



Abington Heights Middle School

COMET CONNECT - Home Edition

MARCH 2024

Dear Abington Heights Middle School Families,

It is the time of year when we start to think ahead and plan for aspects of the next school year.

This month our High School Administrators and Guidance Department will start the High School planning process for our 8th grade students. On Wednesday, March 6th, all 8th grade students will meet with Mr. Pete Smith, Director of Student Services, to learn more about course offerings and expectations at the high school. Eighth grade teachers will recommend courses, and students will be able to select courses throughout the month of March.

Parents and guardians of 8th grade students are invited to attend an 8th Grade Parent's Night at the High School auditorium on Tuesday, March 26 from 6:30-8:00pm. This night will outline a lot of the same information presented to our students, but also give families the opportunity to ask specific questions in regards to the transition to high school.

With the conclusion of the first semester, students in 7th and 8th grade who are found eligible for National Junior Honor Society will be added to a Google Classroom in the coming days. The Google Classroom will provide additional information and details to those students about how to apply for membership. More information to come soon.

Finally, as we move further into the spring, 6th and 7th grade students will receive more information regarding special courses and math / world language placements for the 2024-2025 school year.

As always, reach out to us or your student's teachers with any questions or needs.

Thank you,

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Where students are the focus and excellence is the standard



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A Note from Officer Spagna, SRO:

Spring Safety Tips: 5 Things to Help Prepare Your Household

1. Daylight saving time begins every year on the second Sunday in March. We “lose” an hour when the clocks are set forward (except in Hawaii and most of Arizona), and for many, that could mean a tired couple of days as our bodies adjust. The consequences of fatigue can be serious, so please plan accordingly. This year, daylight saving time begins on Sunday, March 10th. It’s also a good time to review your spring safety checklist.
2. Test your smoke alarms every month and replace the battery at least once a year. If the smoke alarm makes a “chirping” sound, replace the battery immediately.
3. The safety tips for CO (carbon monoxide) alarms mirror those of smoke alarms: change the batteries, test them and interconnect them, if possible. Also, make sure vents for your gas appliances (fireplace, dryer, stove and furnace) are free and clear of snow or debris.
4. Get rid of unwanted medicines around the house. The National Safety Council recommends you take unwanted or expired medicines to a prescription drop box or take-back event near you. There is a prescription drop box in the lobby of the South Abington Twp. Police Station and at the Clarks Summit Police Station as well.
5. With warmer weather in the near future means bears will be waking up from their winter hibernation. As you can imagine, they will be hungry and looking for food. Local police departments receive several calls regarding bears on private property every spring. Visit bearwise.org for more helpful information.

National Reading Month

March is National Reading Month and the National Read Across America Day occurs each year on Saturday, March 2 (which is also Dr. Seuss’s birthday). This day was established by the [National Education Association \(NEA\)](#) in 1998 as a way to motivate and excite students to read more. Below are some links to resources to promote the joy of reading:

- [Raising Readers: What Parents Can Do](#)
- [It's Pi Day - Books about Pi](#)
- [2023-2024 Reach Across America Calendar](#)

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School News & Reminders:

- The Middle School's *Legally Blonde, Jr.* musical production will be on Friday, March 8 at 7:00 pm and Saturday, March 9 at 2:00 pm. Doors will open at 6:30 pm and 1:30 pm respectively. Student tickets cost \$3.00 and adult tickets cost \$5.00. Tickets will go on sale during school next week, and can also be purchased at the door (until they are sold out).
- Tuesday, March 5th is the last make-up day for Tuesday winter after school activities. All other after school activities have concluded.

Mark Your Calendars!

Dates:	Event:
March 1	3rd Marking Period Progress Reports available
March 7	Robotics Fundraiser - MS Student v. Teacher Basketball Game - CSE at 5:30 pm
March 8	MS Musical - <i>Legally Blonde, Jr.</i> starts at 7:00 pm
March 9	MS Musical - <i>Legally Blonde, Jr.</i> starts at 2:00 pm
March 26	8th Grade Parent Night @ HS Auditorium - 6:30 pm
March 29 - April 1	School Closed - Spring Break
April 4 - 5	8 White DC Trip
April 8	End of 3rd Marking Period
April 11 - 12	8 Blue DC Trip
April 15	3rd Marking Period Report Cards Distribution
April 22 - 26	PSSA Testing: ELA
April 29 - May 3	PSSA Testing: Math & Science (8th only)

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