

The Cougar Scoop

3rd Quarter
Croft Design Center Prep

January 9th, 2017

Principal's Corner

Upcoming Dates to Know

Report Cards	1/10
PTO Membership Meeting @6pm in Library. All families are wanted.	1/23
Chili Cook-Off during home basketball game. Contest info coming soon!	1/31
Progress Reports	2/8
Student-Led Conferences	2/9
Parent Outreach Night and <i>Screenagers</i> viewing. See back for more info.	2/21
End 3rd 9 Weeks	3/15
Save the Date: International Fair	5/5

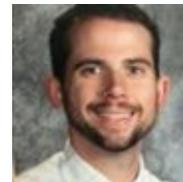
Believe it or not, the 2016-2017 school year is over half-way completed! I hope that your holiday season was tremendous and you were able to enjoy time with your family and friends. I want to thank all of our students, parents, families, teachers, staff, administration, and community partners for an amazing first semester! I am extremely thankful to have the opportunity to serve the Croft Community as its principal!

The Cougar Scoop will be a quarterly newsletter distributed at the beginning of each nine weeks grading period that highlights and communicates items of interest to the Croft Community. I am sure this will be a beneficial publication of information. As always, teachers will continue to connect with parents in

various modes of communication, such as phone, e-mail, in-person conferences/meetings, Remind101, etc. In addition to this newsletter, the school will continue to communicate via telephone callouts, e-mail blasts, and messages through the MNPS App. If you do not receive these communications, please contact the main office. You are always encouraged to set up in-person conferences by calling the main office.

The first semester was definitely filled with some incredible events! July 23rd saw nearly 75 students, teachers, and community members partner with The Home Depot for a Clean-Up Day.

We will be having more opportunities like this for our school stakeholders to engage in shared ownership experiences while also having some fun. We enjoyed Spirit Week in October and finished the week with the Monster Bash Dance. In November our students shined as they steered our first of three student-led conference nights. In December our students presented the midpoint updates of their PBL (project-based learning) projects at the Nashville Zoo. Finally, our music program delivered an outstanding performance at Lipscomb University to end the semester. I am thrilled to see what the third nine weeks has in store for The Zoo School!



-Jeremy Lewis, Principal

Sports Corner

- * Wrestling: Matches (Home matches underlined): 1/9, 1/11, 1/18, 1/23, 1/25
- * Basketball Games (Home games underlined): 1/12, 1/17, 1/19, 1/24, 1/26, 1/31, 2/2, 2/7

Croft's partnership with the Nashville Zoo is the driving force behind many of the opportunities our school has to offer students. Croft is extremely fortunate to have this partnership, as we are the only school in Nashville that engages in ongoing zoological conversations to support innovative learning

Why "The Zoo School"?

experiences for our students. Some of those experiences include in-house Zoo exhibits that are cared for by student zookeepers, field trips to the Zoo, Zoo outreach programs where Nashville Zookeepers bring animals and reptiles into Croft, and ongoing zoological research that is guided

by members of the Nashville Zoo and Vanderbilt University. Student research is completed through a project-based learning model. Students will present their projects to the greater Nashville community at the Nashville Zoo in conjunction with Earth Day in April. Look for more information soon!

Croft Design Center Prep

482 Elysian Fields Road
Nashville, TN 37211

Phone: 615-332-0217
Fax: 615-332-0645
Twitter: @ZooSchoolMNPS
@drlewisCROFT

We, the faculty and staff of Croft, will invest in creating an optimal teaching and learning environment that is focused on results

January “Outside the Box” Winners

Croft is very fortunate to have some dynamic and skilled educators. For the month of January, the Croft faculty and staff selected Mrs. Tammy Bowers and Mr. Patrick Comer as the winners for our monthly “Outside the Box Award”. These 2 professionals are most deserving of this award!

Student Attendance

We thank you for sending your students to Croft! Did you know that school attendance is accounted for by minutes this school year? That means if over a 9 week grading period a student’s total minutes of school absenteeism exceeds 3.5 hours, it qualifies as a day absent from school. If students are contagiously sick, we want them to stay home and return when they are better. But if a student is able to be here, please make every effort to send them to school. Our school goal for attendance is 97% and we are currently at 95.6% attendance rate.

Screenagers Viewing

February 21st at 6:00 (movie begins at 6:30)

SCREENAGERS probes into the vulnerable corners of family life and depicts messy struggles over social media, video games, academics, and internet addiction. Croft families will receive 2 free passes to the screening. Beyond 2 free passes, each additional ticket will be \$5. The night will begin with members from MNPS Parent University presenting on ways to support the social and emotional needs of our children.

Restorative Practices at Croft

The idea of restorative practices is to have high behavior expectations for our students while providing high support to help them reach those expectations. Restorative practices are seen throughout our building on a regular basis. In addition to supporting our students to have good behavior, students are also held accountable for their behavior. Classroom teachers manage student behaviors a majority of the time, but there are times when teachers must refer a student to administration due to discipline concerns. Referrals can result in local discipline, in-school suspension, or out-of-school suspension. Croft’s implementation of restorative practices brings a proactive approach to student discipline and behavior. Historically, schools in the past took a reactive approach to student discipline and behavior. Croft has seen a drastic reduc-

tion in discipline referrals. The reduced discipline referrals translates to some high yields for our school: less time and energy from teachers and administration on inappropriate student behaviors and more time and energy on teaching and learning. Croft is very proud of the numbers! If you have questions about RP, please

contact our RP Coach, Mr. Charles Black!

SCHOOL YEAR	# OF REFERRALS
2013-2014	630
2014-2015	638
2015-2016	394
2016-2017	66

