

University Elementary December Newsletter



LET'S FINISH STRONG

Are you sitting down? You may want to because what I am about to share may rock your world... It's December... We are three weeks away from Winter Break... We are three weeks from the halfway point of the school year...

Now that you have blinked that one out a few times, I would like to share with you the same thoughts I shared with our teachers this past week.

I have never been someone that counts down the days of the school year. I couldn't tell you if we have 175 days or seven days of school left in the year. I do know when different benchmarks hit, such as Thanksgiving Break, Winter Break, etc. I see the school year as "seasons." Each season brings a certain level of excitement, but we have to take steps to ensure that it is the best it can be.

We have three weeks of school in this final season before Winter Break. Let's finish strong. Last week, I encouraged the teachers to take time to review and practice classroom expectations and procedures. In order for us to maximize our learning, we need to ensure that we are operating at our fullest potential. This can only happen if we are following classroom and school expectations. A 10-minute classroom meeting once or twice a week will pay dividends between now and Winter Break.

Please support your child's teacher by talking with him/her at home about these expectations and how they are meeting them in the classroom. Conversations like this at home will help make the next few weeks of school enjoyable and productive. Let's finish strong!

~ Glen Hopkins
Principal

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Dec. 3: Stay and Play @ 3:45
- Dec. 4: Coding Event @ BHSN @ 6:00
- Dec. 5: Blood Drive @ UES @ 4:00
- Dec. 11: UES Choir Concert @ 6:00
- Dec. 11: PTO Meeting @ 6:30
- Dec. 13: 6th Grade Beginning Band Concert @ BHSN @ 7:00
- Dec. 15: UES Chess Open @ 8:00
- Dec. 18: PTO Skate Night @ 6:30
- Dec. 21: Last Day of First Semester
- Dec. 22: Winter Break Begins
- Jan. 5: Robotics @ Needmore Elem.
- Jan. 7: School Resumes
- Jan. 11: Report Cards Go Home

December 21st - We have School

We DO have school on Friday, December 21st. This was built in snow day that we are having to use since we missed school the Thursday before Thanksgiving Break. At 3:45 on December 21st, we will load up the buses and begin Winter Break. Winter Break will run until Sunday, January 6th. School will resume on Monday, January 7th.

The University faculty and staff wish you and your family a safe, restful, and memorable Winter Break.

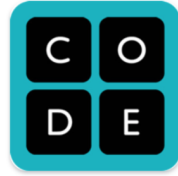
University Swag

If you were not able to pick up our new UES shirt or sweatshirt and still would like to do so, swing by the office to make your purchase. We have plenty of shirts (\$10) and a few sweatshirts (\$25) available.



Evening of Code

BHSN and BHSS will be hosting Evening of Code from 6:00-7:15. This is a great opportunity to experience the amazing things your children are doing in school tied to coding. Our UES Coding Club will be presenting at BHSN during this window. Also, December 3rd-7th is National Computer Science Education Week. Your children will be participating in various computer science activities including Hour of Code. Please see the flyer at end of this newsletter for additional details. Visit code.org for additional information about Hour of Code.



Code.org

Blood Drive



UES is hosting a Blood Drive on Wednesday, December 5th from 4:00-7:00 in the gym. (The bloodmobile was booked up.) This is a great way to help save lives. Please bring your ID with you if you plan to give blood.

Got Supplies?

Do you love animals? You can show your love by donating supplies to the Monroe County Humane Association! We are collecting supplies until January 7th during their Annual Holiday Pet Food and Supply Donation Drive. Boxes will be set up at various locations in the school where students may drop donations off. Dog/cat food, toys, cat litter, paper towel, trash bags, gallon Ziplock bags, liquid laundry soap, copy paper, Clorox wipes, gift cards, and air fresheners are all welcome donations.



MONROE COUNTY
HUMANE ASSOCIATION

Beginning Band and Choir

Walking into the school before students arrive each week is a pleasure as we get to experience the growth the 6th grade beginning band has made throughout the semester. Join us on December 13th at 7:00 at Bloomington High School North for their first concert. It promises to be a wonderful experience.



Of course, our UES Choir can't be left out of the conversation! The choir has already performed at the Farmers Market in November. They will have their first concert on Tuesday, December 11th at 6:00 in the UES Cafeteria. Bring a box of tissues - it's going to be beautiful!

VexIQ and First Lego League

This past weekend, we had students finding great success with robotics.

Two of our students competed in the state Lego League Tournament where they won a trophy for Presentation. Congratulations to these students!



In addition to this, our school robotics teams competed at their first VexIQ tournament, hosted by Binford Elementary. There were over 25 teams present and our team placed 13th, not too bad for our first go! The children had a great time and picked up some ideas on how to modify their robots as well as



some strategy to try to incorporate moving forward. Their next competition will be January 5th at Needmore Elementary.

KEEP UP TO
DATE WITH LIFE
AT UNIVERSITY!



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- Visit our webpage - <https://www.mccsc.edu/university>

Email Mr. Hopkins at ghopkins@mccsc.edu

Email Mrs. Esarey at kesarey@mccsc.edu



Welcome to an Evening of Code

Bloomington High School North

This week is national Computer Science Education Week. All MCCSC students will participate in coding activities in their classrooms throughout the week in addition to the experiences we have planned tonight.

The Schedule for the Evening of Code

We have several unique learning opportunities for you to choose from. We will have a short introduction in the library at 6:00. You will have an hour to explore the demonstrations and activities. We will have closing comments back in the library at 7:15.

Demonstrations

University, Childs, and Binford Coding
Highland Park Elementary Robotics
Batchelor Cubelets
North High School Drone Club

Activities

code.org on computers
Code Your Parents
Coding Hopscotch
Binary Bracelets

