

Fatima Monthly Newsletter

November 27, 2018

It's Almost Over! There are only 16 ½ days left to this semester! And 2 ½ of those are for finals! Please realize that the grades that come out in January WILL BE on the permanent record and WILL COUNT towards GPA and class rank.

If a student fails a required class, he or she will have to retake it next year. It will be much easier to work hard for a few days and get the grade to passing than to have to redo everything again.

If your child is receiving a poor grade, encourage him or her to talk to the teacher and find out exactly what he or she needs to do to bring up the grade. Our teachers are excellent and will do so much to help a child if he or she just asks.

We also still offer after-school tutoring for FREE. All the student has to do is show up. This is offered Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:15-4:00 or later.

Coat Drive: Fatima's STUCO is hosting a coat drive. Bring in a coat and drop it in the box by the STUCO bulletin board by December 8. They will be given to the Good Shepherd food pantry.

Student Athletes: Grades will be checked at the end of each grading period. If you have an "F" grade in one class you must meet the requirements listed below in order to remain eligible. If you have an "F" grade in one class for two consecutive grading periods, you become ineligible for 4.5 weeks and must perform the requirements listed below in order to gain your eligibility back. An "F" grade for a semester should warrant special attention as that is your final grade when working towards graduation. Other suspensions (including dismissal from the team) could be warranted at the discretion of the coach and Athletic Director. We will also seek input from parents and the student's teacher(s).

1) If you receive an "F" grade at mid-term or at the end of a quarter you must complete a total of 7 tutoring sessions, but you are still eligible to participate. If these 7 tutoring sessions are not completed by mid-term or the end of the quarter (4.5 weeks) then you are ineligible to participate in a contest/game until all of the 7 tutoring sessions are completed.

2) If you receive an "F" grade in consecutive grading periods (mid-term and end of a quarter), you become ineligible to compete in any contests/games for the next 4.5 week grading period. During the next mid-term or end of a quarter (grading period) you must complete an additional 4 tutoring sessions (this would increase your total tutoring sessions to 11 over a 9 week period) and you MUST get rid of the "F" grade on the next 4.5 week grade report (mid-term or quarter grade).

3) You must also meet all of the MSHSAA requirements.

4) You must attend and complete all of your required tutoring sessions during a 4.5 week cycle. If you fail to complete all of your tutoring sessions by the end of the 4.5 week period (end of quarter or mid-term) you will be ineligible to participate in contests/games until you complete the rest of your tutoring sessions.

What Can My Child Do To Bring Up Grades? This is a common question about this time of year. Here is a list of possibilities:

- After-school tutoring from 3:15-4:00. Sometimes it just helps to set aside time to do the homework, and this helps keep a schedule.
- Meet with the teachers before or after school to discuss questions or get help with assignments.
- Get a list of assignments and make a schedule for completing them.
- Talk with Ms. Mueller about study skills and habits. Maybe it's not how much you are studying but how you are studying.

NOW is the time to get those grades up to an acceptable standard.

Final Exam Schedule: On Wednesday, Dec 19, students will have finals in 1st, 3rd, and 7th hours. Then on Thursday, they will have finals in 2nd, 4th, and 8th hours. On Friday, they will have finals in 5th and 6th hour classes.

Enjoy the Holidays! Fatima will release at 11:22 on Friday, Dec. 21st and will resume classes on Thursday, Jan. 3.

National Honor Society: To be eligible for NHS, a sophomore, junior or senior must have a GPA of 3.25 and show good character and integrity. Toward the end of January, listings of students eligible to apply for membership based on GPA alone will be posted throughout school and applications for membership will be available. On these application students will list their community and school volunteer and leadership experiences. Please contact organization sponsor Donna Mueller at muellerd@fatimacomets.org if you have any questions.

Winter Concert: Mark your calendars for Dec 9th. The high school band and choir will feature their talents and show what they have learned starting at 6:30. This is always a great event to help put you in the Christmas spirit.

Current Lincoln Dual Credit Students: Make sure you have your portal account set up and check it regularly. You will be asked to complete a review of your class online. Also, you will use this account to register for any classes. So know how to get into your account!

Dual Credit: Please remember that after Christmas we will be asking for payments for dual credit classes again. It is really important for parents to check to make sure that the school their child is going to will accept the dual credit classes for the credit they earned, not just for an elective. I know that some schools do not accept the 2nd half of English, for example. So do your homework now. Go to the college website as a transfer student. Then find the transfer equivalency form and put in the letters/numbers

of the classes from Lincoln. It will then tell you how the class will transfer. Below is a list of the course codes from last year. They normally don't change.

Lincoln University:

Intro to Business BAD 101 - 3 Credit Hours \$225.00 (Our Business Management)
College English ENG 102 - 3 Credit Hours \$225.00
Art 104 - 3 Credit Hours \$225.00 (Graphic Design)
Business App for Micro Computers CS 105 - 3 Credit Hours \$225.00 (Computer Aps II 2nd sem)
Statistics MAT 117 - 3 Credit Hours \$225.00
College Algebra MAT 113 - 3 Credit Hours \$225.00
Pre-Calculus MAT 121 - 5 Credit Hours \$375.00
Calculus MAT 123 - 5 Credit Hours \$375.00
Physics PHY 102L – 4 credit hours \$300.00

Missouri Valley:

Principles of Biology BI104Z– 4 credit hours

Missouri State University:

Fundamentals of Chemistry w Lab CHM 116 and 117 – 5 total credit hours
General Chemistry I with Lab CHM 160 and 161 – 5 total credit hours

State Technical College of Missouri

Public Speaking COM 121 – 3 credit hours

To take the speech class you must have an ACT math subscore of 15 or above or an ACCUPLACER subscore of 34 or above BEFORE THE CLASS BEGINS. You also must have an ACT reading subscore of 18 or above OR an ACCUPLACER Reading Comprehension subscore of 85 or above BEFORE THE CLASS BEGINS. If you don't have these ACT scores, you can take the ACCUPLACER at State Tech on Wednesdays.

JH Dance: Fatima's NHS is sponsoring a junior high dance on Jan 4 to kick off the new year! Mark your calendars!

Support Your Local Dog: Fatima's NHS plans to have a pork burger sale on December 22, Saturday, to raise funds to support our new Sheriff's Office Dog! Come support us so we can support this worthy cause! More information to follow.

Calendar Of Events

Dec 5 – Nichols Tour for sophomores
Dec 8 - ACT
Dec 19 – High School Winter Concert
Dec 12– Board of Education meeting
Dec 19 – Finals classes 1,3,7
Dec 20 – Finals classes 2,4,8
Dec 21– Finals classes 5 and 6; out at 11:22
Jan 3– Classes Resume
Jan 11 – ACT Registration deadline for Feb 9 test
Jan 21 – Fatima WILL be in session! Snow make-up day!

Parenting Tips

Communication is the key to any relationship, but we must be careful of not only what we say but also how we say it. Remember the following tips:

1. **TONE MEANS MORE THAN WORDS:** 38% of communication comes from your tone of voice, and kids are especially sensitive to this. If you say “All right, I love you,” or “Okay, let’s talk” but your tone says something else, you’re in trouble. Be careful HOW you say things.
2. **BODY LANGUAGE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS:** Nonverbal communication makes up 55% of communication. You can’t really say “I love you” with your arms folded as you are looking away. When your words conflict with your body language, guess which one your teens will “hear”?
3. **DON’T CRITICIZE AND COMPLIMENT IN THE SAME SENTENCE:** If you say, “You did a great job on the lawn, but your room is a mess,” all the child will hear is the criticism. Make sure each sentence stands alone. Find time to compliment your child each day.
4. **LET YOUR COMMENTS SHOW UNCONDITIONAL LOVE:** Don’t make your love seem to be based on your child’s actions. Praise him or her just on the spur of the moment, and not only when the child has done something great.

Counselor's Corner

Scholarships: Parents, please make sure your child has applied for the scholarships that a college gives based upon ACT scores and class rank. Some schools have not only an admissions application but also a financial aid application. You must fill out both to apply for their scholarships. Many of these have early deadlines, so go online or check out the materials your child has received. We don't want to miss out on these opportunities.

Many scholarships will be coming in after the holidays: and your child will be extremely busy then. So encourage your child to go to the websites and fill out as many scholarships now as possible. If you wait, you will be painfully busy in January.

Seniors: Many schools have a Dec 1 priority deadline for institutional scholarships. This means you must have your application in and any scholarship forms the school may have by that date. Check the schools you are applying to and get this done NOW if you have ignored my previous ravings. For all of you already accepted, make sure you haven't forgotten to fill out a scholarship form.

Juniors and Seniors: If you plan to play a college sport, you need to complete the NCAA or NAIA form, depending on the school you attend. You can do this your junior year, but you MUST do it your senior year if you haven't already.

Sophomores interested in Nichols Career Center: If your child wants to tour the school on December 5 he or she needs to turn in the permission slip by Nov 29. Extra copies are in the office.

Juniors: By the end of this school year, you should be narrowing your college choices down to about 3-5. Now is the time to be going on **college visits** and determining the type of school you most want to attend. Encourage your child to go to www.missouriconnections.org and complete the college search. You might also want to go to www.fastweb.com or www.act.org, as these sights also have college searches. Encourage them to also stop by the library and check out the materials.

Sophomores & Freshmen: How are those grades? Remember that your class rank and GPA are asked for on almost all applications. The grade card in December goes on the permanent record, so get those grades where they need to be.

Ms. Mueller will be visiting with sophomore students in December to go over Missouri Connections results. Encourage your child to keep his or her Missouri Connections resume up-to-date. Get some of that volunteer work done NOW. This seems to be the thing that separates the winners from the losers when it comes to scholarships. So volunteer during your Christmas break and make a difference in this world.

It's time to think about schedules for next year: Ms. Mueller has been meeting with juniors to look at their after- school plans and to talk about classes for next year. I also

talked to the kids about job opportunities and encouraged the juniors to start on college visits.

If you have the internet at home, spend some time with your child on the Missouri Connections site. Explore possibilities and see what's out there. It's amazing to see how many different occupations there are just in Missouri, without considering the world. If your child finds the occupation of his/her dreams, he/she will be a much more happy and successful person.

The Joke's On You!

Christmas Humor

Three Wise Firemen

I heard that the nativity scenes in the Deep South were a little different. Their Wise Men wear firemen's hats.

Not understand why, one time while driving through the South during the Christmas season, I stopped at the local restaurant. While there, I asked the waitress about it. She said, "Well, that's what the bible says."

"Really?" I asked. "Where does it say that?"

She pulled out her bible to show me, and you know what? She was right. The Wise Men came from afar.

Did You Know This About Santa's Elves?

Santa's elves are actually subordinate Clauses.

When they are making toys, they sing "Love Me Tender." That's why we call them Santa's little Elvis.

They think that all the work they do getting ready for Christmas is just like a day at the office. They do all the work but the fat guy in the suit gets all the credit. Not only that, but anytime he wants to, Santa could give them the sack.

A group of elves have banded together and started a rebellion to protest the terrible working conditions. They call themselves the Santanistas. They just want higher elf esteem.