

TOBYHANNA ELEMENTARY CENTER

PANTHER PRESS



Important Dates:

March 2: Read Across America Day

March 4: 3 hour early dismissal for students

March 8: Daylight Savings—clocks spring forward 1 hour

March 9: PTO meeting @ 9:30 am

March 17: Spring Pictures

March 20: First day of Spring

March 24: End of 3rd marking period



TEC Gears Up for Arts and Music Celebration Week March 9-13.

The staff at Tobyhanna Elementary Center have been busy coordinating a variety of events for students to enjoy during our week long celebration of the Arts. The week will be off to a “jazzy” start with assemblies from Mr. Jeff Mark and the West High School Jazz Band. Each morning, our morning announcements will challenge students with a variety of art and music trivia questions. Throughout the week classrooms will have an opportunity to have photographs taken with various pieces of interactive Art that will be displayed throughout the building. On Wednesday, a local musician, Zac Lawless, will visit our school and treat students to a variety of familiar songs. Thursday, students will attend an assembly to watch some dance performances from the Pocono Academy of Dance. Friday, Author and illustrator, Lindsay Barrett George will entertain students with a bit of storytelling and illustrating. Our school will also enjoy a selected day to “don” a favorite concert T or wear a T shirt that is art or music related to promote music and art appreciation. “Stay tuned” for more exciting events during the week of March 9-13 we are looking forward to this week long celebration!

PUBLISHED MONTHLY
FOR STUDENTS,
PARENTS AND
TEACHERS

- P**—PREPARED
- R**—RESPECTFUL
- I**— INVOLVED
- D**- DEPENDABLE
- E**—EMPATHETIC



Electronic copy via e-mail / pmsd.org will have clickable links for your convenience.

ATTENDANCE AND SUCCESS

TEC Parents,

Please know that everyone at TEC does everything we can to provide a positive, stimulating environment for your child everyday. We know that a child's earliest experiences with school will have lasting impacts for their entire life. The same can be said for their attendance history. Please take a few minutes and carefully read the article below to learn just how important daily attendance is to your child's present and future experiences.

Sincerely, Dr. D'Angelo and Mr. Kevra

IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Attending school regularly will help your child feel better about school—and themselves.

Your child can start building this habit in kindergarten so they learn right away

that going to school on time, every day is a requirement not an option.

Consistent attendance in the earliest grades helps children do well in high school, college, and at work.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences (excused and unexcused) can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) increases the chance that your student will not read or master math at the same level as their peers.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance and sends a poor message.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By being present at school, your child learns valuable social skills and has the opportunity to develop meaningful relationships with other students and school staff.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school or struggling with school work.
- By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.

WHAT YOU CAN DO AS A PARENT OR GUARDIAN

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Prepare for school the night before: finish homework & get plenty of sleep.
- Consistent, established routines make everyone's life easier.
- Don't let your student stay home unless they are truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- Avoid appointments and extended trips when school is in session.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Keep track of your student's attendance. Days add up quickly!
- Talk to your child about the importance of attendance.
- Talk to your child's teacher if you notice sudden changes in behavior.
- Encourage participation in before and after school activities.



KINDERGARTEN CELEBRATES

The Kindergarten Classes were so excited as they reached the big milestone of 100 Days of School. They all came together to celebrate the big day. They completed many 100 themed stations such as making a gumball machine with 100 gumballs, adding 100 toppings to a giant pizza, building 100 cup structures, completing 100 gross motor exercise activities, etc. They read stories and completed reading, writing and math activities in class in conjunction with their celebration. They even created 100 Day Mystery Bottles. They had a great time guessing the contents of each other's bottles. We had a wonderful time working together! Thank you to all the parents who volunteered to help with and sent in supplies for our special day! Time sure does fly.

We cannot wait for what the next 80 days of school will bring!



The Kindergarten children learned that candy hearts are not just a sweet treat to eat. They explored many aspects of this yummy candy. They used the hearts to do some sorting, graphing and patterning. They were also able to see how high they could stack them or what they could create using them. As young scientists, they used their skills of predicting, hypothesizing and recording when they did some fun sink and float experimenting using the hearts and various liquids. Let's not forget they were able to practice their developing phonics skills to sound out some of those little messages on the hearts and identify the sounds in the words. Who would have thought so much learning and fun could come from such sweet treat that comes home in our Love Bug bags!!

1st Grade: Past, Present & Future

Our first graders have been very busy this month!

During Black History Month, we got to experience lessons from the past about Martin Luther King Jr. who preached equality and peace.

To celebrate the *present*, our students celebrated the 100th day of school and "Safety Town USA" providing suggestions on how we can stay safe in our homes and at school.

In the upcoming months, our goals are to strengthen our measuring with time and money as well as counting and estimating way past 100!



First graders had a **blast** celebrating the *future* prediction of an early Spring by the groundhog! We planted seeds to watch germinate and will plant outside in a few weeks !



2nd Grade

Hooray! We have completed more than 100 days of school. That means we are more than a 100 days smarter! 2nd grade has enjoyed rewards day by making an “All About Me Paw” poster along with the rest of the school. The hallways are ‘Pawsitively’ awesome. We also had books read aloud about the 100th day, have been exploring the 100th chart and making a 100 with base ten blocks, or counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s. We also completed and shared with our classmates a “100 Things About Me” book.

Our school was fortunate enough to have a visit from Barn Hill Preserve. We got to see and learn about a baby kangaroo, a hedgehog, a tortoise, a blue-tongued skink, and an armadillo. Our class used the presentation as a platform to start our ELA informational writing. We voted and tallied our favorite animal, and wrote as a class about Mack, the baby kangaroo. We also watched some video clips on kangaroos to get more information. Did you know that a baby joey is the size of a pink jelly bean when it is born? Next, we will be choosing our own favorite animal to research and write an informational report about.

For Valentine’s Day we had our Mid-Winter party and wrote Similes-Senses poems for a loved one.

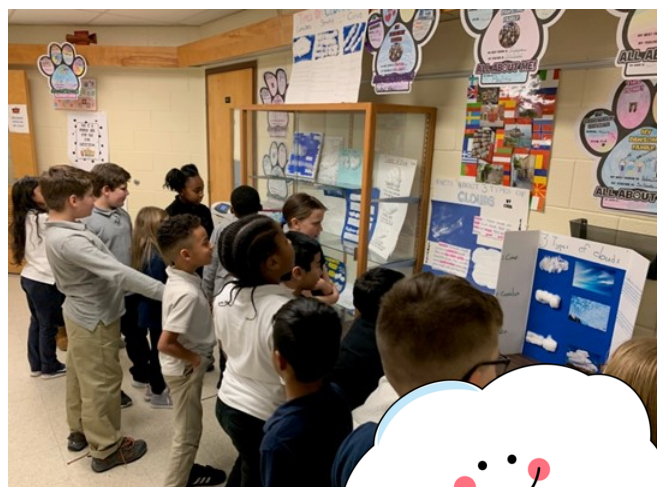
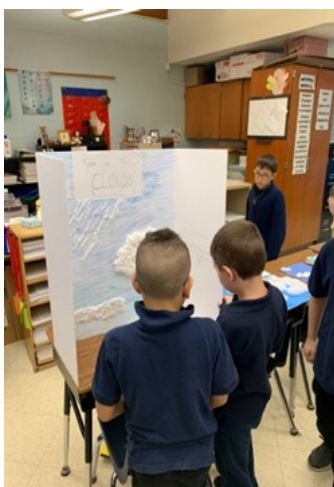
Here’s a line for you to complete: If love were a taste, it would be as ____ as a ____.

We are looking forward to celebrating Mardi Gras, Dr. Seuss’s birthday and St. Patrick’s Day. We plan on writing about a super power we wish we had and make our own mask for Mardi Gras. We will also write tongue twisters for Dr. Seuss’ birthday and limericks for St. Patrick’s Day. Maybe we will catch a leprechaun too! One thing is for sure, we are lucky to be in TEC!



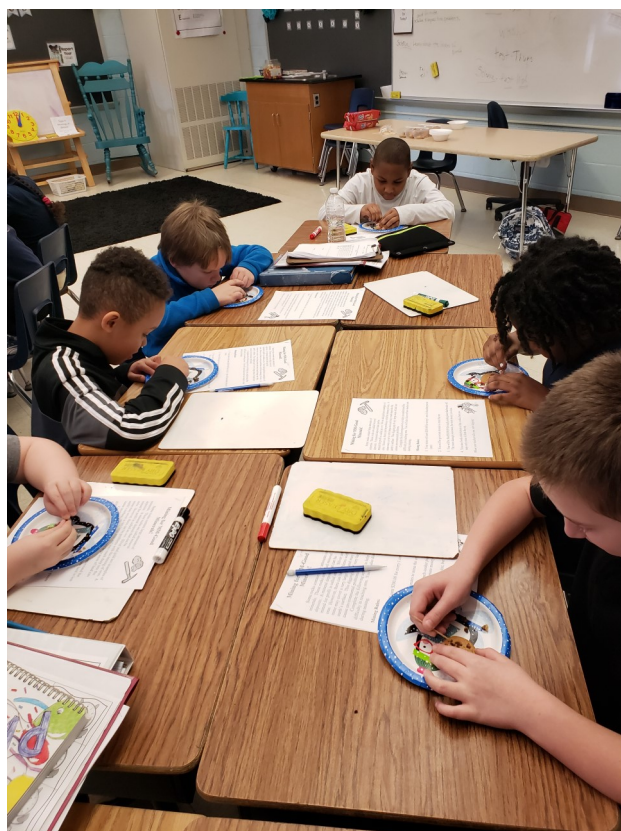
THIRD GRADE STUDENTS EXPLORE WEATHER

The weather turned quite cloudy in the third grade pod when Mr. Eisler's science students explored weather and created displays of the three basic types of clouds. During the unit on weather, students learned about the water cycle, types of clouds, the different states of water, and the different sources of water on Earth. In addition, each student completed a five day weather journal, which tracked the weather conditions in Pocono Pines. The unit culminated with students creating and displaying projects on the different types of clouds.



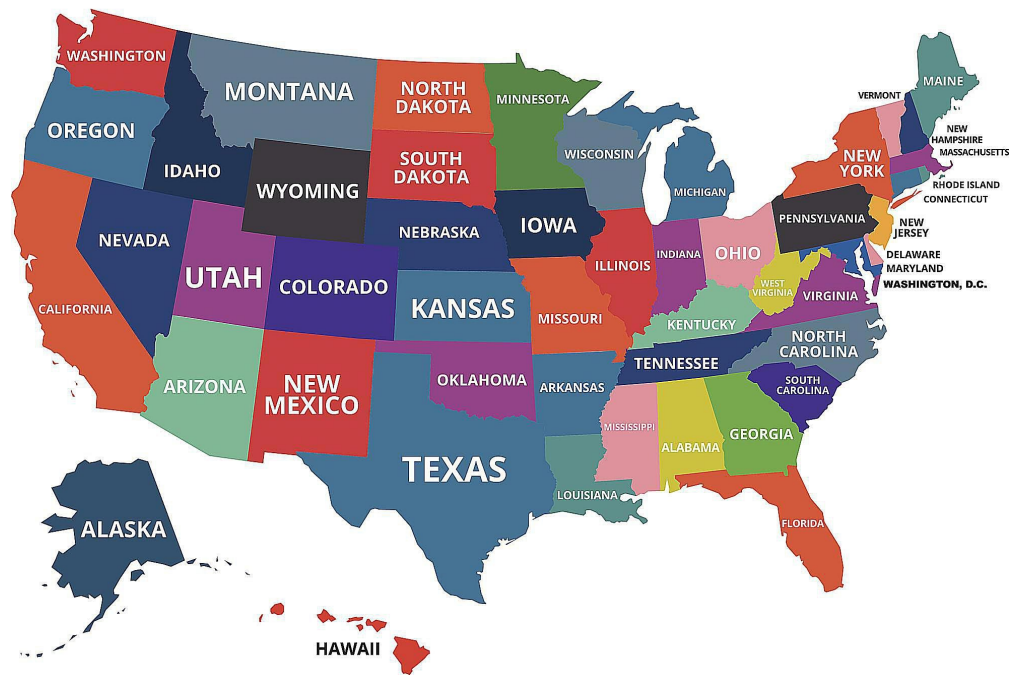
MINING IS SWEET

Mrs. Auliso's 3rd grade science classes learned about the importance of mining during her rocks and minerals unit. The students had to mine a cookie, carefully digging out "ores" (chocolate chips). The students learned how mining is essential, but can also effect and change the land.



4TH GRADE

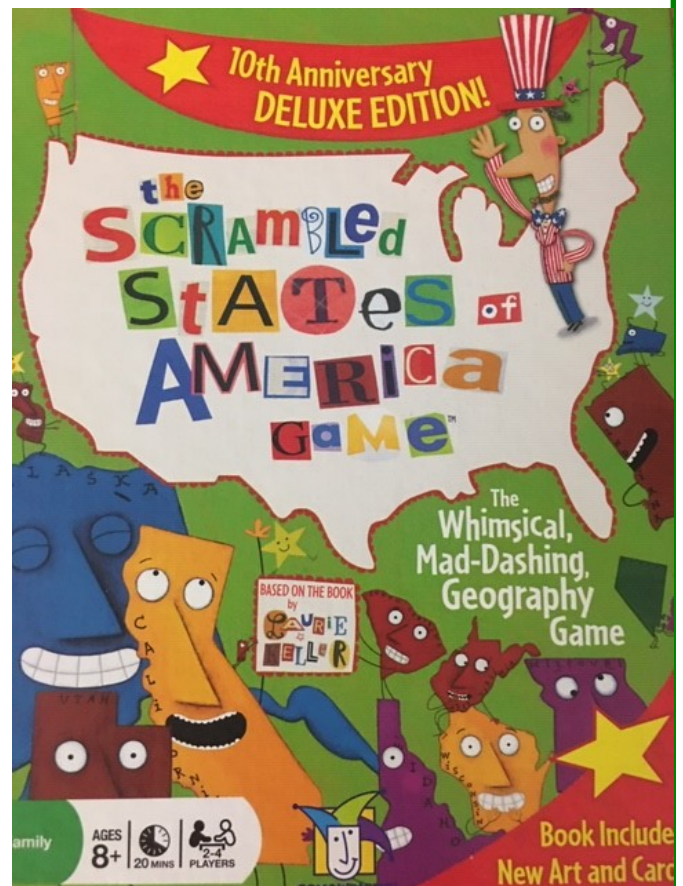
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



Fourth Grade students are preparing for the 50 States Map Quiz by playing various 50 states games and interactive online map game.

They are learning about the Southeast region of the United States. While traveling down South, they are learning about the climate and geography of the area. To encourage learning, students are playing a variety of fun games in class. (Game of the States, Race Across the U.S.A, Kids Puzzle of the United States, USA Bingo, & The Scrambled States of America Game) The games have been available during indoor recess and it is amazing how many students have asked to use the games during their own free time!

Where would you find a slow-moving river 50 miles wide and only a few inches deep? What King of Rock lived in Memphis? What animals live in the Everglades and why can't they live here? Why are hurricanes prevalent in the Southeast? Students have been creating flip-books to present information on their Southeast region states, such as capital, state flower, state motto, fun facts, etc!



Reminder: Fourth grade teachers encourage you to study vocabulary with your child every night, in every subject. A little studying each night goes a long way! PSSA's are right around the corner! Don't forget to log onto Wonders, TTM, First in Math, and Quizlet.



5th graders completed their unit on Native American tribes by creating a variety of projects. Projects consisted of Totem Poles, Pottery, Teepees, Longhouses and Native American meals. Mr. Argot was the lucky taste tester of these creative meals cooked up by students.

5th Grade REV YOUR TURTLES!!

As part of the Reptile unit 5th graders competed in turtle races. The track was fast and the crowd was loud, but in the end we crowned the winning turtle! Over 100 students raced until we got a winner. Who said turtles were slow?



Why Study the German Language?

By Jennifer Paul

Did you know that German people like to eat spaghetti ice cream? Which is just vanilla ice cream pressed to look like spaghetti covered in strawberry sauce.

Did you know that German students receive cones filled with treats and school supplies on their first day of school?

And did you know that St. Niklaus brings treats to German children who leave their shoes out for him to fill on December 6th?

Or, that if you are “bad”, Krampus will fill your shoes with sticks?

These are just some of the interesting cultural tidbits learned in German I class at the West Junior High School and West High School.

In addition to German culture, students enrolled in German I also learn the basics of the German language.

German has earned a bit of a reputation as a more difficult language to learn.

And, while learning any language is challenging at times, German is not always as difficult as people think. It is actually closely related to English!

Can you read this sentence?

Meine Schwester studiert Medizin in Berlin.

If you guessed “*my sister studies medicine in Berlin*”, you were correct!

German is also a unique language. Not quite as many people in the United States learn it as often as other languages.

This makes German speakers more in demand in companies like T-Mobile, Aldi and Volkswagen, which are all German companies with ties to the United States.

When choosing what language to learn, whether in 7th, 8th or 9th grade, German is one that students and parents should consider for a variety of interesting and practical reasons!

Auf Wiedersehen and see you in German Class!

TEC Gets Involved

The SGA students at TEC had the wonderful opportunity of working alongside West High School's SACC (Student Athlete Character Council) students to purchase items for Lehigh Valley Hospital's Hackerman-Patz house at Cedar Crest.

TEC students, teachers, and staff helped fundraise for the shopping by organizing a dress down on January 17th. The dress down collected \$532.00 that went toward the students' shopping trip with the SACC members. This was a great way for our students at TEC to interact with the high schoolers and help out the community.



Geography Bee

Geography Bee competition held for 5th and 6th graders who qualified. All 5th and 6th graders participated in several rounds of Geography Bee questions until we had 10 finalists. Questions revolved around states, countries, and continents throughout the world. Terrance Boone was our TEC champion. He goes on to take a final test on the computer to compete against 5th and 6th graders all over the state. All 10 finalists are listed below. *Great Job Terrance (pictured right)!*



6th graders- Terrance Boone, Sophia Cook, Hannah Bassuyt, Ronnie Estevez.

5th graders- Simona Sickler, Jaylyn Rowe, Carson Richardson, Curtis Sipler, Brayden Granger, Dylan Skiro.

Elks Club Drug Awareness Poster Contest Winners

Students in grades 3rd, 4th, and 5th took part in the annual Elks Club poster contest. One winner is chosen for each grade from all local entries.

*TEC is very proud to announce that **ALL** 3 winners were TEC students!*

Congratulations winners! Their poster entries will be moving to the state level next! **Stay tuned!**



Grade 3 winner- Paulina Mackowski (3-B)

Grade 4 winner- Carly Hindson (4-C)

Grade 5 winner- Monique Girard (5-Y)



PRINCIPAL'S PRIDE CLUB

Kaya Kaczmarek	Gabriella Ramos	Teagan Berger	Maya Dennis
Arianna Williams	Leah Dominie	Jaylyn Rowe	Madeline Pittius
Ramesh Arjune	Justin Carter	Dylan Dominie	Gabriela Walsh
Hayla Muto	Stephanie Antonyuk	Danica Najarian	Crystal Smith
Ethan Gomez	Norilee Rodriguez	Violet Koerner	Leah Laine
James Dirkschneider	Alice Hunnicutt	Isabella Delrio	Tristin Hernandez
Journee Lowry	Caroline Hunnicutt		

Missing from photo:

Giovanni Toney, Jamileth Perez, Kylee Walters, Cayden Cooper, Allison Show, Kendrick Marcus, Gabe Concepcion, Hayden Beech





MARCH BIRTHDAYS

TEC STAFF & FACULTY

- March 3:** Stacy Placek
 Noelle Miller
March 6: Melissa Amerman
March 8: Karen Planer
March 16: Kathy Leight
 Leanne Campbell
March 26: Angie Bailor
March 27: Sue Davis
March 29: Kathy Angeloni
March 30: Tina MacDavitt

If you see them in the classroom or hallway, be sure to say “happy birthday!”

HISTORIC BIRTHDAYS

March 3, 1847: *Alexander Graham Bell*—Scottish-born American inventor. He is credited in inventing the first practical telephone.

March 14, 1879: *Albert Einstein*— He is known as one of history's most brilliant minds, his development of new ideas in the field of physics and his varied hobbies. Einstein created the famous equation that states that energy equals mass multiplied by the speed of light squared

March 13, 1733: *Dr Joseph Priestly*- a scientist who, luckily for us, discovered Oxygen in 1774.

MRS. DIAL X24465
GRADES K, 4, 5, 6

MRS. EDNIE X24460
GRADES 1, 2, 3, 6

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

PROBLEM SOLVING IN SCHOOL

RESTORATIVE CIRCLES

Restorative Circles allow us to bring students together to address one time incidents or ongoing problems as deemed appropriate. In order for a circle to be facilitated to solve the problem all parties must be agreeable to use this method to solve the problem. Each student is asked if they would like to get together to discuss and solve the problem. The purpose of the circle is to allow all parties to be heard from their perspective. The circle is run by at least one principal, one counselor and all parties involved including the child(ren). We have done circles with parents, bus drivers, other administrators, teachers, substitute teachers and monitors. When we are in a circle the following questions are asked; What happened?, What were you thinking at the time?, What have you thought about since?, Who has been affected by what you have done? In what way?, What do you think you need to do to make things right? Each individual has an opportunity to answer these questions and they may answer or pass. After the questions are asked the dialogue continues as deemed appropriate. The goal is for everyone to walk away feeling heard and able to go on being comfortable.



**"IT'S AMAZING
WHAT WE CAN
ACCOMPLISH
WHEN WE'RE IN IT
TOGETHER."**

**Eddie*

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

What Is SAP?

A SAP team made up of school and agency staff is available to help you access school and community services for your child. In Pennsylvania, every school district is required to have a plan for identifying and assisting students who experience barriers to learning. The TEC SAP team will help you find services and assistance within the school, and if needed, in the community. We do not diagnose, treat, or refer your child for treatment. We will provide you with information and you make the choice that best fit your needs and wishes. As the parent/guardian you are an important part of the team. The SAP team information is completely confidential and the team will respect you and your child's privacy at all times. If you would like more information on SAP, call 570-839-7121 ext. 24400 to speak with the school counselor.



SPONSORED BY TEC PTO

SPRING SPIRIT WEAR STORE IS OPEN

Sale will run till March 9th. Delivery expected beginning of April.

THIS WILL BE THE LAST CHANCE TO PURCHASE SPIRIT WEAR FROM OUR STORE TILL THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

New items include windbreakers, baseball cap, duffel bags, tank tops, shorts and more!

<https://tecspring2020.itemorder.com/>



SAVE THE DATE



TEC'S 11TH ANNUAL TRICKY TRAY **Saturday, May 16th 2020 12-3pm**

TEC PTO is already gathering donations and prizes for our 11th Annual Tricky Tray event! We rely on help from our families, community and local businesses to make this event the largest fundraiser for our students. Please let us know if you can help out with the following:

DONATE A BASKET:_____

BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP:_____

VOLUNTEER TO SETUP MAY 15TH:_____

PROVIDE DRINKS/BAKED GOODS:_____

VOLUNTEER DAY OF EVENT, MAY 16TH:_____

HAVE AN IDEA TO SHARE:_____

Name/Phone#:_____

**THANK
YOU!**

EMAIL: TECPTO1@GMAIL.COM / CALL/TEXT DIANA PORCANO 917-657-8332


2020 Children's Programs @ Clymer Library

MONDAYS

KINDERGARTEN PRACTICE

@ 1:00 - 2:00 PM
 March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
 For ages 3-5 years


Help prepare your child for Kindergarten in this hour-long program with stories, movement activities, and activity stations for caregiver and child.



AFTERSCHOOL STEM

@ 3:45 - 4:30 PM
 March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
 For ages 5-12 years

Have fun exploring fun activities in science, technology, engineering and math in this after-school program.





THURSDAYS

@ 10:30 AM
 For ages 0-5 years

BOOK BABIES STORYTIME

A simple story session for babies and toddlers with rhymes, songs, scarves, flannel-board, and stories.





@ 11:15 AM
 For ages 1-5 years

TINY EXPLORERS

An hour of self-directed sensory bin play for toddlers and preschoolers.

TUESDAYS

FIRST TUESDAYS

@ 4:30 PM
LEGO® STEM
 For ages 5-12 years
 (Drop-in program)

SECOND TUESDAYS

@ 6:00 PM
FAMILY CRAFTERS
 For all ages
 (Sign-up is required)

THIRD TUESDAYS

@ 4:00 PM
PLAY-DOUGH GYM
 For all ages
 (Drop-in program)

LAST TUESDAYS

@ 5:30 PM
FAMILY MOVIE
 For all ages
 (Drop-in program)

1st & 3rd SATURDAYS



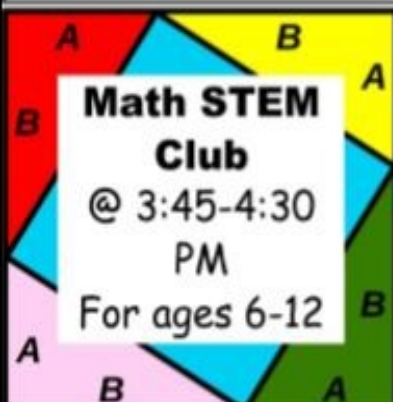
FAMILY TINKER WORKSHOP

@ 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Take time to explore Clymer Library's STEM resources available during your family's visits to the library.

- Kinex kits
- Bloxels
- Buddah Boards
- Bridge & Vehicle Building
- Blocks & Blueprints
- Bee Bots
- Chromebooks
- Makey Makey
- Animation Studio
- AWE tablets
- And more...

WEDNESDAYS

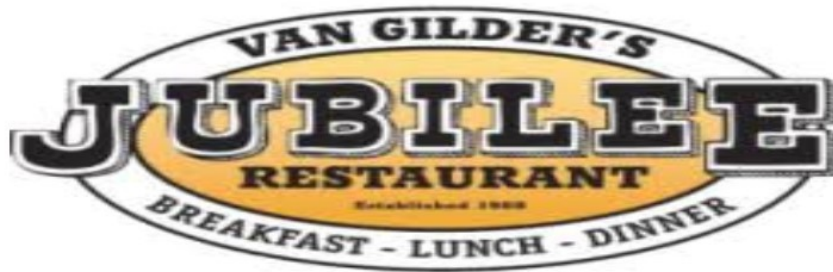


Math STEM Club
@ 3:45-4:30 PM
 For ages 6-12

Join Clymer Library's Math STEM Club for a fun focus on Mathematics.

NOTE: Please call Clymer Library @ 570-646-0826, or drop by the circulation desk and ask for Miss Love, to pre-register for ALL programs. THANK YOU!

March 25, 2020 5-9pm



TEC Community Night

Community Nights are back!!!

Grab your friends and family and grab dinner at The Jubilee. The Jubilee will donate a 15% of sales back to the TEC PTO for the benefit of our students!

**Please tell the cashier that you are
with the TEC PTO!**



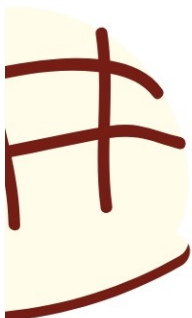
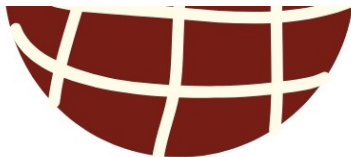
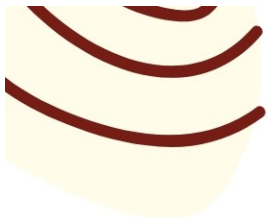
**TEC PTO PRESENTS THE LAST
FOODY FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR!**

Gertrude Hawk Chocolates

*All orders due March 2nd please.
Extra forms available at the front office.*

**CLASS WITH THE MOST ITEMS
SOLD WINS A POPCORN PARTY BY
THE PTO!**

*Time to get your sweets on! Easter is just
around the corner and Gertrude Hawk
has some sweet items to fill those
baskets. Thank you for supporting TEC
and enjoy!*







MARCH 2020

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	2 Read Across America Day 	3	4 School Board Meeting 7:00 PM 3 Hour Early Dismissal	5 TEC Panther Prep Kindergarten Readiness program	6	7
8 Daylight savings begins. Clocks spring forward!	9 TEC PTO Meeting 9:30 am	10	11 Be kind today. Make a friend smile!	12	13	14 Pi Day 
15	16 Spring pictures tomorrow →	17  HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18 School Board Meeting 7:00 PM	19	20  HELLO Spring	21
22	23	24	25 Community night at the Jubilee	26	27 Join the PTO	28
29 PMSD School Games	30 End of 3rd Marking Period	31				