

Horace W. Porter Related Arts News

September, 2017

Welcome Back to School!!

News from Mrs. Shive

Welcome Back Everyone! It's THAT time of year again! Time to talk about Fire Safety! The **Annual Fire Prevention Poster Recognition Program** is underway! Students in Grades 4 & 5 are eligible to enter this potentially life-saving event. Materials such as directions and paper will be available to students on Open House night on September 14th. **Students that currently have Art with Mrs. Shive will be asked to complete their final sketches at home by September 18th.** Any students with additional questions about the poster can email her at any time. One student from each grade will be chosen as the winners for our school. Then, these two students will move on to compete in the county contest. Four winners, 2 fourth and 2 fifth grade students, will be chosen from each county. **We are pleased to announce that the county awards have been increased to \$150 and the statewide winner will receive an additional \$750. In addition, there will be a matching grant to the state winner's school for \$500.** The winning poster will be reproduced and distributed as Connecticut's official Year-2018 Fire Prevention Poster. Good Luck everyone!

Art and Technology with Mrs. MacDonald

The year is off to a great start! In the 7th grade art room, students are busy learning about value in art, and the various pencil techniques required to draw from life. They are beginning to use this knowledge to draw their sneakers. This exercise provides crucial practice on how to best create implied three dimensionality and form on a two dimensional surface. Students will also create plaster masks, draft 2-point perspective cityscapes, and design their Lions Club International Peace Posters! ***Students will be assigned homework to complete the drafts of their Lions Club posters at home this year (to save time). The theme this year is, "The Future of Peace".*** This will be a whirlwind quarter in the art room!

Elementary Technology

I am pre-testing students in grades 1-4 elementary technology classes in order to assess how much they know about computers. Once their skills are assessed, we will begin assignments using the various Microsoft programs available, such as MS Word, PowerPoint, and Publisher. Fourth grade is already excited

to partner up with the Porter PTO to create flyers for upcoming PTO events! Look for their flyers on the walls soon.

I'm looking forward to a wonderful year of growth and learning for my students in both art and technology!

Music, Chorus and Band with Mrs. Breither

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and is having a great beginning to their school year. It has been a pleasure seeing everyone and starting our musical journey together. The band students are off to a great start. We began working on some basic scale warm-ups this week, really focusing on a great sound and ensemble work. In addition, our first song for our Winter Concert was distributed and we will begin practicing that next week. In 6th grade general music we are expanding on the music theory they learned last year, and applying it in the chorus portion of general music, new this year! We truly have some great 6th grade singers! They will be performing their song at the Porter Pride on November 3-- **save the date!**

In the Life Skills Room with Mrs. Jardim

Welcome back to school! We've started off life skills learning to sew. It's a handy thing when you know how to sew a button back on or can fix the hole in the seam of your favorite tee shirt! And our eighth graders are getting it- some are pretty good sewers and can help their peers, others have no experience whatsoever. But all are getting lots of practice! I see that we have some techy guys and girls that are looking forward to using the sewing machines, too. Three new electronic ones have been added to the classroom. I know all the students are eager to get on the machines. But hand sewing is the focus right now, and the students are making progress!

Horace W. Porter Physical Education

Mr. Piro & Mr. Tobler

In order to reach our goal of assisting each student to grow and achieve their personal best in a physically and emotionally safe environment, it is important to establish standards for participation in Physical Education. The standards, as well as the P.E. elementary school grading policy, are outlined below.

General Requirements

Proper Attire

- Students need to wear loose fitting, comfortable clothing that allows for a full range of movement. Weather appropriate clothing may be necessary in the cooler months.
- Each student must wear appropriate footwear. This is defined as shoes with non-marking soles that are made for the purpose of athletic activity. These "sneakers" must have laces or closures that are snug enough to hold the foot securely without falling off. While several types of closures

fit this description, the athletic shoes that provide the best support, are those that lace up and tie. Shoes with laces must be tied snugly. It is never too early to teach students to tie their own shoes. Athletic shoes with inserts, such as “Heelys”, are not allowed, per school policy.

- Jewelry is not allowed to be worn in Physical Education class. The exceptions to this are stud earrings with safety backs, and any jewelry indicating a medical condition.

Medical Excuses

- All students who cannot participate in Physical Education due to illness or injury must have a written excuse stating the nature of the disability and any activity modifications. It must be logged at the Nurses office prior to school on the day of the class exemption. A P.E. class exemption for more than one day must be made in writing by a Physician. Parent’s notes are good for one day only. Medically excused days do not count against a student’s grade.

Elementary School Physical Education Grading

Grades K-4

Elementary students are evaluated in the following areas;

1. The student listens and follows directions.
2. The student understands Health and Physical Education concepts.
3. The student shows skill development.
4. The student displays respectful behavior.
5. The student shows good effort and work habits.

Additional extra credit points are available to students who display effort and behaviors that go “above and beyond”.

Horace W. Porter Middle School Physical Education

In order to reach our goal of assisting each student to grow and reach their personal best in a physically and emotionally safe environment, it is important to establish standards for participation in Physical Education. The standards, as well as the P.E. middle school grading policy, are outlined below.

General Requirements

Proper Attire

- Each student in 5th through 8th grades will change for Physical education class. Time will be allowed for this at the beginning and end of each class.
- Each student will need a T-shirt, gym shorts, and socks to change into. Weather appropriate clothing, such as sweatshirts and wind pants, should be brought for outdoor activities in the

cooler months. Clothing worn to school should not be the same clothing worn in P. E. class. Please reference the Student Handbook, pg. 11 regarding school policies on what may not be worn in school.

- Each student must wear appropriate footwear. This is defined as shoes with non-marking soles that are made for the purpose of athletic activity. These “sneakers” must have laces or closures that are snug enough to hold the foot securely without falling off. While several types of closures fit this description, the athletic shoes that provide the best support, are those that lace up and tie. Shoes with laces must be tied snugly. Please reference the Student Handbook, pg. 11-12 regarding school policies on student footwear.
- Jewelry is not allowed to be worn in Physical Education class. The exceptions to this are stud earrings with safety backs, and any jewelry indicating a medical condition.
- Any items used for personal hygiene, such as deodorant, are encouraged. Cologne, perfume, and body sprays are not allowed.

Medical Excuses

- All students who cannot participate in Physical Education due to illness or injury must have a written excuse stating the nature of the disability and any activity modifications. It must be logged at the Nurses office prior to school on the day of the class exemption. A P.E. class exemption for more than one day must be made in writing by a Physician. Parent’s notes are good for one day only. Medically excused days do not count against a student’s grade.

Middle School Physical Education Grading

Grades 5-8

50% Effort

10% Preparedness

20% Affective (sportsmanship, positivity, attitude)

20% Assessments

*** *Additional extra credit points are available to students who display effort and behaviors that go “above and beyond”.* ***

The Related Arts Team has confidence that your children will have a wonderful school year!!