



What's the Buzz?

March 23, 2010

Happy Birthday Abraham Lincoln!

By: Maggie

Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809 in a log cabin in Hardin County, KY. This year he would be 201 years old. Abraham was our 16th president and guided our country through the Civil War. He was considered to be the greatest American president.

Lincoln was killed on April 15, 1865 by a southern sympathizer named John Wilkes Booth while he enjoyed a play at the Ford's Theater. The show was called "My American Cousin". His greatest work of freeing the slaves had been complete. Abraham's ideals still live on today. So, as you are enjoying a day off from work or school, remember to say Happy Birthday to President Lincoln!



**Our next meeting is
Tuesday, April 20
from 2:45 to 3:30 P.M.
in Ms. Smith's room.**



The Unknown Usual

By Jenna

We have realized that everyone may not know what the kids are doing at St. Pat's in Junior High. These are a few of the weekly assignments that we do.

In English, Ms. Smith's room, we have weekly proofreading sheets. There's usually grammar, usage, spelling, capitalization, and content errors. We turn this in every week. The number of errors is the amount of points you can possibly get.

In Mrs. Cooper's room, Literature, we do weekly analogies. There's five each, and we do these once a week. You can find them on RenWeb and we may print them out or copy them on loose-leaf paper. It's worth ten points per week.

In Social Studies, Mrs. Ortega's room, we have current events quizzes almost every Friday. It's worth five points plus one extra credit point. Throughout the week, if we have time, we usually go over some current events. One more thing about Mrs. Ortega's room: there's a student teacher, Mr. Yelk, who's been here for a while. He's been teaching the sixth, seventh, and eighth graders almost every day and it's very fun. Unfortunately after Spring Break, Mr. Yelk will be leaving, so he can continue his studying elsewhere. Thanks, Mr. Yelk, for making History more fun!



Spring Break Survey

By: Kara and Angela

We surveyed five random people from each classroom in the Junior High about what they're doing for Spring Break. Here are the results:

26% are staying at home.

26% are spending time with family and friends

20% are going to Florida

13% are going on vacation somewhere on the West coast.

9% are going on vacation somewhere on the East coast.

6% are going somewhere in Illinois.

We hope you all have no matter what you're doing on Spring Break! (Don't forget to sleep in!)

Math = A Cure

By: Monica

St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital is a great hospital where children with cancer and other unusual diseases are cured. It takes about \$1.4 million to run St. Jude's a day! They do not require the parents to pay, St. Jude's runs on charities. Every year the sixth graders help to raise money for these children like them who fight for their lives every day.

Each sixth grader who decided to participate in this event were given math-a-thon fun book, in this book were math problems to solve. Then each student tries to collect money based on his or her sponsor's pledge. When sponsors pledge the give a donation based on how many math problems the student does. In the end they turn in their money for St. Jude's.

Although some sixth graders didn't participate, some decided to sponsor their friends. Even teachers sponsored for this wonderful cause. Everyone who participated and sponsored has made a difference in saving the lives of hundreds of children. Thank you all for helping St. Jude's in their mission to find a cure.

What's that green stuff?

By: Ethan



What is that? Right about now the huge amounts of snow are melting, showing off green grass (well not green, more like light brown). At least for me it's hard to remember having green grass on the ground below our feet. Now I'm not so sure what the groundhog said this year, but we might have spring soon! Hopefully; all the snow has passed, but if I can remember prior years, it snowed around Easter! Now that's hard to imagine: an Easter with snow?

Another thing that's new is that there are animals outside now. They must've come out of hibernation already. For example, some people at our school I know have had skunks in their yards (even me!). Now I might be wrong, but when I think of spring, I don't think of skunks at all! But, in the past few weeks, I've heard some birds chirping in the trees with their songs of spring (or I guess winter with some snow still left). That's what I think of when I think of spring, Easter, and all that stuff!

By talking to people around the school, I got a good idea for how many people want spring and who wants winter to stay. Most people I'd say are sick and tired of winter and just want some sun! But some still want winter's cool chill to stay. Either way, I think everyone will find a way to enjoy this time of year.

Snow or Shine?



By Kevin

Would you rather have a snow day now in the winter and have an extra day of school at the end of the year or have a school day now in the winter and get out of school earlier? I asked the 6th, 7th and 8th graders which they would choose and they came up with the results of 57% of students voting for have a school day now and getting out of school earlier and 43% of students voting for having a snow day now and making it up at the end of the year.

I asked some of the members of both sides why they choose the side they did. The majority of eight graders wanted a snow day now and an extra day of school at the end of the year because after they graduate, they don't have to make up snow days. Philip Sojka, who wanted a school day now and an extra day of school at the end of the year, said "I would like to be outside and have a day off when it's nice outside."

Some of the positive things that would come from a snow day now is you get to stay home in the warmth of your house and play outside in the snow, while the positive things of going to school instead of a snow day are that you get to learn and see your friends. Some of the negative things about a snow day now are you have to make it up at the end of the year and you have to make up whatever you missed. The negative things of going to school now are you have to go out in the cold and you have to do work when you could be outside in the snow.

Some of the positive things that would come from an extra day of school at the end of the year are you learn more and you see your friends once more before the end of school. The positives things of getting out of school earlier at the end of the year are that you have summer sooner and you are free of school. Some of the negative things that come from an extra day of school at the end of the year are you have to wait more for summer and you have more work when you want to play. The negative things about getting out of school earlier at the end of the year are you don't learn as much and you don't get as much time to have fun at school.

How Much is Too Much?

By: Abbey

Students of all ages! You probably heard of your friends not finishing their homework, and they blame it on sport activities, dance, and other activities. They said that they have too much. My question is, how is too much?

What is too much for you? I got to talk to Cassandra. Her schedule usually is basketball, volleyball, softball, and soccer. She thinks that that is a good amount for her. Thanks for talking to me.

So Cassandra thinks that that is not too hard for her, let's see what Faith thinks. Her schedule is piano, dance (Hip Hop) and volleyball. Her comment about her schedule was, "I like my entire schedule with the same amount—nothing more nothing less!" That seems like a good amount for her. Thanks for the chat!

Then I got to talk to Amy. The hardest part of her schedule is homework. The most fun part her schedule is getting free time. She also does soccer, basketball, volleyball, and track. She thinks that it is good amount for her.

Whatever is too much for you, you shouldn't do. So before you start scheduling for the next year, make sure you know what is too much or too little for you because schools comes FIRST!