

Dear Staff,

Isn't it great when an old friend shows up again after what seems like an eternity? I had a friend show up this past week that made that day special. One of the things I enjoy most about Spring is when the birds and other animals (except squirrels and racoons) come back to the neighborhood and start raising their young. With the orioles back, I expect the hummingbirds to arrive here, too, any day!



We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Combs and Ms. Overfield for the fine work they do every day with students. Some of us might think that elective teachers



have it easy because they don't have ISTEP+, but electives teachers take their students' achievement in their areas just as seriously as anyone but their accountability is measured in different ways. This afternoon the artwork of Ms. Overfield's students went on display at IU East in a juried, county-wide show. Many HJr./Sr.H pieces won ribbons. Likewise, Ms. Combs mounted an exhibit of her K-6 students' artwork in the LGI Room last week. Ms. Combs' work is a part of a music and art celebration at HES.

**GROW@
THECREEK**
Nettle Creek Family of Schools

The fact that so many pieces from Nettle Creek were accepted in the IU East show and the crowd that will attend the HES exhibit are both proof-positive that our K-12 visual arts program is alive and well at NCSC!

Speaking of being in First Place, Mr. Catey and his team (14-0 last I heard) deserve recognition again this week for maintaining their top ranking in the state. Their games are fun to watch! And whether the game is ended early because of a one-sided score, or if they go into extra innings because of a battle against a very capable opponent, the excitement is well-worth the price of admission! Mr. Catey's hard work and his team's success is attracting attention! This link will take you to a recent interview on Indiana Sports Talk 93.5 with Mr. Catey.



<http://www.1070thefan.com/personalities/indiana-sports-talk>. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Catey for spreading the good news about his program at Nettle Creek!

Last week I neglected to include boys golf when sending out tips of the Tiger's tail. The golfers are having a great season, and we wish them continued success!



Despite the rain, Mr. Gray and his track & field athletes drew quite a crowd on Friday evening for the Tiger Booster Invitational. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Coach Gray. His girls and boys teams both came out on top and kept the hardware in town for another year. I was reminded that night of how many staff members are parents of student athletes. An evening track meet makes for a long day for them after working eight hours in the classroom! Thanks for your dedication! The students

are the winners!

It's been fun to see our Mini Marathoners out and about in town preparing for Saturday's race! Ms. Arnold checked in after the race and shared that everyone finished the race this year! Ms. Arnold and Ms. Muller both deserve a tip of the Tiger's tail for taking on this responsibility again this year. They



send along their appreciation for the folks who took very good care of them during their Indy trip. Mr. Sturgeon drove them to the Expo on Thursday night in the pouring rain in Indy. On Saturday Mr. Sturgeon and Ms. Allen were the bus

drivers on race day. Thanks to them, the buses left Hagerstown promptly at 4:45A.M. One of the

buses broke down on the way home, and Mr. Irvin responded to their need. His first question to the group was an inquiry to assure that everyone was safe. Ms. Muller and Ms. Arnold send tips of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Campbell and Ms. Bane who not only ran the race with great times, but had lent hands whenever needed as the group prepared for the big race day!



Mr. Dick, who is finishing up his science student teaching experience with Ms. Bowman, invited Mr. Childs and me to observe one of his science labs last week. Mr. Dick deserves a tip of the Tiger's tail for his confidence in his students with both Mr. Childs and me there visiting at the same time. The learning objective for the class was for students to design a runway for marbles that incorporated Newton's laws. What I think he might not have known when he invited me was that two weeks before, I visited a class at a previous grade level that used the same activity in class. What was cool for me to see was that while both classes were working on Newton's laws, the high school class dug much deeper, and the students in Mr. Dick's class made presentations to classmates that included technology, graphics, videos, vocabulary and student-led Q & As. Thank you, Mr. Dick, for allowing me to stop by and be a learner in your classroom, too!



Staffs at both buildings have been busy completing school improvement plan strategies for the year. Thank you for working together to advance student achievement!



On Monday our staff and our community will come together to support the Hoodlebrink Family. The donkey basketball game will start at 7:00P.M. in the HES gym. Discount tickets are available from Ms. Ritter who has provided valuable leadership with ticket sales. If you are a staff volunteer for this event, This Tail's For You!



Yours for another successful week with children!

WD

