UPWARD BOUND MATH & SCIENCE CENTER’S NEWSLETTER

¡Felices Fiesta de parte de UBMS! – Happy Holidays from UBMS!

Seasons Greetings Parents AND Students! This is our winter edition of the Parent’s Newsletter & Christmas Greeting!

Our goal for UBMS parents is to provide information to keep you informed as a parent of a college-going math-science student. We will work to prepare your student for their future college endeavors and update you on the many things taking place with the Upward Bound Math & Science Center.

The Upward Bound Math & Science Center (UBMS) consists of two programs:

The UBMS Local Program (assists participants from Alvarado, Ennis, Grand Prairie, Mansfield and Venus high schools)

The UBMS State Program (assists participants from schools located statewide in Central, South and West Texas)

Let us know how we can improve your e-news experience, email your suggestions to ubms@uta.edu.

PROGRAM NEWS

ACADEMIC: The Fall semester is coming to a close! The spring semester is an opportunity for students to get a fresh start on their academics. A goal for students should include time each day for studies and homework (schedule time—1 to 2 hours, before or after school, etc.). Additionally, parents review your child’s grades each period to assist them in doing better in their classes. Their school should have tutoring opportunities to help boost their grades. UBMS has several resources to help including a ‘homework helper’, study tools, online tutoring, and more.

STUDENT—PROGRAM REQUESTS:

Copy of report card for each six / nine weeks so that the program can recognize your student for their progress and continue to assist them academically during the year.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES—participants are to attend / complete activities each month. The activities range from going to tutorial activities at their school, submitting of required information, attendance at Saturday activities or video conferencing sessions (if offered in their area). The student receives benefits for participating and it ensures they can continue to be apart of the program through graduation.

COUNSELING: All seniors should continue to apply for scholarships, review financial resources, finalize a list of college choices and send college applications by the specified deadlines. Use Peterson’s Studentedge (http://www.mystudentedge.com), an online college & career system, to help with college & scholarship searches. Also, Collegeboard provides online college preparatory information (https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/).

PROGRAM UPDATES

2012 BRIDGE APPLICATION: It is online for seniors to apply to the program. The Bridge program provides an opportunity for each student to earn six hours of college credits free during the summer. Students must apply to UT Arlington and submit required materials along with the application. A requirement to be eligible includes for the student to complete activities throughout the year for the program. Find more information on the UBMS website.

RECRUITMENT: We are currently recruiting new participants. If you know any eligible students who may be interested, they can retrieve the application at: http://www.uta.edu/ubmathsci/applications.php.

PROGRAM DATES

LOCAL PROGRAM DATES:

December 2012
E3 Saturday Activity: Dec. 8th
No Weekly Tutorial Activity

January 2013
E3 Saturday Activity: Jan 12th
Weekly Tutoring: Jan. 15th – 17th
E3 Saturday Activity: Jan. 26th
Weekly Tutoring: Jan. 29th – 31st

STATE PROGRAM DATES:

December 2012
ICCP due: Dec. 14th
Science Weakest Link Competition: Dec. 3-19th

January 2013
OTA Tutoring: Jan. 15th – 17th
1-on-1 Phone session: Jan. 21st – 24th
ICCP due: Jan. 25th
VC Session (Live): Jan. 30th, 6-8 pm

UPCOMING ENTRANCE EXAM DATES

ACT Testing
Feb. 9th (register by Jan. 11th)
Apr. 13th (register by Mar. 8th)

SAT Testing
Jan. 26th (register by Dec 28th)
Mar. 9th (register by Feb. 8th)

“Knowledge is Power...Realizing Your Potential.”
2012 TRIOQUEST ACTIVITY RESULTS

DigiMedia Projects

Gold Award (receive $100 Amazon gift card, medal, certificate)
Title: “Teens and Cyberbullying”
Team: Marla Baltazar, Itza Rodriguez, Deanna Gibson, Tuan Khoi, Luis Gonzales

Bronze Award (receive medal and certificate)
Title: “Teen Pregnancy in America”
Team: Kassandra Sanchez, Alexis Vines, Martha Pecina, Jessica Alvarado, Tamra Self

DigiText Projects

Finalists
Title: “One Last Push,”
Team: Dominik Frith, Jebidah Harper, Alexander Garcia

Title: “The Unforgettable Game (The Legend of Jordan)”
Team: Benny Guevera and Dafne Rodriguez

Steps for Applying for Financial Aid

- Apply for Admissions and Financial Aid
  Along with application for admissions, many colleges require you to apply financial Aid. Since colleges have varying deadlines, it’s a good idea to keep a calendar of important dates. Also it’s always a good idea to apply early.

- Submit and Completed required Financial Aid Forms
  Apply for FAFSA as close to January 1st as possible, the earlier the better. Fill out the FAFSA once every year, even if you are applying to multiple schools. (www.fafsa.ed.gov). A PIN is necessary to sign the application (www.pin.ed.gov). Also, be sure that you also fill out any additional forms required by the colleges you apply to. Record the deadlines so that you are aware—complete and send the information on time. Earlier submitted information is always best.

- Apply for Scholarships and Grants as well
  There are other financial resources besides the FAFSA. It’s important to search for grants or scholarships that may be provided by the state, and any grants or scholarships that organizations, businesses or foundations may offer. It’s best to apply for as many scholarships, or grants as possible to increase your possibility of finances and because they are not required to be repaid. Look for scholarships and grants first before you look for loans at school, online, etc.

- Keep Track of your Progress in the Process
  Log information about the colleges and scholarships/grants programs you apply to or receive. Provide the required information needed to be enrolled in that college, or to remain eligible for the aid. Don’t delay in completing any forms.

(Source: “A Guide for Texas Parents and Students” 2012 ACT, Inc.)

Christmas Carol Challenge

Directions: There are cartoon graphic images that represent a popular Christmas Carol or Song. Try to guess what each one is. Answers are at the bottom of the page. (Source: www.brownielocks.com/ChristmasCarolPictureQuiz.html)

Christmas Carol Answers:
1. Winter Wonderland
2. The first Noel
3. Joy to the world
4. Rudolph the red nosed reindeer
5. Blue Christmas
6. Holy Night
7. Christmas
8. Frosty the Snowman
9. We need a little Christmas
10. While Christmas

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