WINTER GREETINGS!

It is hard to believe that we are at mid-year! Where did the time go?? We have been tremendously busy in the interim! Our teachers are working hard to meet the needs of our gifted students and to present them with opportunities and challenges. This newsletter includes a lot of those opportunities so please talk to your student to see if they are involved or want to be involved. It also provides a glimpse into the classrooms of our gifted students across the district. We hope you can use the information and enjoy seeing our gifted kids in action!

Invention Convention plans are underway in Westerville. IC is a yearly competition for young inventors in grades K-8. Schools host their own building level competition and our district sends the winners to the regional competition Saturday May 9th at Columbus State Community College. Westerville recently hosted an IC informational meeting that was open to Central Ohio participants. There were over 65 people in attendance and some of the young inventors got to team up with their parents on an invention to solve a real world problem. See the next page for more information and links to the resources.
Every possibility exists in a child's mind.

Get Started Here!

http://inventionconvention.org/students/
National History Day Preparations at Heritage
Research, Research, Research!

All of our Middle Schools participate in the project. It requires that students choose a historical topic to research and present on. They have a choice of 5 different presentation modes. Projects are judged in the Spring and they have the potential to advance to the State level of competition.
National History Day Preparations at Heritage
Research, Research, Research!

Pictured are the students in Mrs. Cole’s class. They are working with Mrs. Cole and Mrs. Pellington
HIGH School Opportunity!!! APPLY NOW!

UNIVERSITY of NOTRE DAME

Office of Pre-College Programs

Now Accepting Applications for Summer 2015 Pre-College Programs!

2015 Summer Scholars Program Date: June 27 – July 11, 2015

Summer Scholars is a two-week program for talented rising high school juniors and seniors who are interested in experiencing a taste of college life. Summer Scholars introduces students to college-level academics in fields ranging from the liberal arts to the sciences and business. Summer Scholars courses are rigorous and small in size, and the campus experience serves as an excellent introduction to the life of a college student.

For rising high school juniors and seniors. Application deadline: January 30, 2015.

APPLY NOW

2015 Leadership Seminars Program Date: July 18 – July 29, 2015

Leadership Seminars is a 10-day, all expenses paid program for advanced students who wish to hone their critical thinking and expressive skills in the company of dynamic peers. Students will engage in lively discussions on issues of global concern under the tutelage of Notre Dame faculty. The three seminars offered are American Arts, Popular Culture and Social Change; Global Issues: Towards a Just Peace; and Science, Ethics and Responsibility. For rising high school seniors only. Application deadline: January 23, 2015.

APPLY NOW

2015 Study Abroad - Rome, Italy (New for 2015!) Program Date: June 7 – June 20, 2015

This 12-day program will immerse students in the history and culture of the Eternal City, with a focus on the built environment. Scholars representing a range of fields, from art history to anthropology, will be on hand to guide students in their exploration of this fascinating city. The new Notre Dame Center in Rome will serve as the home for lectures and discussions while the city itself, with its monuments, museums and historic neighborhoods, will serve as the course’s true classroom.

Office of Pre-College Programs  University of Notre Dame
574-631-0990  Email: precoll@nd.edu  Website precollege.nd.edu

APPLY NOW!
The 2015 Martin W. Essex School for the Gifted and Talented™ at Otterbein University offers current gifted sophomores and juniors opportunities for enrichment and career exploration through a unique program comprised of classes, seminars and workshops on the arts, sciences and humanities. Taking place in multiple venues throughout Otterbein’s campus, this week long residential program encourages social interaction and peer discussion so that students can be challenged intellectually and artistically and develop a better understanding of the role of their abilities and talents in their lives and in society. Students who complete the School will earn a $1000 scholarship to Otterbein University. For more information visit www.otterbein.edu/essex or https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6634ea8uca4&feature=youtu.be to view video highlights from the 2014 camp.

DATES for this summer opportunity: June 14-20, 2015
LOCATION: Otterbein University Campus
COST: $650 - Financial assistance may be available for those who qualify. See application for more information.

TO REQUEST AN APPLICATION, contact Suzanne Palmer, Gifted Services Coordinator, 614-450-6056, spalmer@wscloud.org or visit: http://www.worthington.k12.oh.us/domain/63.
Registration is now open for the Winter parent group! Parenting a gifted child comes with unique joys and challenges. During this eight week group, for two hours each week you will have time to talk with other parents of gifted children. We'll discuss different topics each week including:

- Characteristics, Identification, and Identity Formation
- Communication
- Motivation and Underachievement
- Discipline and Self-Management
- Depression, Anxiety, Perfectionism
- Acquaintances, Peers, and Bullying
- Family Relationships
- Values, Traditions, Parenting, Media, and Talent

We strive to provide an environment to support and guide parents. Our aim is to increase awareness of the special emotional needs of gifted children and their families. We support parents in the refinement of their skills needed for parenting the emotional development of talented children. Parents have access to resources to enhance their understanding of gifted.

Included in each household registration is a 350+ page comprehensive book, A Parent’s Guide to Gifted Children, weekly handouts, and access to a free lending library.


Learn more about SENG at www.sengifted.org.

**What are people saying?**

"This class has strongly changed my parenting techniques because I did not realize how special gifted kids are and how they need different techniques to help them grow."

"It is just helpful to me to interact with other parents of gifted children and to know that I'm not alone."

"Patience. This class was as much about me dealing with my child's behavior as it was about the behavior."

"Attendance is well worth the time investment! And the thinking investment."

We look forward to seeing you in January!

Heather Cachat, M.Ed.

Certified SENG Facilitator and Trainer

www.centralohiogiftedsupport.com

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**SENG = Social and Emotional Needs of Gifted**

STEMCON please visit www.stemcon.net.

Register your students at www.consef.org.

STEMCON Conference April 16, 2015 and

STEMCON Children’s Convention April 18, 2015
Forty-two students from Blendon, Genoa, Heritage and Walnut Springs Middle Schools visited The Ohio State University on October 30th for a campus tour and meetings with the Admissions Department to learn about campus life, admission requirements, the Honors programs, college preparation, financial aid and scholarships, and career information. The Career Education Department, in conjunction with the Gifted Education Department and the Guidance Department, sponsored and supported the visit.
ATTENTION Middle and High School Students!
PSEO is CHANGING to College Plus

Next year PSEO is changing to College Credit Plus and students will have opportunities to take college courses on our high school campuses as well as college campuses. More information to follow! There is an informational meeting set for families on March 3rd at 7 pm at Central with more dates on the horizon!

Around the district…. Gifted kids are learning!
OSU Engineers
visit South and Central High Schools
From Angie Heath, Gifted 3, 4, 5 Reading Facilitator

We are making progress! Online participation is becoming more and more popular. Over 2038 comments have been posted that pertain to Reading Assignments up to December 2nd. Third Graders are participating quite frequently on the Schoology Gifted Reading Course: 64% have been in the course for over an hour up to the beginning of December. 47% of our Fourth graders have been in the course and 37% of our 5th grade students are spending more than an hour in Schoology thus far. So, we still have room for improvement!

Obviously, I am still trying to promote the use of Schoology and the monthly reading assignments in my Gifted Reading Course. In addition, I am still trying to promote AR Quizzes to earn POINTS so that students can in turn earn AR Points Badges on Schoology. Please have your child show you how many BADGES he/she has earned so far.

Also have them show you their GRADES in my COURSE and how they can view my teacher comments back to their DISCUSSION RESPONSES. I am telling students that it is hard to earn a 10/10 on the discussion questions- a score of 8, 9, or 10 is very good. If the score is 7 or lower, there are key elements missing from their responses. Students CAN EDIT their responses by clicking the gray gear to the right of their name, in the discussion question section.

There are LOTS of ways to earn BADGES:

AR Points for Quizzes - 10, 25, 50, 75, 100, 125, 150 ... (every 25 points)
Participation in Monthly In-Person Meetings- nine total
Online Discussion Participation (must answer several monthly discussion questions to earn badge) - nine total
Hours in Schoology Gifted Reading Course - 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, etc (every odd # earns badge)
Submitting writing entries to contests, like the Columbus Children's Theater Contest (due by Dec 19)
Star Performer Badge- for an EXEMPLARY response to a discussion question
Positive Attitude Badge
Leadership Badge
Class Participation Badge

For parent updates, archives, and information you can also visit http://azheath.weebly.com.
FOR the Kids!

The Ultimate STEM Guide for Kids: 239 Cool Sites
http://www.mastersindatascience.org/blog/
These are organized by age, grade and gender!

Interested in Science? The environment? Check out the JASON PROJECT!
www.jason.org

Check out COGNITO! Connecting Young Thinkers Around the World
https://cogito.cty.jhu.edu/

http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/hoagies_kids.htm Check out HOAGIE’S Gifted Page for contests, reading lists, and more!

You have to see “Kids Know It!” The totally free learning network-

Did you know the Library of Congress was full of Everyday Mysteries??
http://www.loc.gov/rr/scitech/mysteries/archive.html
ATTENTION: GIFTED MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT

A summer program of challenge and enrichment for Central Ohio’s Gifted and Talented Middle School Students Currently in Grades 6, 7, or 8.

Camp Dates 2015:

June 7-12       6th and 7th grades

June 14-19      7th and 8th grades

June 21-26      6th and 7th grades

OWjL Camp
Ohio Wesleyan University
61 S. Sandusky St. Univ. 024
Delaware, OH 43015
740.368.3939
owjl@owu.edu
Website: http://owjl.owu.edu
Resource Round-Up Parents

OAGC ~ Ohio Association for Gifted Children
http://www.oagc.com/links.asp

The Center for Talented Youth (CTY)
(Johns Hopkins University) Summer programs, talent search and much more, including distance learning, resources for educators and parents. Extensive links. http://cty.jhu.edu/

Hoagies Gifted Education Page
Resources on all facets of gifted education. http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/

National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC)

National Society for Gifted and Talented http://www.nsgt.org/

Center for Talent Development
(Northwestern University) Midwest Academic Talent Search, LearningLinks distance academics, summer programs. http://www.ctd.northwestern.edu/

Council for Exceptional Children http://www.cec.sped.org/

Davidson Institute ENews-Update

Davidson Institute for Talent Development http://www.davidsongifted.org/


SENG ~ Supporting the Emotional Needs of Gifted www.sengifted.org
Wonderful resource!

Institute for Educational Advancement http://educationaladvancement.org/

Center for Bright Kids https://www.centerforbrightkids.org

The Deep End A Place to discuss the needs of gifted to far from the norms to “fit”.
http://welcometothedeepend.com/