Dear Smith Families,

We are nearing the end of the year, but we’re not slowing down! PSSA testing is wrapping up, we are back outside for recess, and with all of the events planned for May, excitement is definitely in the air. We have also been really emphasizing the importance of maximizing individual potential every day. With that mentality, our teachers are continuing to stress how essential it is to finish the year with the same integrity, persistence, and work ethic that our students have shown to this point.

At the beginning of the month, our Smith Singers participated in a festival in Washington DC and won gold medals for their performance! Mrs. Falduts also led a fantastic first annual Lock-in to raise money for the battle against Leukemia. It was an extremely fun night and best of all, we raised almost $10,000.00 for the cause! This month, students will take a field trips with their grade. On top of our final testing for 8th grade science with PSSA and Keystones, we will have our Spring Concert, “Be Wise, Exercise” event, Talent Show, Beach Party Family Event, and field trips. May will be a busy month!

This has been a great year so far at Smith, and I’m proud of what our students have accomplished to this point. Their accomplishments are a combined effort of the students, teachers, and you all (parents and guardians). Teacher appreciation week is the first week of May and hopefully I share my sincere appreciation with them daily, but I want to share that with you as well.

As I come across great tools, I like to share with stakeholders so we can all be as well-equipped as possible to deal with leading our youth in a changing world. As parents, caretakers, and caring adults we need to have ongoing conversations with children about their friends, peers, and adults with whom they have contact. It is also important to talk about the relationships that are portrayed in popular media and online. Our students hear this same message from our staff regularly, but the link at the bottom will lead to a valuable article about things we can do, as adults, to help guide our children as best as possible.

http://healthfinder.gov/HealthTopics/Category/parenting/healthy-communication-and-relationships/talk-with-your-teen-about-healthy-relationships

Solanco is now on Twitter! Please follow us @SolancoSchIDist!

-Dave Beard
Assistant Principal

Want to receive this newsletter by email? Sign up at http://tinyurl.com/smithmiddle

Student Recognitions

April’s Student of the Month
Emma Kline
Chosen by the 6th Grade Team

Principal’s Breakfast Club for April

Front left to right: Katelyn Johnson (7th), Thomas Klecko (6th), Rachel Swann (6th), Brittany Troop (6th), Megan Bailey (6th)

Back Left to right: Donald Gilbert (8th), Kelsey Klecko (8th), Molly Peffer (8th), Jorge Maximo-Rodriguez (7th), Nicole Ringenary (7th), Elliot Spangler (7th)

Smith Middle School Enrollment Report
6th Grade = 152  7th Grade = 130
8th Grade = 124  Total = 406
PTO Update:
We have made it through another year! We have Be Wise Exercise scheduled for May 5. 7th grade will be out there from 8:10-9:31, 8th grade 9:31-10:53, and 6th grade 12:59-2:20. Please come out and support your children and help serve water and water ice!
I am pleased to announce that we have new officers for the 2017-18 school year!!! Our president is Shannon Lewis, VP is Becky Lehner, Treasurer is Colleen Davis/Kandi Sharp, and Secretary is Mandy Tice.
We will continue with PTO meetings the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7pm at The Daily Grind. Join us for the last meeting of the year on May 17.
Have a great summer!

Colleen Davis,
Smith PTO President
717-723-5619
Colleendavis20@yahoo.com

Counselor’s Corner

Hard to believe, but yes, it is nearing the end of the school year and the summer may just be on your minds. If not, it certainly is something to think about as the days turn warmer on a more consistent basis. Any special plans for the summer months? Consider the following:

Quarryville Library: Check these activities out (Summer Reading Challenge; Family Movie Night; Teen Anime Club; Chess Club; Lock-In; Parachute Camp; Book Club; Lego Night; Yoga; Tech Week; Cosplay Contest). Visit their website @ www.quarryvillelibrary.org.

Black Rock Retreat: A non-profit, non-denominational camp with a 60+ year history that features a zip line, 130ft. waterslide, water trampoline, ropes course (high & low), sports & activities, and ways to build great friendships. Visit their website, www.blackrockretreat.com.

Camp Cadet of Lancaster County (August 13-19, 2017): This FREE “Police Academy for Kids” (ages 11-13) focuses on self-discipline, confidence and self-esteem. Visit their website for more information @ www.campcadetoflancastercounty.com.

It’s been a great year! I hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer!

To contact Mr. Moyer: shawn_moyer@solanco.k12.pa.us

6th Grade Team News

Language Arts: Students will be moving back into fiction text and continuing to work on plot identification and analysis. The fiction text will be the book, Twenty-One Balloons. Students will also focus on persuasion writing with the novel study.

LEAD: All students will be working on speeches for public speaking. Topics will be researched to present to the class.

READ: Students are working with social studies content and vocabulary to improve their fluency. Readers Theater scripts about the Greek Gods and Alexander the Great will be rehearsed in READ and performed in social studies. Students will also be selecting projects for their demonstration speeches.

Math: May is a time for students to dive deeper into concepts learned throughout their year in math. Various projects and assignments cover a wide variety of topics and help reinforce skills we learned. Discussions will focus around the incorporation of multiple skills to solve real-world problems.

Science: Students will start off the month of May with 6th grade environmental day. Students will also be finishing up unit 9 by learning about symbiotic relationships. Then we will start our final unit on ecological biomes, where students will be learning about the different biomes of the world and how organisms adapted to live in their specific environment.
7th Grade Team News

**Math/Math Extensions:** Students will complete a unit on graphing equations which includes slope, y-intercept, and intersecting lines.

**LEAD:** In LEAD, we will be completing the communication unit which culminates with the “Life in a Bag” speech. In addition, we will focus on functional, everyday text.

**Social Studies:** Students will learn that the results of the French and Indian War will become one of the major seeds to the American Revolution. Slavery, Native Americans, and personal liberty also become issues.

**Language Arts:** Students will be presenting persuasive speeches as a final assessment to our argumentative unit. Students will then begin the second fiction unit by reading *Call of the Wild* throughout the month of May as well as completing various activities.

8th Grade Team News

**Language Arts:** May is a busy month in 8th grade English Language Arts! Students will be finishing up Romeo and Juliet, working on their creative short story for their last unit of study, and taking their final exams.

**LEAD III:** Students will spend a majority of the month completing a cross-curricular project about Latin America. Students will research a country in order to create a travel website and a commercial to promote tourism.

**Algebra:** Both sets of classes will be factoring and then solving quadratic equations during May. Good luck to the Algebra students as they prepare for their graduation requirement, the KEYSTONE exam in Algebra!

**Integrated Geography:** Integrated Geography and LEAD will combine class instruction in creating and exploring Latin America through Google Sites and a commercial to promote tourism.

**Science:** In May in Science, students will be learning about the ‘Role of Enzymes’ in life processes, the importance of ‘Cellular Transport’, and finally we will build on their knowledge of ‘Genetics’.

**Social Studies:** The students will be learning about the Gilded Age with a focus on immigration. The last unit of study will be America’s application of imperialism in fighting the Spanish American War. In addition, the students will examine the U.S. territories as a result of imperialism. The course ends with a lesson on the life of Robert Lincoln and how his life contrasted with the life of his father, Abraham Lincoln.
Thank you all for a great year!
Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Upcoming Dates:
7th grade-field trip May 1st
Be Wise Exercise-May 5th
Beach Party Night-May 5th 5-8PM
Spring Concert-May 9th 7:30PM
6th Grade Field Trip-May 10th
8th Grade Field Trip—May 23rd
Talent Show- May 26th

**HEALTH** – 7th grade Health students are currently closing out human growth and development with lessons about pregnancy and childbirth followed by the importance of abstinence and HIV/AIDS. We will then transition into nutrition and healthy eating for our last unit.

**FITNESS** – All students have been participating in various track and field events including relays, hurdles, high jump, long jump and shot put. After track and field we will begin a softball unit where students will play organized games of softball and learn to throw, catch and hit a softball.

**TECH. ED.** – Sixth grade will continue working on their model rocket project for the transportation unit. Seventh grade will learn how to program the Lego robots to use the various sensors. Eighth grade will continue working on independent study unit.

**COMPUTER TECH.** – The 8th graders will be starting charting and graphing in Excel. The 7th graders will soon begin their “Life on a Slide” PowerPoint presentation to be presented in front of their classmates. The 6th graders will be learning the last few keys on the keyboard.

**ART** – The 6th grade will be studying value. After completing value scales they will begin still life drawings. The 7th grade will continue to work on zentangle animal prints. We will be finishing our linoleum block carving and beginning the prints. The 8th grade will be starting to work on illustrations for this year’s fair book cover. We will be looking at folk art drawings and working from images from the surrounding area.

**FACS** – 6th graders will complete wallet sewing projects and then learn about making healthy choices with fast food and snacks. 7th graders will learn about etiquette and budgeting, and make mini pizzas and fruit quesadillas. 8th graders will learn about microwave cooking, meal planning, and advertising, and make mug cake and a full meal.

**MEDIA CENTER** – Book exchanges will continue for all grades. Beginning May 1st, students will only be allowed to sign-out 2 books at a time in preparation for returning all books in time for the end of the school year. If any students have lost any library books, they can stop in the library to find out the cost to replace any lost books. Students with any library books not returned or paid for will not be eligible for the Hershey Park trip until those obligations are met.

**BAND** – Concert band and jazz bands are putting the final touches on their concert music and are prepared to perform for families and friends!

**MUSIC** – 8th grade students will continue to study the history of rock and roll through the decades. 7th grade students will continue to work on songwriting. 6th grade music students will learn about the music of Scott Joplin.