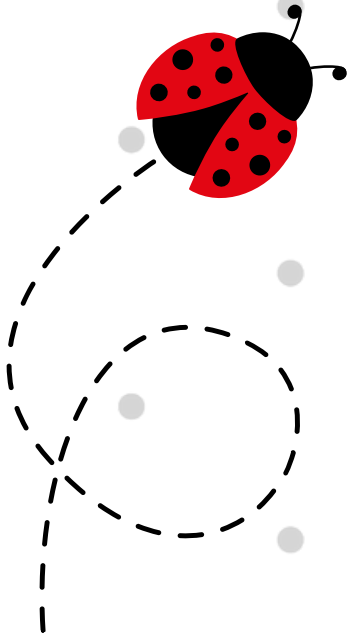
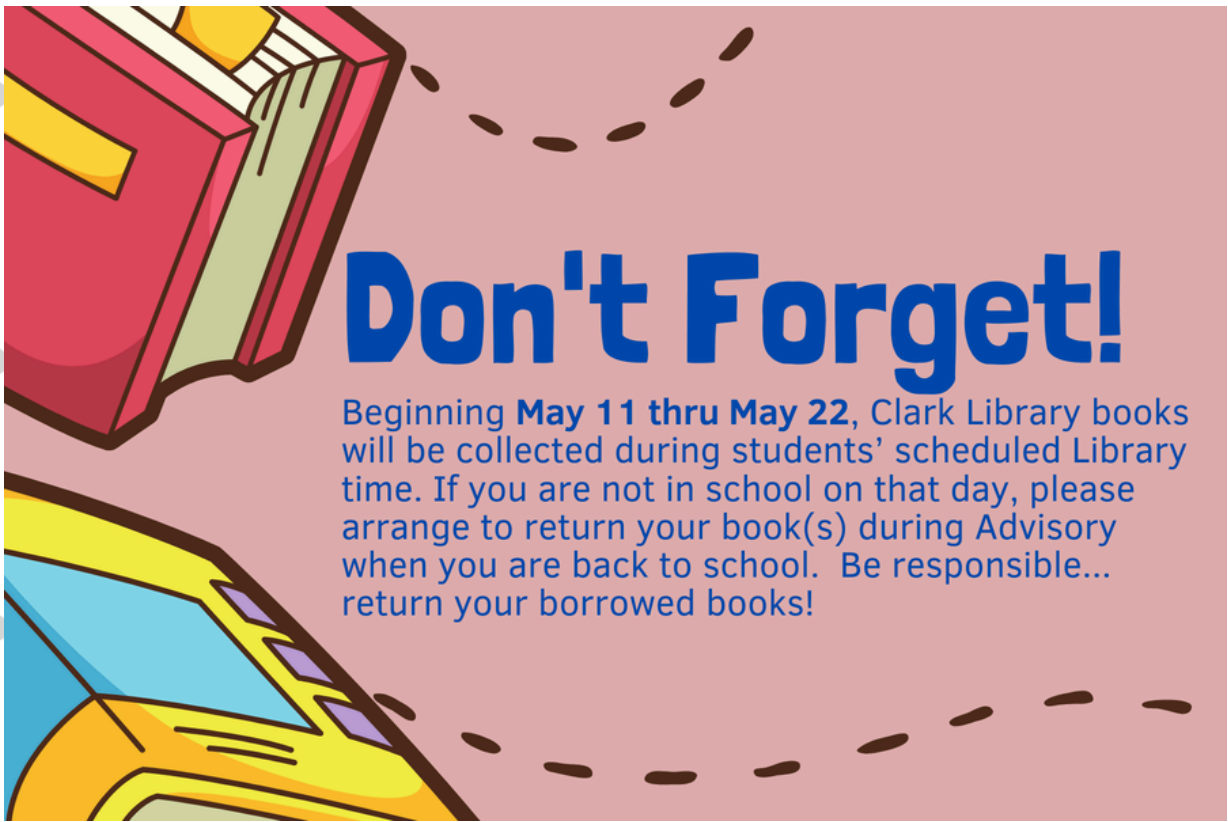
FOOD

Bring Your Blankets



LET'S HAVE SOME FUN

May 21, 2026 9 - After Lunch



Mrs. Ptaszek's class showing off their creativity with the multicolored bus passes.