



CARDINAL COURIER

March 6, 2020



1. **Character Education Trait for February was tolerance:** capacity to endure pain or hardship; to be accepting of others. Each class voted and the tolerant students are: Christopher Smith, Brooke Ramaeker, Rubiella Saucedo, Sara Gutierrez, Athena Blanton, Isabella Gonzalez, Lily Salas-Webb, Hayley Contreras, Josie Robles, Ava Anderson, AnneMarie Maxfield, Adrianna Guziejka, Adrian Mendez, Yahaira Rosales, Christian Gutierrez, Dominic Merlini, Reyna Lopez, Joslyn Perez, Brendan Bastida, Ariana Giddins, Alejandra Lozano, Jose Ramos-Pablo, Shamaiah Crayton, Gabriel Cabello, and Ms. Kenealy.
2. **February Positive Referrals:** Congratulations to the following students for receiving a positive referral during the month of February: Brody Maschmeyer, Teresa Nirchi, Elisha Keys, David Foreman-Lumpkin, Chase Stone, Hunter Vankuiken, Andrew Pena, Vaishnavi Kansara, Annie Maxfield, Mason Roth, Alea Thorne, Solomon Brisco, Fernanda Lopez, Ariana Sanchez, Jordyn Robinson, Julian Tavoletti, and Jordyn Lewis.
3. **Perfect Attendance and Honor Roll:** Congratulations to all our students for their hard work and dedication during the 2nd Trimester. Keep up the great work!
4. **Character Education Trait for March is perseverance:** you are able to wait and work through difficulties; when you are facing a challenge, you use your mind and body to overcome it. It takes planning and perseverance to be successful. If you persevere, you can reach your goals.
5. **Annual District Art Show:** Will be held Wednesday, March 18th at Columbia from 6:00-7:30 in the small gym. Please come out and see the amazing pieces of art on display created by students from our district.
6. **Choir:** Steger Intermediate Choir will have a concert on Thursday, March 19th at 7:00 p.m. at Columbia Central along with the 5th and 6th grade choir and 6th grade band.
7. **Spring pictures will be Thursday, March 26th.**
8. **Young Authors:** If your child is participating in Young Authors, the final draft of books are due Thursday, March 19th.
9. **Spirit Week March 9-13: As we are preparing for the IAR State Testing, we will “Hit it into the “AIR” (IAR)! with our Baseball themed Spirit Week:**
 - **Monday, March 9 - Favorite Baseball Team Day**
 - **Tuesday, March 10 - Hat Day**
 - **Wednesday, March 11 - Wear your favorite sports jersey day**
 - **Thursday, March 12 - Baseball Game Day (classroom activities)**
 - **Friday, March 13 - Baseball Bingo**
10. **IAR State Testing:** Students in grades 3 and 4 will take the IAR (Illinois Assessment for Readiness) the weeks of March 16th – 27th. Attendance is very important during this time – please try not to schedule any appointments or vacations during the testing window. To help prepare our students, we encourage families to practice an activity each week leading up to the test. Please use the link below to help students practice **Working through 2-part questions and Math practice tests**. The more they practice the easier it will be on testing day. Go to <https://il.mypersonsupport.com/> website:
 - Click on View Test Preparation
 - From the drop down menu select Practice Tests-this will take you to another screen
 - Choose English/Language Arts
 - Choose grade
 - Choose Computer Based Unit 1 or 2....there is lots to try!

Pearson Practice Math Tests

- Click on View Test Preparation
- From the drop down menu select Practice Tests-this will take you to another screen
- Choose Mathematics
- Choose grade
- Choose Computer Based Unit 1, 2, or 3....there is lots to try!

- 11. Jump Rope for Heart:** A program sponsored by the American Heart Association that aims to involve school-age children in the fight against heart disease. Mr. Moses is combining a jump-rope unit in P.E. class with a fundraising effort for the American Heart Association. All money collected is due today, March 16th. Thank you for your participation.
- 12. Girls on the Run:** If you registered your 3rd or 4th grade daughter for this program, it will begin Tuesday, March 10th from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. They will practice Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- 13. Safety:** Remember that Hopkins is a **one way going North**. Please back in the parking spaces on Hopkins for dismissal (make sure you are not blocking the sidewalk) **there is NO parking on the street. It is not safe for students to run out to vehicles that are in the driving lane. Please drive SLOWLY and CAREFULLY, always obeying the directions of crossing guards and school officials – OUR TOP PRIORITY IS STUDENT SAFETY!**
- 14. Winter is here:** Students should be prepared for outdoor recess each day the temp. is above 32 . Students should wear hats, coats, gloves and scarves each day.
- 15. Changes to dismissal: PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE BY 2:00 P.M. IF THERE ARE CHANGES TO HOW YOUR STUDENT WILL GET HOME. Students will be sent home their usual way unless we are notified by the parent/guardian.** Early Release Wednesdays: **JUST A REMINDER that EVERY WEDNESDAY is a 1:30 dismissal.** Teachers will be using this day to meet with teams to discuss student data and teaching strategies to ensure that all our students are learning the essentials we have identified at each grade level. **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR STUDENT IS PICKED UP ON TIME!**
- 16. Changes to dismissal: PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE BY 2:00 P.M. IF THERE ARE CHANGES TO HOW YOUR STUDENT WILL GET HOME. Students will be sent home the usual way unless we are notified by the parent/guardian.**
- 17. Student Tardies:** We are noticing more and more that many kids ARE NOT arriving at school on time. If your student is eligible for the bus, please make sure they are at their stop in plenty of time so they don't miss it. School begins **PROMPTLY AT 8:00 a.m.** Children may enter the building at 7:30 a.m. **PLEASE MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO GET YOUR CHILD(REN) HERE ON TIME.** We don't want students missing out on their classroom time, their specials, or causing disruptions to their fellow classmates when they come into class late. We appreciate your help.

Important Dates



March 11: Early Release Wednesday - 1:30 dismissal

March 18: Early Release Wednesday - 1:30 dismissal, District Art Show 6-7:30 @ Columbia Central

March 19: Board of Education Meeting (6:00 PM) @ Columbia Central, Choir Concert 7:00 @ Columbia

March 20: No School - Institute Day

March 25: Early Release Wednesday - 1:30 dismissal