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ETTLE CREEK SCHOOL CORPORATION

“Our mission is to provide an exemplary educational experience that maximizes each student’s highest potential.”

“ P E O P L E A R E I M P O R T A N T H E R E ! ”



April 2018

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Dear Parents and Nettle Creek Community Members,

Well, if nothing else, during these cloudy days the UV Index Rating has to be in the “safe” range. On a



brighter note (no pun intended), the daffodils in the Nettle Creek Valley are putting on quite a display this year! I’d love to know who planted that drift of daffodils on the bank on the corner of Route 38 and Route 1. Their investment planting those bulbs years ago reminds me



Nettle Creek Family of Schools

of the investment our community is making today in our children who are the future of our community! Thank you! And though their sign is too small to read in my photo, We send a tip of the Tiger’s tail to the folks at West River Church! They’re holding their annual Pork Chop Dinner on Saturday, May 5th this year. Regardless of today’s gray skies, it’s a beautiful day. Spring is here!

This Tiger Is Tops!

We receive several emails a week from parents, staff, community members, and often times students who have something to share! Sometimes they are suggestions for ways we can better serve students (Keep them coming!), and often they are bits of good news that they just want to share with someone (Keep them coming, too!). This week’s message came via Mr. Catey from the mom of one of our baseball players. It relates: *I just wanted to take the time to tell you about one of your players that stuck out to me. Yesterday, my son was visibly upset when his coach pulled him off the field. As he was walking back to the dugout your batter on deck #5 shook his hand and told him to keep his head up. You really don’t see that kind of sportsmanship very often, and I just wanted to reach out to you and tell you how great of a player you have on your team.* First, we’d like to recognize this parent for taking the time to share good news when she sees it! Second, we’d like to recognize Mr. Catey for running a program where things like one player spontaneously recognizes that a teammate has a need and then does something about it. And finally, we send a tip of the Tiger’s tail to Mason Hicks for showing leadership and his fine character that caught this grateful parent’s eye. Time and again we see our students rise to the top in similar ways!



ISTEP+ Returns!

Students in Grades 3-8 and 10 will be taking the second and final part of ISTEP+. While each grade level will only be spending a few days testing, the testing window extends for two weeks. Plenty of sleep and a regular schedule will help our students show us what they know. And while make-up sessions are provided for students who are absent, taking the test with their classmates is usually less stressful for students. Thanks!



Recess Just Got Even More Fun!

While teachers measure their days based on instructional blocks and class periods, students at Hagerstown Elementary School describe their day based on recess, their midday break! We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to the members of New Testament Church of Christ. This week, Pastor Paul Gearhardt, Karla Debruler and church members distributed new playground equipment at recess to all grade levels to make this time even more fun for our students. Along with PE class, recess is the best opportunity for our children to be active. This break is important and helps students' afternoons back in the classrooms to be productive learning times, too.



Kindergarten Round Up For The 2018-2019 School Year Is Underway!

If you have a Tiger Cub who will be 5 years-old on or before August 1, 2018, school enrollment is open! Please call Ms. Hokey at Hagerstown Elementary School, and she will explain the registration process. 765.489.4555. Welcome Aboard! Registering now for fall will help teachers form classes that will best suit your child's individual learning needs.



Tiger Preschool Has A Need!

Ms. Solis shares that her preschool class is looking for gently used Barbie dolls, Barbie clothes and action figures. If you have these items that perhaps your children have outgrown, her students would love to have them!

Growth Mindset Is GROWING @ THE CREEK!

As we continue to develop the culture of our school corporation to support all children in their learning, teachers and administrators are doing their homework to learn about the power found in developing a growth mindset. A growth mindset is an understanding that the brain constantly learns and that a person's ability is not fixed. Research is showing that children who have a growth mindset do better in school because they have an empowering perspective on learning. Their focus is on improvement rather than on win/lose or being restrained by a level of intelligence. When a student sees failure as an end rather than as an opportunity to learn how to achieve success differently, motivation ends as does achievement. While developing a growth mindset has taken root in some of our classrooms and these teachers are teaching the rest of us, we are increasing an awareness about this phenomenon across our school corporation so that all children learn about what we're calling The Tiger Advantage!



Families Can GROW HEALTHY TOGETHER @ THE CREEK!

First United Methodist Church will once again be sponsoring the Community Garden. This community-wide effort is an opportunity for families to plant and harvest vegetables of their choice for their dinner tables. A presentation on Small Space and Container Gardening by Gary Keesling kicks off this year's growing season! Attendance is free. It will be held on April 30 from 6:30P.M. to 8:00P.M. at the FUMC Fellowship Hall. More information about the Community Garden will be available there.

