



*Believe in Your Greatness*

For the parents, students, staff, and community of Clay Middle School

# CLAY NATION NEWS

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

**“DON'T  
COUNT THE DAYS;  
MAKE THE DAYS  
COUNT.”**

— MUHAMMAD ALI

### Season's Greetings Clay Nation!

I would like to take a moment as we approach the holiday season to wish you and your family a happy holiday. When given the opportunity, I always like to acknowledge our school community, and you as parents, as much as possible in each monthly newsletter because without you Clay would not be able to do things at the highest level. I would like for each and every parent to know how much we appreciate all you do for your child and for our school.

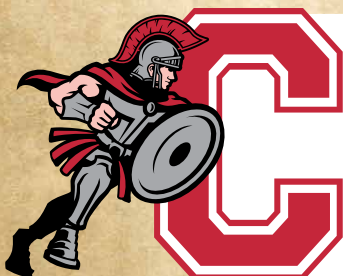
The holidays have a way of reminding all of us that those human characteristics such as kindness, compassion, empathy and understanding do actually matter and can make a difference in the life of another person. These things are often right in front of us, if we just take the time to stop and reflect. It is during these times that we do not have to search very far to see good people, doing great and remarkable things for others. We are fortunate to live

in a caring and supportive community like Carmel, where we are resource rich with people that take care for each other and lend a helping hand when needed.

### What are positive signs of courage and kindness that we can take note of during this first semester?

- Witnessing the courage, determination and an unwavering spirit of caring has been astonishing from our staff to our students and vice versa.
- Witnessing middle school students (ages 11, 12, 13 and 14) doing things that are quite remarkable. I am always so proud of our young people that are showing signs of amazing character, discipline and organization that help them to excel at such a high level. It takes a true partnership from the school to the family and the family to the school for this kind of success to happen. Kudos to our families and parents that have been there to support their child. Please know your efforts and support for your child and their education does not go unnoticed.
- We have always tried to address the social emotional well-being of our students and the development of the whole child at Clay Middle School. A huge part of

...continued on the next page



## ADMINISTRATION

Todd Crosby, Principal

Catherine Gahl, Assistant Principal

Mark Smith, Assistant Principal

John Corcoran, Athletic/Activities Director

FINDING THE POWER OF **OUR** OUR STUDENTS... OUR PARENTS... AND OUR COMMUNITY

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE *continues...*

that development comes with the help of our Clay Student Services Department (guidance counselors and social workers) and the fact that they go the extra mile to "connect" with our students to ensure they are taken care of and have a person they can go to for support.

As we look to this holiday break and reflect back on 2023, I challenge each of us to look for something to be grateful for.

The amount of GREATNESS that I have witnessed is obviously more than I can fit into one letter and attempt to describe. Please know it makes me very proud to be a Clay Trojan. Having said that, please know that our success could not have been accomplished without the support of you as parents. Thank you Clay Nation, for all you have done in 2023 to make Clay Middle School the best it can be. I speak for all Clay faculty and staff when I say, what a blessing and a privilege it is to serve the Carmel Clay Schools Community, where anything is possible – especially when we all work together. We want to always strive to be the best at getting better.

### Clay GREATNESS Highlights

Our faculty, staff, and student body have been very busy this first semester in a school year that has gotten off to a phenomenal start. They have been working so hard to share their GREATNESS throughout this holiday season.

Here are a few examples:

**Clay Middle School – Holidays and Mindfulness:** Mindfulness is the simple act of being present in the moment without judgment. It helps us to manage thoughts and emotions, notice more of what's happening in a situation, and immerse ourselves in the moment. Clay Staff members have been celebrating the season by enjoying treats that have helped us all be present and find joy in this holiday season. For example, our amazing PTO has sponsored things this past week like the candy cane tree with hot chocolate and all the fixings, breakfast for our staff with casseroles and fresh fruits, stocking our faculty workroom refrigerators with various soft drinks, juices and snacks, and our cookie swap where

*"A simple mantra for inspiring, effective, mindful leadership: Cultivate peace of mind and go about doing good."*

staff got to join in the holiday season by taking home a cookie tin that they created. These activities and these days of mindfulness could not have been possible without all the work from our Clay PTO, Clay Student Services Department and our Clay front office for all they do to help our students and staff. **You have all been**

**awesome!!**

**Clay Performing Arts:** It has been another wonderful holiday concert season. A huge thank you goes out to our Clay performing arts programs and our teachers. Throughout this month choir, band and orchestra have had incredible concerts where our auditorium has been packed. Mr. Frizzi, Mrs. Susie, Mrs. Pote and Mr. Grifa have truly gone the extra mile to prepare our students to perform at such a high level. They have all really done an amazing job on finding new ways to challenge our students. We cannot thank you as parents and families for all of your support for Clay Middle School – we cannot do what we do without your support!

**CCS Green Team:** Thank you to anyone that donated used Christmas lights to our recycled Christmas lights effort that runs through Thursday January 9th, 2024. (First week we return back from holiday break). This event is sponsored by Team Atlas in 7th grade and lead by Mrs. Jamie Sanders.

**Clay - Acts of Kindness:** Thank you to Clay SRA (Mrs. Wegner, Mr. Evan Snyder and Mrs. Trapkus-Harris for helping coordinate our amazing canned food drive these last three weeks to donate to locate food banks. The lessons our students are learning by paying it forward are huge for their character development and will help provide support to our local families that need some additional assistance during these winter months. **Awesome job SRA!!**

**Clay Athletics:** Thank you to Mr. John Corcoran (Clay Activities and Athletic Director) for a successful Fall sports season. We are well underway with winter sports seasons. Clay Boys' and Girls' basketball teams and Winter Cheerleading have already started competitive play, while Wrestling starts once we return from holiday break in January 2024. I would like to recognize our coaches and athletes for modeling what it means to be a Clay Trojan and dedicating themselves to representing the Clay Nation at the highest level. Thank you to all of our parents and families who continue to attend our sporting events on campus. Thank you for all your hard work, everyone. **ONWARD TO VICTORY CLAY!**

## THE CLAY WAY

I challenge all Clay Trojans to *Believe in Your Greatness*. If we all seize the opportunities when they present to be our very best, together we will take Clay Middle School to even greater heights. As principal, I believe it is my position to help provide vision, leadership, oversight, safety and the best instruction to every student that attends Clay Middle School. I truly realize success cannot be accomplished without an active school community to continue to take Clay Middle School in the direction of continuous success and excellence. Please take care of yourself and your family.

**HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY BREAK AND  
A HAPPY NEW YEAR CLAY NATION!**

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO  
FOR CLAY MIDDLE SCHOOL.**

**Reminder to follow us on Twitter @ClayTrojans  
#ClayGreatness**

**GO TROJANS!**

Sincerely,  
Todd A. Crosby, *Principal*



## IMPORTANT DATES

### January

JANUARY	
January 8, 2024	Teacher Work Day
January 8-12	School Board Recognition Week
January 9, 2024	Classes Resume
January 10, 2024	Late Start
January 15, 2024	No School- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 16, 2024	Academic Transition Night @ CHS 8th and 9th Grade
January 19, 2024	PTO Meeting
January 24, 2024	Late Start

### February

FEBRUARY	
February 4, 2023	Orchestra ISSMA State Solo & Ensemble Contest
February 5-9	National School Counseling Week
February 7, 2024	Late Start
February 15, 2023	National School Resource Officer Day
February 16, 2024	PTO Meeting
February 19, 2024	President's Day Holiday-No School
February 21, 2024	Late Start



## THE CLAY WAY

- Be Respectful**
- Be Responsible**
- Be Ready to Learn**
- Be Full of Pride**



# \$100 OFF

Personalized Attention. Proven Results.

*"The academic skills and education he has received could not have been better, but, more importantly, the increase in self-reliance, attitude, happiness and self-worth simply cannot be measured or accurately described in words"*  
- Mary J.



## TAKE THAT REPORT CARD FROM "OKAY" TO "OUTSTANDING"

### Make your next report card the best yet!

Huntington has helped students K-12 improve their grades, academic skills, and confidence since 1977.

### THE HUNTINGTON ADVANTAGE

- Thorough academic evaluations
- Proven programs tailored to each student's needs
- Individualized instruction from highly qualified teachers

### TUTORING

Reading - Writing - Math - Study Skills  
Spelling - Vocabulary - Phonics

Algebra - Geometry - Trigonometry - Pre-Calculus  
Calculus - Earth Science - Biology - Chemistry - Physics

### TEST PREP

SAT - PSAT/NMSQT - ACT - Advanced Placement (AP)  
State Tests - HSPT - ISEE - GED

### Carmel

2440 E. 146th Street, Carmel, IN 46033



**317-571-8700**

[www.huntingtonhelps.com/center/carmel](http://www.huntingtonhelps.com/center/carmel)

# Believe in Your Greatness

FINDING THE POWER OF **OUR** OUR STUDENTS... OUR PARENTS... AND OUR COMMUNITY



## Radiance

### Class Pricing and Schedule 2023-2024

**Monday**  
 1-3pm Company Class  
 3:00-4:30pm Contemporary Ballet, Level A (\$80)  
 4:30-5pm Beginning Tap (\$50 or \$25 w/ Level A)  
 5-8pm Level C (\$80)

**Tuesday**  
 12-12:30pm Creative Movement (\$60)  
 1-3pm Company Class  
 3:00-4pm Intermediate Tap (\$50 or \$25 w/ Level B)  
 4-5pm Contemporary Ballet, Level B (\$80)  
 5-8pm Jazz/Combo Class w/ Trucks (\$80)

**Wednesday**  
 1-3pm Company Class  
 3:00-4:30pm Contemporary Ballet, Level A  
 4:30-5pm Beginning Tap  
 5-8pm Level C

**Thursday**  
 12-12:30 Creative Movement  
 1-3pm Company Class  
 3:00-4pm Intermediate Tap  
 4-5pm Contemporary Ballet, Level B

**Friday**  
 Reserved for private lessons and rehearsals

Radiance Dance Company is a professional contemporary ballet company committed to glorifying God through artistry.

### Classes begin August 14th!

radiancedanceco@gmail.com  
 www.radiancedance.org

### Radiance Dance Students benefit from:

- positive environment
- excellent technique training
- small class sizes/limit 8
- performance opportunities
- affordability

Free evaluation and trial classes available



## Committed to Building... Beautiful Smiles!

With special training in craniofacial, surgical, and special care orthodontics, the team at Hallmark Orthodontics is committed to you!



**Complimentary Exam & Consultation!**

Carmel & Shelbyville IN  
**317-574-0612**



hallmarkorthodontics.com

Noblesville & Elwood IN  
**317-773-5515**

## BREATHE. STRETCH. SHAKE. LET IT GO.

FIRST WEEK FOR \$26!

YOGASIX CARMEL

11503 SPRING MILL ROAD  
 SUITE 700 • CARMEL  
 TEXT OR CALL 317.771.6049  
 YOGASIX.COM/CARMEL



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

**Andrew Lee**, is in 8th grade at Clay Middle School. He began his piano studies at 8 years old and currently studies under the tutelage of Dr. Robert Palmer.

Andrew has participated in various recitals and has received over 85 prizes in statewide, national and international competitions. He has won the International Grande Music Competition, Carmel Klavier International Piano Competition, Gene Marcus Piano Competition, US International Open Music Competition, San Francisco International Innovative Music Competition, Sejong Music Competition, Florida Keys International Music Competition, International Viennese Music Competition, American Protégé International Competition and many more.

Andrew has performed in venues including the Palladium, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Merkin Hall in New York, Saal Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria and Kleine Zaal Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Recently, he has won the State Round of MTNA (Music Teachers National Association) Junior Performance Competition for the second time in a row and will be moving onto the Divisional Round in December.

The Butler University Ballet selected **Brienne Babione**, Clay 6th grade student, to join the cast of its annual production of Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker that ran November 30-December 3 at Clowes Memorial Hall. She danced the role of Party Guest/Friends of Clara and Fritz in Act 1, performing in six public performances alongside the student professional company of the Jordan College of the Arts Department of Dance. Brienne was proud to represent Clay Middle School and was the only Carmel Clay Schools student to participate in the production. This was her second year performing in Butler's The Nutcracker, and she has been studying dance for 10 years.



## THANK YOU

A big thank you to our amazing PTO and families who helped us reach our fundraising goal! Mr. Crosby took pies in the face to celebrate this accomplishment.





**LOMAN**  
EYE CARE

EYEGASSES  
CONTACT LENSES  
RED EYES / INJURIES  
DRY EYE  
EYE DISEASES

Dr. Angela Berghoff  
Owner/Optometrlist

Dr. Keith Miloshoff  
Associate Optometrist

630 3rd Ave. SW  
Carmel, IN 46032  
**317-844-7474**  
[lomaneyecare.com](http://lomaneyecare.com)




Hoffman Benefit Services, Inc.

Simplifying Health Care

If you are an employer with 20 or more employees seeking employee benefits like health insurance, give us a call. We can help.

Providing quality benefit solutions for business owners for 20+ years

Bob Hoffman, RHU, MSM  
President  
(317) 863-2859  
[www.hbsionline.com](http://www.hbsionline.com)



Brent T. Garrison, DDS, MSD  
Robert P. Alderman, DMD  
Patrick S. Kelly, DDS


**(317) 841-1100**  
[www.neomsindy.com](http://www.neomsindy.com)

Dental Implants    Oral Pathology  
Bone Grafting      Platelet Rich  
Wisdom Teeth      Plasma  
Facial Trauma      Exposure of  
Extractions        Impacted Teeth




9860 Westpoint Dr. #100  
Indianapolis, IN 46256

## A REASON TO SMILE



FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY

715 WEST CARMEL DRIVE, SUITE 103  
CARMEL INDIANA 46032  
317 . 844 . 0022  
[CARMELDENTALGROUP.COM](http://CARMELDENTALGROUP.COM)

FINDING THE POWER OF **OUR** OUR STUDENTS... OUR PARENTS... AND OUR COMMUNITY

**ZOTEC PARTNERS**  
**CARMEL ICE SKADIUM**  
 1040 3rd Ave. SW • Carmel, IN 46032  
 carmeliceskadium.com  
 317-844-8889  
 Open Public Skate & **COSMIC** Skate

**Parties & Groups**  
 \* Birthday Party Packages  
 \* Private Parties & Ice Rental  
 \* Field Trips & Fundraisers

**Group Skate Classes**  
 (Ages 3 - Adult)

**Hockey Leagues**  
 (youth and adult)

## MLL FAMILY NIGHT



One of the stations at MLL night was a station for 7th and 8th grade students to receive information on the 21st Century Scholars program.

Another station during MLL night was in Mrs. Mehl's room. Parents and students were able to go through their last WIDA score and make goals for the next WIDA test in January.

**Weddell**  
 PEDIATRIC DENTAL SPECIALISTS LLC  
 A lifetime of good dental habits

14555 Hazel Dell Parkway, Suite #100  
 Carmel, IN 46033  
 317-816-1555  
 weddellpediatricdental.com



The last station for the MLL families was the book fair! Students were able to shop around with their parents and enjoy a treat.



**Is your child realizing their potential in math?** Results from the National Assessment of Educational Progress show an alarming decline in math scores nationwide<sup>1</sup> – clear evidence of the toll the pandemic has taken on students. But there's plenty of time to turn things around with personalized math instruction at Mathnasium. A customized learning plan will focus on what your child needs to improve their math skills and build their confidence for the rest of the school year! <sup>1</sup>National Assessment of Educational Progress

**Mathnasium of Carmel**

**317-846-MATH (6284) • mathnasium.com/carmel**

**Located in front of Market District**





## CELEBRATING OUR SUPPORT STAFF

During the week of November 13th, we celebrated our support staff here at Clay. Our Instructional Assistants – whether they work in the special education department, performing arts department, or serve as one of our incredibly flexible building IAs – play an integral part in the education of each and every one of our students. There is no way that a simple "thank you" could even begin to cover all that they do, but during this week we did our best to make them feel appreciated with thank you notes, gift cards to Starbucks, plants, treats, and a special soup and salad lunch. Please join us in celebrating the following Instructional Assistants: Mrs. Presutti

(choir), Mrs. Wilson (band/orchestra), Mrs. Selear (building), Mrs. Pretorius (building), Mr. Hargrave (building), Mrs. Garcia (special education), Mrs. Meha (special education), Mrs. Snopek (special education), Mrs. Nisha (special education), Ms. DeWitt (special education), Mr. McCurdy (special education), Mrs. Zivojn (special education), Mrs. Taylor (special education), Mrs. Trisler (special education), Mrs. Erath (special education), and Mrs. Everhart (special education).



## A BIG SHOUT OUT TO...

Congratulations to Karis Lin, one of our 7th grade Clay Middle School students, who was the 2023 essay winner and chosen by the city to read her essay at the annual City of Carmel Veterans Day program. We are so very proud of you Karis - great job!

Thank you to Mr. Snyder (Karis's Social Studies teacher) and Mr. Dial who is a Clay Middle School STEM teacher and veteran.

A special thank you goes out to all of our veterans who have served our country in the past, and are currently serving our country.



### SUPPORT STAFF HIRING EVENT

**JANUARY 8, 2024**  
**3:30 - 6:30 PM**

Clay Middle School  
5150 126th Street Carmel, IN 46033

*Wild*  
ABOUT OUR EMPLOYEES  
AT CARMEL CLAY SCHOOLS

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

- Custodians
- Bus Drivers and Bus Aides
- Instructional Assistants
- Childcare Workers
- Food & Nutrition Services
- Substitute Teachers
- 3-Hour Position

DRAWING FOR  
FREE  
INDIANAPOLIS  
ZOO TICKETS!

Walk-in Interviews  
Apply Onsite

[www.ccs.k12.in.us/careers](http://www.ccs.k12.in.us/careers)  
317-844-9961



WANT TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS? EAT DONUTS?  
PLAY CRAZY GAMES? LEARN ABOUT JESUS?

## JOIN US AT CRU!

We meet every Thursday morning  
at 7:30 a.m. in the LGI room.  
All are welcome to attend.  
Come check us out!

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO BE ADDED  
TO THE CRU MAILING LIST FOR EMAIL NEWS

TEXT "@CRUCLAY" TO 81010 FOR UP-TO-DATE  
REMIND MESSAGES TO YOUR PHONE

Koto Japanese Steakhouse

Now Open for ToGo and Dine-In

14490 Lowes Way | Carmel, IN 46033

(317) 575-5686

DOORDASH
kotocarmel.com
GRUBHUB

## OFF *The* WALL SPORTS

(317) 580-5900 | [offthewallsports.net](http://offthewallsports.net)

Register Now For High School Indoor Soccer Leagues!

- Winter Session 1 runs from November to January
- Winter Session 2 runs from January to March

To ensure your spot in either session, register early!

Located: 1423 Chase Court | Carmel, IN 46032 | [offthewallsports.net](http://offthewallsports.net)

# Believe in Your Greatness

FINDING THE POWER OF **OUR** OUR STUDENTS... OUR PARENTS... AND OUR COMMUNITY

## FROM THE NURSE



The Clay Clinic is accepting donations for gently used athletic pants and shorts (sweatpants, leggings, etc.) of all sizes. These are used following spills, accidents, and menstrual issues. They can be dropped off at the front office with a note labeled "for the clinic." We are also always accepting donations of pads, tampons, and liners as these are distributed for use in the student restrooms. Thank you and happy holidays!

- Nurse Julie & Nurse Regan




Follow Us!





CarmelClaySchools @myccs CarmelClaySchools

## DID YOU KNOW?



box tops

If you receive a paper receipt, a quick scan with the Box Tops app will identify participating products and automatically credit your school's earnings online.




Kroger

ORGANIZATION # RK877

Kroger donates annually to participating organizations based on your percentage of spending as it relates to the total spending associated with all participating Kroger Community Rewards organizations.



**ERIN CONNELL**  
Managing Partner  
SELECTED TO SUPER LAWYERS

**CATHERINE MICHAEL**  
Managing Partner  
SELECTED TO SUPER LAWYERS

Connell Michael Kerr, LLP is a full service family law firm dedicated to serving our clients with zealous advocacy and compassion. We assist clients in a variety of family law matters including prenuptial and postnuptial agreements, divorce, child support and custody disputes, property division, surrogacy and reproductive law, as well as personal injury and education law matters. Our dedicated team of attorneys is focused on providing clients outstanding advocacy and comprehensive legal advice even in the most complex circumstances. Conveniently located in Carmel, our family law office serves clients throughout central Indiana.







## YOUNG ARTIST AWARD

Congratulations to Madison Bowser on being selected as the young artist award winner for Clay Middle School.

On Monday, November 13th, Madison was recognized in front of our school board and our community for her amazing artwork and talent.

We are so proud of Madison and we are looking forward to her incredible artwork being displayed at our central office.



**GREAT JOB  
MADISON!**



## CLAY SPELL BOWL TEAM

Saturday, November 11th, your Clay Spell Bowl Team competed in the State Competition at Purdue University. The competition was filled with many talented spellers from all over the state of Indiana! Overall, Clay placed 7th in the state with a team score that was only 9 points behind the 1st place winner!

Congratulations to Saket S, Rithiksha S and Kevin C for scoring a Perfect round (all 9 words correctly spelled) and Caroline M and Avni B with near perfect scores (8 words correctly spelled).

Please make sure to congratulate all the team members for a great season!

Wednesday, November 15th the following students participated in the Individual Spelling Competition: Angie L, Hrishabh B, Saket S, Rithiksha S and Kevin C. They all qualified because they scored a perfect score at the Regional and State competitions.

## A SUCCESSFUL BOOK FAIR

**Thank you everyone for a successful book fair!**

We had the highest sales in our history of book fairs had and most importantly the highest number of books ever sold so I call that a win-win! We could not have done it without all of our amazing volunteers coming in for 2-hour shifts throughout the week and helping with set up and a record fast tear down. A special thank you to Angela Frazier and Lori Newman for being shift supervisors every day of the fair. Proceeds from the fair will go towards library literacy programs, reading incentives and awards, author visits and resources for our media center. Happy reading!

- Mrs. Stephanie Swartzendruber  
Instructional Coach  
Media Specialist




Graphics > Signage > Displays

**317.222.5665**

WALL MURALS	FEATHER FLAGS	VINYL DECALS
EVENT DISPLAYS	BANNERS	POSTERS
VEHICLE GRAPHICS	YARD SIGNS	MAGNETS

9541 Valparaiso Court, Indianapolis, IN 46268  
info@image360indynw.com  
[www.image360indynw.com](http://www.image360indynw.com)

## A Dental Connection to Overall Health.

(It's deeper than you might think)

We offer a range of services across five areas of dentistry:

- Family Dentistry
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Restorative Dentistry
- Children's Dentistry
- Orthodontics



**KEYSTONE  
DENTISTRY**

*I'm Dr. Wayne Kinney, and I have a different idea. Let's talk.*

**317 575-1120**

[keystonedentistry.com](http://keystonedentistry.com)



**Mi Hacienda  
MEXICAN RESTAURANT**

PHONE 317-810-1219  
CALL OR FAX 317-564-4913  
819 West Carmel Dr.  
Carmel, IN 46032

# 10 Believe in Your Greatness

FINDING THE POWER OF **OUR** OUR STUDENTS... OUR PARENTS... AND OUR COMMUNITY

## GERMAN AT CLAY



German students in our 8th grade and Exploratory classes were able to meet with German exchange students visiting from Flörsheim, Germany. Carmel Clay High School has an exchange program with a school in Flörsheim. The exchange students were able to stay with a partner from Carmel High School, and early this summer our Carmel High School students will travel to Germany. This was an awesome opportunity for our Clay Middle School students to meet students from Germany and to get to know more about the German culture. We had the pleasure of listening to 2 presentations. We learned about German music and places to visit in the Frankfurt area. Our guests were able to experience a little bit of our German class as well as a Social Studies class.

## CLAY ROBOTICS



Saturday November 11th the Clay Trojan Robotics team hosted 38 teams from across the state for our first competition of the season. Throughout the day many of Clay's teams put on great first of the year performances.

This competition helps raise funds for the robotics team here at Clay and gives our teams some great opportunities to compete with and witness some great robots in the area. Clay will be hosting another tournament in February and requires lots of volunteers to make this happen. If you are interested in helping, please reach out to the club sponsor, Brandon Crawford, at [bcrawfor@ccs.k12.in.us](mailto:bcrawfor@ccs.k12.in.us).



## INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

November 9th Woodbrook Elementary School held its first annual International Festival. Clay Middle School students Carly Orr and Michael Durand attended along with Frau O'Bryhim to represent Germany. Around 200 people came to the event, which included food, music, games, crafts and fun. It was amazing to see all of the families there sharing their culture and having fun. A special thanks to Michael and Carly for making the night a success.



## CLAY ATHLETICS



For more information, please go to: <https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/clm/athletics>

**Kuzmic**  
Orthodontics

Highest Quality Orthodontics for Children, Teens, and Adults

(317)846-4446

You and Your Family Deserve One-on-One Attention and Individualized Smile Plans

8902 N. Meridian St.  
Suite 137 | Indianapolis  
[kuzmicortho.com](http://kuzmicortho.com)

**IWC** INDIANA WELLNESS COLLEGE

**Treat Yourself! Book a Treatment Today!**

Come get pampered at our Esthetics Clinic:  
Your skin will thank you!

Call to Book: 317.376.8640

Our Address  
10585 N Meridian St. Ste 102  
Carmel, IN 46290  
Clinic: 317.376.8640  
Admissions: 317.449.4798  
[www.IndianiaWellnessCollege.edu](http://www.IndianiaWellnessCollege.edu)

Scan for hours, treatments, & disclosures

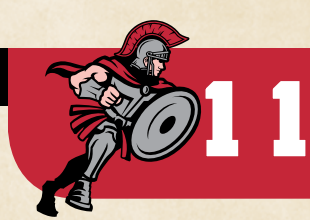
**dii**

Dyslexia Institute of Indiana

CELEBRATING 30-YEARS  
Education  
Advocacy  
Student Success

317-222-6635  
[diin.org](http://diin.org)

SERVICES: Dyslexia Testing, Tutoring, Educator Training and Camp Delafield



## WASHINGTON D.C. TRIP

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am reaching out today to inform you of an optional educational opportunity for your child as they attend Clay their 8th grade year.

Registration is now open for any **current 7th grade student at Clay Middle School** to attend the annual Washington D.C. trip during their 8th grade year. The trip will take place over Labor Day weekend, 2024. The overall cost (\$1475) of the trip includes all travel expenses (hotel, flight, transportation, food, security, etc).

Please register as soon as possible so we can plan accordingly. There is limited space for this trip. While we try to take everyone who registers, the first 144 registered students are guaranteed a space on the trip. A waitlist will begin after that number. The registration packet attached provides additional information.

[Clay Middle School registration informational packet.](#)

Go to: [www.nationsclassroomtours.com](http://www.nationsclassroomtours.com) Use the REGISTER NOW button to begin the process. Our Tour ID is 35462406.

Should you have any questions please reach out to Chad Carr at [ccarr1@ccs.k12.in.us](mailto:ccarr1@ccs.k12.in.us).

Chad Carr, 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher

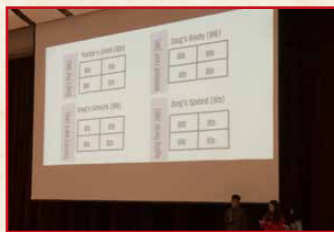
## 8TH GRADE SCIENCE

By exploring a Project Based Learning unit on genetics, 8th grade science students created brand new organisms that had commercial value. Student groups then pitched their inventions to potential investors in a Shark Tank format in the Clay auditorium.

Students described the traits of their creations and used Punnett squares to show how these characteristics were inherited from each parent organism. Students identified potential buyers and outlined how a Shark investment would improve their business.

Student groups did an amazing job on stage, and the Sharks asked them great questions about their organisms.

**A big thank you to all of the Sharks who made this possible!**



**METHOD SALON**  
BEAUTY + BOUTIQUE

**317-660-1717**

Ask about our student discount days!

1200 WEST CARMEL DRIVE  
CARMEL, IN 46032  
[www.methodsalon.com](http://www.methodsalon.com)

**CARMEL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
JANNA HYMES, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

*Experience the Exceptional*

Details about our  
**2023-24 SEASON**  
available now at  
**CarmelSymphony.org**

**ROAD STAR Driving School**

**ENROLL NOW!**

**\$25 OFF** online or classroom courses use coupon code: drive2023

**Online Course Behind the Wheel Training**  
Lots of open drive times available. Schedule online today!

**CARMEL.ROADSTARDRIVING.COM**

ONLINE REGISTRATION AND SCHEDULING ARE NOW AVAILABLE Largest drivers education school in Indiana

**317-366-8497** 1033 West Main Street | Carmel, IN 46033 | [carmel@roadstardriving.com](mailto:carmel@roadstardriving.com)

THE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

THE PALLADIUM

# 12 Believe in Your Greatness

FINDING THE POWER OF **OUR** OUR STUDENTS... OUR PARENTS... AND OUR COMMUNITY

## FROM STUDENT SERVICES

### Freshman Scheduling

Following winter break, we will be working cooperatively with the Carmel High School Freshman Center counselors to begin the process of selecting high school classes. Please watch Canvas for an invitation to the CHS - 8th Grade Transition Course on December 11, 2023. In the course, you will find an FAQ section, course information, important dates, instructions for requesting classes via the PowerSchool Class Registration system and more.

In January, students will view videos and receive scheduling information and instructions during Core+. Freshman Center counselors will then be visiting to meet 1:1 with students to check over course selections and answer questions.

### SAVE THE DATE!

January 15, 2024

5:30 - 8:00 pm

CHS Academic  
Transition Night

8th grade students and parents get acquainted with academic options, opportunities, and resources at Carmel High School. There will be booths allowing you to learn about specific courses and ask questions. All four Freshman counselors will be hosting sessions in classrooms for parents to meet them and ask specific questions about their child's schedule.

*\*We ask that parents and students hold questions until after this date. Contact information for your child's Freshman Center counselor can be found in the 8th grade transition to CHS Canvas page. Counselors will look forward to addressing individual questions following the Academic Information Night.*



21st Century Scholars is a scholarship which provides eligible students up to four years of undergraduate tuition at any participating public college or university in Indiana. If you attend a private college, the state will award an amount comparable to that of a four-year public college. To enroll your scholar or learn more visit <http://scholars.in.gov/parents/enroll/>.

### Holiday Assistance

The holiday season can be a time of joy and warm memories, but it can also be a time of financial strain. If you find that you or someone you know is in need of assistance this holiday season - food, toys, clothes, etc. - some helpful resources you can contact are Connect 2 Help (dial 2-1-1) and The United Way Christmas Service. The Good Samaritan Network is also a helpful resource - applications can be found online at [www.gsnlive.org](http://www.gsnlive.org), or by calling (317) 842-2603.



### Homework Assistance

#### FREE HOMEWORK HELP WITH A PUBLIC LIBRARY CARD

Carmel Clay Public Library cardholders of all ages can get free online homework help and tutoring assistance through the [Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com) service. Available 7 days a week from 3:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m., the service connects students with a live tutor to assist with math, science, social studies, and English. Users can also access practice exams and get help with resumes and cover letters.

The tutors are experts in their subjects and include certified teachers, college professors, graduate students, select undergraduates from accredited universities, and other professionals. The tutor and student work one-on-one in a secure online classroom, and no personal information is exchanged between them.

[Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com) is available at [tutor.com/carmelclaypl](https://www.tutor.com/carmelclaypl) or through the [free Tutor.com to Go app](https://www.tutor.com/go). To register online for a library card, visit [carmelclaylibrary.org/get-alibrar-card](https://www.carmelclaylibrary.org/get-alibrar-card).

**The Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology** is again offering their homework hotline assistance program. The service is free and is geared toward help in the subjects of math and science. Call 1-977-ASK-ROSE. Hours of operation are Sunday - Thursday, 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Online chat and email questions can also be answered during these hours of operation by clicking this [LINK](#) to their website.



Follow Us!

CLAY MIDDLE SCHOOL



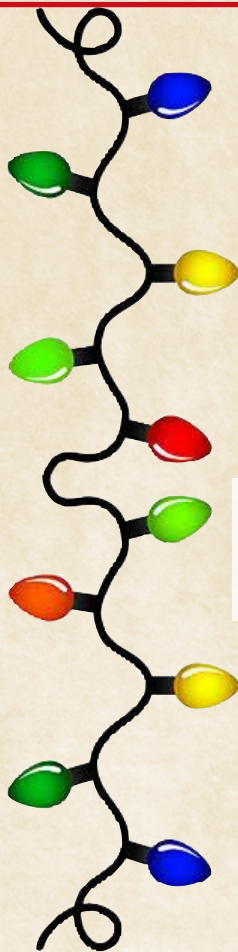
CarmelClaySchools



@myccs



CarmelClaySchools



## HOLIDAY LIGHTS RECYCLING DRIVE

Team Atlas Green Team, Carmel Utilities, White's Ace Hardware and Technology Recyclers are proud to sponsor the

**12th Annual Holiday Lights Recycling Drive**  
November 20th– January 11th

A box will be located across from the main office at Clay to collect any discarded holiday lights. Each strand is almost 100% recyclable (no garland, wreaths or trees - lights only!) Over four tons of holiday lights have been recycled by Technology Recyclers through our efforts to keep our landfill a little lighter!

We are in a competition with Creekside and Carmel Middle to see who can collect the most strands.

DONATE YOURS, TODAY!

## STUDENT CHROMEBOOKS



Chromebooks provided to students remain the property of Carmel Clay Schools. Please remind your child that these devices should be respected and that charges may be applied when damaged Chromebooks are turned in to be replaced. If a student has received a case for their device, then the case should remain on the device. In addition to repair costs, if a case is lost or destroyed, an additional \$20 fee will be assessed.

Finally, students should not be personalizing their devices with stickers, gum wrappers or any other decorative items.

Additional information on student devices is available at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1T4O33WIP5r-VpL8ebfVAedkJsCIK5ArHD9brjQTiyXk/preview>

## BECOME A PART OF THE TROJAN FAMILY TODAY!



### JOIN OUR TEAM

#### SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

- Work in a professional environment with a flexible schedule you control
- Positively impact the education of students in your own community
- Have the ability to select your preferred school site
- Daily Rate is \$80- \$90



For more information, contact Kelli Hackett at [khackett@ccs.k12.in.us](mailto:khackett@ccs.k12.in.us) or (317) 844-9961.



Visit our website [www.ccs.k12.in.us](http://www.ccs.k12.in.us)

APPLY HERE [WWW.APPLTRACK.COM/CCS/ONLINEAPP/](http://WWW.APPLTRACK.COM/CCS/ONLINEAPP/)



# 14 Believe in Your Greatness

FINDING THE POWER OF **OUR** OUR STUDENTS... OUR PARENTS... AND OUR COMMUNITY

