

Mustang News



Little Chute Intermediate/Middle School

Oct 2016

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WELCOME BACK!!

We have had a great start to the 2016-2017 school year. Our new schedule for all grade levels seems to be going very well and students have longer blocks of time for ELA and Math and also have new and exciting classes at all grades.

Thank you to our parents for your cooperation and support with the changes we have made in front of our building for student pick-up and drop off. With no longer allowing parking directly in front of the building and eliminating the option for cars to go through the center row to pick up students, we have created a much safer setting for our students.

Last week we had mid-term conferences for parents of our 7th and 8th grade students and Intermediate Parent Teacher Conferences will be coming up on October 20 and 25th- Information was sent to 5th and 6th grade parents regarding scheduling a time with your child's homeroom teacher. Remember to schedule by October 16th.

Infinite Campus is new this year and we are working through a few details before we can open up the Parent Portal for parents to be able to view grades online. Thank you for your patience as we work through this process. We want to make sure the information you will see will be accurate and easy for parents to access and understand. Watch for additional information in the next couple of weeks regarding IC and the IC Parent Portal. As always, if you ever have questions regarding your child's progress, please email or call your child's teachers.

GO MUSTANGS!!

Lori VanHandel- Principal

Welcome to a busy 5th grade! The month of September we worked on learning what 5th grade is all about and the procedures students need to follow in order to be successful. We are really emphasizing student responsibility, especially in the area of academics and making good behavioral choices! We will continually talk about the expectations throughout the building and how we show respect for all, here at LCIMS.

Reading: 5th grade students are currently being benchmarked to determine their appropriate reading level. They should be reading 30 minutes nightly to practice and maintain those skills! This will help us get them ready for their first unit on handling non-fiction.

Writing: We began the year reviewing how to write complete sentences and avoid run-on sentences and sentence fragments. We will soon begin our Personal Narrative writing project and are in the developing stages of writing well-thought out paragraphs. Students are expected to write good, complete sentences with capital letters, punctuation and correct spelling of all 5th grade appropriate words! Reminding your child to proofread all writing, will help improve overall writing!



Grade 5 News

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Math: The students are continuing to use the math series called Math Expressions. 5th graders begin the year reviewing fractions, as students are expected to maintain skills from year to year, while applying what they learn to real-world situations. Please take time to help your child study math facts as well as, look over their nightly math homework.



Science: 5th graders are beginning a weather unit and after comparing weather and climate, and will be exploring the four elements of weather; temperature, pressure, wind and air moisture.

Social Studies: We began the year reviewing map skills and have moved into studying early people who populated North and South America. That leads to European discovery of these same continents and the impact it had on those early civilizations.



Grade 6 News

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Science

This year we will be alternating back and forth between our units on science and social studies, so your child will be studying only one of these subjects at a time.

We branched out our learning to get a deeper understanding of the branches of earth science and problem solved our way through the scientific method process.

In our next unit of study we will be digging deep into the topics of minerals, rocks, and fossils.

Social Studies

We've started our year by learning about the Industrial Revolution. This period in time picks up where 5th grade ended last year. Since we don't use a textbook, take a look in your child's folder to see what topics have been covered so far. We have had lively class discussions, especially when students get to take a stand to share their opinions. This included the survey sent home on labor unions! We are looking forward to a great year of learning U.S. history!

ELA (English Language Arts)

We have just completed our unit of the novel, Hatchet, which correlates with our science unit on Earth Science. The final activity for this unit will be a field trip to Fallen Timbers nature center, which is rescheduled for Thursday, October 27th. In our next unit of study students will be exploring poetry. They will be analyzing and making connections to the poems they read, as well as writing poetry of their own. Using figurative language is the toolbox of every poet, and that's exactly what students are including in their writing pieces! Ask your child to share some of their writing with you! On a final note, reading independently is a process that will increase your child's reading skills and will build reading stamina. Your child should be reading on his or her own for thirty minutes every night! Happy reading!

Math

We are off to a great start this school year! The new math program we are using this year is called CPM. The students have been working with their math groups to grow their mathematical minds and find alternative ways to solve problems while learning to justify their thinking. The best part of this new program is that there isn't a right or wrong way to go about solving the problems. So if your child needs help at home and you know a different way to find the answer, that will be celebrated at school. Your child will be able to come back to class the next day feeling successful because they can then show their group a new way to solve the problem. The key components of this program are collaborating with others and listening to the strategies of other students to help get a better understanding of the concept being taught. We have been amazed at how the students have embraced this new style of learning and the perseverance they have shown to figure out really tough problems.

Homework is set up as a review/preview system. Each night the homework reviews the main concept taught in the lesson, then goes back to touch on some of the big ideas taught earlier in the chapter, and then there is at least one question will give the students exposure to a concept taught in an upcoming lesson. It is always a good idea to ask your child to bring home their math homework even if it has been completed at school. Then you can go through it together if needed.

Grade 7 News

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Math - Mr. Hermus and Mrs. Vandenberg

Seventh graders are learning everything that they need to know about probability. They have completed experiments in class to look at experimental vs. theoretical probability. They are using the Fundamental counting method and sample spaces to look at all possible outcomes and learning how to make great predictions. As we all know, the future is a prediction based on the past:)

ELA - Mr. Martin/Mr. Hermus

Each student has a personal goal of reading 40 books by the end of the school year. In order for this to become a reality, students should be reading roughly 150 minutes per week. This is an *estimate* and a ballpark number. We realize that some weeks they may read more and others they may read less. Our goal is to build life-long readers; not ones who read exactly 150 minutes each week.

Science- Mrs. Koehnke

We are off to a good start in Science class. We have discussed lab safety, lab equipment and have applied the steps of the Scientific Method. We have conducted some fun labs where we tested paper toweling for absorbency and looked at cohesion and surface tension by placing drops of water on a penny. We just took our first test and are now reviewing the metric system. **Donations Needed** I am collecting clean paper towel and long gift wrap tubes for a science project. As the holidays approach, please save gift wrap tubes and send them my way with your student. Thank you in advance!



Social Studies

The students are off to a great start! I am very impressed with their energy and work ethic so far! In social studies class we are currently studying the workings of the U.S. Congress. Our next unit of study will be the United States Presidency. Studying the U.S. Presidency during the election should be very exciting!

Math: What a great start to the school year. We've covered so many things already this year from reviewing operations with integers and fractions, to graphing on the coordinate plane, and making predictions from scatterplots just to name a few. In our next unit, students will be simplifying with variables with the use of algebra tiles. The algebra tiles are a great tool for students to use to understand what it means to simplify an expression and eventually solve simple and complicated equations. Parents: to temporarily access homework help and student e-books go to freebooks.cpm.com

Science: The students have had a great start to the year! They have proven themselves as a great group of high level thinkers. We have had many opportunities for collaboration and they are working well in groups--sharing their ideas. We have quickly jumped into the world of research as we are conducting our first experiments on plants. Students will be comparing the effect of light on bean plant growth. The students have already been surprised by the results and data they have collected. Ask your child about their experiment...it will make for some interesting dinner time conversations!



Grade 8 News

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Social Studies - Another year, another amazing opportunity to learn about all things social studies! Our first social studies unit focuses on geography. We will spend time delving into all of the 5 themes of geography which are location, place, human/environment interaction, movement, and regions. We will also be taking a class field trip to a dairy farm with 4,000+ cows! This field trip will explore the influence of humans on their environment and will also give us an up close look, and smell, of our Wisconsin dairy career field.

English Language Arts- Welcome back to another fun year of learning in ELA! In order to get creative juices flowing, we started the year off with Poetry. Students were creating poems based on a novel that they had read. Creating this bridge between reading and writing is an important tool for students to be able to utilize - and it is something they will be doing all year long. The next unit will see our 8th graders becoming Investigative Journalists, as they learn how to conquer Narrative Writing.

It's great to be back at school and in a routine again! We are off to a great start and have many things happening already that I'd like to make you aware of...

September's District Wellness Theme is: Suicide Awareness

Mrs. Head and I worked together to show students a video that gives them the facts about depression and suicide. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yrwt5gG9zg>

We included information about our schools Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Results, state stats, and local resources for assistance. District wide students and staff wore Yellow on Sept. 22nd to show their support for awareness of this sad and debilitating issue.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER



Mrs.
Schmidt-
School
Counselor
Grade 5-8

I'm excited to tell you about the Mind Up Curriculum I'm incorporating into guidance lessons as well. It teaches our children how to be more "mindful". Mindfulness is a practice that helps one become more aware of their environment, their emotions and then how to regulate them both for a more calm and thoughtful response. Mindfulness has been used as a tool for managing stress, pain, emotions and trauma responses. In this demanding and fast paced world, our children are under high amounts of stress and pressure. And, many have either experienced trauma or have witnessed a traumatic event that can cause the same type of trauma responses. On a regular basis, we are exposed to these events even in our own home as we watch a news report on the latest terrorist attack or the devastation caused by a hurricane taking over the east coast. Our brains aren't always able to distinguish between real threat and these perceived threats causing these stress responses in a wide range of children.

As a district, we recognize how stress/trauma responses impact the brain and emotions which create barriers for learning and increase one's chances of depression and anxiety. This can lead to poor academic performance, behavioral outbursts, and possible mental health concerns. In addition, trauma and it's side effects are associated with a greater suicide risk.

In response to this growing concern, we developed a district Trauma Informed Care Team (TIC Team) consisting of myself, regular education teachers and special education teachers at the MS and HS levels. Our goal is to educate our students, staff and community about the impact of trauma and stress, how to support students who have experienced trauma and develop trauma sensitive approaches in the classroom to reduce the harmful effects of it in our youth.

Throughout the year, I will be sharing with you the ways that we are addressing the overall WELLNESS of our children...physically, mentally and emotionally.

October's District Wellness Theme is: Bully Prevention

All students in grades 5-8 were surveyed regarding how they feel students treat each other in our school. This information will be used as a baseline for us to gauge our progress with Addressing the issue of unkind behaviors in school. Each grade will be receiving 5-11 additional lessons in guidance specifically targeting empathy, communication, perspective taking, respectful Disagreement, compromise, emotion management, coping with stress and goal setting using The Second Step curriculum. Classroom teachers are assisting me with some of these lessons to make sure we get our students everything they need. I encourage you to join www.secondstep.org. Enter the grade specific activation code to have access to their videos and to get more information about what your child is learning. There is specific curriculum for each grade level so please use the activation code for your child's grade.

Activation codes:

8th grade - SSP8 FAMI LY34

7th grade - SSP7 FAMI LY23

6th grade - SSP6 FAMI LY12

5th grade - BPU5 FAMI LY05



A Message from the School Psychologist

the Wholehearted Parenting Manifesto

Above all else, I want you know that **YOU ARE LOVED AND LOVABLE**. You will learn this from my words and actions—the lessons on love are in how I treat you and how I treat myself. I want you to engage with the world from a place of worthiness. You will learn that you are **WORTHY OF LOVE, BELONGING, AND JOY** every time you see me practice self-compassion and embrace my own imperfections.

We will practice **COURAGE** in our family by showing up, letting ourselves be seen, and honoring vulnerability. We will share our stories of struggle and strength. There will always be room in our home for both.

We will teach you compassion by practicing **COMPASSION**. With ourselves first; then with each other. We will set and respect **BOUNDARIES**, we will honor hard work, hope, and perseverance. **REST AND PLAY** will be family values, as well as family practices.

You will learn **ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPECT** by watching me make mistakes and make amends, and by watching how I ask for what I need and talk about how I feel.

I want you to know **JOY**, so together we will practice **GRATITUDE**.

I want you to *feel* joy, so that together **WE WILL LEARN HOW TO BE VULNERABLE**.

When uncertainty and scarcity visit, you will be able to draw from the **SPITZ** that is a part of our everyday life.

Together we will cry and face fear and grief. I will want to take away your pain, but instead I will sit with you and **TEACH YOU HOW TO FEEL IT**.

We will laugh and sing and dance and create. We will always have permission to be ourselves with each other. No matter what, **YOU WILL ALWAYS BELONG HERE**.

As you begin your Wholehearted journey, the greatest gift that I can give to you is to live and **LOVE WITH MY WHOLE HEART** and to **DARE GREATLY**.

I will not teach or love or show you anything perfectly, but I will let you see me, and I will always hold sacred the gift of seeing you. **TRULY, DEEPLY SEEING YOU.**

from *Daring Greatly* by Brene Brown



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PARENT TECHNOLOGY CONNECTION

Source: [CommonSenseMedia.org/privacy-internet-safety](https://www.commonsensemedia.org/privacy-internet-safety)

How much screen time is OK for my kid(s)?

- It really depends. Although the amount of time kids spend on screens **has been a big news focus**, what's even more important is the quality of kids' media and how it fits into their -- and your family's -- lifestyle.
- Pay attention to how your kids act during and after watching TV, playing video games, or hanging out online. If they're using high-quality, age-appropriate media; their behavior is positive; and their screen-time activities are balanced with plenty of healthy screen-free ones, there's no need to worry.
- If you're concerned about heavy media use, consider creating a schedule that works for your family. This can include weekly screen-time limits, limits on the kinds of screens they can use, and guidelines on the types of activities they can do or programs they can watch. Make sure to get your kids' input as well so the plan teaches media literacy and self-regulation, and use this as an opportunity to discover what they like watching, introduce new shows and apps for them to try, or **schedule a family movie night**.
- Finally, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) -- one of the only established organizations to make recommendations on screen time -- **discourages screen time for kids under 2 and advises limiting daily screen time to one to two hours for older kids**. Studies have shown a link between heavy media use and issues such as obesity, lack of sleep, academic challenges, aggression, and other behavior difficulties. The reality is that most families will go through periods of heavy and light media use, but, so long as there's a balance, kids should be just fine.

Library Website

<https://sites.google.com/a/littlechute.k12.wi.us/lmc/>

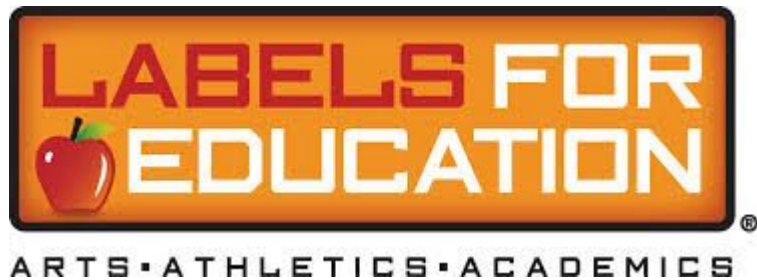
Check out the library website for access to our library catalogs, ebook collections, permission slips, citation writers, and more!

5th and 6th graders will be signing up for Battle of the Books teams (2 to 4 students per team) starting October 18. The list of books to read can be found [HERE](#). This is a voluntary program, but most of our students participate. More information will be coming next month.



Please SAVE...SAVE...SAVE

**We have collection boxes in all
three libraries!**



Academic Excellence winners

**Adele Ogden
Alli LaBorde
Cory Stancer
Madi Mrnak
Drew Joten
Cory Hudziak
Megan Wegand
Liam Wildenberg**

**Carlie Anderson
Joey DeLongchamp
Trevor Gloudemans
Mason Reader
Logan Vandenberg
Isaiah Engle
Callah Dornfeld
Irelynn Dunn**



Positive Student winners

**Ryder Thorson
Gracie Hank
Madilyn Benson-Smith
Mitchell Verbeten
Giselle Delgado
Paige Danen
Paige Beahm
Wren Xiong
Ethan O'Bannon
Ada VanRossum**

**Cannon Kirchner
Colin Voigt
Blake Gloudemans
Olivia Coffin
Jadyn Howe
Quinn VanSchyndel
Logan Verboomen
Abigail Dorn
Jonathon Humbert**

Homecoming

October 14, 2016



7th and 8th grade band members will be playing pre-game along with the LCHS Band before our Homecoming football game. Come check it out!

what's Coming Up at LCIMS??

- Oct. 10 Homecoming Week at LCHS
7th Blue Volleyball @ Riverview 4:05pm
7th & 8th White Volleyball home vs. Neenah 4:05 and 5:05
- Oct. 11 7th Blue Volleyball home vs. Kimberly 4:05
7th & 8th White Volleyball @ Shattuck 4:05 and 5:05
- Oct. 14 Wear Mustang Attire
MS Band playing at Homecoming game
- Oct. 20 Packer Attire Day
Intermediate School Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Oct. 24 Red Ribbon Week
Forensics Meet at LCIMS
LCASD Board of Education Meeting
- Oct. 25 Mix it Up at Lunch Day
- Oct. 27 6th Grade to Fallen Timbers
- Nov. 2 MSAA Meeting
- Nov. 4 End of Term 1
Student Council Dance 6-8pm
- Nov. 7 Forencics Meet at Freedom
- Nov. 14 Forensics Meet @ Hortonville
LCASD Board of Education Meeting
- Nov. 22 MS Band in Appleton Christmas Parade
Turkey Legs