



DECATUR MIDDLE SCHOOL

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Barrentine's Billboard 1

Hometown Grant 2

Calendar of Events 2

Explorations News 3

Imagine News 4



Hawk Highlights

ISSUE 3

SEPTEMBER 18, 2017



I hope that everyone had a great week. Looks like the next week to ten days is going to be more like summer. I am completely OK with that!!

Two things that I want to highlight this week:

- This Friday, September 22, the Decatur Central varsity football team hosts Plainfield. This is Decatur Central's Homecoming game. If you choose to drop off your child at the football game, it is very important that you pick them up directly after the football game. With the games starting at 7:00, you should plan to be back at DC to pick up your child at 9:00. While the game may still be going, we would prefer that you're early rather than late. Again, please plan to arrive at 9:00 to pick up your child after DC varsity football games.
- Before our next newsletter, we will be having our quarterly assessments here at Decatur Middle School. These assessments are equivalent to final exams for the nine weeks. While it is always critical that your child is here each day, I would ask that you make every effort to avoid Dr.'s appointments and planned absences on these days. Please see the schedule below:
 - ⇒ Wednesday, September 27: Students will be taking their quarterly assessments in Periods 1, 3, and 5. We will still run a full schedule that day (all six periods), but students will have assessments in periods 1, 3, and 5.
 - ⇒ Thursday, September 28: Students will be taking their quarterly assessments in periods 2, 4, and 6. We will still run a full schedule that day (all six periods), but students will have assessments in periods 2, 4, and 6.

Thank you for ensuring that your child is here and ON TIME each day to Decatur Middle School. Your child's attendance at school is a HUGE factor in whether or not he/she has a successful school year. Please partner with us in ensuring that your child is here on time each day!

Have a great week!

- Kyle Barrentine, Principal

2017 Hometown Grant Recipient



In an effort to help students eat healthier and stay physically active, the Indianapolis Colts and Fuel Up to Play (FUTP) 60 came together for a second year to award an Indiana school district a \$10,000 Colts Fuel Up to Play 60 Hometown Grant. These grants are part of a larger initiative between the National Football League (NFL) and FUTP 60 to supply a \$10,000 grant to a deserving school(s) or school district in each of the 32 NFL markets, in hopes of making a difference in the overall health and wellness of students across the country. MSD Decatur Township and Decatur Middle School are overjoyed to be the recipient of the 2017 Hometown Grant from Fuel Up to Play 60, the Indiana Dairy Council, and the Indianapolis Colts.

Five students were selected to participate in one of two check presentation ceremonies this week at the Indiana Farm Bureau Football Center, the Indianapolis Colts practice facility. Students received an autographed football from Colts' players and were asked to speak during the program on the school's behalf.

The funds will be used for core body exercise equipment, fitness tracking apps for student iPads, and identifying healthy options for students in the cafeteria.

We are so excited and thankful to be awarded this grant. Middle School students often lose sight of the critical elements of a healthy lifestyle. This grant will support teaching and further the understanding of student knowledge of fitness and nutrition.

Students pictures are: Tasneem Salama, Gavin Smith, Will Starks, Jack Flinsbaugh and Alexis Garrison.

Calendar of Events

Monday, September 18

- 5:15pm—Cross Country @ John Wooden MS/FTMS West
- 5:15pm—Boys/Girls Soccer @ Clark-Pleasant MS
- 5:30pm—7/8 Volleyball @ Plainfield Cmty. MS
- 5:30pm—Boys Tennis @ John Wooden MS

Tuesday—September 19

- 4:30pm—Boys Golf vs. Chapel Hill
- 5:30pm—7/8 Volleyball @ John Wooden MS

Wednesday, September 20

- 5:15pm—7/8 B Volleyball vs. Center Grove North MS @ DMS
- 5:30pm—Boys Soccer vs. Westlane @ DMS
- 5:30pm—Girls Soccer @ Westlane MS

Thursday, September 21

- 4:30pm—Girls Golf vs. Monrovia/Indian Creek @ Monrovia
- 5:15pm—7/8 Volleyball @ Chapel Hill
- 5:15pm—Cross Country vs. Chapel Hill @ DMS
- 5:30pm—7/8 B Volleyball vs. Cascade MS @ DMS
- 5:30pm—7th Grade Football vs. Plainfield Cmty. MS @ DMS
- 5:30pm—8th Grade Football @ Plainfield Cmty. MS
- 5:30pm—Boys Tennis @ Franklin Cmty. MS

Friday, September 22

- 4:30pm—Boys/Girls Golf—Mid-State @ Plainfield Cmty. MS (Boys)/John Wooden MS(Girls)

Saturday, September 23

- 7/8 Volleyball—Mid-State @ Clark-Pleasant MS
- 9:00am—Boys Tennis—Mid-State @ Franklin Cmty. MS

Monday, September 25

- 4:30pm—Girls Golf vs. Southport/Perry @ DMS
- 5:15pm—Boys Tennis vs. Raymond Park @ DMS
- 5:30pm—Boys Soccer vs. Plainfield Cmty. MS @ DMS
- 5:30pm—Girls Soccer @ Plainfield Cmty. MS

Tuesday, September 26

- 4:15pm—Boys Golf @ Perry Meridian MS
- 5:15pm—Boys/Girls Soccer vs. Heritage Christian @ DMS

Thursday, September 28

- 4:30pm—Boys/Girls Golf vs. Greenwood MS @ DMS
- 5:15pm—7/8 Volleyball vs. Southport MS @ DMS
- 5:15pm—Cross Country vs. Plainfield/Beech Grove @ DMS
- 5:30pm—7/8 Football vs. Greenwood MS @ DMS

Saturday, September 30

- 9:30am—Cross Country @ Chapel Hill

Explorations SLC News



7th Grade Explorations

Miss Lay's Global Studies classes have been studying the five religions. Students have watched videos introducing basic information, participated in discussions on Canvas, and have sorted the information gathered by religion. As a culminating activity, students have designed a "Fakebook" page highlighting one of the five major religions.



8th Grade Explorations



Students in Mrs. McCabe's 8th Grade Algebra class have been solving equations for two variables by using a table and intercepts. They have analyzed the equations to determine which method of solving the equation is most efficient.

Student-Led Conferences

Student-led conferences will be conducted Wednesday, October 4, 2017. Teachers have sent home information in order to schedule a conference on that day. Please return those forms as soon as possible so we can confirm your preferred conference time.

After School Study Table

Explorations will be hosting an after school study table on Wednesday, September 20 from 2:50-4:30 in the DMS Media Center. Students can work on make-up or missing assignments, retake a test after doing correctives, or ask questions about the content that students are studying in class. If students plan to stay, they need to return the information sheet indicating their study plan to their STAR teacher by Wednesday morning at 8:00am.

Explorations Fund Raiser

We will host a Creative Gatherings Wood Painting Sign Fundraiser on Tuesday, September 26, from 6:30-8:30pm in the Decatur Middle School Cafeteria. \$10 from each sign will go to the Explorations SLC fund to help pay for field trips and other SLC student needs.

At the fundraiser, the party facilitator will bring all the materials you need to create a wood sign that you love. Creative Gatherings has over 600 designs, 6 stain colors and 60 paint colors. You must pre-order the sign you want to paint, so they can stain the wood and cut the vinyl stencil ahead of time. Creative Gatherings signs cost between \$35-\$60.

Creative Gatherings has 2 collections of signs. The Ready2Go requires a \$10 non-refundable security deposit. The security deposit goes toward the cost of your sign.

To order your sign, go to www.creativegatheringsindy.com/order-your-sign.html. Find the date, time, and location of our party on the calendar to order your sign (September 26, from 6:30-8:30pm, at DMS). This will ensure your sign arrives at the correct party.

ALL SIGNS MUST BE PRE-ORDERED BY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, AT 10:00 AM. Creative Gatherings will need 4-5 days to prepare the signs. They cannot accept late orders.

Follow us on Twitter at @ExplorationsDMS and like us on Facebook at DMS Explorations to see activities that occur in Explorations classes.

Sign up for Remind to receive regular text message notifications about upcoming Explorations events.

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- 7th Grade Explorations Families: Text @7exp1718 to 81010
- 8th Grade Explorations Families: Text @8exp1718 to 81010

It is the Board's commitment to provide a safe, positive, productive and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. Any individual who believes a student has been or is the victim of discrimination, bullying, or harassment should report the situation to the building principal or designee or complete the School District's Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying report form, which is available online at www.msddecatur.k12.in.us.

The core mission of this school is the creation of highly engaging activities, materials, and settings for learning that are too good—too interesting—for students to resist AND increases student achievement.

The MSD of Decatur Township is Student Invested, Community Connected. We prioritize Student Learning, Safety and Customer Service, fostering a support system for our families.

S.W.A.G.
SUCCESS
WILLPOWER
ATTITUDES
and
GOALS

Imagine SLC News



In this edition of the IMAGINE newsletter, we would like to highlight the great work of our social studies teachers. Mr. Evans is in his 1st year at DMS teaching Global Studies. Our 8th grade American Experience (U.S. History) teacher, Mrs. Considine, has just started her 7th year at DMS and also serves as our 8th grade lead teacher.

Mr. Evans, 7th Grade Global Studies

In Global Studies, we are covering world religions. We began with Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The students are going over Hinduism now. The students read an article about the main beliefs of each religion then complete a graphic organizer. Students are also connecting this unit over religions to the previous unit of geography. These connections to countries and cultures are topics that will come up throughout the school year when talking about ancient civilizations.



Next week, students will wrap up the world religions with Buddhism. Then they will participate in a station activity as a review before the test over the world religions on September 22.

Mrs. Considine, 8th Grade American Experience



Our 8th grade students have really enjoyed our Artist Hour so far this year. We have explored various aspects of color. Color can invoke moods and feelings. Students first created an abstract piece using color to reflect the different parts of their personality. In another Artist Hour activity, students listen to a variety of different sounds and paired each sound with color.

From there, students created their own sounds using Garage Ban on the iPad, and then created an abstract color piece to match their unique sound. Students have done an amazing job taking their knowledge of abstract and color to reflect their uniqueness.

Attention Parents!!

In Imagine, we are asking for your help and partnership to increase academic achievement among all of our students. Missing assignments continue to lower our students' grades. Please ensure you are checking your student's Canvas "To Do" list daily.

7th grade parents—please make sure you are checking your student's agenda each night as they are stamped by their STAR teacher with all homework listed for each day.

As a reminder, don't forget to follow us on Twitter @ImagineDms and on Facebook (dmsimagine) to see all of the great things going on in our SLC!

