



The Tiger Express

*Taylor Road's 7th Grade Newsletter
April 30, 2010*

Parents,

School supplies already? For your convenience, TRMS PTA is once again offering preordered school supply kits!

Order your 2010-2011 school supplies online at www.ttkits.com (account # 32022) through May 14th. The kits will be available for pick up at Schedule Verification Day on August 18th. A sample kit is on display in the front office.

Question? E-mail Barb Townsend at barbtown@bellsouth.net

Important Dates:

Awards Day--- May 17th

7th grade Field Day—May 18th

LANGUAGE ARTS

Mrs. Thoss's classes:

THOSS' CLASSES: We have begun our research project. The printouts of references (actual articles) were due Monday, April 19. Many did not have these on April 21; some still do not have all. A preliminary draft of the outline was due, April 22, along with a preliminary copy of the Note Sheets with 4 reference source printouts attached. The printouts should have the website reference (URL) printed on them. Students have been furnished a copy of a SAMPLE outline just to remind them again how to set up the Roman numerals, etc. In the lab, I loaded an outline template and showed students how to set up their outlines in Microsoft Word and assisted them. Those who did not have their preliminary outlines may have to follow written instructions to complete it. We worked on the outlines again Friday, April 23,

and the final outlines were due to be completed and handed in by the end of class.

After Tuesday, April 27 (3 days past due), 10 points per day will be deducted from their outline grades. The same will have to apply for each segment of the paper as time is of the essence as we near the end of the school year. Each student **needs** a flash drive, if at all possible, as she or he may need to make copies (like the outline) and work on it for homework. I have reiterated this over and over but few have brought them. The pre-write (hand written is okay) of the research paper was due on Monday, April 26, and students are required to follow their outlines exactly in writing the research paper. They also have to have Note Sheets for each research source and a summary of what they will use from that source. Students should not copy the words exactly as in the reference sources as this will be an honor code violation. Parents may assist and guide students in this process, but please have your child write her or his own paper. I "walked students through" setting up their research papers on Monday, April 26. Some began inputting the first draft of their paper; all should have but were not finished with their outlines. They were furnished a sheet of instructions on how to set up and complete their papers. If a student was absent on Monday, he or she will need to follow written instructions to set up his or her paper. Please refer to the calendar furnished to each student. During the week of April 26, we will go to the lab on April 26, 28, 29, and 30; April 27 had to be eliminated as we can only use the lab for 3 consecutive days. Two red-line edits are required. After completion of each edited copy, students will be required to make corrections/improvements and reprint. Each paragraph should include a simple, compound, and a complex sentence as a minimum.

Points are assigned as follows: Outline, 100 points; Note sheets with attached printouts of the web site research, 100 points; Research paper, 200 points. This is a total of 400 points under the category of Composition in the grade book. Please help insure that your child is completing his/her work on a timely basis. Students may also complete a PowerPoint presentation. We will do our best to follow the calendar, but please be aware that this is a tentative schedule. Much is going on at this time of the year! Please stay in constant contact with your child about his or her progress on the project requirements and due dates. Thank you for your support and assistance. In case I don't have the opportunity to make contact with some of you again, I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for the support, assistance, and encouragement I have received from you all year. I feel that we've done our best to give your children the best possible education. I hope that all scored well on the CRCTs and will do well on the ITBS in September of next year and on the 8th-grade writing test in January. Along with this required

research paper, we will continue to work on our writing skills. We still have a persuasion essay to do, so please don't let your child become lax at this time!

In case any are interested, The School Box, and maybe some other vendors, have workbooks that help students improve their writing skills. Most are fairly inexpensive. You might want to make an investment over the summer as the forgetting curve seems to be tremendous. Thank you all again, and I wish you well the future!

Sorry for this, but I need to make a correction. We will only be allowed to work in the computer lab Wednesday and Thursday of this week as others may need to schedule the labs. After Thursday, students will be required to complete their papers at home. The same schedule will apply. If you do not have a computer at home, I suggest the public library. Some computers are available but not at all sufficient to cover the need. The PowerPoint presentations have been cancelled. Thanks for your understanding!

Britton/Sasseen/Gambill

Currently, we are reading and discussing Let the Circle Be Unbroken. We will have a test on the novel Tuesday, May 11th. In Ms. Britton's 6th period class, we are reading and discussing The Pearl. We will have a test on the novel Friday, May 7th. Please encourage your child to complete the comprehension questions they were given. In addition to these concepts, we will practice combining sentences and inserting phrases to improve our writing skills. In conclusion, Mrs. Gambill, Ms. Sasseen, and I would like to thank our parents for a wonderful and successful year. We could not have done it without your continued support and cooperation. Have an enjoyable and safe summer vacation!!

Mrs. Gambill: Larts

Mrs. Gambill's Language Arts class will complete a biography research paper. In addition, we are working on developing supporting details within our writing.

Mrs. Barkley: Larts

See assignment board daily.

Hartfield--TAG 7th grade language arts

7th grade

The 7th Graders in Ms. Hartfield's class are working on a literature unit for the rest of the year. They are working in Literary Circles as they discuss literary elements and vocabulary for the book "No Promises in the Wind". They are also working on reading short stories from their literature book. Each day they should be prepared for either Literary Circle or for a short story quiz and discussion. They have been given a schedule that takes them through the end of the year.

Math

Mrs. Gibson:

We will be finishing the last book we received in math, "Making Mathematical Models", and we will be working on data analysis next. As the year draws to a close we will complete a project with graphs. Melissa Gibson

Mr. Aiken:

Mr. Aiken's classes will be working on a couple of projects in the next few weeks.

Mrs. Fetner:

All class work and homework assignments for Mrs. Fetner's math classes (6A and 7A), as well as dates for upcoming quizzes, tests,

and projects, can be found at www.fetnersclass.com. The website is updated daily, typically by 5:00. Students who are absent should check the website after 5:00 p.m. to get work for the day.

Ms. Hollingsworth:

Daily assignments can be found on www.schoolnotes.com then go to newschoolnotes.com for my assignments.

Mrs. Polk:

My assignments are posted daily at www.blogspot.com and you can access 7A math by <http://mrspolk7A.blogspot.com> and Math 8A by <http://mrspolk8A.blogspot.com>.

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Science

7th Grade Life Science
Bayer/Bailey/Hollingsworth/Lockwood/Tovrog

Life Science- Bailey, Bayer, Hollingsworth, Lockwood, Tovrog

Upcoming events:

Friday, May 7- Due date for \$5 fee for In House Field Trip with High Touch High Tech- flyers were sent home Friday, April 16

Monday, May 17- In House Field Trip High Touch High Tech presents the human body systems

Tuesday, May 18- Field Day-7th grade

Wednesday, May 19- In House Field Trip High Touch High Tech presents the human body systems- second day

Several "mini units" will be taught to finish the year: Infectious Diseases (bacterial and viral); Germination of dicot and monocot seeds with flower dissection; Genetic traits in human babies; Hands on activities on human body systems. Activities could vary among teachers.

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Social Studies

Mr. McIlvain and Mr. Hubert:

We are studying Asia culture.

Mr. Kasch and Mr. Hubert:

Students will complete the Magic Carpet Project on 5/3. We are doing an atlas search, and we will review key geography facts.

Mrs. Hicks:

Please see my blog for updates and information on my class.
<http://7thgradesocialstudiesrocks.blogspot.com>

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Reading

Ms. Byron:

Brenda Byron's Reading Students: Parents, please check daily rubric sheet for activities and assignments.

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Foreign Language

7th Grade Spanish. La clase de la Sra. Andrés



Last week of April:

Grammar quiz on **Tuesday April 27** on the following concepts:

- Using stem-changing verbs: **e→ie**
- Using phrases for **comparisons**

The test on Unit 3, etapa 2 will be on **Friday April 30**.

We will work on Unit 3, etapa 3 the last 3 weeks of school and I will send home through the distribution lists the dates for the last quizzes and test on this unit.

So far I only know that the Spanish final, which includes everything taught this year will be on **Wednesday 19**.

María Andrés

Madame Berman: French

Madame Berman will email directly to parents when there are upcoming quizzes, tests or projects.

La clase de Español de la Sra. Del Rosario:

Students have been working on Unit 3 chapter (etapa 2) and will have their Test on Monday, May 3rd. They will start the next chapter on Tuesday. They will learn how to describe the weather, discuss clothes, and state opinions and feelings. The grammar concepts they will learn are: how to use “tener” (to have) expressions, how to use direct object pronouns and how to use the present progressive.

Their final exam will be on Wednesday, May 19th. This will be a comprehensive test of what they have learned over the year.

Gracias.

Sra. Ileana San Antonio (former Del Rosario)

Mrs. Blanco Spanish 7th grade, Beginner Class:

We are working on Unidad 3- Etapa 1. We are learning to use the following verbs and expressions: *Estar, Acabar de, Venir, Tener, Gustar*. The Unit Test is May 5. Students are also assigned a semester project about a Spanish country. Please refer to the hand-out and rubric provided in class. This project is done at home and due on May 10. We will also work on Etapa 2-3. In Etapa 2, we will learn about summer sports, the verb *Jugar* and how to make comparisons. In Etapa 3, we will learn about weather expressions and the present progressive. Students will have a final test the last week of school. I will send a more detailed e-mail later on about the last test.

Mrs. Grossman: Spanish

News from Sra. Grossman's 7th grade classes: Students are learning how to talk about where people are coming from, what they have just done there and how they now feel. They are also learning to talk about who likes to do what activity and how to extend an invitation and accept or decline.

For the remainder of the year we will be learning some special verbs that allow us to continue to talk about what people are doing. We will also expand the weather expressions we already know and talk about what activities people do in certain weather. As always, thank you for your continued support.

Madame Parham – French

Students are beginning Lesson 8, which focuses on (1) asking questions, (2) learning the parts of the verb "to do/to make", (3)

learning expressions which use that verb (faire), and (4) how to make a question by inverting the subject and verb.
