

The Core Virtues			
Integrity			Respect
Responsibility	Individuality	Sportsmanship	Charity
Self-Control	Perseverance	Citizenship	Courage



Veritas Voice

**September
2011**

Did you know?
Board meetings
are held on the
second
Wednesday of
every month -
parent
participation is
always
appreciated!

Welcome Back Veritas Family!

Last year we went through many changes which resulted in great gains in ISTEP+ scores and meeting Average Yearly Progress (AYP) in all 11 out of 11 categories for the state of Indiana.

We are already off to a great start for the new school year. We have an amazing staff and an equally amazing student body. Our theme this year is "Reaching for Our Goals". Each student will take part in identifying and outlining their goals for the year. This will allow our students to buy into and be an integral part of their own education. This year we will continue our Language Arts Initiative put in place last school year with an added emphasis in mathematics. We are committed to our mission of strong academics, developing well rounded students and good citizens.

Thank you for entrusting us with your precious children as we partner together for another outstanding school year.

Mrs. Smith

Calendar

September 5th - Labor Day (No School)
September 9th - Port-a-Pit Chicken Sale
September 14th - Fall Picture Day
September 15th - Parent Academy
September 21st - Back to School Open House



STUDENT OF THE MONTH:

K- Jashawn Davis
1st- Nadia Casarez
2nd- Amaya Laurence
3rd- Amari Kyle
4th- Anthony Plata
5th- TreLin Markham
6th- Kaylee Robinson
7th- Kevin McGowan
8th- Ty Pellow



The Pupil Specialist Says:

With a new school year now underway, your household schedule has changed drastically since summertime. Though some things can be added and subtracted without worry, one area that needs careful attention is sleep. The Mayo Clinic reports that school-aged children need 10-11 hours of sleep each night. Let's do the math: if your child wakes up at 7am, he or she should be sound asleep by 8 or 9pm. If your child wakes up at 6am, that equals a bedtime of 7 or 8pm! Adequate sleep is important for the development and functioning of our children. So, to keep them learning, playing, and doing their best- make sure to supply them with enough hours to get a good night's sleep.



CORE VIRTUE STUDENT: "RESPECT"

K- Jaylynn Campbell	Gym K-4-Damien Schubert
1st- Andrew Sutherland	Gym 5-8-Zack Wheatley
2nd- Amaya Laurence	Art K-4-Damien Schubert
3rd- Damien Schubert	Art 5-8-Kyrsten Leaser
4th- Rayanna Herran	Spanish K-4-Maki Chandler
5th- Jeffery Curran	Spanish 5-8-Greselda Medina
6th- Cassidy Greenwood	
7th- Kevin McGowan	
8th- Zack Wheatley	



Way to go!!!!



Artists Wanted!!!

How would you like to see your art featured in the Veritas Voice? We are looking for artists to display their talents. We would like to have a comic strip in the newsletter. So if you enjoy drawing and would like to be considered please turn in your entries to your teacher by the 23rd

High Ability Program

I am excited to begin the year with a High Ability Program. We have received many resources for advanced study and enrichment. We have Jacob's Ladder and Michael Clay Thompson's Language Arts curriculum. We also have several units of study from the Center for Gifted Education at the College of William and Mary. Students identified last year will have goals set with his/her teacher in September. We will be administering the CogAt to all Kindergarden, Second and Sixth grade students. Other grades will be based on referrals. Again, I look forward to an exciting year.



News from the North

We have been working hard from the first day of school! In math we are learning all about place value and decimals. Multiplying two digit numbers has been another topic that we're working through, and we have found a creative way to hold our place value, ask any 5th grader about the step ladder in two digit multiplication for this helpful hint! In reading we have been learning about spotting the main idea, using context clues, and making inferences. When it comes to writing, no one in the school has written as much as we have so far! Our journal pages are filling up fast! This has been a lot of fun!

Our student of the month is Trelin Markham. Trelin has been working hard, he always participates in class answering many questions, he has turned in all of his homework on time. He also has taken the time to help classmates when they need it. Keep up the great work Trelin! Our student who best exemplifies what Respect means would have to go to Jeffrey Curran! Jeffrey is a polite young man who treats other teachers, as well his fellow students with respect at all times. Jeffrey follows all classroom rules at all times and is a true model for what respect should look like. If you see him in the hallway give him a high five!



News from the Gym



Welcome back! It is so exciting to start a new year in the gym! I hope everyone had a safe and active summer. This year in PE students will be playing a variety of new sports including Lacrosse and Frisbee! To start the year off students in the lower grades have been reviewing their locomotor movements which include running, walking, skipping, hopping, jumping, galloping, and leaping. Students in middle to upper levels have been reviewing the different levels of movement which include low, medium and high. We have also started our kicking unit which really focuses on the game of soccer. While some age groups are practicing their kicking skills others have been reviewing offensive and defensive maneuvers in the game of soccer. Remember to always wear your gym shirt and gym shoes! Good luck this year fighting saints!

Bethel Pilots

Third graders are off to a fabulous start of the year! Although our class is small, I can already see the growth we will make this year! We spent the first week getting to know each other and practicing class procedures. The students caught on quickly and we began our second week together ready for the rest of the year. In our reading block we are practicing a reading group style we will use all year long. The students have also been working hard in math trying to MASTER their addition facts with their Wrap-Up math tools. We have also begun learning about place value. I am confident this will be a great year in third



"Don't let what you can't do stop you from doing what you can do." ~John Wooden



Buckeye Pride

The 6th grade class is off to a rockin' start this year! We have been practicing the rules and procedures of our school and are diving into our work. In math, we are beginning with decimals. This chapter, we will learn how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals, along with a lot of other interesting things! In Science, we are learning about science inquiry and the Scientific Method. The students are also realizing that even though they don't look like Albert Einstein, they, too, can be scientists!

I am extremely impressed with the behavior I have seen down in the middle school. What a fabulous way to start the year!

Go Bucks!



Did you know that Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center and the Charles Black Sr. Recreation Center offer free after school programs?



Bull Dog News

About the Teacher: I'm from Mishawaka originally. I attended the University of North Carolina at Asheville, a tiny, beautiful college up in the mountains where I majored in Physics and got my teaching license. I came back north, and split my time between tutoring at Riverbend Math and working at IUSB with part of a collaboration trying to discover dark matter. This is my first year teaching.

In other news: 7th and 8th grade science students made "spinners" to examine the concept of optical illusions as part of their critical thinking unit.

See

http://www.exploratorium.edu/snacks/depth_spinner/depth_spinner_graph.html and

http://www.exploratorium.edu/snacks/benhams_disc/benhams_disc_graph.html for pictures.



Though we have only been in school for just over a week, I can tell that we are in for an exciting year in Kindergarten! The kids are so smart and wonderfully behaved. We have been working hard on learning classroom and school procedures. We are spending a lot of time getting to know one another and others around the school. The kids are working hard in all subject areas. They are starting to see themselves as "Readers," "Writers," and "Mathematicians!" We are working hard and having fun while doing so! I cannot wait to see what the rest of the year has in store for the Kindergarteners!

News from Dragon Country!

First grade is lots of fun! We have been working hard on developing classroom rules and procedures. We have been learning about ways to respect each other and why it is important. We are reading rhymes and identifying patterns in word formations. We are exploring numbers and finding that mathematics is everywhere. Our 1st grade class would like to recognize Nadia Casarez as our student of the month. Nadia demonstrated several civic virtues such as responsibility, respect, compassion, and cooperation. We would like to recognize Andrew Sutherland as our model student of this month's core virtue, "respect".



The Potawatomi Zoo is open until November 27th. They are open from 10am to 5pm.

We Are Great, Because We Are Eight!

The eighth grade this year is learning about Indiana University this year. Our class cheer, "We are great, because we are eight!", has hidden meanings.

First, we believe we are great when we achieve our goals. We have set some high standards for ourselves. Second, we are now in grade eight - a goal we set when we first came to school was to graduate from 8th grade, the first of many graduations. Third, our college choice of Indiana University has eight campuses in Indiana. Finally, we have learned that more than 50 percent of Indiana's physicians, 35 percent of its teachers, 75 percent of its attorneys, and 90 percent of its dentists have graduated from an IU Campus. As Tony the Tiger says, "That's Gr-r-r-eat!"



Squawk



Cardinal Country

Welcome 2nd graders! I have some exciting news! We have begun a new reading program this year. We are currently starting with the vocabulary and will be moving into the stories within the next few weeks. I am looking forward to a wonderful year!

Sooner News

4th grade is off with a running start! We are currently working on place value / and number form (word/expanded/standard). In science we are beginning a unit on Cells to Ecosystems and in Social Studies we are plotting our way through the geography of our great state, Indiana! Our new language arts program is leading us on an adventure through Alaska!



Don't forget to pick up your Port-a-Pit Chicken!



This is going to be a very exciting year for art!!! The following themes are areas each grade will be covering this year:
Kindergarten-1st grade: Artist Tool Box - Students will be learning about beginner art skills.

Second grade will be learning about Abstract Art, Impressionism, and Expressionism.

The third grade class will be covering World Art.

The fourth graders will be covering artist A-Z.

The fifth grade class is learning about art history starting from pre-historic art. In ceramics students will be learning about technique and skill. As for 3D art, students will be creating a variety of three dimensional art work.

This year we are asking parents to please send a smock(a large t-shirt) that students can use to cover their school uniform. Also, grades 3-8 will need a sketch book for daily sketches.

SPANISH NOTICIAS:

This year a new Spanish teacher, Mrs. Emily Lehman (who is also Veritas' pupil specialist) will be teaching Spanish once per week to those in kindergarten through fifth grade with her friend Paco the frog, a green felt puppet. Mrs. Lehman will be teaching grades six, seven, and eight twice each week. To begin the year each student in grades 3-8 has chosen a Spanish name to use in Spanish class this year. Some students got very creative with names like Peanut, Bacon, and Ice Cream in Spanish. We hope to have a lot of fun this year and learn a lot!



**iBuenas tardes
estudiantes!
iVamos tener un
año magnifico!**



Welcome friends and families to the Performing Arts classes at Veritas Academy.

During the start of school we have been working with Improv and Pantomime games to help students find their voice. We have also been exploring the elements of music and composers and songwriters.

Upcoming in September we will be working with the new Piano Keyboard lab, rhythm tubs hand bells, and recorders. We will also be starting to use our singing voices and learning new choral works. We have added a performance for our students which will take place during the school day on Oct. 21st at 8:30 am in the gym. We will be showing off our new found musical and drama skills. Friends and family of our Veritas Academy students are welcome and encouraged to attend and support your children.

Caught Ya!

Gigi Medina(7th)-Helped a teacher in the parking lot when he had his hands full. Way to go!!

Nate Smith(2nd)- Was quiet and set an ideal example for our friends while standing in line waiting to use the restroom. For this, he got to put a marble into our marble jar. Great job Nate!

Alphonso Oliver(4th)- When a student spilled his crackers on the floor, he immediately began helping him clean up the mess!

Eilianna Lampos(3rd)- encouraging a new student

Vernon J.(6th)- was caught being a great teacher helper

Elrika Gonzales(K)- was playing nicely with a friend at the block center.

Cole Darnold(K)- was caught actively participating in Shared Reading!

Delilah Castillo(1st)- independently straightening up our classroom and helped another student find a misplaced snack