



The Marauder

December 2001

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Classroom News
- Clubs News
- Student of the Month
- Middle School Calendar for December
- WCS K-12 Learning Fair
- Proud To Be An American Note Cards

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From Mr. Kissinger.....

Dear Parents,

In this issue you will find the latest tally for the Reading Counts program. It is wonderful to see so many young people taking time out of their busy lives to enjoy a good book. I recently had the opportunity to visit the town library and once again I was impressed with this community's commitment to both the children and the life long learner in all of us. There is certainly something for everyone at the library and if you have not been there recently I suggest a family outing soon. What could be a better night out for the family than quietly reading and exploring the hundreds and hundreds of books on hand. It is a great way to escape the holiday madness for awhile and also gives parents a chance to model positive behavior in a fun and relaxing way. Allow your child to pick their own book and discuss their choice. You may learn a great deal more about them. Enjoy the holidays and read, read, read!

Sincerely yours,

Russell Kissinger
Middle School Principal



Mrs. Bierer's Classroom



Terry Skerrett, with 3,070 minutes, and Nina Calabresi, with 2,340 minutes, lead the pack for Book-It! reading quantities. This is a lot of reading!

By publication time, *The First Thanksgiving*, a play, will have been produced in the classroom on November 20th. From a Wampanoag orphan to Chief Massasoit himself, from an indentured servant to Governor Carver, all roles were of real people in 1620. By performing in the play, students reviewed this part of history as well as experienced the genre of plays and gained poise in speaking in front of an audience. Mrs. Velte's Class visited in the morning for a performance, and parents/relatives enjoyed the afternoon presentation.

Miss Brownell's Classroom



Our class has begun Unit 2 of the reading series. The theme of the Unit is "Building Bridges." The focus is on knowing what we have in common with each other helps us appreciate our differences. Reading skills that will be taught include: Fact and Nonfact, Forming Generalizations, Inflectional Endings and Study Skills. The writing focus will be persuasive writing.

Shining the light on science is what students will be concentrating on! Our next unit of study will be optics/light. Investigations will include blending colors, experimenting with the path of light, shadows, and reflections/refractions.

I have several students that I would like to recognize for their accomplishments this month:

James Bailey—Exceptional Behavior
Marlowe Cline—Hard worker

Luke DeFisher—Cooperation
Katlyn Gregg—Good Listening
Paul Jenkins—Responsibility
Melissa Turner—Responsibility
Jeremiah Wackerman—Helpful
Noelle White—Cooperation

Reading Counts!

by Ms. Prill

Tally 9-08-01 through 11-16-01



The following students are responsible for reading Thousands of Words.

<u>Name</u>	<u># of Words Read</u>
Wayne Grevell	26,932
Shelby Maroselli	316,526
Nina Calabresi	244,591
Corey Baker	49,785
Bethany Redder	127,929
Diana Horton	100,282
Chelsea Young	95,304
Ashley Haskins	166,525
Adam Noto	162,085
Courtney Dalke	26,747
Steven Malloy	52,415
Rachel Hadley	68,868
Travis Burdick	45,966
Michael Collins	4,810
MacKenzie Lighthouse	24,768
Terry Skerrett	420,325
Andrew Mosher	20,355
Katherine Johnson	76,944
Andrew Cantwell	55,684
Kelly Jones	27,933
Autumn Bowman	15,901
Darely Trejo	9,793
Ashley Hoffman	48,082
Carrie Lergner	55,498
Andrew Nacci	10,556
James Bailey	7,473
Nicholas Damico	10,083
Amanda Gage	30,434
Michael Cobb	4,693
Michele Cahill	13,872
William Hollebrandt	8,865
Zachary Lancy	71,778

Chelsey Storrs	20,328
Stephanie Kingsbury	8,751
Kevin Larson	7,053
Sergio Trejo	3,832
Lisa Beck	28,406
Andrea Blauvelt	22,217
Krystal Jones	9,003
Stephanie Bowles	18,015
Matt Imperato	5,230
Paul Jenkins	4,970
Michael LaComba	6,327
Jonathan Manktelow	316,526
Joshua Knataitis	8,662
Danielle Morris	5,094
Brendan Bouvier	4,987
John Predmore	2,313
Kyle Bull	5,430
Anthony Campisi	2,385
Amanda DeCann	5,184
Bonnie Smith	5,884
Breanna Bigelow	2,059
Brittany Duell	1,005
Stephanie Follette	1,599
Joseph Moll	3,001
Faith Supersad	1,198
Cleveland Williams	3,001
Chevaughn Walters	1,028
Nicole Maylin	20,001
Derek Wood	3,003

REASONS TO READ:

- **book it**
 - **Reading Counts!**
- And most importantly, to add to your own enjoyment, knowledge, and understanding.**

What's the Buzz?

By Ms. Prill



The BEE is back! Open to students in grades 5-8.

The first round (written) will be 10th period Tuesday, November 20 in the students grade level English teacher's room. Fifth graders to Mrs. Bierer. The word list was distributed to interested students in early November.

The second round (oral) will be 10th period on Valentine's Day, February 14th in the MS auditorium among the 10 top spellers from Round 1.

The top 3 winners of the second round compete in the Regional Bee in March at Hobart College in Geneva. The 4th place student, the runner up, also attends if one of the three Williamson contestants is ill and unable to compete that day.

The winner of the Regional Bee competes among other winners from around the country in Washington, DC in May. Scripps-Howard, a publishing company, sponsors the Bee.

Contact for the Bee is Ms. Prill in the Middle School.

Be(e) a winner—take a chance!

**October
5th Grade
Book It-All-Stars**



(Read for 360+ minutes)

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Kelly Jones | Caleb Burlee |
| Noelle White | Chelsea Young |
| Darely Trejo | Jeremiah Wackerman |

(Achieved 360 Minutes)

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Jason Buckler | Donnell Clark |
| Stephanie Kingsbury | Kevin Larson |
| Carrie Lergner | Taylor Rutkus |
| Jessica Wood | Michael Collins |
| Shelby Maroselli | Rebecca Klejment |
| Stephanie Darling | Billy Hollebrandt |
| Ashley Hoffman | Tyler Eaton |
| Matt Imperato | Michael LaComba |
| Pierce Alquist | Cleveland Williams |
| Nick Damico | Brittany Thompson |
| Kayla Anselmo | Stephanie Bowles |
| Roxanne Bowman | Nina Calabres |
| Ryan Buskey | Jon Gobeyn |
| Danniene Denner | Tommy Godsey |
| Carleigh Hotchkiss | Katie Johnson |
| Alex Cappon | Terry Skerrett |

Physical Education News!

By Mrs. Freischlag and Mr. Mitchell



In Physical Education Class we are finishing a soccer tournament. Students (captains) “drafted” their teams and were responsible for their team lineup.



In Recognition of “Red Ribbon” Week we had two sheriff deputies speak to the physical education classes about the danger of drugs. The fifth/sixth grade student association sponsored a Knockout (Basketball) contest.



This year fifth graders will be cross country skiing in physical education class. Cross country skiing is an excellent cardio respiratory endurance activity. All equipment will be provided for the students.

Box Tops For Education

By Mrs. Freischlag and Mr. Mitchell

Please save all of your “Box Tops for Education.” The box tops are found on about 100 different food items. We will collect the box tops throughout the school year, and purchase sports equipment for Williamson School. This is an easy way for our school to purchase equipment. Send in the box tops to Mrs. Freischlag or Mr. Mitchell.

Enrichment News

by Carol McMahon

December is a month full of exciting enrichment activities here in the Middle School! But before we look to the future I want to congratulate the 8th grade class on a recent event. On Monday **November 19th** the **8th Grade** class at Williamson Middle School sponsored an event called “**Give Thanks for America**” to celebrate with the community our appreciation for our country. This event was the brainchild of **Geoff Haywood** and **Devin Greaney**, who felt that we, as a community,

should unite to show our support for America. With the help of Ms. Ludwig, Mr. Amend, Mrs. Wilkinson, Mr. Plyter, the PTA and myself, these students were able to mobilize their peers and create a memorable tribute. It is this kind of spirit, attitude and effort demonstrated by these students that truly does make this a great country!

Diane Castle Babcock will bring her printmaking skills to all the **art classes** on the 6th and 7th of this month.

Soldiers from the French and Indian War will be encamped on the Middle School property on **Friday, December 14th**. **Pat Fairchild** and **Leif Herr-Gesel** will be here to enrich Mr. Bruenix’s **Grade 7 Social Studies** curriculum with their realistic portrayal of soldiering life in the 1700’s.

The **High School Band**, under the direction of Mr. Ken Scott, will visit the Middle School on **Friday, December 21st** during 3rd and 4th period for a special **Holiday Concert**.

On **December 10th and 11th** **Todd Beers** will engage Mrs. Yackel’s **Grade 6 English** classes in the art of **poetry**. For these two days the students will experience language in a unique and exciting way and create images and poems for our annual **Grade 6 Coffeehouse**.

Grade 6 Coffeehouse

with poet, **Todd Beers** and spoken word artists, “**Plumb**”

Thursday, January 17th at 7:00 PM
In the Multi-purpose Room

Open-mic performances by Grade 6 students!

Refreshments provided by the PTA.

Dust off your dashikis and love-beads and come on out!

Reading Counts!

Quote: "This program makes me want to read more and more." by Diana Horton

English 7 News

By Mrs. Hussion



Have you asked your seventh grader about English lately? A lot of learning and thinking is going on! A display of student poetry livened the hallways; the theme "I AM" helped us get to know each other. We took a journey with Jacob Freisten, The Boy Who Owned the School and learned how to work a fog machine and how to rescue the most popular girl in school.

"Words, words, words..." (Shakespeare) Vocabulary is ongoing. Did you know that a well-built vocabulary is correlated to people who make more money?

Seventh graders have rediscovered some of the joys, sights, sounds, and smells of Autumn. A sunny, warm walk in the woods, followed by cider and donuts gave students inspiration for a descriptive piece of writing—a snapshot of autumn. Thanks to Mrs. McMahon, enrichment teacher, the day was awesome. English is fun and connected to the real world! Students in the accelerated program are studying patriotic literature, reading their choice of fiction outside of the classroom, and writing book reviews.

The future brings new journeys...Native American travels will enrich social studies and provide a glimpse of a culture quite different from our own. Adventures in poetry, poetry readings and a continued study of literary elements propel us toward the new year.

Stay tuned for further news about the travels of English 7...the future is ours to shape and hold.

ART CLUB

By Mrs. Wilkinson



You can see from the color insert in this newsletter that the students in ART CLUB have been very busy. Our "Proud to Be An American" note cards are ready for sale. You may purchase them through the main office at the Middle School. See the insert for more information.

A big THANK YOU to the following students who worked so hard to make this project happen: Chris Duda, Cynthia Otero, Amy Avery, Leela Shields, Elora Supersad, Emily Gentile, Vanessa Haskins, Emily Gimbel, Kaylyn Allen, Jamie Bruce, Ryan Noble, Tyler Palmer and Kandus Christman.

I would also like to thank Mrs. Palmer for helping with our posters and Miss Ludwig for guiding us through all the computer graphics and printing.



SKI CLUB

By Mrs. Osborn

The Ski Club will have trips to Brantling beginning December 7. The other trips for December will be December 14, 21 if the weather permits. Remember that we leave about 3:20 from the Middle School and we will leave the high school about 3:45. Return time to the HIGH SCHOOL will be at 9:30.



INTERNATIONAL CLUB

By Mrs. Osborn

The International Club will meet Thursday, December 6 at 2:15 in Room 13. We will celebrate Christmas customs and decorate cookies and make pizelles.



STUDENT ASSOCIATION

By Mrs. Osborn

The Student Association will meet Tuesday, December 4 at 2:15 in Room 13. The Jewelry Sale items will have arrived. Students will deliver the ordered items and collect payment. Checks should be made payable to the Middle School Student Association. Thank you to all who supported this fundraiser. The 7th and 8th Grade Student Association planted about 250 tulip bulbs in front of the school at their last meeting.



5/6 Student Association

By Miss Finkelstein and Mrs. Hoody

During the past few weeks our members have been busy fundraising. They have gone to family, friends, and teacher selling jewelry. They did a fantastic job, put forth great effort, and sold many items. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, December 4. At this meeting we will be discussing our holiday project and the food drive.



There is a rack outside the Middle School cafeteria containing many articles of clothing, shoes, even one cleat. These items have been found throughout the school year. If your student has lost something, encourage them to check the rack. Anything not claimed by the Christmas break will be cleaned and donated to the Come-Unity Center.

Health Screenings

By Mrs. Starr

This year students are receiving their Health Screenings during their Physical Education class to minimize lost time from core academic classes. Each Phys Ed period, two students have their screenings done as per New York State Education Department guidelines. These include Height, Weight, Vision, Hearing and Scoliosis screenings. Their hair is also checked for head lice at this time. Parents are notified of any problems that require their physician's attention by mail. If cases of head lice are identified parents will be notified by phone with a request that they pick up their child at that time and keep them home until the problem is resolved. At this time approximately 30% of the required screenings have been completed.

An Ounce of Prevention...

By Mrs. Starr



Attendance this year has generally been good. The illnesses that have been causing students to stay home have been primarily viral in nature. Upper respiratory and stomach viral infections are preventable, mainly by good handwashing. Encourage your children to wash hands before eating lunch. If they insist that they don't have time, they are wrong. However, that is the perception many of them have. Rather than fight it, try putting one of the many varieties of waterless hand cleaning products in with their school supplies. They make great stocking stuffers!

Student of the Month for October

Student	Grade	Teacher	Reason
Pierce Alquist	5	Ms. Luke	Exceptional Effort, Excellent Work
Kayla Anselmo	5	Mrs. Bierer	Relationships with Others
Jaycee Bristol	5	Mr. Marshall	Exceptional Effort
Caleb Burlee	5	Miss Brownell	Relationships with Others
Tyler Eaton	5	Ms. Luke	Exceptional Effort, Exceptional Work
Jonathan Gobeyn	5	Mrs. Bierer	Helpfulness
Rebecca Klejment	5	Mr. Marshall	Exceptional Effort
Carrie Lergner	5	Mr. Holowka	Exceptional Effort
Shelby Maroselli	5	Mr. Holowka	Constructive Attitude
Norma Ruiz	5	Mrs. Hendrickson, Ms. Prill	Relationships with Others, Exceptional Effort, Constructive Attitude
Brittany Thompson	5	Ms. Luke	Excellent Effort, Excellent Work
Melissa Turner	5	Miss Brownell	Exceptional Effort
Jessica Wood	5	Mr. Holowka	Exceptional Effort
Jonathan Fyles	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Rachael Gnage	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Brandon Hogan	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Matt Smith	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Stephanie Volpe	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Amy Avery	7	Mrs. Perez	Exceptional Effort, Class Participation
John Bonke	7	7th Grade Team	Work Ethic, Attitude
Brittani Conger	7	Miss Nellany	Helpful; Organized Entrepreneurship Tickets
Jamie Deline	7	Miss Nellany	Helpful with Super Computer Skills
Ashley Jenkins	7	Mr. Brown	Exceptional Effort
Kristen Jones	7	Mrs. Nail	Exceptional Effort, Attitude
Ashley McCaslin	7	7th Grade Team	Work Ethic, Attitude
Harrison Ronan	7	7th Grade Team	Effort
Eric Scheffinger	7	7th Grade Team	Well-Prepared, Positive Attitude
Katelynn Verbridge	7	7th Grade Team	Work Ethic, Attitude
Ken Bloss	8	8th Grade Team	Attitude
Tabitha Davis	8	8th Grade Team	Attitude
Jessica East	8	8th Grade Team	Exceptional Effort
Kyle Griffin	8	8th Grade Team	Effort
Geoff Haywood	8	8th Grade Team	Citizenship
Jessica Hepler	8	8th Grade Team	Effort
Christopher Koudelka	8	Mr. Brown	Constructive Attitude
Rachel Pilato	8	Mrs. Osborn	Well-Prepared, Positive Attitude

Student of the Month for November

Student	Grade	Teacher	Reason
Lukas Allen	5	I. Bierer	Compassion
Roxanne Bowman	5	I. Bierer	Loyalty
Michael Cobb	5	J. Luke	Always Trying His Best
Katlyn Gregg	5	H. Brownell	Exceptional Effort
Paul Jenkins	5	H. Brownell	Taking Responsibility for his own Learning!
Stephanie Kingsbury	5	G. Holowka	Constructive Attitude
Josh Knataitis	5	J. Luke	Putting Forth a Great Deal of Effort in All That He Does
Michael LaComba	5	J. Luke	Always Trying His Best
Kelly Marchionda	5	G. Marshall	Exceptional Effort
Anthony Miralles	5	G. Marshall	Exceptional Effort
Joe Tobin	5	G. Holowka	Constructive Attitude
Chelsea Young	5	H. Brownell	Exceptional Effort
Joey Davis	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Amanda Fox	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Caitlin Garofoli	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Jenny Odell	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Jeff Sherwin	6	S. Nellany	Cooperative, Super Attitude
Ricky Tarr	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Robert Wenzel	6	M. Wilkinson	Consistent Effort and Positive Attitude
Robert Wenzel	6	L. Marshall	Friendly, Works Hard, Always Smiling!
Hallie Ankrom	7	7th Grade Team	Effort, Attitude, Behavioral, Improvement, and Citizenship
Elizabeth Cormier	7	7th Grade Team	Effort, Attitude, Behavioral, Improvement, and Citizenship
Alyssa Hermenet	7	M. Wilkinson	Exceptional Patience, Understanding, and Positive Attitude
Casey Marino	7	D. Osborn	Well Prepared, Positive Attitude
Abe Moll	7	S. Nellany	Super Class Participation
Anna Reiber	7	P. Perez	Class Participation
John Scahill	7	7th Grade Team	Effort, Attitude, Behavioral, Improvement, and Citizenship
Elora Supersad	7	7th Grade Team	Effort, Attitude, Behavioral, Improvement, and Citizenship
Andrea Blauvelt	8	D. Brown	Constructive Attitude
Jess Blauvelt	8	8th Grade Team	Attitude
Stephanie Crichton	8	8th Grade Team	Effort
Ryan Dobson	8	8th Grade Team	Effort
Samantha Knataitis	8	P. Perez	Always Willing To Help Out During Her Free Period
Michael Kraft	8	L. Marshall	Studious Individual, Very Kind, and Considerate To Others
Ami Kush	8	8th Grade Team	Attitude
Ami Kush	8	D. Osborn	Well Prepared and Positive Attitude
Brad Morse	8	8th Grade Team	Attitude
Tyler Palmer	8	8th Grade Team	Citizenship
Colby Stohr	8	8th Grade Team	Effort
Yari Winter	8	D. Brown	Exceptional Effort
David Wood	8	8th Grade Team	Effort