

Bulldog Barks

A publication of the T/E Middle School PTO

April 2010

Visit the [TEMS PTO Website](http://www.temsppto.org) @ www.temsppto.org



Find more school news @ www.tesd.k12.pa.us/tems

TEMS Faculty & Staff are great!

May 2-8 is Teacher Appreciation Week! It's a great time to write a note of thanks!

Hello TEMS Families!

We hope you had a restful and healthy Spring Break. Now that school is back in full swing, so is the PTO! We are excited about our upcoming Handel's Ice Cream event on May 19th and our Barnes & Noble Day on June 10th. Our wonderful "What a Life" Program is in bloom as well. If you are at school, take a moment to check out the "What a Life" decorations in the cafeteria. A big thank you goes to all of our volunteers who help to make these programs and all of our other programs so successful.

If you are reading this electronically, thank you for subscribing to our email blast system, it is a great way to get connected to what we are doing at TEMS.

As always, thank you for being an important part of our middle school community.

Warmest Wishes,
Margaret MacKenzie
PTO President; on behalf of the PTO Board



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And more!

Parent Volunteer Opportunities...

Handel's Day on Wed, May 19 – parents are needed to line the route from TEMS to Handel's Ice Cream. *See page 2*

8th Grade Graduation – 7th and 8th Grade parents needed to help with breakfast and clean up. Volunteer opportunities on Thursday, June 17 and Friday, June 18. *See page 10.*

Last Call for Acme Receipts. Please have them all in by April 23rd. The final total will be in the next Bulldog Barks.



Mark your calendar...

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

3-8 pm is TEMS' Handel's Ice Cream Day

Handel's Ice Cream Day!

I scream....You scream....
TEMS SCREAMS FOR HANDEL'S ICE CREAM!!

An easy, delicious fundraiser for TEMS is on the horizon. Wednesday, May 19, from 3:00 to 8:00pm, TEMS will host its 1st Handel's Spirit Day. By using the special TEMS FLYER at time of purchase, our school will make a profit of 20% of total sales that day!! So get ready to count your calories for profit! **Link to flyer:** <http://temspto.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/handels-voucher-51910.pdf>

Special thanks to our Faculty and Staff who have already fearlessly volunteered to be VIP SERVERS!! Be on the lookout behind the counters of Handel's for all of our favorite faces from TEMS.

We will be in need of many a parent volunteer to make a "safe path" towards Handel's. We will have parents along the "walking route" from TEMS to Handel's after school on the 19th so the kids can safely walk over right after school. **If you are interested in helping out for a 1 hour shift on Wednesday, May 19th, kindly contact Allison Hayden at luvmygiants@verizon.net**

In the event of inclement weather, Handel's will accept the voucher on both May 19 and 20.

Are you buying a cell phone for your child?

Avoid misunderstandings with your teen (or pre-teen)... Consider spelling out your expectations in a **FAMILY CELL PHONE CONTRACT**.

While your teen may feel that a parenting contract isn't necessary, often many arguments and bad feelings could have been prevented if a parenting contract had been used. Help your teen think of these as more of an action plan, where their say is important enough to be written down. Be sure to compromise with your teen on the contract and feel free to cross things out or add things to make these printable parenting contracts your own. The sample contract found on the ARCH website is a combination of several contracts found on line. It is just a suggestion. If you surf the web, you'll find many other sample contracts and can cut/paste what works for your family. www.archcares.org

ARCH is a coalition of parents, educators, and community members committed to promoting the well being of youth in Tredyffrin and Easttown Townships. We serve as a resource to families as they help their children form a positive self-image, make healthy choices, and reduce the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ATOD).
www.archcares.org

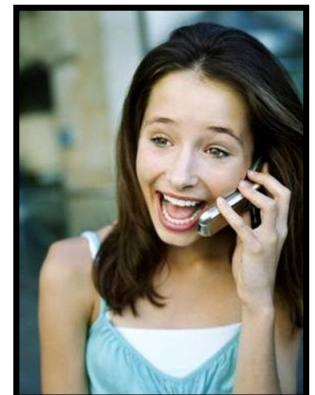
Dates for the Calendar!

View current [TEMS Weekly Bulletin](http://www.tesd.net/tems/bulletin.pdf)
<http://www.tesd.net/tems/bulletin.pdf>

Looking ahead to May!

May 5	PTO Meeting, 7 pm, TEMS Library
May 11	Grade 5/6 Spring Concert, 9am and 7:30 pm
May 18	Grade 7/8 Spring Concert, 9am and 7:30 pm
May 19	TEMS Day at Handel's, 3-8 pm Handel's in Berwyn
May 31	NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day

Visit the Master [TESD Activity Calendar](http://www.tesd.k12.pa.us/calendar/0910DistrictCalendar.pdf)
www.tesd.k12.pa.us/calendar/0910DistrictCalendar.pdf



TEMS Cell phone use reminder...

Cell phones must be turned off & kept in the student's locker during the school day. TEMS is not responsible for the loss or theft of cell phones or their accessories. Cell phones will be confiscated if they are misused or cause a disruption to classroom instruction or affect regular school operation.



A letter from the Principal on acceptable and appropriate attire for school...

April 2010

Dear Parent/Guardian:

With the arrival of warmer weather the faculty and staff are again asking for your support in monitoring their children's school clothing. Our dress code has been designed by students, parents and faculty to provide guidelines in what is acceptable and appropriate attire for school.



Clothing should not be distracting or inappropriate in its ability to provide coverage. Shirts and blouses must cover the midriff, chest and back, and substantially cover the shoulders. We also ask that shorts, skirts and dresses be of an appropriate length for an educational setting (the closer to the knee the better).

Students whose attire does not conform to the dress code standards will be asked to put on more appropriate clothing. Students may change into appropriate clothing if available at school (gym shorts and shirts are available at school) or you will be called and asked to bring more appropriate clothing to school. Please review and reinforce these expectations with your child. Guidelines can also be found on page 18 of the student assignment book. Students have been given a copy of the assignment book. You may also access via the weblink <http://www.tesd.k12.pa.us/tems/StudentParentHandbooklinked0910.pdf>

We appreciate the need for students to be comfortable, but we also do not want them distracted or embarrassed by what they wear to school. Your continued support of our combined efforts to maintain an appropriate educational environment is appreciated.

Sincerely,
Mark Cataldi

T/E Middle School scores big in math competitions

The results of the Grade Level Math League contest are in. Thanks to the approximately 150 students who participated:

6th grade: The 6th grade finished 2nd in the state out of 148 participating schools. High scoring students were Alex W. - 3rd place, and Arun B and Evan S - tied for 10th place in PA. The sixth grade earned a plaque to display in the main office for their team total in the state.

7th grade: The 7th grade finished 13th in the state out of 122 participating schools.

8th grade: The 8th grade finished 3rd in the state and first in our region out of 122 PA schools participating. High scoring students were Lee B., Patrick N., and Kanishka R. - all tied for 8th place in the state. The eighth grade earned a plaque for their ranking in our region which includes Berks, Chester, Lancaster and Lebanon counties.



© Mary Anne Lloyd/Laughing Stock

AMC10 ...

Recently, TEMS 8th grade Algebra 2 and 7th grade Geometry students participated in a national math contest, the AMC10. This prestigious contest contains material covered through most honors math programs through the 10th grade. Patrick N., Kanishka R., and Lee B. were recognized for their scores by the Mathematical Association of America.

SIXTH GRADE MATHCOUNTS

On Saturday March 13th, eight 6th grade students from TEMS participated in the Chester County MathCounts competition. In the team competition, Team A consisting of Evan S., Ju-Young R., Michael Z., and Alex W. finished second overall. Additionally, Ju-Young R. placed ninth in the individual contest. There were sixteen schools from the county and over 100 students who competed.



What a Life! ... make it count



The *What a Life!* project has been up and running at T/E Middle School since February. The programming has allowed students to explore the many levels of *Social Responsibility* built into our (their) world.

Teachers have been conducting class discussions on different themes regarding social responsibility... starting with a general definition of social responsibility, then looking at specific examples of social responsibility on individual, family, community, and global levels. The conversation has been building to look at how individuals create their own commitment to social responsibility.

In the classroom and during lunch, our kids were encouraged to talk about “what they can do.” The billboards in the TEMS Cafeteria are filled with examples of your kids in action... from “holding the door for a stranger or mom” to “making casseroles for MLK Day.” The range of opportunities to be socially responsible is as varied as our kids!

Winners of the Slogan Contest were featured in the March 2010 Bulldog Barks, along with a recap of our Meal on Wheels activity.

What a Life! launched a Spring Break Challenge – 5 things you witnessed and 5 things you did yourself that were socially responsible. The homeroom with the highest participation rate will win a pizza party! We need those Spring Break Challenges to be sent in – please encourage your children to complete them ASAP. [Link to flyer!](http://temspto.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/spring-break-challenge-march-24-20101.pdf) <http://temspto.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/spring-break-challenge-march-24-20101.pdf>

Looking ahead...

April Expression Contest: Create a small poster, drawing, or use Wordle.net to express your idea of social responsibility. Incorporate one of the winning or honorable mention slogans or come up with something of your own. There will be 4 winners (1 per grade) and the prize is a Handel’s Gift Card! [Link to flyer,](http://temspto.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/04/expression-contest-april12.pdf) <http://temspto.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/04/expression-contest-april12.pdf>

Hugs for the World in May – The *What a Life!* Committee will be holding a collection for stuffed animals that will be sent to children around the world (e.g., Haiti, Afghanistan, Chili) This will drive home the message of being socially responsible on a global level. We will be collecting the stuffed animals from May 17-20. Stay tuned for further details – but start cleaning out those toy bins now!

May 24 Speaker/Assembly – Mayhem Poets are tentatively booked for Mon, May 24

Pajama Drive Collection April 5-23, 2010

[Link to Flyer,](http://temspto.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/pj-drive-flier2.pdf) <http://temspto.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/pj-drive-flier2.pdf>

For the PSSA, please be sure your child/children gets plenty of sleep and eats a healthy breakfast each morning, all week long.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
TEMS PSSA Schedule for April 2010				
April 5	6	7 PSSA Math, Gr. 5-8	8 PSSA Reading, Gr. 5-8	9 PSSA Reading & Math Gr. 5-8
12 PSSA Math, Gr. 5-8	13 PSSA Reading, Gr. 5-8	14 Make – Up Test Day	15 Make – Up Test Day	16 Make – Up Test Day
19 Writing PSSA Gr. 5 & 8	20 Writing PSSA Gr. 5 & 8	21 Writing PSSA Gr. 5 & 8	22 Writing PSSA Gr. 5 & 8	23 Make – Up Test Day
26 Make – Up Test Day	27 Science PSSA 8 th Grade	28 Science PSSA 8 th Grade	29 Make – Up Test Day	30 Make – Up Test Day



From the Classroom...



5th Grade News - April 2010

SCIENCE

Students are working on earth science topics including plate tectonics, landforms, and conservation. Our final unit, Magnets and Motors will give students the opportunity to explore the mysterious force of magnetism, to try to make a stronger electromagnet, and to see how a variety of different motors work.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Students continue their study of the three types of writing while incorporating the parts of speech. The students have also been preparing for the upcoming PSSA writing test by responding to the different types of prompts.

MATH

During this marking period students are concentrating on fractions in many ways. They begin by identifying and converting fractions. By the end of the fraction unit, students will be able to add, subtract, multiply and divide with them, as well as solve equations involving fractions.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The 5th grade classes are exploring the mythology and traditions of Ancient Greece. After analyzing the different forms of government in the various city-states, the students will examine other topics of information including geography, daily life, occupations, leisure activities, myths, and various military strategies.

Permission Slips for the May Zoo Trip are due to your child's Science Teacher by April 29.

Scroll down for details!

PSSAs

Just a reminder that all 5th grade students are taking the PSSA's this month. Reading and math tests were given from April 7-13. The writing test will be administered from April 19th-22nd. Children should bring 3 to 4 sharpened pencils, a highlighter, and an SSR book during testing windows. Please make sure your child is well rested and has eaten a healthy breakfast.

Because of the reading, math and writing tests, you will see a lighter load of daily homework that is assigned. There won't be any significant quizzes or tests given during this time, either.

May Philadelphia Zoo Trip

Fifth graders will be traveling to the Philadelphia Zoo next month! On Friday, May 7th, they will not only enjoy a fun day's outing, but will also have an opportunity to examine the classes of vertebrates that they studied in Science earlier this year.

- Permission slips will be handed out to all science classes on Thursday, April 15th.
- Permission forms are due back to your child's science teacher no later than Thursday, April 29th.

For all Grades... Want to honor a teacher, counselor or other TEMS staff? Consider a tax-deductible donation to FLITE

FLITE works in partnership with the T/E School District to help all district students reach their potential. FLITE is a 501(c)(3) IRS recognized non-profit organization. It is easy. Simply fill out the form below, and your chosen recipient(s) will be notified by letter of the honor (but not the dollar amount). Your donation will go a long way toward helping FLITE fulfill its mission. Thank you!

Please accept this gift of \$ _____ for FLITE in honor of the staff member(s) listed below.

Staff member honored	School	Student's name

*Additional names can be attached on a separate page.

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

All checks should be made payable to FLITE and mailed to: PO Box 806, Southeastern, PA 19399-0806.

**This opportunity is available all year long.

Please visit www.FLITE-pa.org at any time to download additional forms or to learn more about FLITE.**



From the Classroom...



6th Grade News

April is a busy month for 6th graders. Please encourage your child to follow through with the assignments and to keep up their best efforts through the end of the school year. The milder weather can be a time of "spring fever" which may lead to slumping grades. We recommend that parents check assignment books as a means of monitoring future assignments.

English

In April, students will be writing a narrative story using the picture book Harris Burdick as inspiration. They will each use an illustration from the book as a "story starter."

Later in the month, students will be working on folktales. Four types of tales, trickster, fairy tales, folktales, and fables, will be introduced during this unit. The students will learn the characteristics of each and read a variety of examples. The culmination of the unit will be the creation of an original tale.

The study of grammar and spelling will also continue throughout the month as well as several more "Sparks."

Reading

Students will be reading a variety of novels during our Literature Circles unit. The students will select a novel from a group of novels introduced by their reading teacher. They will then work in groups to discuss the chapters as they are read. A variety of written responses will be used to reflect on what has been read the night before. This activity provides choices, group dynamics, written responses, and an enjoyable way to share ideas and questions about outstanding novels. Vocabulary study will also continue through the month.

Science

As our study of bacteria proceeds, we will be taking samples from throughout the school and growing them in a sterile environment. We will then begin our study of protists, algal blooms, and fungi. After studying protists we will prepare wet mount slides of live specimens of paramecium, amoeba, and euglena for observation. We will also gather pond water and use microscopes to hunt for protists in their natural environment.

Social Studies

Students have begun their study of China and East Asia. They will be learning about the land, economy and people of the region. We will also take a closer look at the country of China and learn the differences between capitalism and communism. To conclude this unit, students will participate in a group project by creating a "video tour" of an Asian country.

24 Tournament...

ALL math students will be participating in the all-sixth grade 24 tournament. A competition will be held in each math class to determine the top students from each of those classes. Then those class finalists will compete against each other to determine the top 16 representatives from our school. In May, those top sixteen students will compete against the top sixteen 6th grade students from Valley Forge Middle School to determine the 6th grade district champion!

Math On-level:

The on level students finished the last of their three units on fractions just before Spring Break. Students will now connect the units on fractions and decimals to a chapter on ratios, proportions, and percents. Students will identify similarities in the connections between fractions and ratios and use fraction, decimal, and one-step equation skills to solve proportions. As they move into this new unit, they will learn mental math strategies and pencil and paper methods to calculate percents.

Math Above- Level:

The above level students just finished learning about probability. The students have had fun using logic to solve problems that involve combinations and permutations, as well as odds, probability, and fair and unfair games. Using dice, coins, spinners, and cards, the students developed fair and unfair games and predicted dependent and independent events. They are now beginning an extensive study of geometry including terminology and notation. Nightly vocabulary study is encouraged!

Math Pre-Algebra:

Pre-Algebra students completed their study of plane geometry terms, notations, and applications. They are now moving onto a unit studying area of both plane and space objects, using and applying formulas and algebraic concepts to solve.

Turn to page 5 for information on FLITE!



From the Classroom...

7th Grade News



Williamsburg update - During the week of March 29th a letter with information about roommate selection and details for the trip was sent home.

- The roommate selection sheet is due back to Ms. Wilson by April 29th. All four roommates must turn their form in together at the same time.
- The health form is also due on April 29th to Mrs. Patek, Mr. Ferris or Ms. Wilson.
- The last installment of \$105.00 is also due on April 29th.
- Bus sign ups will be May 12th in room 121 (team A), room 226 (team B) and room 221 (team C).
- All information about dates and forms for the Williamsburg trip can be found on Ms. Wilson's (li) TEMS homepage

Science – During the months of April and May, some science classes will be continuing their study of environmental science and energy. Other classes will begin their study of physics focusing on force types, calculating motions of moving objects, Bernoulli's Principle and the integration of these concepts with the mechanical and human exploration of space.

Mathematics - The Math 7 classes will complete the percent unit with the study of percent of change and simple interest. Next, the students will begin the geometry unit. In this unit they will learn vocabulary words such as line, ray, segment, angle, plane, and point. The students will not only learn new vocabulary words, but they will apply the words to new situations. Finally, students will complete the unit with topics such as perimeter, area and volume.

The Pre-algebra students will continue their work with percents. The class will learn to calculate percent change, markup, and discount. To conclude the unit the students will learn to calculate simple interest. The next unit will be geometry.

The Algebra classes will continue their study of radical expressions. Students will simplify radical expressions as well as perform operations with radicals. Also, students will solve quadratic equations using different methods such as completing the square and the quadratic formula. Next, the class will work with algebraic fractional equations.

Geometry is working on surface area and volume. At the completion of the study, students will work on a project involving all the formulas they learned.

Social Studies - Seventh grade classes will conclude their study of the American Revolution. We will now begin discussing the development of a new democratic government, including the creation of the Articles of Confederation and the U.S. Constitution. Students will also study the complexities of our expansion into the new lands acquired from the British at the conclusion of the war. Our study of modern economics, through participation in the Stock Market Game, will also come to a close by mid-April.

English – The study of one or more of the following “classic” novels: *The Pearl*, *The Call of the Wild*, or *Animal Farm* will occupy the early stages of April for English classes. The students will focus on the elements of theme, vocabulary building and comprehension. In May, English classes will embark on a course of study of graphic novels. Students will analyze this increasingly prominent genre and hone their ability to construct meaning out of images and words. Literary elements such as point of view, conflict, foreshadowing, setting, and the development of plot and character will be emphasized. Students will also continue to develop their own voice by creating a short graphic novel.

Turn to
page 10 for
information
on 7th Grade
Specials
Program at
TEMS.

7th grade parent volunteers needed

for June 18... On Friday, June 18, TEMS bids farewell to the 8th grade class. As the 8th grade parents and grads head out for celebration luncheons, 7th grade parents are asked to help with clean-up. If you can help, please contact Tish Lanahan, pmisell@aol.com



Williamsburg Reminders:

1. **Feb 18** – 1st Installment due (\$105), Permission Slip and Academic Requirements
2. **Mar 18** – 2nd Installment (\$105) & Indemnity Form
3. **April 29** – 3rd Installment due (\$105), Medical Form and Roommate Form Due
4. **May 4** – Williamsburg Parent Meeting, 6:30 pm @ TEMS Auditorium
5. **June 2-4** – Trip to Williamsburg

Turn to page 5 for information on how you can honor a teacher or staff member with a donation to FLITE!



From the Classroom...

8th Grade News



American History - students will begin their study of the Civil War. Next, students will begin an exploration of the history of post- Civil War Reconstruction.

English - The English classes are beginning a unit on the Holocaust and related literature. Students will be researching the historical context of the novels, and they will be engaging in literature circles to discuss the reading and complete activities. Journal entries, vocabulary study, and selected grammar lessons are ongoing.

Science - Students will conclude the study of Earth Science with properties of minerals and the rock cycle. Students will engage in a review of science information, skills and processes for the upcoming PSSA science test. Students will transition to the physics unit and Motion, Forces and Energy text book. They will investigate Newton's Laws of Motion, forces like gravity, friction and buoyancy. Students will learn about motion in terms of speed, velocity and acceleration; the particle theory of matter and properties that relate to forces; simple and compound machines, mechanical advantage, efficiency, work and power. Students will study various forms of energy and the transitions from one form to another within the context of the Law of Conservation of Energy.

Turn to
page 10 for
updates on
8th Grade
Specials
Program at
TEMS.

Math:

Pre-Algebra - Students will begin the fourth quarter with a unit on equations using fractions followed by ratios, percents, and proportions. We will then get into graphing in the coordinate plane.

Algebra 1A – Students are working in a unit on graphing linear equations and inequalities within the coordinate plane. Continued use of the TI-83 Graphing Calculators will be integrated.

Algebra I - Classes wrapped up their factoring unit with both teams competing in the 2009 Factoring Olympics. Fourth quarter topics include radical and rational expressions and equations.

Geometry is completing the unit on surface area and volume. Students will have the opportunity to use their creative talents on the unit project before moving on to circles.

Algebra II is completing the unit on conic sections. This study will be followed by an examination of sequences and series with real world applications.

8th Grade Graduation information on Page 10

Attention Parents of 8th Grade Music Students From TEMPO at CHS

Welcome to the Conestoga community and the extensive offerings of music classes and activities available at our high school. If your 8th grader is your oldest child (or the first one interested in music) you will be very pleased with the depth of the program at Conestoga and the number of students who participate in various programs. These programs include choral groups, instrumental bands, instrumental ensembles, marching band/visual ensemble (flags), orchestra, and, coming off the triumph of *Into the Woods* in March 2010, the Winter musical.

To learn more, we invite you to attend the TEMPO (Tredyffrin-Easttown Music Parents Organization) meeting in the music suite at Conestoga on Monday, May 17 at 7 pm.

This will be an opportunity to learn more about music at Conestoga and meet other involved parents. For parents of students planning to do marching band/visual ensemble in the autumn, attendance will be particularly useful as important dates and other information will be conveyed. This includes the pre-season camp on May 17, 19, and 24 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. In addition, 2011 will be a "big trip" year so you will want to learn more about the financial commitment, fundraising opportunities, timing, etc. for that trip—the location of which will be announced shortly.

For those who are unaware, TEMPO coordinates one trip a year to which all high school music students are invited. Every other year, it is a Broadway trip to New York City and the kids got to choose between *Lion King*, *Memphis*, and *Next to Normal* in March 2010. Once in most four year spans, the students get to go to Disney World in Orlando, Florida. The last Disney trip was in 2009, so, barring any changes, the current 8th graders should be able to go in 2013 (their junior year). The non-Disney "big trips" have been to a variety of locations, and 2011 will be one of those years.

Please contact Steven Sheronas, steven.sheronas@chase.com or Ron Mintz ronmintz216@yahoo.com, the TEMPO co-presidents, or any of the high school music teachers, for additional information.



News from the 7th & 8th grade Special Areas

MUSIC: Grade 7

7th graders are concluding their study on beginning guitar chords. Next they will be exploring percussion and environmental sound as they create Stomp projects.

MUSIC: Grade 8

8th grade students are currently learning popular music on guitar. Bands being studied include Oasis, Weezer, and Coldplay.

HEALTH: Grade 7

In 7th grade Health, students are participating in either the basic anatomy unit or family life unit. In our basic anatomy unit, students review the ten major body systems. In our Family Life unit, the topics include abstinence, relationships, decision making, male anatomy, female anatomy, sexuality stereotypes and sexually transmitted diseases.

HEALTH: Grade 8

In 8th grade health, students are working on finishing up their disease reports and presentations. Upon completion of their oral presentations classes will begin work on the family life unit.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: Grade 7 & 8

In 7th and 8th grade Physical Education, students are currently working on either a large group games unit, or a cooperative jump roping unit. In the large group games unit, in addition to working on their physical skill, they are also increasing their ability to strategize and cooperate together as a team. In the cooperative jump roping unit, students have been challenged with 40 different skills that require them to work with their classmates to complete.

ART: Grade 7 & 8

Seventh Graders are continuing with 2pt. Perspective and mixed media projects. Eighth graders are continuing with Surrealism concepts and other styles of art including mixed media projects. The students are developing their potential to become more attentive observers, more thoughtful decision makers and confident creators.

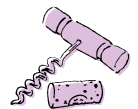
Special Note about Physical Education Dress Requirements

Please remember that all students are required to change for Physical Education class. Acceptable clothing for class includes: TE Middle school Physical Education shirts (old or new version), Conestoga Physical Education shirt and either the maroon or grey Williamsburg t-shirts. As for the shorts, TE Middle school Physical Education shorts (old or new version) or Conestoga Physical Education shorts.

Also, as the weather turns warmer, Physical Education classes will attempt to be outside as much as possible. With this in mind, please remind your son and daughter to bring in a sweatshirt, extra socks and shoes in case it is chilly or the grass is damp.

Green Piece

Cork is a renewable, recyclable material



that doesn't belong in our landfills.

What to do? Bring your corks (real cork, not the plastic ones) to any Whole Foods store and drop them in the handy Cork ReHarvest boxes. For more information about this program and about cork go to <http://blog.wholefoodsmarket.com/2010/04/cork-reharvest>

One of the most energy intense areas of our homes is the laundry

, between the energy to heat the water and the dryer air. You can reduce your energy usage and your energy bill with some relatively easy changes. Today's laundry detergents are so effective, you can use cold water wash for most loads. You'll only want to use hot or warm for heavily soiled items. You should always use a cold water rinse cycle. Also, try to wash only full loads or adjust the water level for smaller loads. When buying detergent, look for ones that are environmentally friendly, that won't dump lots of chemicals into the water system. Also, look for highly concentrated detergents. The lighter weight containers will be less of a drain on the environment when being transported to the store. One example is Method's new plant-based, super concentrated laundry detergent. Air drying clothes is a great way to reduce your energy bill. Hanging clothes on racks or lines, inside or out will save energy and increase the life of your clothes. If you are in need of a new washer or dryer, look for Energy Star models. For a washer, consider front loaders which use significantly less water and energy than top loaders.



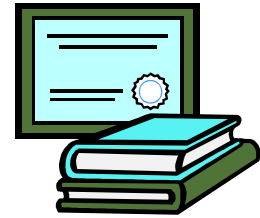
If you have any questions, or ideas or information you'd like to share, please contact Julia Fisher at jjfish3@verizon.net.



Attention... T/E Middle School 7th & 8th Grade Parents

The TEMS 8th Grade Graduation Committee is looking for volunteers.

8th Grade Graduation is Friday, June 18!



Every year as the 8th graders go off to high school, there is a special day at TE for the “graduates” and their parents. This year it is scheduled for the last half-day of school which will be, Friday, June 18, 2010. **The committee is looking for parents of 8th and 7th graders who would like to help make this a special day for our “graduates.”**

There will be a breakfast for the 8th grade students and a separate reception for their parents before the morning recognition program. Parents of 8th graders may want to work on any aspect of the day.

Attention 7th Grade Parents... We are specifically asking a favor of 7th grade parents: to volunteer to help with the clean-up for these receptions and the ceremony, so that the parents of the 8th graders may enjoy themselves on this day.

Any parent who would like to volunteer, and who has not yet done so, should email the below contacts.

★ **Food for the Parent Reception on Friday morning, June 18, 2010** - parents needed to bake/ bring breakfast food. If you would like to bring **Baked Goods**, please contact Debbie Gordon, us3.gordons@btinternet.com

If you would like to bring **Fruit**, please contact Rene Jones, jonesktj@comcast.net

★ **Decorating for the Student Breakfast** – we need assistance setting up decorations in the cafeteria on the afternoon of Thursday, June 17. If you can help, please contact Sarah Regan, sarahreg5@gmail.com or Doreen Cunningham, dpcunningham2@verizon.net

★ **7th grade parent volunteers for Clean-up on Friday, June 18** - we anticipate this lasting 1-2 hours in the morning. If you can help, please contact: Tish Lanahan, pmisell@aol.com

Turn to page 5 for information on how you can honor a teacher or staff member with a donation to FLITE!

A couple notes about 8th grade graduation on June 18 – morning event:

- Space is extremely tight. Attendees limited to parents and guardians only, please.
- Dress Code Boys: Long pants, collared shirts (tucked in, please) no flip flops or sandals.
- Dress Code Girls: Skirt & blouse, dress or dress pants, no flip flops.

B.U.I.L.D. & TESD... Invites you to:

An Update on Special Education in the T/E School District

Presented by Dr. Joyce Videlock

Director of Individualized Student Services, TESD

Tuesday, April 27 – 7:00 pm – Valley Forge Middle School

Dr. Videlock has worked with students with special needs throughout her professional career. In her current position, she is responsible for a range of student support services including special education, mental health services and programming for gifted students. Dr. Videlock holds a doctorate in Communication Disorders from the University of Pittsburgh. She holds certifications in speech-language pathology, school psychology and educational administration.

- Please RSVP by **April 20** (for a headcount!) to: Wendy Brooks: wenobrooks@aol.com
- BUILD stands for Better Understanding of Individuals with Learning Differences



TE MIDDLE SCHOOL PTO – Meeting minutes for April 7, 2010

Meeting began at 9:05am with “Welcome” from Margaret MacKenzie.

Starting with old business, first there was a motion to approve 3-03-10 meeting minutes. Karen Consalo made the motion and Sherri Gartner seconded. All in favor: yes.

Next a monthly “Thanks to all volunteers to date” by Margaret MacKenzie.

Margaret MacKenzie reported that the What a Life! Program is in full swing. Note made to great art work and posters in the cafeteria. Juliette Hyson recapped the programs happening at school and at home centered around the Social Responsibility Theme and explained that the children are very receptive to the programs.

Monthly Reports:

- Treasurer: Karen Consalo handed out and reviewed the monthly income/expense statement for the PTO.
- Principal: Mark Cataldi informed the group that report cards would be distributed on 4/13/10. PSSA testing will begin on 4/7/10. Grade specific tests are scheduled throughout April. Course Selection Cards for grades 5-7 will be going out to parents soon and will be due back on 4/23/10. Transition for incoming 2010/2011 5th graders has begun. Currently that TEMS class is projected at 274 students.

Representative Updates:

ARCH: Gwenn reported in Fall 2010 results from substance abuse survey taken by TESD students will be made available through ARCH. The survey is conducted every other year.

BUILD: Sherri Gartner informed the group that their next meeting is 4/27/10 at 7pm at VFMS. TESD Administrator, Joyce Vidlock is the scheduled speaker.

School Board: No Report (Please, refer to TESD website for more Information) www.tesd.org

ISC: Sue Snyder reported on highlights. Standardized testing (SAT, ACT, ERB, PSSA) as they relate to our students was discussed in detail. Please go to TESD website to review ISC minutes for more detail. www.tesd.org

New Business/Upcoming Events

- Margaret asked TEMS parents to please look for PTO Executive Board slate to be sent out electronically prior to the next PTO meeting.
- Electronic Communication: Gwenn brought up idea of eliminating Bulldog Barks newsletter and concentrating PTO communication on the Eblasts that have been so well received this year. Margaret suggested putting a small committee together to review this idea.
- PTO Bylaws amendments occur every 5 years and this spring, the PTO is planning to recommend that a new Board position be created. (More information on this at the next meeting)
- Volunteer sign-up form for 2010-11 school year was reviewed.
- The current HR parent program will be dissolved due to success of email blasts.
- Handel’s Day is May 19th!! Kristen Schappell reported that vouchers for the event will be available electronically and the day of the event. TEMS sports teams will be reminded to participate after scheduled practices.
- Karen Consalo made a motion to approve a one-time \$100 donation for CAPCO from the TEMS PTO. Gail seconded. All in favor: yes

Wrap-Up at 10:05am/Next meeting: May 5th @ 7:00 pm in the library

Important Dates/Events:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| April 7: | ARCH presentation at CHS at 7pm featuring Bob Rigby, local school administrator |
| April 14: | ISC meeting at TEAO at 7 pm |
| April 16: | 7/8 grade dance 7-9:30pm |
| April 26: | School Board meeting at CHS; 7:30pm |

**We have an evening PTO Meeting in May.
The May 5, 2010, PTO meeting will be held at 7pm
in the TEMS Library. As always, all are welcome!**



Visit the [T/E Bulletin Board](#) for all sports and community information!



Bulletin Board Sampler as of 4/18/10

New Fliers (posted in the order they are received)

[Wayne Art Center Summer Camp Open House, 5/8](#)

[Crabby Creek Earth Day, 4/24](#)

[Conestoga Generals Football/Cheerleading 2010 Registration](#)

[Honor a Staff Member through a Donation to FLITE](#)

[2010 T/E School District Dental Health Newsletter](#)

[Parenting Again: Support for Grand Families, 5/15](#)

[Tredyffrin Library Teen Art Sale, 5/8](#)

Previously Posted Fliers

[Child Development Services Summer Groups and Clubs](#)

[CAPCO News](#)

[Spring Healthcare Career Showcases for High School Students](#)

[Wayne Art Center Summer Camp Information](#)

[Wayne Art Center Children Spring 2010 Art Classes](#)

[CHS, Elementary and Middle School Ice Hockey Mtg, 5/5](#)

[CAPCO Pizza Fundraiser](#)

Turn to page 10 to read information about the
April 27, 7:00 pm BUILD event

An Update on Special Education in the T/E School District

Presented by Dr. Joyce Videlock

Visit the
[T/E Bulletin Board](#)

<http://www.tesd.net/tebulletin.htm>

frequently!

Youth Wrestling Camp

The 15th Annual **Conestoga Youth Wrestling Association's Headlock Wrestling Camp** will be held from July 12, 2010 to July 16, 2010, at Valley Forge Middle School, 105 West Walker Road, Wayne, PA 19087.

Clinicians:

- **Mike Semar** - Former Head Coach at CHS & Current VFMS HPE Teacher
- **John Semar** - 1987 NJ Wrestling Coach of the Year, Member of the NJ Wrestling Hall of Fame
- **Ed Spiller** - Head Wrestling Coach at CHS and Former Marple Tigers & CYWA Youth Coach
- **Pat Ryan** - VFMSI Wrestling Coach & VFMS HPE Teacher

Download the [registration form](#) for more information or to sign up.

<http://www.conestogawrestling.com/Headlock%202010%20ICWL.PDF>