



FULL STEAM AHEAD

Par Excellence STEM Academy
Monthly Newsletter



ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

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WHAT'S HAPPENING? IMPORTANT DATES

9/18--Field trip for 3rd-6th graders

9/23--No School (Professional Development)

9/24--After School Program begins & POPTA informational meeting

9/28--Gears & Cheers / Wheels & Waffles

10/11--No School (Professional Development)

10/15--Family Fall Fair (stay tuned for more information!)

Mid-October--3rd grade state ELA testing

10/18--End of the 1st grading period

10/25--Report cards go home

11/7 & 11/12--Parent-Teacher Conferences



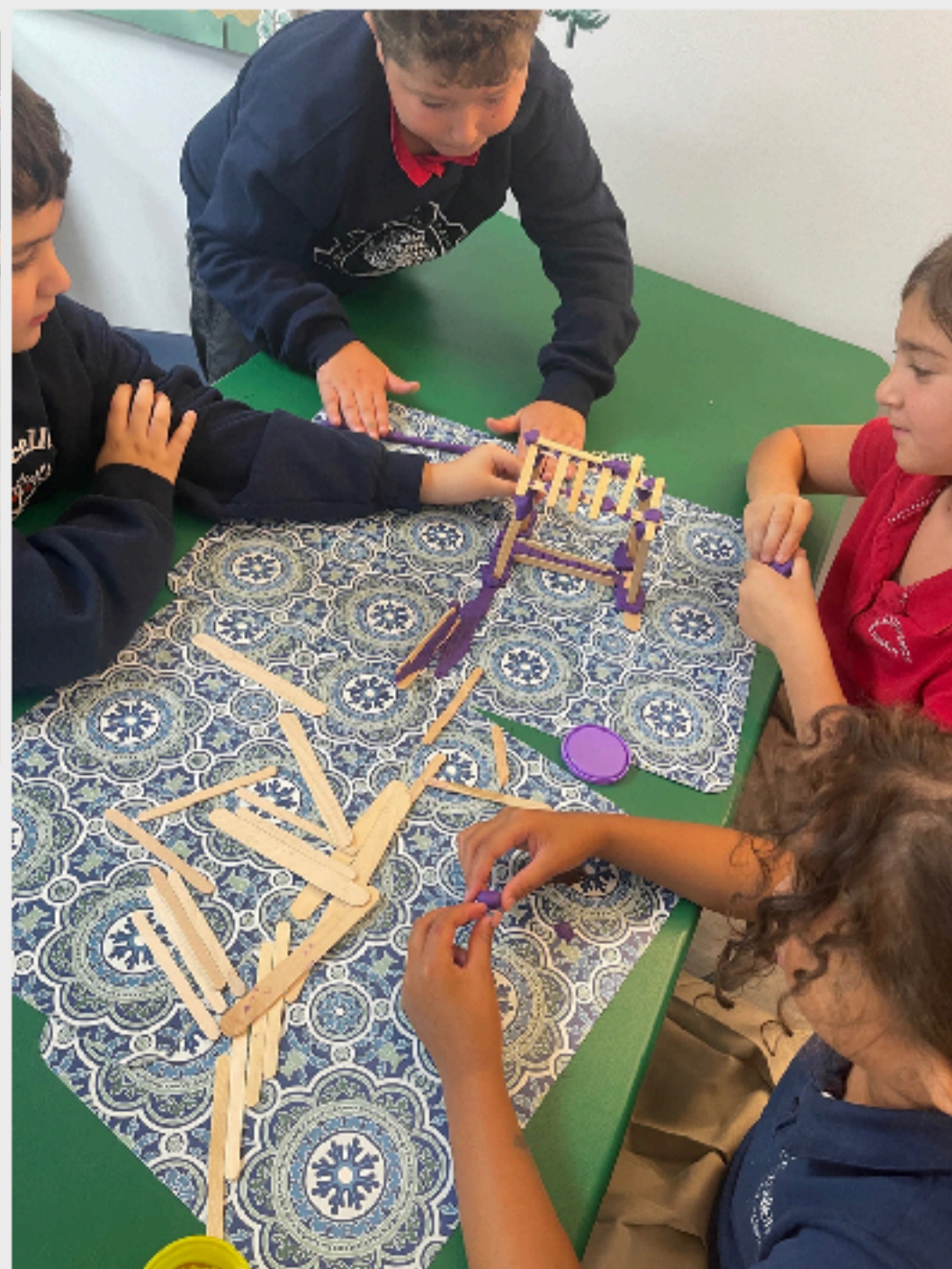
At Par Excellence STEM Academy, we believe that:

- STEM is for all
- Barriers to learning are meant to be smashed
- There is a scientist and mathematician in every person.
- STEM and PBL provide essential skills necessary for 21st century careers
- Your race, culture, disability status, gender, socio-economic status, or zip code shouldn't determine your access to a high-quality STEM education

SEPTEMBER IS ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH

Par is participating in Stay in the Game, a program from the Cleveland Browns Foundation, Ohio Department of Education & Workforce, Harvard's Proving Ground, and Battelle, designed to improve school attendance. Encourage your child to take Stay in the Game's Attendance Pledge this month!

Because attending class prepares me for success in school and life, if I attend school regularly, I know I can learn to read well by the end of third grade, graduate from high school, choose the career for me, & choose the training I need to help me be what I want to be. I promise to show up to school each day ready to learn and do whatever I can to improve my attendance and encourage my friends get to school too!



FOCUS ON FAMILY FUN

September is the *perfect* time to pick, taste, and cook with apples. This month, try an apple taste test with your children.

Choose 4 or 5 different types of apples: granny smith, honeycrisp, golden delicious, gala, red delicious, etc.

Cut the apples into slices & have everyone try each apple.

Discuss your taste test using strong adjectives. Which apple did you like the most? Which did you like the least? Which apple was the sweetest? The most sour?

Make predictions about which apple would be best for baking, to make applesauce, and to eat by itself.



SPOTLIGHT ON KINDERGARTEN!

Welcome to Par's class of 2031!

Our kindergarteners, taught by Mrs. Williams & Mrs. Muncy, have hit the ground running in their first month of school.

The first weeks of kindergarten are spent learning rules and routines, as well as how to be a good friend.

Our kindergarteners have also started their journey to being lifelong readers through the full-day Success for All program.

Of course, each day we can also hear the happy squeals during recess, physical education class, dance class, and gardening. The kindergartners also started learning coding and computer science in STEM class this month!

STEMTASTIC SPECIALS

As part of Par's mission of Health, Harmony, and Service, we offer movement classes three times a week--two as a physical education class and once as a dance class.

This year, physical education is taught by Coach Geoff Smith. With his experience as a youth and high school soccer coach, as well as a soccer player, Coach Geoff has a goal of assisting Par students create lifelong healthy habits and self confidence, while learning cooperation and teamwork. This year, students will learn soccer, archery, basketball, and other fun activities!

Welcome to Par, Coach Geoff!

EXCITING EVENTS!

We are SO excited for Gears & Cheers, Wheels & Waffles on Saturday, September 28th from 9:30-11:30 AM. Join us for a kid-friendly classic car show, featuring our students' favorite wheeled toys plus some amazing classic cars. We will also have live music, fun activities, and of course, waffles and ice cream.

We are also happy to announce the return of our Parents Association, now known as Parents of Par & Teachers Association (POPTA). Join us September 24th at 6:00 PM to learn more about volunteer opportunities and share your ideas. Your voice matters in your child's education!

Par Excellence STEM Academy is committed to the health and well-being of our students and families. We take a holistic approach to helping our students thrive.

We offer a range of supplementary services, including:

- Mental health counseling
- Supports for families experiencing homelessness, housing, or food insecurity
- Assistance with uniforms
- Referrals to community-based organizations

Please contact Dr. Allison Shardell at ashardell@parstem.org for more information.