

The Marauder

November 2002

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Classroom News
- Student Association News
- Message From the Health Office
- Student of the Month
- Middle School Calendar for November

From Mr. Kissinger.....

Dear Parents,

November already! For many of us in the education world this is the “monitor and adjust” month. Teachers have had time to assess study habits and organizational skills of individual students as well as learning skills. The first ten-week grades have been tallied and will be sent home soon. Teams of teachers have met with all students who are failing two or more classes to create plans for success. Students who continue to struggle are referred to the PPS committee where recommendations are made to help the student become successful. We now have two teachers in each homeroom at the end of the day to check SAB’s to ensure that assignments are written down correctly and that the proper books are going home for work to be completed.

Through the months of September and October we administered an intense one on one reading assessment to every student who had an overall average of less than 75 in the core subjects last year. If reading deficiencies were discovered, specific plans were put into place to address them. Our reading specialists are meeting with teams of teachers monthly to help improve the awareness level of the importance of reading skills in all subjects. They are providing teachers with skills and tools that they can use to address reading barriers within their classes.

These are just a few of the many indicators that show that this teaching staff is embracing the concept that no child will be left behind. I am proud to be a part of such a talented and dedicated group of educators.

Sincerely yours,

Russell Kissinger
Middle School Principal

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Classroom News</i>	2-3
<i>Student Association News</i>	3
<i>Message From the Health Office</i>	4
<i>Mark Your Calendars (Picture Re-takes)</i>	4
<i>PTSA Corner</i>	4
<i>From the Assistant Principal...</i>	5
<i>Middle School November Calendar</i>	



Miss Brownell's Classroom



Our reading class has been very busy. The class has been reading from the McGraw Hill basal Unit One, titled "Time of My Life", which focuses on how we may find memorable experiences in unexpected places. Student activities have focused around setting, characters, inference, context clues and problem and solution.

Math class has been one investigation after another. Students have been involved in activities that promote depth in mathematical thinking. The program offers students meaningful mathematical problems.

Scientific method! Students have begun to learn about the scientific method through labs. We enjoyed growing different species of fungi on bread, lemons, and bananas.

I would like to recognize star performers in our class:

Matt Arthurs—Good Behavior
 April Bailey—Enthusiasm
 Cody Christensen—Helpful
 Kayla Flanders—Helpful
 Eric Hepler—Responsibility
 Meredith Shultes—Good Listening
 Michael Nichols—Enthusiasm

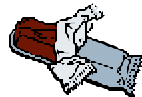


ment" which the classes read. Seventh graders made tree diagrams to determine the number of combinations that could be made from soft drinks and snacks. This project was similar to the story "Lunchtime Decisions" that they had previously read.

Eighth graders took a pretest on the toughest word problems that appeared on standardized tests. Since then, they have been working on problem-solving skills such as setting up ratios and proportions. Activities have included using scales on road maps, determining sizes of flags, and estimating crowd sizes. The students have been working in Scholastic Math.

Chocolate

By Ms. Prill



We can thank the great Aztec emperor from Mexico, Montezuma, for sharing his chocolate with the Spanish. The Spanish brought the cacao seeds back to Europe. England, which is a part of Europe, brought chocolate to the United States.

The Aztec word for chocolate: XOCOLATL (chaw caw LAH tl)

Math Lab News

By Mr. Brown

Students in Math Lab have started the year working on probability, ratios and proportions, and problem-solving. Applications of these skills have been applied in a variety of ways.

Fifth and seventh graders have been working in Reading and Writing for Math studying probability. An experiment using M & M candy was used to predict which colors appeared the most and least. This project was similar to "The Jelly Bean Experi

Did You Know...

By Ms. Prill

One of our students, eighth grader Susana Hidalgo, was named queen of the Mexican Festival which was held in early Sodus. Congratulations Susanna!



Finding Out About...

By Ms. Prill



Mexico. Ms. Prill's and Mrs. Greco's class teamed up for a day during Hispanic Heritage month. Sergio, Darely, Faviola, Melissa, Beatriz, Paula, Angelica, and Susana chose topics that they know about to present to Mrs. Greco's 1st and 4th period classes. Topics included: Location, Clothing, Food, Halloween, Flag, Money, and Website about Hispanic Heritage Month. Students brought in realia from home—special clothes, photos, and food. Susana's mom and Mrs. Greco supplied us with enchiladas and rice and beans. There were no leftovers! Mrs. Greco's boys and girls prepared by researching Mexico and writing and asking questions of the English Language Learner students. Getting to know each other was as valuable as finding out more about Mexico.

Websites: www.scholastic.com
www.factmonster.com

Row, Row, Row Your Boat

By Ms. Prill

Cory Baker, Shelby Maroselli, Katie Johnson, Wayne Grevell, and Travis Burdick skimmed their canoes along Irondequoit Bay and Creek on a sunny, late September Saturday. Great blue herons, ducks, and turtles kept us company on our paddling trip. This was the student's long awaited acknowledgement gift for reading goals met last year through the Middle School's Reading Counts Club. Ms. Prill, Mrs. Ryan, and three other experienced canoeists accompanied. The only down part of the trip was that it ended too soon! Reading Counts Club will begin in mid November. Listen for announcements or talk to Ms. Prill. Look for pictures of the trip as you enter the cafeteria.



Student Association

By Miss Finkelstein and Mrs. Hoody



Red Ribbon Week was October 21 through October 25. We kicked off the week with having our 5/6th graders lead an assembly letting the student body know the activities planned for the week. Every day during Red Ribbon Week was a different theme day. Monday was Red Day, Tuesday was Team Up Against Drugs Day, Wednesday was Sock it to Drugs Day, Thursday was Turn Your Back Against Drugs Day, and Friday was Put a Lid on Drugs Day. In addition to the theme days, there was a poster and poetry contest. This year's theme was United We Stand For a Drug Free Land. During lunch periods, our members supervised as students signed a pledge to be drug free. By signing this pledge, the students could receive either a free piece of pizza from Cam's New York Pizzeria or a free soda at the Candy Kitchen. After signing pledges, the students had the opportunity to add to a list of better things to do than drugs. Raffle tickets were also sold during lunch periods for a prize. Students were also given the opportunity in math classes to try a drugs, alcohol, and tobacco puzzle. They were either given extra credit or a prize for the correct completion of the puzzle. During gym classes the last two days of Red Ribbon Week, the students participated in Knock Out Basketball, where they learned about staying healthy from Williamson Police officers. Winners received prizes. Red Ribbon Week ended with all students receiving a Drugs Are Pointless Pencil for participating in the week's activities. It was a very successful week and we hope we were able to spread the message to never become involved become involved in drugs.

Our school store will be open by November and we are in need of parent volunteers to help our students sell school items. The store will be in operation during lunch periods Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. If anyone is interested, please contact Lori Finkelstein at the Middle School

From the Health Office

Flu season will be upon us shortly. Here are some tips to consider:

- Get proper rest
- Eat nutritious foods: example-fruits, vegetables and drink plenty of fluids.
- Exercise + get plenty of fresh air
- Dress accordingly, keep warm; but don't overdress. Wear a hat outdoors; we lose body heat from the top of our heads
- Always cover your mouth when coughing + cover your nose when sneezing
- Washing your hands frequently



Keep Healthy!!

Mrs. Phillips, RN
School Nurse

Any questions: call 589-9665 ext. 106

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, November 25th, M.S.
Picture Re-takes & Club Photos



PTSA Corner

I would like to first introduce myself. I am Tracy Cole and I am your new PTSA representative at the Middle School. I would like to thank Aileen Hurlimann (for her guidance and instruction) and the rest of the PTSA for such a warm welcome and I look forward to meeting you all.

The PTSA would like to thank all the parents who baked for our Middle School Open house. The variety was wonderful. The 5th and 6th Grade Roller Skating Party was a huge success. We had 76 skaters that participated. A special thank you to Lori Van Acker, Laurie Van Nostrand, Sherry Cahill, Mary Jo Ciaschi, Lyn Miralles, Amy Youngs, and Mary Kostakis for volunteering there time to help the kids with this fun filled event.

Also, we would like to thank Bob Allen, Lyn Miralles, Patty Buckler, Leslie Wing, May Jo Ciaschi and all the other parents that gave their time the first day of school to assist the children entering into 6th grade with there lockers.

The PTSA is still in need of volunteers with the 7th and 8th grade activity nights. If you would like to spend a fun evening with your child and their classmates, please feel free to contact me anytime to volunteer. We are always looking for parents to help out with a variety of activities. We had our first 7th and 8th grade activity night. The kids had a great time playing volleyball, basketball, ping-pong and other activities. Thanks to the parents that helped. A special thank you to Della Ludwig who opened up the computer lab for activity night.

The Student Association is in need of parent volunteers to assist in our new School Store. If you are available Tuesdays and/or Thursdays between 10:30 am and 12:30 pm., please contact Lori Finkelstein at Lfinkelstein@williamsoncentral.org. Or call the Middle School office.

Again, thank you to all the parents that have volunteered. If you would like to make a difference, please feel free to contact me at 315 589-4442 or tcole2@rochester.rr.com.

Do you need.....

A listening ear?
Additional support?
To find out what is available?

The Network

Is here to help you

locate places for support

The Network is local connection to professional assessment and referral services for mental health and substance abuse issues.

Days:

Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays
Via Health of Wayne, Myers Campus
Room #293 on the west wing

Appointments at (315) 483-3200



Subsidized by Wayne County Rural Health Network

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL...

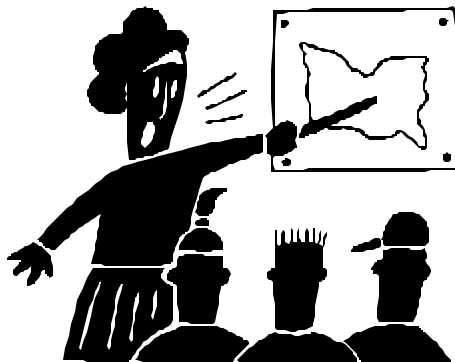
Norlyn V. Legler

The Discipline In Learning

Learning and how students learn best has been the main focus throughout September and October for administration and teachers. It is exciting to see the opportunities that exist for each student to learn at the middle school. The teachers have a real strong commitment to each of their students. The care for success is held and acted on by everyone within the building.

The middle school years are extremely important developmental times. Many choices will be made that will influence the direction in each student's life. Discipline is a real part of the commitment in working with each student to achieve the maximum success this school year. We are supporting and guiding students through each discipline action.

Parents, you are still and will be for many years to come, the most important support in your child's life. Thank you for working with us in becoming an active supporting team.





Student of the Month for September



Greg Akins	5	G. Marshall	Exceptional Effort
Aaron Busse	5	J. Luke	Excellent Effort
Jessie Evarts	5	J. Luke	For Being Positive and Enthusiastic in all that She Does
Brenden Gordon	5	H. Brownell	Relationships with Others
Corey Hill	5	G. Marshall	Exceptional Effort
John Johnson	5	J. Luke	Excellent Effort
Meredith Shultes	5	H. Brownell	Class Participation
Danielle Vitalone	5	G. Marshall	Exceptional Effort
Roxanne Bowman	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Nicholas Damico	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Mercedes East	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Tommy Godsey	6	S. Nellany	Designed an Authentic Table setting
Carleigh Hotchkiss	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
Josh Knataitis	6	E. Prill	Relationship w/ Others, Constructive Attitude Towards Learning
Joe Moll	6	6th Grade Team	Outstanding Effort in Sixth Grade
John Predmore	6	E. Prill	Relationship w/ Others, Constructive Attitude Towards Learning
Jeremiah Wackerman	6	S. Nellany	Responsible During a Fire Drill
Allison Carnwath	7	7th Grade Team	Effort
Christyne Chmil	7	7th Grade Team	Attitude
Otis Collier	7	7th Grade Team	Behavioral
Wayne Grevell	7	Professor Wackenhut	Exceptional Effort in Science
Rachel Kopicki	7	7th Grade Team	Improvement
Katie Holleran	7	D. Osborn	Positive Attitude, Well Prepared
Brad Hyman	7	7th Grade Team	Citizenship
Billy Callahan	8	D. Osborn	Improved Effort, Improved French Accent
Brittani Conger	8	D. Brown	Good Class Participation
Brittney Daniels	8	D. Greco	Exceptional Effort
Cassie Haak	8	D. Osborn	Positive Attitude, Well Prepared
Amanda Knopp	8	D. Brown	Exceptional Effort
Kelly Kolyer	8	8th Grade Team	Attitude
Rafeal Laurent	8	Professor Wackenhut	Exceptional Effort in Science
Abe Moll	8	M. Wilkinson	Team Leadership in Art
Josiah Peterham	8	8th Grade Team	Citizenship
Mallory Rynders	8	8th Grade Team	Leadership
John Scahill	8	8th Grade Team	Attitude
Tara Smith	8	M. Wilkinson	Positive Helpful Attitude
Tonya Thorton	8	D. Greco	Exceptional Effort, Class Participation



November 2002



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 <i>Jr. High All State Festival</i>	2 <i>Jr. High All State Festival</i>
3	4	5	6 <i>5/6 Roller-skating Party</i> 	7	8 <i>7/8 Activity Night 6:30-8:00pm</i>  <i>End of Marking Period</i>	9
10	11 <i>Veteran's Day (No School)</i>	12	13	14	15 Report Cards Go Home	16
17	18	19	20 <i>BOE Meeting 7:30 pm</i>	21 <i>Parent Conference Day Dismissal 11:15</i>	22	23
24	25 <i>MS Picture Retakes</i> 	26	27 	28	29	30
				THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY		