



HUSKY HOWLER

Principally Speaking...

Assistant Principal, that is.

Adam Rupert, Assistant Principal, 7th Grade

Paul Harper, Assistant Principal, 8th Grade

SIX QUESTIONS EVERY FAMILY NEEDS TO KNOW THE ANSWERS TO!

1. An absence requires a signed note to be excused. True or False
2. Student phones can be on but set to silent during school hours. True or False
3. The building and office are closed at 4pm each day. True or False
4. Pajama bottoms and slippers violate EMS dress code. True or False
5. EMS now has paperless report cards through Family Access. True or False
6. All visitors must have an official picture Identification card to enter the building. True or False

HOW DID YOU DO? TAKE A LOOK AT THE ANSWERS BELOW:

1. To excuse any absence we must have a signed note from the parent to excuse the absence.
2. Student phones need to be off and not set to silent. Often times when a phone is confiscated by a teacher during school hours it is a parent text message alert.
3. Students are not allowed back in the building to retrieve things from their lockers after 4pm. Only athletics and school sponsored events are allowed in after 4pm, due to student supervision issues.
4. As we enter the cooler months, please be aware that pajama bottoms and slippers are a violation of EMS dress code.
5. We now have gone paperless with our report cards. If you are having trouble or do not have an account set up with Family Access, please call the school to set that up.
6. All visitors must have their picture Identification card run through our Raptor database when they visit our school. Please bring your ID anytime you plan on visiting our campus.

Answers 1-T, 2-F, 3-T, 4-T, 5-T, 6-T

A note from the Historian

EMS PTA Marni Kilzi



We need pictures from any school events thus far this year!

- Band
- Orchestra
- Robotics
- Sporting events
- Back to School Bash

Any photo contributions may be e-mailed or contact Marni for pick-up.

mkilzi@msn.com or 214 383 1352

Thanks! With your help the EMS scrapbook will look great!

From the EMS Clinic

Beth Heffernan, RN



With the seasonal & the pandemic flu threatening the holiday season, it is a good idea to prepare your family for the holidays. A visit to a health care provider who may not be your regular physician can be an unwelcome, but necessary event that occurs while away from home.

Click the Family Member Health Information Sheet link <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/txflu/flu-FamilyInfo.pdf>, fill it out and bring it with you to the appointment and it should enable an unfamiliar health care provider to give you the best medical care for you and your loved ones.

Wishing you a safe and healthy holiday season!

Winter Break is
Dec. 21 – Jan. 1



Ereckson English Department

From the 7th Grade English Team

7th grade English students are writing, writing, writing! We are impressed with how well they are expressing feelings in their essays. Perhaps the units on the Traits of Good Writing have helped them with their ability to write complete, coherent sentences. No doubt their improved vocabularies are also responsible for this improvement.

After completing their classificatory essays over the similarities and differences between the short story "The Birds" by Daphne du Maurier and the blockbuster film The Birds directed by Alfred Hitchcock, Pre-AP students completed a project depicting different scenes from the story and movie. Please come down to A hall where these incredible projects are displayed!

This six weeks on-level students will be reading the Charles Dickens' play *A Christmas Carol* while Pre-AP students will be studying the novel. Students will also be introduced to the circumstances behind Charles Dickens' writing of this classic story. It is interesting to learn that Dickens wrote this story because of his interest in social reform, and the popularity of the story changed the way Christmas was celebrated forever.

EMS Reading Department

Ondria Gerard Gadd, Department Chair

From The 7th grade Reading Department:

On-level Reading classes are enjoying their study of *The Outsiders*, written by S.E. Hinton when she was 17 years old. *The Outsiders* takes place in the 60's and involves three brothers that struggle to stay together after their parents' death. This is a chronicle of their search for an identity among the conflicting values of a society in which they find themselves the "outsiders."

When we finish the novel we will create a six-sided story cube project. This is always a fun time as we work together with partners to complete this project.

Pre-AP Reading classes have just recently begun a Literature Circle novel study. Students were placed into small groups of four or five to read a novel together. During the next few weeks each group member must complete five different jobs: Discussion Director, Literary Luminary, Character Connector, Word Wizard, and Travel Tracer and participate in several groups meetings. Many students find this to be one of the most challenging units in Pre-AP Reading, but they usually agree that they learn a lot and it is very rewarding as well.

BCIS/CC

Business Computer Information Systems/Career Connections

Wes Byers

We spent the first six weeks of BCIS/CC learning about ourselves. We took personality tests and tests that helped lead us to a career that matched our personalities.

The second six weeks we studied career clusters that each student was interested in to find the career or careers that they would enjoy doing.

This six weeks, students have started learning about creating a budget and the importance of budgeting. Students will create a budget for a predetermined salary and city in Texas. Students will also interview someone in the career field that they are interested in to gain information on the education and hard work it takes to excel in that career.

Students will then write a research paper in which they tie their interview and budget together along with the education that they need to gain in order to achieve that salary that lets them live the lifestyle they desire.

PTA Parent Programs

The Teens & Money PTA program on October 27 presented by Chione Giacomarro, MBA of Primerica Financial Services included strategies toward talking about the ABC's of money with our teens.

Attitudes - keep open communication with how you manage your finances, your approaches toward spending, your philosophy toward money, that it gives us choices and freedom, not necessarily happiness.

Behavior - set one year goals with your teens, spend less than you earn, help teens understand credit card interest rates.

Creativity - use allowance, commission, income, savings with our teens. For instance, for college planning parents matching dollars to scholarships, or student savings. Discover what is important to your teen and what motivates them.

If you're interested in more information about the parent session or a personal financial needs analysis, go to www.primerica.com/giacomarro or call 817-832-7670.

Upcoming PTA programs:

January (date TBA) - Tips for High School

March 12 (time TBA) - Cyberbullying

"Christmas gift suggestions:

To your enemy, forgiveness.

To an opponent, tolerance.

To a friend, your heart.

To a customer, service.

To all, charity.

To every child, a good example.

To yourself, respect."

Oren Arnold

Special Populations

Laurie Schaefer

This month we would like to introduce:

Shawn Gallimore

Q. What do you do at EMS?

A. Resource II Teacher Assistant

Q. How long have you been in education?

A. Since January of 2008

Q. What are you looking forward to this year at EMS?

A. Another fun and rewarding year with our kids

Q. Where are you originally from?

A. Born in Ft. Worth.....been in Allen since 1984

Q. What do you like to do when you are not at school?

A. I manage AXE Sports Association, Inc. - a non-profit youth sports organization promoting girls' fastpitch softball. In January of 2010 I will begin a part-time job as Head JV Softball Coach at Ursuline Academy in Dallas.

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of the first semester! The Special Populations department has been very busy working with your students to assist them in being academically successful!

In Special Education, we are serving nearly 125 students! We offer services through our Study Skills classes, the Learning Lab, Resource II, the PAS program and Resource Reading, English and math! We also provide inclusion support in selected science and history classes. We have 16 staff members working in these areas to provide support and guidance as needed!

All special education students are assigned a Case Manager. If you ever need any assistance, please contact them. If you are unsure of your students Case Manager, please feel free to contact me for the information.

Our ESL department serves more than 60 students! Susan Koiner and Amy Hickman work with these students to provide academic, language and study skills support!

Congratulations on completing the first semester of the school year! Have a happy holiday season and a joyous New Year!

Ereckson History Department

Lisa Weston

7th Grade

Seventh grade Texas history is finishing up on its unit on how the Spanish implemented the Mission System in order to strengthen its claims in the New World. Next up, we're going to start looking at unrest in Spanish controlled Mexico with the Mexican Revolution and the invasion of the filibusters. Soon, Americans will start to gaze westward and set their sights on Texas. Led by the Austins, Americans will begin to settle in this great place we call Texas. By the time Winter Break is upon us, we will be starting the exciting unit, and a student favorite, the Texas Revolution!

8th Grade

Eighth graders have finished up our study of the American Revolution. Now that the United States has become their own country, they are faced with the challenge of setting up a new government to run it. This six weeks we will be studying the Constitution and how our government works. We will also look at the Bill of Rights in detail and discuss how they impact us all as individuals. Benchmarks will be given this month and we will use the results to target those students who may need that extra push in order to adequately be prepared for the TAKS test in the spring.

Reflections Update

Congratulations to the following students whose Reflections entries received an Award of Excellence and advanced to Council:

Nicholas Cobb - Grade 8, Photography

Emily Jenkins - Grade 7, Photography

Hunter Stevens - Grade 8, Literature

Neha Singh - Grade 8, Literature

Elyse Simchik - Grade 8, Photography

Megan Simmons - Grade 8, Film Production

For all your Ereckson Middle School Info
Check out:

<http://www.allenisd.org/erecksonms>

OR

www.erecksonpta.org



Enjoy your
winter holidays!

