

HORACE MANN AND LEET CENTER

WEEKLY UPDATES:

Horace Mann Outdoor Classroom: We are so excited about the outdoor classroom space. If you have not heard, we applied for a Department of Natural Resources grant for an outdoor classroom that will be located in the green space on the north side of Brown Hall between Brown Hall and the parking lot. This space will include a running track, climbing structure, slide, swings, and special features such as a music and movement area, gathering space for reading or relaxing, art space, garden area, building and discovery, and messy materials area. There will be benches along the track and by the climbing structure. We will not receive final approval until August, but we confident the state will provide the funding for this project. We are not able to begin work until we receive formal approval which means September, October, and November will be busy months as we prepare the space, install equipment, and create an engaging, fun, and explorative outdoor space for our children and the community. We also submitted an application to the Rickard Trust for ADA accessible items that would allow all members of the community to utilize the space when we are not using it. If you would like to contribute or know someone interested in contributing to the outdoor classroom by purchasing a piece of equipment or sponsoring an area, please let me know. The item or area will be designated with special signage to the honor the contribution.

Awards and graduation: You are invited to attend the last day of school awards ceremony and SIXTH GRADE GRADUATION. Friday, May 19 is our last day of school and also the end of year awards ceremony. Sixth Grade Graduation follows the awards ceremony. We will honor and celebrate **Nino Coniglio, Will Thornsberry, and Nathan Yocom**. The awards ceremony begins at 10:30 a.m. at the Charles Johnson Theater. School will dismiss following Sixth Grade Graduation.

Bearcat Club is available Friday, May 19 following Sixth Grade Graduation. Children staying for Bearcat Club will gather in a specified location at Charles Johnson and walk with Ms. Emily Cobb to Brown Hall. Please provide a sack lunch for your child, if they are staying for Bearcat Club.

Track and Field Day: Thursday, May 18 from 10-12:30, we celebrate the annual Horace Mann Track and Field Day. Gina provides fun activities and parents are welcome to attend, participate, and observe.

Summer school materials needed: Plastic bottles of all sizes: milk, water, juice...please clean them well before sending/bringing to school. You can put them in the tubs labeled "summer school materials." There are two tubs, north and south ends of the Horace Mann hallway. All classes will be eating lunch at noon that day if you would like to join them.

Library Announcements:

- If your child participated in the Show-Me reading program, please send the blue reading sheet to Mrs. Shields by Wednesday.
- First and Second graders that still need to read *Strongheart: The World's First Movie Star Dog*: it was read to them at school on Wednesday, May 10.
- Please make sure all library books are turned in before the last day of school (May 19). Any book that is more than 30 days overdue will have a \$25 (per book) replacement fee **added to their account**.

All-call to parents for plastic bottles/jugs for summer school!! Water, milk, juice, etc.-all sizes are needed. Thanks!!!--LeDonna McIntosh, Art Educator; lmcinto@nwmissouri.edu