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# NEWS

E SCHOOL -



Brittni Rhodes

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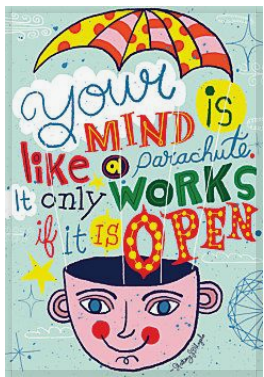
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## HELLO AND HAPPY FALL FROM THE ENCORE TEAM!

Find out what is happening in all of the encore classes at Hesston Middle School! Scroll through and read about your kiddos current encore classes and anything that looks interesting! We are a little tardy getting out our first encore news this year, but be looking for a monthly blurb from the encore team in this fun new format! If you need to contact an encore teacher directly just click on their name at the bottom of their section.



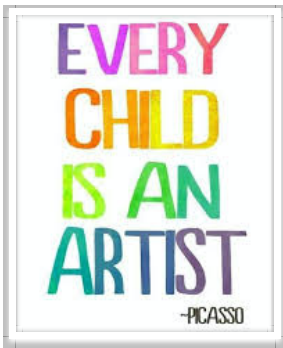
## CHIOR WITH MR. ENNS

**5th/6th** - We have been learning a lot of basics about music, from learning notes and rhythms on the staff, to learning about the unicorn horn and rules about singing. We have had a lot of fun making weird noises in choir. Its always fun to start the year out strong and hear a new group of singers come through and see the returning 6th graders become leaders. Be sure to mark your calendars for our concert on **December 10!**

**7th/8th** - We always work hard at the beginning of the year learning how to sing different notes together at the same time. We are also working on learning a song to audition for honor choir. You can ask your student for more information. Be sure to mark your calendars for our concert on **December 10!**

**Guitar** - Students are loving learning how to play guitar! We learn how to play individual songs and notes as well as basic chords. We have ventured into songs like Yankee Doodle and Ode to Joy recently.

[Mr. Enns](#)

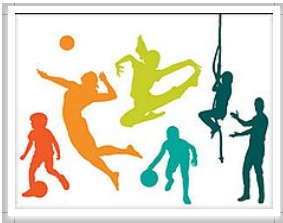


## ART WITH MRS. RHODES

**5th and 6th** graders have been working hard on learning and applying the elements of art in a giant ART poster. They will be finishing these up just in time to display for conferences. They also have the awesome opportunity to collaborate with the 2nd graders on a pumpkin painting project. They will be turning their pumpkin into a storybook character chosen by the 2nd graders and will do a collaborative art show at the public library in October! Be looking for your invitation!

**7th and 8th** graders have been researching different box artists and creating their own box art pieces using a theme in their work. They are working on using a variety of mediums and very soon should be launching themselves into their first choice based studio project. This is where they get to pick the studio area they want to explore and research and develop their own ideas for their work. If they demonstrate a high level of independence and participation in the art process they get to take complete ownership of their learning during choice studio time!

[Mrs. Rhodes](#)



## PE WITH MR. LAFFERTY

In PE we will be focusing on our Fall Sports units, which include Volleyball, Football and Soccer. Within each of these units we are working on some of the fundamentals and skills involved in each of the sports related to the Concepts & Strategies Standards. Along with our sports units, we are working on developing various dynamic movements and strength exercises, which are part of the Motor Skills & Movement Patterns Standards. These various movements will help us as we become more active learners within PE and active individuals outside of school.

[-Mr. Lafferty](#)



## BAND WITH MR. GRAVERSEN

*In band we are off to a great start to the year. We've now settled into our regular routines and some of the groups are already well along in their first concert songs. A reminder that **ALL BAND STUDENTS** have their first practice log that will be due soon. Each student should have 3 hours of practice time completed, filled out, and turned in by **Monday, October 7th**.*

**5th Grade** - We are finally all playing together as a class (all 49 of them)! Each student should now know the first five notes on their instrument and you should start to hear some basic songs when they are practicing at home soon.

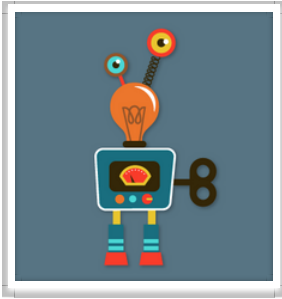
**6th Grade** - If your student hasn't told you the background story about our song "Clouds" you should ask them about it.

**Extended Band** - In addition to their regular songs the students

have also started working on solos that they will perform at the Villa at the end of the semester.

**7th/8th Grade** - We have our pep band performance coming up next month. Students must come play at either the game on October 11th or 18th to get their points for this performance.

[- Mr. Graversen](#)



## ENGINEERING WITH MRS. BRINKEHOFF

We hit the road running in STEM/Engineering this year! Our first mission was the Pringles Challenge in which students had to create a ring (similar to a ferris wheel) using only Pringles (no glue, no supports, just Pringles!). After much debating as to whether or not this challenge was even possible and trying not to eat ALL of the Pringles, we had groups conquer the challenge with much excitement! After the Pringles Challenge we jumped in and started building Rube Goldberg Machines. These machines are a sequence of chain reactions made from everyday, household objects put together to accomplish a simple task (pulling a tissue out of a box, watering a plant, turning on a light, etc). This project proved to be very challenging for our students, but it was neat to see them problem solve and persevere to come up with all kinds of solutions to make their machines work. The first two projects have proven to be great growing experiences for our students and for the teachers as well! We look forward to our next project: Spaghetti Bridges!

[- Mrs. Brinkerhoff](#)



## SPANISH WITH MR. LOUCKS

*Spanish Encore's main focus is to allow students the opportunity to hear the language, learn the appropriate vocabulary for different topics of study, and to learn to understand and appreciate the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. This is done through teacher-directed instruction and practicing conversation with their peers, as well as specific online software*

*Topics we've studied up to this time include: pronunciation, beginning conversation, numbers, cognates, colors, and days of the week. We are currently studying how to tell time in Spanish. Adios - [Mr. Loucks](#)*



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