

OCTOBER 2016



LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families of Hixson Middle School,

WOW... it is hard to believe we are headed into 2nd quarter! Thank you for your support of the Yankee Candle fundraiser. Our school was able to raise money to help provided much needed resources for our students and classrooms.

Our students and staff did a fantastic job with the summer reading book clubs that were held on September 2nd. A special thank you to Mrs. Bishop and Mrs. Holloway for their efforts in making this a wonderful experience.

Our Reading and Language Arts (RLA) Department worked collaboratively to apply for the Dollar General Literacy Grant last spring. We recently received word that those efforts paid off. Our RLA Department will receive \$2,000 to purchase high interest Guided Reading Books to use in their classrooms. We are very proud of their work and commitment to provide the best for our students!

Also, we had 7 staff members participate in a CPR/AED certification program on Saturday, September 17. The following received certification in Adult and Child CPR/AED: Ms. Metcalf, Mr. Hamrick, Ms. Ellis, Mrs. Dowlen, Mrs. Cunningham, Mrs. Byars, and myself. I appreciate their willingness to go above and beyond to make Hixson Middle School a safe place for our students. Also, a special thank you to Nurse Tammy Zinkann for organizing the training.

“Hixson Says No to Bullying”: October 4th at 6:30

- So many times students will say they didn't want to report bullying because they would be seen as a “snitch”. Hixson Middle School is hoping to promote change in this perception. Working together, we can help our students realize that reporting bullying behavior is a proper way of standing up for themselves and not allowing another person to treat them with disrespect or in a negative manner. October 4 at 6:30, we will host the “Hixson Says No to Bullying” community event. The guest speaker, Karen Glenn from *Students Taking A Right Stand (STARS)*, will discuss what bullying is and is not as well as reporting bullying behavior in appropriate ways. Many community leaders are coming to show their support for this initiative: State Senator, Bo Watson, Property Assessor, Marty Haynes, District 3 School Board Representative, Dr. Greg Martin, and Interim Superintendent, Dr. Kirk Kelly. We hope you will join us for this event and stand with us as “Hixson Says No to Bullying”.

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hixson Middle School Reading Fair and Literacy Night: October 25th at 6:00

- Our first Reading Fair will be hosted on Tuesday, October 25 during class time for students and during Literacy Night (6:00-7:30) for parents and family members. The Reading Fair will highlight books read by our students. Please review the guidelines for the Reading Fair poster boards. Contact your child's language arts teacher with any questions.

I hope each family will be able to enjoy some relaxation over fall break.

Please remember all students will be expected to dress according to the dress code once we return from Fall Break. All dress down incentives for the Yankee Candle Sale ends on Thursday, October 6th.

There is no school for students Friday, October 7th. This is a teacher professional development day.

Thank you for your support of Hixson Middle School!

LeAngela Rogers

Principal



Hixson Says

NO to Bullying

**COME FOR THE FOOD,
STAY FOR THE MESSAGE.**

Parents, Families, Friends and
Community Leaders
Come Together!

Hixson Middle School Cafeteria
Tuesday October 4th
5:30 PM

BULLYING

STOP

Special Speaker:

Karen Glenn
from STARS



Held In HMS Gym 6:30 PM

\$5



Pizza Dinner

by the PTSA

Includes: Personal Pan Pizza
(Cheese or Pepperoni)
Drink & Dessert

Pre-order by Thursday Sept. 29th

Hixson Middle School - 5681 Old Hixson Pike - Hixson, TN 37343
423-847-4810

HMS Leadership Team

Meet Hixson Middle School's Leadership Team!

The Leadership Team attended the STARS Youth Summit on September 20th at the Chattanooga Recreation Center. The team was able to go through many team building activities and discuss topics that they identified as important to Hixson Middle School. They were asked to discuss what they enjoy most about HMS, what are some challenges, and what action plan could we put in place to help the school atmosphere. The students were given an opportunity to present their idea to the entire Summit and were able to learn from other schools in the district. The team was complimented on their ideas and participation. WAY TO GO HMS LEADERSHIP TEAM!!

Their next team activity will be as student ambassadors for the Hixson Says NO to Bullying meeting on October 4th.

Pictured

Back Left to Right:

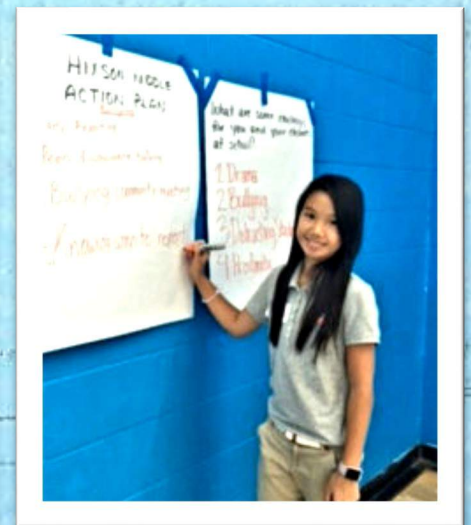
Caleb Taylor, Collin Griffith, Cole Shakelford, Caleb Miller, Kevin Luna-Aguilar, Trevor Lewis, AJ Wild, Logan Wallace & Timothy Barron

Front Left to Right:

Madison Goble, Emma Miller, Mia Weger, Grayson Swaney, Morgan Delashmitt, Riley Bellamy, Tracy Quach, Riley McCormick & Sara Barahman

Pictured

Tracy Quach writing ideas to present to the summit attendees.



HIXSON MIDDLE SCHOOL READING FAIR



DUE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25TH

The purpose of the Reading Fair is to give students an opportunity to share and celebrate reading. Students may work in pairs or individually. Partnerships will have to be from the same grade level. Project must be on a standard tri-fold project board that unfolds to be 36" H x 48" W. Use the checklists as a guide to help when creating the project. Identifying information (name of the student, student's grade level, and RLA teacher's name) should be labeled on the back of the storyboard. Projects will count as an assessment grade in Reading Language Arts class.

Reading Fair Project Checklist for **Fiction** Project has the following:

- _____ Title
- _____ Author
- _____ Additional titles by the same author or book recommendations that are similar to this book
- _____ Publisher and Publication Date
- _____ Main Characters- only those important to the story line
- _____ Setting - place and time of story
- _____ Plot Summary - brief summary (not a retelling) of what the story is about and what takes place
- _____ Conflict - the problem in the story
- _____ Solution or Resolution - how the problem is resolved
- _____ Tone and Mood -Tone is the author's attitude toward the topic and mood is how the reader

feels while reading.

(Each of the items above are worth 5 points each.)

Writing: Writing is neat and inviting. Writing is easily understood.

Creativity: Project is original. Project demonstrates imagination. Unique materials are used to express ideas.

Quality of Project: Project follows the guidelines.

Thoroughness of Written Information: Project captures the most important information. Project captures the concept/point the author made in the book.

Interest Evoked: Project demonstrates student's ability. Project encourages others to read the book. Project attracts others and makes them interested in the work.

(Each of these items are worth 10 points each.)

Additional Points:

Presenting storyboard at Literacy Night (October 25 from 6:00-7:30)

Dressing in character for presentation (potential dress code issue)

Having a "take away" item (bookmark, handout, etc.)

Interactive display

3-D component

Technology

Additional Points, cont.

Related Arts connection--art, drama skit, Spanish, Italian, music

Library connection: Bookmark contest: Design a bookmark that advertises your book. The bookmark must include the following: color, original work of art, title and author of the book, and your first, last name and grade level. The winning bookmark will be printed and distributed in the library for free throughout the year.

Reading Fair Project Checklist for **Non-Fiction** Project has the following:

- _____ Title
- _____ Author
- _____ Additional titles by the same author or book recommendations that are similar to this book
- _____ Publisher and Publication Date
- _____ Student prediction based on events and facts presented (before and after reading)
- _____ Structure(s) in the text (chronological/sequence, problem/solution, cause/effect, description, compare and contrast)
- _____ Use of graphic organizers to capture the main idea and/or points important to the text
- _____ Brief summary about the book
- _____ Facts and Opinions from the text
- _____ Follow-up questions to the author after reading the non-fiction text

Writing: Writing is neat and inviting. Writing is easily understood.

Creativity: Project is original. Project demonstrates imagination. Unique materials are used to express ideas.

Quality of Project: Project follows directions from the guidelines.

Thoroughness of Written Information: Project captures the most important information. Project captures the concept/point the author made in the book.

Interest Evoked: Project demonstrates student's ability. Project encourages others to read the book. Project attracts others and makes them interested in the work.

Additional Points:

Presenting storyboard at Literacy Night (October 25 from 6:00-7:30)

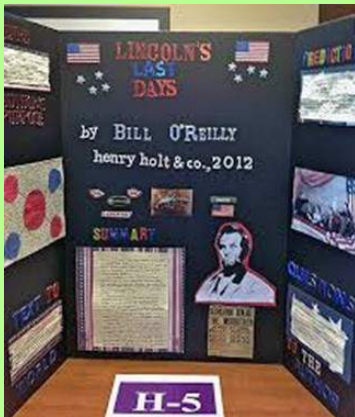
Dressing in character for presentation (potential dress code issue)

Having a "take away" item (bookmark, handout, etc.)

Interactive display

Related Arts connection--art, drama skit, Spanish, Italian, music

Library connection: Bookmark contest: Design a bookmark that advertises your book. The bookmark must include the following: color, original work of art, title and author of the book, and your first, last name and grade level. The winning bookmark will be printed and distributed in the library for free throughout the year.



Hixson Middle School's First Annual Reading Fair - Tuesday, October 25th

During the school day students will display their projects in the gym. At 6:00 p.m. that evening, parents may join us for our annual Literacy Night. The goal of The Reading Fair is to give our students a chance to share one of their favorite books with the rest of the school in a creative way. The Reading Fair also gives students an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of the parts of a book and the components of a story. The projects will also receive an assessment/project grade from their Reading Language Arts teacher.

Literacy Night - Tuesday, October 25th 6:00 p.m.

Mark your calendar! Literacy Night is Tuesday, October 25th at 6:00 p.m. You won't want to miss our students' Reading Fair exhibits, Read20 has generously donated free books, and Dr. Rogers is offering a dress down incentive!



PTSA - Coming up in October:

- Tuesday, October 4th - Community Meeting/Dinner "Hixson Says NO to Bullying". - Dinner is at 5:30pm & Speaker is at 6:30pm
- **OCTOBER 28TH, 6:00PM-8:00PM**
HALLOWEEN DANCE & HAUNTED LOCKERROOM - MORE INFO COMING SOON

Boxtop Contest:

Turn in your box Tops by Thursday, October 27th.

1. I will be giving out a Chick-fil-a Meal card to one student from each grade who brings in the most box tops.
2. I will be giving out a \$25 Chick-fil-a gift card to one student who has brought in the most box tops so far this year. ***If you win the gift card you cannot also win the meal card.***
3. I will be giving out a \$25 Chick-fil-a gift card to the homeroom teacher with the most box tops so far this year. Teachers get your students motivated!

Make sure students name & homeroom teacher is clearly marked with your box tops. No box tops dated before 11/1/16

All the information you will need can be found on:

- "Hixson Middle PTSA" Facebook Page
- HMS website: www.hms.hcde.org - SEE CALENDAR

Academics

6th Grade Science Mathews

Take a look at what some of our 6th grade Science students have been working on. They have been learning about the Engineering Design Process. During this investigation they came to realize that it is not so easy building technology. They worked on building a wind-powered car over a three day period. They were given materials such as life savers, ping pong balls, wooden skewers, duct tape and several other odd items. They had a budget, so they had to buy the materials for their design. After they put their materials together to create the car, they had to test it to see if it would roll/move with the wind of a fan. It took them many tries to accomplish their goal. Some their final projects are displayed in the library. Please stop by and check them out if you happen to be around.

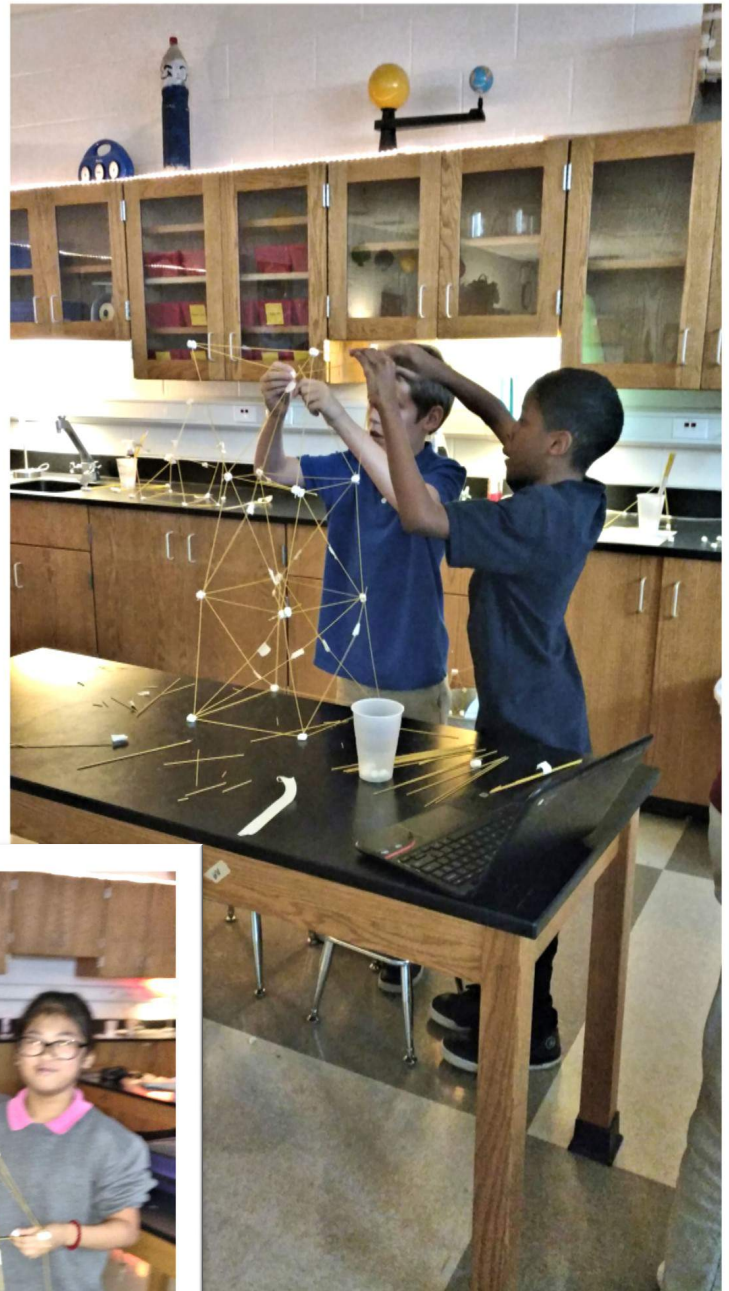
Thanks to all the parents that sent in the many materials that were used for this investigation. They couldn't have done it without you.



Academics

6th Grade Science Powell

This quarter we have been learning about the engineering design process. We discussed how this process is used to solve problems and create new inventions in our world. Our class then used research and creating models to find the best method for building stable towers.



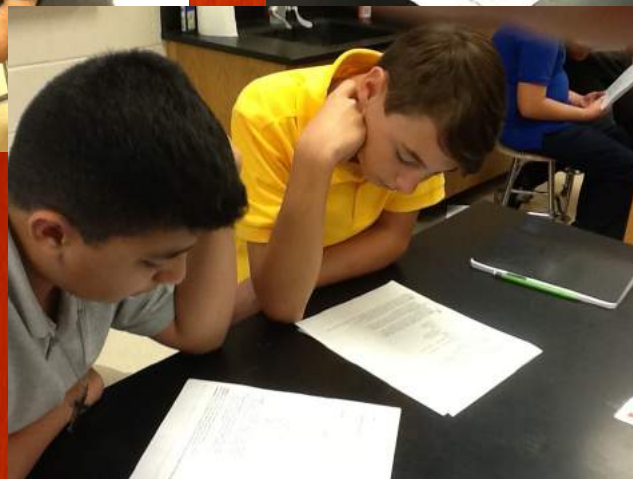
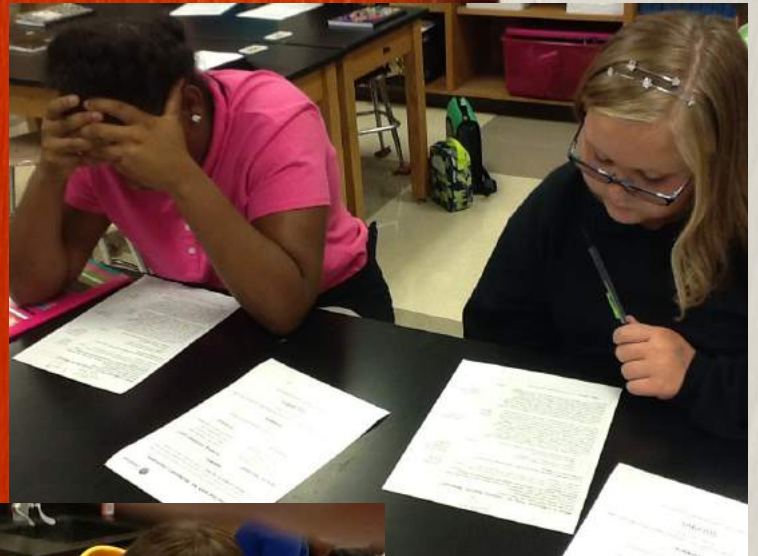
Academics

7th Grade Science Cunningham / McDaniels

Seventh-Grade Science students have been busy this year learning about minerals, rock, and the rock cycle. They have engaged in content learning by participating in lab activities such as the Physical Properties of Minerals by examining nine minerals to identify their major properties in order to determine which minerals they were looking at, through exploration of the rock cycle with crayons, and examining different types of rocks as they completed their rock graphic organizer. To support their studies, students have read articles about minerals, the rock cycle, and layers of the Earth that incorporate text dependent questions and summary and analytical writing in order to synthesize their understanding. As the students move forward in September, they will be learning about continental drift, seafloor spreading, and plate tectonics.



7th Grade Science Close Reading



Academics

6th Grade World History Byars / Williams

Students working in 6th grade World History have uncovered the Prehistory Era and learned about the Paleolithic and Neolithic Age and their technological advancements. Ask any 6th grader, and they can tell you how systematic agriculture paved the path to early civilizations. The civilizations of Mesopotamia have also been explored.

As we study the Ancient Civilizations of Egypt, India and China the make-up of the economic environments will be visited. Both Mrs. Byars and Mrs. Williams plan to use projects and writing to support the literacy relevant to these ancient cultures.

Like true historians, our students will be working with both primary sources and informational text to develop stronger responses to TNReady standards using text evidence. This practice will help support our students when they are assessed later in the school year.

Activities to look forward to include working with digital collections of Egyptian Pyramids, such as, touring 3-D images of the Pyramids and Sphinx at Giza and interactive historical maps. Pyramid Texts on the wall of the burial chambers and creating advertisements relating to mummification. Excerpts such as those from The Upanishads and Buddha's lessons will be incorporated as well.



Academics

6th Grade Reading **Bailey / Metcalf**

1st quarter is almost complete! Students have been working on plot, sequence of events, settings, conflicts, and many other story elements. Unit 2 will begin next week and we will be focusing on characters and their traits throughout different stories. Literacy Night will be coming up soon and each student received a literacy fair project paper. Students may begin working on their project boards for Literacy Night. Please remind your student to make sure they have their independent reading books each day as well as reader's notebooks!

6th Grade Math **Little / Ellis**

The pace of sixth grade math is picking up steadily. Students have learned to add, subtract, multiply, and divide numbers with decimals as they solved real-world word problems. At this time, identifying and ordering integers are our main focus. Students have drawn number lines, created equations, and used absolute values to solve problems. As the first quarter comes to a close, our focus will move to factors, multiples, and the coordinate plane.

7th Grade Language Arts **Thacker / Birch**

As we come to end of the first nine weeks, Mrs. Birch and I have reflected back on the work and learning opportunities that your students have accomplished. Learning new ways to read fiction with a more critical eye and engaging in the art of writing realistic fiction is no easy task. Your children have worked hard. As we prepare to enter our second nine weeks of school, we look ahead to reading and analyzing the genre of fantasy. Students will begin this study after fall break. They will work together in small book clubs to tackle a variety of topics associated with fantasy. While this may seem easy, fantasy is a challenging genre due to it being filled with metaphors, theme, imagery, and symbolism. Students will work together to understand these concepts more completely and culminate their study with an analytical writing piece.

Also, October 25th will be an exciting and busy day for all 7th grade students as we set up and present our favorite books at Hixson Middle School's first Reading Fair. This event will take place during the annual literacy night held every year. Your student has already received information regarding this event. Please be on the lookout for more information.

Academics

8th Grade History Henderson / Cuttle

Eighth grade U.S. History is starting their study of the American Revolution before fall break and will continue afterwards. With the election coming up, this is a great time to ask your students what they are learning about America's past.

Students who are interested in extra credit opportunities should go to: www.henderson-history.weebly.com and click the Extra Credit tab.

There are a couple of upcoming events that are always engaging for history students.

Culture Fest at the Chattanooga Market will be on October 2. See the Chattanooga Market website for details. www.chattanoogamarket.com

Replicas of Columbus' ships Pinta and Nina will be docked at Chattanooga Pier from November 10-27. If you've never seen these ships before, please take some time with your student to explore this excellent opportunity. General Admission: \$8.00 for adults, \$7.00 for seniors (age 60+), \$6.00 age 5-16 , age 4 and under are free. Hours: Nov-Dec 9am to 5pm. (Ports, date, and prices are subject to change.)

Please see Mr. Henderson or Mr. Cuttle for specific requirements to receive extra credit for these or any other opportunity listed on our website.

8th Grade Reading Language Arts Bishop / Brewer

Reading - Historical Fiction set during The Revolutionary War Book Clubs

The goal of this unit is for students to emerge from their participation in book clubs as knowledgeable readers who have new confidence in tackling complicated literature. Historical fiction provides a dramatically engaging backdrop for learning such complex skills. The Revolutionary War time period provides opportunities for cross-curricular connections since our 8th graders study this time period in their Social Studies classes.

Writing - Writing a Letter to the Next President

Students will choose a topic or issue, research it, develop a claim, and write a compelling argument in letter format. During this process, students will also study mentor letters and learn how to use sentence frames to introduce a quote, provide an explanation, and connect a source to a claim.

Academics

8th Grade Science Lewis / Spann

8th graders will be going on the "Career Crunch", on November 3rd. On this field trip, students will be able to explore many different career options. Career crunch is sponsored by several local businesses in conjunction with the Chamber of commerce. 8th grade is the time to begin thinking seriously about future career and educational options.

8th Grade Math Childers / Goad

Those that completed their Math In Everything projects looked great! Good job! Remember that practice makes for a better math skills. There will be fall break homework. If your student states that they are bored, just remind them that there is some work to practice. It will contain the skills needed for last quarter. Tutoring needs to be signed up through Ms. Goad and then she will instruct you on the day. Quarter 2 projects will start on the 27th. Keep in mind that these projects are given weeks in advance before they are due.



Student Council: Everyone is welcome to attend the meetings on the **second Tuesday** of the month at 6:45 AM in Ms. Childers Room 8125, unless instructed otherwise!

Congratulations to the new 7th grade president Morgan Delashmitt!
We look forward to hearing and implementing your ideas!



Archery is getting cranked up. We will begin shooting with all grades on **October 4th**. We practice Tuesdays from 2:30-4.

FAQ: Is it too late to sign up? No, we will have people signing up all year, however soon we will be ordering t-shirts and unless there are many requests later in the year, you might not get a shirt.

Can I play another sport then do archery when that sport is over? Yes, some of our best archers play multiple sports.

Do we have competitions? Yes, we will have at least 3 local competitions and then the state tournament in April.

Do I need to have experience? No, we welcome all newcomers and will train you.

Email coach Lewis for more details: lewis_larry@hcde.org

A photograph of a green chalkboard. The word "ESOL" is written in large, white, block letters across the top. Below the board, a wooden easel holds two pieces of chalk, one red and one green.

ESOL

Our class was glad to have Anne Sharpe, a visiting student teacher in September & October...Also, as we're approaching the second quarter in the academic year, we will continue focusing on learning English skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. All English learners are reading both fiction and nonfiction texts in preparation to understand and be able to complete their Literacy Project.

=Ms. Jarrett

HIXSON MIDDLE CROSSCOUNTRY TEAM:

Hixson Middle Cross Country had a great season with overall winning records: GIRLS 6 and 2 and the BOYS 5 and 3. Many of the runners earned a "GOLDEN GATORADE" for improving their numbers throughout each meet.

Way to go Hixson Middle Cross Country!!!
Coach Byars



HIXSON MIDDLE HAD FOUR ALL COUNTY RUNNERS IN THE TOP 15.

JACE MOSES, AJ WILD, TAYLOR MILLIRON, AND MEGAN CLINE.



TAYLOR TOOK 6TH PLACE AND MEGAN CLINE TOOK 10TH PLACE IN THE END OF THE SEASON CROSS COUNTRY TOURNAMENT.



BOYS CROSSCOUNTRY



GIRLS CROSSCOUNTRY



Hixson Middle School's **Technology Student Association, TSA**, is looking for members to participate in Tennessee TSA's Regional and State Conferences. Students who participate will be given the opportunity to display their leadership and technological knowledge and skills in representing Hixson Middle School, Chattanooga, and Hamilton County.

Members are needed who have at least a 2.0 grade point average without any grades that is D or below; who have not been suspended; who are in good standing with their teachers and administrators; and who will be able to attend TSA meetings after school and must be able to work individually as well as cooperatively with others on projects for competitive events.

There is a **\$15** membership fee for all students that must be submitted for state and national affiliations.

For additional information, please contact Mrs. Bulls, TSA Advisor, at **847-4810, extension 261** or **bulls_beverly@hcde.org**.

"Living to learn in a technical world."

Hixson Middle School's **Technology Student Association, TSA**, is looking for members. Members are needed who will participate in TSA Conferences, in which all students who participate will be given the opportunity to display their leadership and technological knowledge and skills.

Members are needed who have at least a 2.0 grade point average without any grades that is D or below; who have not been suspended; and who are in good standing with administrators and their teachers.

There is a **\$15** membership fee to join TSA. Students interested in joining TSA should see Mrs. Bulls for additional information and a membership application packet.

Hixson Middle School Summer Reading Book Clubs... bringing faculty and students together to talk about reading.



**15 titles, 53 clubs, 45 minutes, 652 students,
100% amazing!**





Art and Autism through the Chattanooga Autism Center

A program designed to help kids on the spectrum explore shapes, colors, textures, and all other forms art has to offer. A great place for children of all abilities on the spectrum to show their creative side!

Wish List:

Paint	brushes
digital cameras	easels
tripods	candle wax
computer editing software	aluminum foil
canvases	other art supplies

Local artists who wish to volunteer their time to help in special one on one classes. Donations can be dropped off at the Chattanooga Autism Center located at 1400 McCallie Ave. Suite 100 Chattanooga, TN. or dropped off to **Mrs. Teeters** in the Library room 4120.

Events Coming up

Boo in the Zoo;

WHO: Individuals of all ages with special needs and/or terminal illnesses and their families or caretakers.

WHEN: **Wednesday October 26th, 2016**

WHERE: The Chattanooga Zoo in Warner Park

TIME: 5:30-8:30

COST: Free

RSVP: to the Chattanooga Zoo at info@chattzoo.org or [423-697-1319](tel:423-697-1319)

Autism Awareness Walk

WHAT: Raising awareness in Chattanooga, North Georgia, and East Tennessee. We have new goals this year! We want to see if we can raise \$60,000!

WHEN: **Saturday November 12th, 2016**

WHERE: Coolidge Park

To learn more and to register: www.chattautismwalk.com

Thank you,
Mrs. Teeters





To get the shot or not, that is the age old question.

I don't know if you are as tired of the summer heat as I am but I say, "Bring on Fall!". Fall is full of great events such as color cruises, craft fairs and fresh apple pie. It also brings on a bombardment of advertisements for the flu shot. Every March, the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, pours over studies (flips a coin...just kidding...I think) and decides which strains of influenza will invade our country over the next year. Then we as consumers must make the decision to receive the injection (and the cute heart sticker) or take the chance that we will dodge the flu bullet. Yes, it is true I am a Pro-Shot kind of gal. Why, you ask, if I still have a 40-50% chance of contracting the flu, maybe the CDC got it wrong or I will get hit by a bus before the flu can find me? My answer is because I am not just protecting myself but all of those I am in contact with at home, school and in my community. You see the stats are very low that a healthy adult of my age will die from the flu, however there are those individuals who will. For the elderly, newborns, patients on chemotherapy, and those who rely on other immunity suppressant medication to live, the flu could be deadly. So while you are considering which way to go remember those friends.

Now if you are not a fan of shots, there are some other measures you can take to protect yourself and others over the next few months. I call it the "passive-aggressive combating influenza technique".

1. Wash your hands! (while hand sanitizer if fine warm soapy water is even better)
2. Sleep! (yes I love Jimmy Fallon too, but you can always catch up on line)
3. Sneeze Right! (not in your hand or into the air but in your antecubital space a.k.a. Superman's cape)
4. Cough Right! (see above technique and know that a single cough can spread germs up to and past 10-12 feet)
5. Eat right! (remember all those nutritious foods that provide antioxidants)
6. Play right! (Believe it or not one can literally "out run the flu" as exercise not only makes us feel good it boosts our immunity.

So the decision is up to you,
The Grumpy Nurse

Teachers/Staff Birthdays



OCTOBER

10/15 Ms. Mathews - 6th Science

10/19 Mr. Jackson - #1 Custodian

Other

- October 3rd at 6:30PM. - Fall Chorus Concert.
- October 6th. - DUE DATE...Turn in money/forms for HMS Sweatshirts.
- October 7th - No School
- October 10th - 14th - Fall Break. (Back to School Monday October 17th.)
- October 18th - School Pictures, 8am-2pm.
- October 20th - 8th Grade Drama RTI Fieldtrip. See Calendar on HMS website for info/form.
- October 25th - Literacy Night / Reading Fair, 6:00pm.

See HMS Calendar on the School Website: www.hms.hcde.org