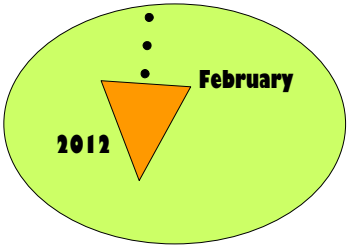




Connections Newsletter



Visit us online at:
<http://www.holcombbridgems.com>

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Schools Closed	2/17 2/20
Chorus LGPE	2/15

Fulton County Schools has recently purchased a new product that's going to keep our students safe when they're using the Internet and will also help our teachers find resources that match each of our students' learning needs.

netTrekker Search, is an award-winning educational search tool created just for students, teachers, and parents that delivers safe, educator-selected resources every time we use the Internet.

Searching is fast and easy. netTrekker Search contains over 300,000 educator-selected digital resources that are organized around the K-12 curricula as well as by grade level so searching is logical and easy. netTrekker is a great resource for homework help.

Students can access netTrekker at school and at home by going to <http://school.nettrekker.com>

Username: holc123 **Password:** student



Art Ms. Justis

Connections Students Traveling on the Road to Good Character



This section will feature students from each grade level, selected for showing outstanding character throughout their Connections classes and throughout the school.

In 6th, 7th, and 8th grade art we have completed our Art Criticism Unit. We learned to decode the deeper meanings and messages in a work of art by following the four step method of OBSERVE, ANALYZE, INTERPRET, JUDGE. We wrote a comprehensive response from our research on selected works of art.

Once done with our Art Criticism unit, we moved onto our Observational Drawing unit where we learned to THINK and SEE LIKE AN ARTIST. First, we learned about choosing practical internal dialog as we make art. We then learned how to set ourselves up for successful art making by clearing our mind of negative thinking and encouraging concentration. After learning how to think like an artist, we began to approach drawing real life objects by breaking them down into smaller parts in order to draw proportionally accurate.

6th grade is now focusing on a STILL LIFE drawing of apples. 7th grade is focusing on a STILL LIFE drawing of their hands holding tools. 8th grade is focusing on a STILL LIFE drawing of their hands holding tools with shoes too. After



Music

Mr. Adel
Band

Mr. Majeske
Orchestra



Ms. Butler
Chorus

The 7th and 8th grade students are preparing diligently for their Large Group Performance Evaluation at the end of March. The Band will also travel to Orland on March 8th-11th to perform in the SoundWaves program at Sea World...it will be a blast!

Seventh and Eighth grade orchestra is preparing for their student recital next week as well as the night time recital on the 28th. Sixth grade is continuing their book work and pushing farther ahead in Rondeau.

We have been working hard on sight singing and learning key signatures. Next week, my first period class is participating in the Georgia Music Educators Large Group Performance Evaluation!



Mrs. Moore

6th grade classes are working on their career plan using the Georgia Career Information System (GCIS).

7th grade classes have begun their business unit creating a restaurant. They are creating logos, business plans, maps, excel spreadsheets, and customer databases.

8th grade classes are studying the 16 career clusters and creating a visual mobile listing what workers do in this cluster, skills and abilities, courses to take in high school, wages, and occupations in this cluster.

CRCT time is almost here. The test will take place during the second and third weeks of April. Please be sure to visit the Georgia Department of Education website provided below to find out more information about the test and helpful study guides for your child.

http://www.gadoe.org/ci_testing.aspx?PageReq=CI_TESTING_CRCT

6th Grade: Our focus for the next 2 weeks will be: vocabulary Week: 2/6-2/10: **avoid, excuse, helpless, include, intend, normal, sociable, struggle**. Week 2/13– 2/17 :**approach, damp, ignore, loyal, numerous, previous, require, timid**

1037-1200 from Sitton's List of 1200 High Frequency Words

CRCT Prep

Reading (finding the main idea, monitoring understanding and visualizing)

We are currently over half way through the novel *The Bully*. Please ask your student about the struggles Darrell, the main character, is dealing with.

8th Grade:

Our focus for the month will be: improving reading skills, vocabulary, research skills, famous African Americans, and using technology to present research results

Math Support

Mr. Wilson



Industrial Technology—Mr. Spinks

CNR Math students will continue to preview Math standards.

CNR – 6. Students will consider relationships between varying quantities.

CNR – 7. Students will understand and apply linear equations in one variable.

CNR - 8. Students will understand relations and linear functions.

During the next few weeks in Technology Education Students will finish up their first module topic then begin working on whole group projects. In the Technology Education program students experience many of the new technologies such as Aerospace, Aerodynamics, Aviation, Computer Animation, Bridge Building, Graphic Arts, Digital-Photography, Computer Aided Drafting, Flight Simulation, and Race Car-Research & Design that affects us in our everyday life. The next few weeks' we focus on subject matter that allows students to interact with computer applications and hands on activities. Students will work on completing activities eight through activities eleven. The whole group project for eighth grade is Bridge Construction, seventh grade Tower Construction and sixth grade Rocketry.

Physical Education

Parker- We have just finished our basketball unit and are now into our fitness Unit. Within the Fitness Unit, the State Mandated Fitness Gram Test will be administered. The Fitness Gram consists of several tests that include: a mile run, push-ups, curl-up, flexibility, and body composition. All scores of the fitness gram will be sent home with your student.

Maloney- The best thing you can do for an adult's health is to teach them to be active as a youth. We do just that in Physical Education at Holcomb Bridge Middle School. The unit that is being taught now is basketball. The students are learning the rules and skills to be successful at these activities.

Morris- Students will begin a fitness unit focusing on muscular strength and endurance, flexibility, and heart and lung endurance. The students will perform tests for push ups, curl ups, flexibility, and the mile run as well as be measured for body composition for the Fitness Gram Test.

White- Physical Education students will be involved in basketball, lacrosse, and fitness during 3rd quarter. Students will learn skills, rules, and safety to compete in each of these activities. Students will have both skill and written tests at the end of each unit.

Special Announcements

Remember, books make great gifts!

Fitness Fact: Benefits to children who exercise regularly are better sleep, better overall fitness, healthier weight, reduced stress, better attention in school, and reduced likelihood of various types of heart and weight-related diseases

PLEASE SEE PAGE THREE OF THIS PAGE FOR INFORMATION ON THE STATE FITNESS GRAM THAT WILL BE ADMINISTERED AT HBMS.

HEALTH

Parker- : In 8th grade Health, we have started our Tobacco and Alcohol Unit. Upon conclusion of this unit we will move into the drug unit portion of our curriculum.

In 6th grade Health, we just finished up our Nutrition unit and will be moving into our Safety unit next. Please feel free to contact me anytime, via email preferably.

Maloney- The health unit being taught now is mental and emotional health.

White- Health students are currently involved in a personal health and wellness unit. An exam will be given at the completion of this unit.

Morris-Health

Students will begin a unit focusing on safety. We will be discussing ways to prevent accidents, importance of helmets and other safety gear while playing sports, environmental hazards, severe weather precautions, climate related physical conditions, and safety around firearms.

Our school is preparing to take part in the FITNESSGRAM physical fitness assessment. As a result of Georgia House Bill 229 (also known as the SHAPE act) all students in grades 1-12 will participate in this assessment starting in the Fall of 2011. FITNESSGRAM was selected by the Georgia Department of Education because it measures only those areas of fitness related to the health of students. The areas of health related fitness include cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength and endurance, flexibility and body composition. The following FITNESSGRAM fitness tests will be used to measure the various areas of health-related fitness:

- PACER or 1 mile run (Cardiovascular)
- Curl-Up (Abdominal Strength)
- Push-Up (Upper Body Strength)
- Back-Saver Sit and Reach (Flexibility)
- Body Mass Index (Body Composition)

The FITNESSGRAM Assessment does not compare your student to anyone else, nor does it measure skill or athletic performance.

Rather, it compares your student to health standards that have been established by researchers as the level of fitness all students should reach in order to attain health benefits.

After your son/daughter has completed the FITNESSGRAM, you will receive a student report that includes the following:

- A brief explanation of each fitness test
- Details on the importance of each assessment
- The students actual scores and the Healthy Fitness Zone (HFZ) for the child's gender and age
- An explanation of the HFZ and the student report

Please plan on using the student report as a tool to come up with ways to support your child in leading a healthy lifestyle. A few ways to support your middle school child include:

- Stress the importance fitness has on looking good and feeling good!
- Be positive about the physical activities in which your child participates and encourage them to be interested in new activities.
- Stress the positive relationship between fitness and academic achievement. (A fit student is a prepared learner!)