

6th Grade News

I Am, I Can, I Will !!



SEPTEMBER NEWS

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STAWKS
EODRIDGE
NORTH

*Message from
Assistant Principal
Ms. Hazel*



Royal Hawks and **Black Hawks**, we welcome you to 6th grade! The 2013-2014 6th graders, the high school graduating class of 2020 have had such a spectacular start to this academic year!

The 6th graders have already had a Hawk Nest assembly where high expectations and 6th grade housekeeping rules were expressed. 6th graders have learned how to change classes, open lockers, and become acclimated to having 6 teachers! WOW! Our sixth grade is divided between two teams: Royal Hawks and Black Hawks. The Royal Hawks are students of Mr. Emerson, Mr. Bandy, Ms. Latten, Ms. Anthony, Ms. Ruff, and Ms. Thomas. The Black Hawks are students of Ms. Alford, Mr. Neal, Ms. Dean, Mrs. McConneyhead, Ms. Naughton, and Ms. Moore. The teachers on the teams have begun team meetings with individual students and honing in on their strengths and areas for improvement. "Teamwork makes the dream work" is a motto that the 6th grade teachers use as the drive to student achievement.

Our teachers work well as a team in planning lessons that consist of 21st century brain based teaching strategies as well as effective resources that will make our students competitive in any setting. We are eager to explore learning outside of the classroom with as many field trip experiences possible. We are educators who understand that middle school is a time when children go through many physical, psychological, and emotional changes that help them mature. At times it may appear that your new middle school student has become two people – mature and thoughtful one minute and a little overly exagger-

- ated in behavior the next. Adolescence can be a difficult time for parents, but do not despair. Here are some tips to help you relate to your new middle school scholar:

- Talk together every day and be a good listener
- Don't start with a criticism; Avoid judgment when possible; Try not to argue
- Ask questions that cannot be answered with yes or no
- Pay attention to your child's social media involvement; Know what's going on
- Become skilled at reading body language
- Share your own experiences and challenges as a pre-teen
- Offer praise and extend help. They may not ask for it, but they want it.

I look forward to working with this wonderful class of students, and I look forward to supporting all of my parents as we strive towards the same goal – student achievement.

Classroom News



Math Matters:

Prime Time is the first unit introduced to our sixth graders for the school year. Teachers wanted the students to be aware of how they used numbers in their everyday lives. We introduced students to factors, multiples, divisors and products so they would understand the relationship between them. They have been taught strategies for how to find factors and multiples, least common multiples, as well as greatest common multiples. Our 6th graders recognize the fact that every whole number can be written in exactly one way as a product of prime numbers. It is our primary goal as teachers that all sixth graders develop sound mathematical habits.

Mrs. McConneyhead's Tuesday Tutoring, every Tuesday from 3:30-4:30. This is for her language arts students. Students will receive a free 100 class participation grade.

Mrs. Anthony's language arts classes have started reading Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story. Students have Depth and Complexity questions along with expectations of creating novel based products. Students must choose 3 products and they are due on October 21. A rubric will be provided for each project.

6th Grade Field Trips:

6th grade has 3 upcoming trips in which you will receive a letter next week. The trips are a day at Discovery Place to explore the museum and watch a 3D movie (Oct. 16th); Charlotte Bobcats Cool School Field Trip to see a Charlotte Bobcats game (October 17th); and The Renaissance Festival (Oct. 21st). The total cost is \$25, which covers the student attending all trips. This price includes transportation for each trip and lunch for the Bobcats game. Specific information will be sent home next week about each trip. AAA requirements will be used to determine eligibility of students attending.

Science Corner: The Science Club met for the first time this week. Interested members should contact 8th grade Science teacher, Ms. Biller. Meetings are Tuesdays 3:30-5:00pm. In October, 6th graders will be introduced to the famous Northridge Science Fair. Students will receive packets about the science project process. The Science Fair is scheduled for January 16th.



Announcements

6th Grade Immunization Requirements:

Students received final notices if they are missing their shots documentation. Information was sent via Connect Ed (phone and email) about dates and locations for last minute opportunities for students to get their shots. All students must have this completed by September 25th. After that date, students will not be allowed to attend school until it is completed.

Progress Reports are coming home September 24-25 of this week. Please ask your child for his/her progress report and also check book bags for them. Please make contact with your child's teachers to have necessary conversations about your child's achievement.

AAA

Triple A is our method of rewarding students with appropriate Academics, Attitude, and Attendance. In order for students to participate in our 1st quarter rewards and field trips, students must be passing all classes, have no more than two referrals, and have no more than 4 unexcused absences. We are currently in the process of planning our first AAA reward celebration. We will begin Open Lunch on Friday. Open Lunch will allow students to sit with their friends and at a table of their choosing on Fridays if they meet AAA requirements. We ask all parents to encourage students to rise to the expectations of AAA.

School Counselor: We will begin the Shining Stars Program this week. Teachers will turn in a Shining Star form when they find a student having a **SHINING MOMENT**: Being responsible, helping others, showing good character. This program is used as Positive Reinforcement for our students. Students' names will be called, a reward given, and a chance at a larger prize at the end of each month.

Reading Edge:

We have dedicated nearly an hour each day to working with students on reading strategies. Students are beginning with developing the foundations of working cooperatively. Students have been tested with multiple data points (MAP, Study Island) to determine reading groups. This is what we do school wide everyday from 9:33-10:28.

The Exceptional Children Department at Northridge Middle School consists of Exceptional Teachers who will maintain federal/state/district standards through students' Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) and will also serve student academic needs either through Inclusion or Resource Level of Service. Station teaching, parallel teaching, and team-teaching are strategies used. We also implement any modifications and accommodations, as needed, to ensure student academic progress. Our autistic self-contained students receive extensions of the Common Core standards to support their academic progress.



The Northridge Family Welcomes:

