

The Marauder

October 2001

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Message from the Principal
- Classroom News
- Club News
- October Calendar

A Message from the Principal.....

Where did September go! The school year is in full swing, leaves are turning and the sweaters are coming back out. It seems like just yesterday that we were welcoming students back and already it is time for our first interim reports of the year.

Hopefully your family has by now fallen into the "school year rhythm" of a good night's sleep and a well-balanced breakfast before the start of each hectic day. Another essential part of the day is homework time. Your child should have a consistent place and time away from distractions to complete assigned tasks. This place should be well light and comfortable. If your child has no homework for the evening encourage recreational reading such as a magazine, book or newspaper. Take the time to look through your child's Student Assignment Book and discuss their day with them. Celebrate accomplishments and discuss concerns. Even though many children during the middle school years have difficulty expressing their feelings they truly appreciate and need your support and advice.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

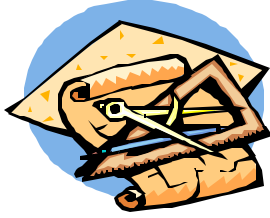
<i>Classroom News</i>	2-3
<i>Club News</i>	4
<i>October Calendar</i>	5

Thank you for sharing your children with us. It is a privilege and a pleasure.

Respectfully,

Russell Kissinger
Principal





Mrs. Bierer's Classroom

Heavily into map skills, we are embarking upon a Rose Compass Contest to see who can create the most accurate, most beautiful, most humorous or the one with the best use of color. These designs are often quite ornate on maps and bear observing for their uniqueness as well as helpfulness.

Weather instruments are the project of the time. Each student has a packet of possibilities (anemometers, barometers, weather vanes, nephoscope, and the like), and will make a selection to turn into a working model. We'll test them! These could become Learning Faire projects in March!

In addition to the regular Reading program, we have read The Cay. It includes both the Science topic of weather, climate and hurricane, plus the Social Studies area of location—longitude and latitude.

Mrs. McMahon has worked with some students in the Great Books Program each day for one week. Kayla Anselmo, Stephanie Bowles, Roxanne Bowman, Ryan Buskey, Nina Calebresi, Alexandra Cappon, Damiene Denner, Colby Furman, Tommy Godsey, Carleigh Hotchkiss, Katie Johnson, Terry Skerrett, Billy Wenzel have taken advantage of the opportunity to learn discussion skills.

Reading Counts!

By Ms. Prill

Reading Counts! Club is coming to the Middle School. Open to all grade levels and reading abilities. Listen to announcements for the day that we are meeting. New members can join at any meeting throughout the year.

Miss Brownell's Classroom



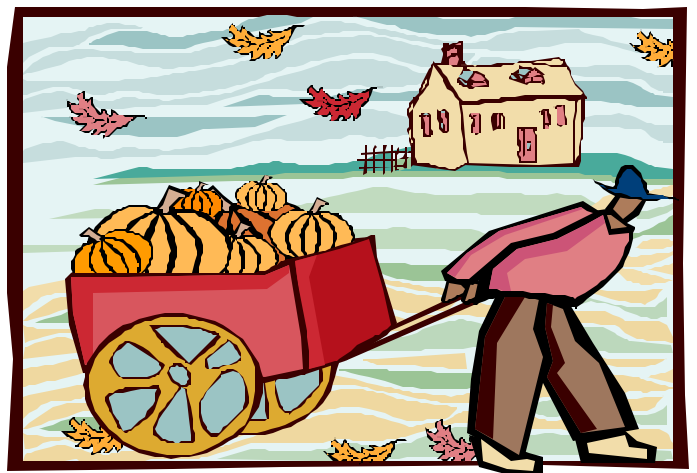
Our first month of school has been very productive and fun. I have really enjoyed getting to know all of my students.

Our class has begun our "new" reading series. Unit One is titled "Time of My Life". In addition to reading comprehension strategies, our class has been developing skills at making inferences, problem and solution, and synonyms and antonyms.

Math has been very active and hands on! We have begun to pilot the math series by Scott Foresman. The year began with several math investigations from the unit titled "Mathematical Thinking at Grade 5". Investigations in Number, Data, and Space. The unit has four major goals:

- *to offer students meaningful mathematical problems
- *to emphasize depth in mathematical thinking
- *to communicate mathematics content and pedagogy to teachers
- *to substantially expand the pool of mathematical literate students

We have begun to study scientific method. Students have been involved in mini labs and hands-on activities.



Enrichment News

by Carol McMahon



Welcome to a new school year! Enrichment is just getting underway at the Middle School with assemblies and programs being previewed and evaluated. All our old favorites will be back such as **Grade 6 Medieval Day**, **Grade 7 Civil War Days** and **Grade 5 Science Day**. Of course new programs always being developed...this year be sure to look for an interdisciplinary **WW II project** that is being undertaken by the **Grade 8 team**.



Things that are already on the books include the **8th Grade field trip to Rock Ventures** indoor rock-climbing facility for a team building experience. Look for information to come home soon. We'll also be looking for a good number of chaperones so you might want to set aside the date **October 30th** to join us!

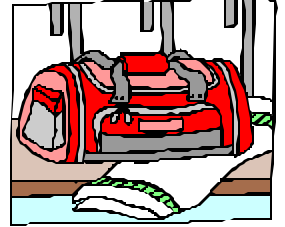
The Middle School Newspaper, **The Prowler**, is looking forward to publishing its first edition of the 2001-2002 school year. This year's student editor is 8th grader, Geoff Haywood.



As always, the Enrichment program at the Middle School welcomes creativity, talent and know-how from all sources whether it comes from artists, teachers, students or community members! If you have a special talent, ability, or experience that you think might be worth sharing with our student population please feel free to contact me at the Middle School.

From Physical Education

By Mrs. Freischlag and Mr. Mitchell



Welcome Back! Just a reminder that jewelry **is not** allowed in physical education class. We are following sports, high school and state rules regarding jewelry. We want our students to be safe—therefore all jewelry has to be removed before class.

Intramurals will begin for 5th and 6th graders starting in October. Information/Permission sheets will be sent home with 5th graders. Dates and activities will be announced and posted on the bulletin board.



Word Wise?

By Ms. Prill

Are you "Word Wise"?

Directions: Place a "T" in front of the name of a musical instrument. The word you get should be part of a rose bush.

Write or talk to me about your "Word Wise" idea and I'll include it in next months newsletter.

Thank You for Making the Clothing Drive a Huge Success!!



The France 2001 Group would like to thank everyone for making their Clothing Drive a success!

5th and 6th Grade Association

By Miss Finkelstein and Mrs. Hoody

The 5/6 Student Association is currently gaining membership. Members are being selected by their peers based on characteristics of responsibility and dedication. A complete list of members will be posted on the Student Association bulletin board outside Room 9. By the time you receive this we hopefully had our first meeting of the year where we elected officers, discussing our plans for the year, and begin to organize Red Ribbon Week, which will take place October 29th through November 2nd.

7th and 8th Grade Student Association

By Mrs. Osborn

7th and 8th Grade Student Association will be busy this year. Our first meeting was September 18th. Our meetings will normally be held the first Tuesday of each month with special meetings called for committee work and planning special events. Our first event was when several of the members served as student guides for Open House on September 20th. Our next event will be the kickoff for the second annual jewelry sale on October 23rd. Plan ahead to purchase some very nice gift items. October 24th is scheduled for the first dance of this school year. The 5th and 6th graders will attend from 6:30-8:00 pm and the 7th and 8th graders from 8:30-10:00 pm. Tickets will be available for pre-sale only in the cafeteria the week before the dance.

We are also pleased to announce the arrival of the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade Student Associations' gift. It is an eight foot round carpet mat featuring our Marauder logo in the center. This carpet is located in the main foyer of the middle school.

The Association is investigating some service projects.



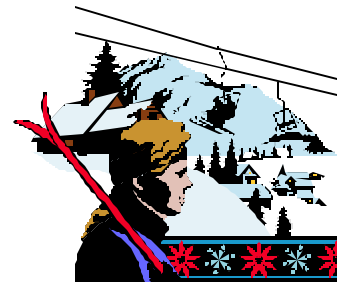
International Club

By Mrs. Osborn and Mrs. Perez

International Club will meet for their organizational meeting on Thursday, October 4th at 2:15pm in Room 13. We will be discussing the year's activities.

Snowboard and Ski Club

By Mrs. Osborn



The organizational meeting for the Snowboard and Ski Club will be Wednesday, October 17th at 7:00 pm in Room 13 of the Middle School. At this time registration materials will be distributed and questions answered about our annual Snowboard and Ski Club trips to Brantling December 7, 14, 21, January 4, 11, 18 (make-up). Costs vary according to program selected. If you can not attend this meeting the registration materials will be available beginning October 18th in the Middle School and High School.





Travel Club

By Mrs. Osborn

The first meeting was held September 13th to explain the application process for the trip to Montreal planned for November 30th, December 1, 2. Applications were due September 18th. Accepted applicants would be informed September 25 and payments will be due October 1st.



October 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> Travel Club— Payment Due for Montreal A	<i>2</i> 7/8 Student Association Mtg, - 10th Period, Room 13 B	<i>3</i> 5/6 Rollerskating (2:30-4:00) C	<i>4</i> ES Open House 6:30pm International Club-10th Per Rm. 13 D	<i>5</i> End of 5 wks. E	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> <i>No School</i> (Columbus Day Holiday) 	<i>9</i> F	<i>10</i> Board of Education Mtg. 7:30pm A	<i>11</i> B	<i>12</i> C	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> D	<i>16</i> E	<i>17</i> Snowboard and Ski Club Meeting— 7:00 pm, Room 13 F	<i>18</i> 7/8 Activity Night 6:30-8:00pm A	<i>19</i> 5/6 Activity Night 6:30-8:00pm B	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> C	<i>23</i> Student Assoc. Jewelry Sale D	<i>24</i> School Dance 5/6 6:30-8:00pm 7/8 8:30-10:00 Board of Education Mtg. 7:30pm E	<i>25</i> <i>No School</i> (Superintendent's Conference Day)	<i>26</i> <i>No School</i> (Superintendent's Conference Day)	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>  School Picture Retakes F	<i>30</i> A	<i>31</i> <i>Happy Halloween!</i> B	Red Ribbon Week Celebration		