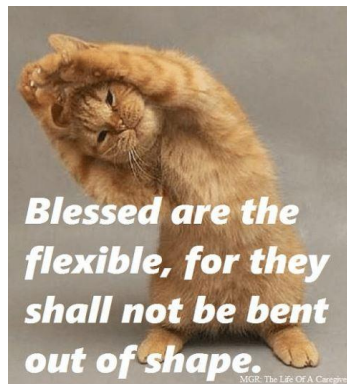


Dear Staff,



We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to everyone for their flexibility this past week. I know it gets tedious when school delays come our way, but weather is one of those things in life that is just outside of our control. Fieldtrips planned a month in advance get postponed, big arrows point downward in lesson plan books delaying exams and the day's lessons, and meetings that were tough to schedule in the first place are rescheduled. These unanticipated opportunities to practice patience undoubtedly have silver linings. I am reminded of the saying, "Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape."

GROW @ THE CREEK

Nettle Creek Family of Schools

Ms. Isaacs deserves a tip of the Tiger's tail for arranging the details of Yearbook Picture Day on Monday at HES. Talk about the need for flexibility! She shares that the photographer will visit each class for candid photos and a picture of each class. Student groups and clubs will be gathered in the front entryway for snaps through the day as well. Thank you, Ms. Isaacs, for putting this together. Though taking these photos can be a little inconvenient today, when they make it in the yearbook, they'll outlast us all. Here is a candid of the Farm Shop class from the 1926 Epitome. Where are they now?



Students continue to GROW @ THE CREEK! Winter NWEA scores give us a snapshot of where our students are achieving compared to other students in the nation at the same grade levels. In Math, students in all grades moved ahead. Students in Grades 11 and 12 made especially great progress. Seven of eleven grades are ahead of typical achievement. In Reading, students in Grades 3 and 12 have made exemplary growth. One grade level regressed since Fall, and six of eleven grades are ahead of typical achievement. And finally, while we don't test Language Usage at every grade level, students in grades 2, 3 and 6 exceeded typical growth. Congratulations to our teachers and their classroom assistants for the success this midyear indicator shows.

I received a phone call last week from a family new to NCSC who wanted me to know how happy they are that they chose to transfer their children to our school corporation. Mom specifically mentioned Mr. Clark, Ms. Lieberman and Ms. Hokey as being truly wonderful. Mr.

Clark is this family's bus driver. Mom said that Mr. Clark makes her children feel safe on the bus and is always cheerful. Mom said she knew she and her husband had found their new school home when they visited during student registration this past summer. She said the line of parents waiting to enroll their children extended out the front door which was a good sign, but beyond that, when they introduced themselves as a family shopping for just the right school for their children, one of the ladies helping with registration jumped up from her seat at the front table, asked the staff member she was working with if she could be excused, introduced herself, warmly welcomed her family and showed them the highlights of the building and described the educational program. This outstanding Tiger Ambassador is Ms. Lieberman. When this family met Ms. Hokey, it was the pride Ms. Hokey showed as they toured the building with them and the close connection that was evident between her and her staff that sealed the deal for this family. I thanked Mom for choosing Nettle Creek and for taking the time to give me a call. I told her that she will find the staff to be equally caring and dedicated to the success of her children in every department all of the way through Grade 12. It all started for his family with Ms. Lieberman's warm greeting that first day that changed this family's life for the better! We all have the same power within each of us to do this for our community! Thank you, Mr. Clark, Ms. Lieberman and Ms. Hokey, for representing us so well.



Let's wrap up this week's letter by sending a tip of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Henderson. We learned that before the holidays, she won a grant from the Indiana Retired Teachers' Association. When the representatives of that organization came to school to present Ms. Henderson the check, they remarked how wonderful her spring project sounded and that it was equally great that the support was awarded to a teacher in East-Central Indiana. Way to go, Ms. Henderson! Your initiative paid off for your students.



The weather doesn't look too good this week. Let's take one day at a time, and Spring will be here before we know it!

Yours for another successful week with children!

WD

