



The Coakley Chronicle

Message from the Interim Principal

I want to thank the students and parents for making this a successful year at the Coakley. Students have distinguished themselves in both academics and in the arts. We are very proud of all of the accomplishments in NHD, the science poetry contest, math awards, art, music and foreign language awards. I wish you all a very safe, healthy and happy summer. See you in September. Remember to do your summer reading!



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Guidance Corner



It's hard to believe we are at the end of the school year, and what a great year it's been! The guidance department continues to be busy with end of the year activities for all grades. We were

especially excited to kick off our first ever Step-Up day on June 13th which involves our 8th grade class going to the high school to meet with their new advisory groups. We also recently had the opportunity to meet with all incoming 6th grade classes. They had a chance to tour the building with 8th grade students and learn about what it's like to be a Coakley Middle School student. We're excited to welcome them next year!

especially excited to kick off our first ever Step-Up day on June 13th which involves our 8th grade class going to the high school to meet with their new advisory

June 12th was "Black-Out Bullying" day, a statewide initiative by Governor Deval Patrick. Students and staff wore black to take a stand against bullying and show their support for those who have been bullied. The A.B.C. (Anti-Bullying Club) spearheaded this momentous day and have become quite popular in recent local news. Check out our article on Wicked Local.com (www.wickedlocal.com/norwood/news/x776192959/Coakley-Middle-School-students-aim-to-stop-bullying-in-Norwood).

We will miss the current 8th graders and are looking forward to welcoming our incoming class. We hope everyone has a safe and happy summer!

Ashley Sassano * Kevin Hoffman * Laura Mathews

Outstanding Recognition!

Teacher of the Year



During a ceremony on June 13th held at the Museum of Science, Governor Deval Patrick and Secretary of Education Matthew Malone joined state and local education officials to recognize our very own, Terrence Martin, 8th grade green social studies teacher, as one of eleven semifinalists for the 2014 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year. In the words of Governor Patrick, "I thank these honorees for their deep commitment to preparing our students for success as responsible, productive citizens and as leaders within their communities," This is a very prestigious honor for our school and the town of Norwood. We are very fortunate to have Mr. Martin as a member of our faculty. Congratulations, Mr. Martin!



National History Day

National History Day is a nation-wide competition designed to improve academic skills and at the same time build an appreciation for history. Students select a historical topic of their choice, and over the course of three months research and create a project. The projects can be in the format of an exhibit, performance, website, documentary, or research paper. This year's theme was *Turning Points in History: People, Ideas, Events*. Students may select a local, state, national, or world history topic from any time period. Our stu-



dents produced excellent projects, many of which made it to the state level competition. Special recognition is given to **Brooke Odstrchel, Cassidy Mahoney, Siobhan Reen, and Katie Silk** for their project, "The Erie Canal". Their work advanced from the state level all the way to the National level. Representing Norwood and our school they competed in Washington, DC the week of June 8th. This is the second year the Coakley has been doing National History Day. It is a HUGE honor for our school and our students to make it all the way to Nationals. Congratulations!

Poet's Shine

Poets Shine in 2013 Massachusetts Science Poetry Contest

This year 7th and 8th graders once again created science poems for the Massachusetts Science Poetry Contest, run by Dr. George Ladd of Boston College. The top 30 CMS poems were entered into the statewide contest, which receives well over 1,000 statewide entries per year. We had three First Place Winners, and three Third Place Winners. These talented students include:

First Place Winners:

Amanda Ciarletto, 8 Green, Most Expressive Poem, *The Art of Erosion*
Rachel Cullinane, 8 Gold, Most Original Poem, *Chemical Bonding*
Allison Johnston, 8 Gold, Most Original Poem (Haiku), *Layers of the Earth*

Third Place Winners:

Ashling Devaney & Lindsay Keady, 8 Green, Best Cooperative Poem, *A Raindrop's Journey*
Noah Furcht-Heafitz, 8 Green, Best Expressive Poem (Haiku), *Atoms*
Kacie Petrucci, 8 Green, Best Foreign Language Poem, *A Trip Through Geologic Time* (translated into Spanish, Italian and Gaelic)

The work of these seven 8th graders will be published in the annual Science Poetry book, which will be available late summer.

Congratulations to all who participated!

6th Grade Green

English: To kick off term four, the students utilized their creative writing skills with a focus on strong word choice through imagery, figurative language, and descriptive adjectives. In long block, we have been working on expanding these writing skills to compose a multi-paragraph essay based on a favorite place. We also completed our unit on the novel, *Daniel's Story*. This historical fiction story about the Holocaust led to many reflective journal entries and discussions while centering on the novel's many themes. The students have done an amazing job expressing their understanding about respect for others, standing up for what is right, the power of love, hope, and family, and embracing other cultures and traditions. To expand on the lessons that they learned, the students have worked on a poetry anthology. This anthology brings together themes from the novel as well as creative writing techniques. Plus, it is entirely done by hand, which demonstrates the effort and hard work put forth. It has been a productive and engaging year, and we hope everyone has a fantastic summer!



Math: We were thrilled with the tremendous effort each student displayed while completing the Math MCAS. The students should be proud of how much work they put into preparing for the MCAS as well as how focused they were while taking the MCAS. For the rest of term 4 we worked on completing the remaining chapters in the text book. Term 4 wrapped up with a review of the entire curriculum to prepare for the math final given on June 18th and 19th.



History: The students (archaeologists) did a fantastic job on the Peek at the Past Project. Some artifacts were displayed in the CMS library and everyone that walked in said it was better than a trip to the British Museum in London. We are getting towards the end of our ancient Rome unit. Students have been learning an empire's worth of stuff, including the Coliseum, aqueducts, legionnaires, the Republic and Julius Caesar's influence on the world of hairstyles.

Science: We finished a chapter on bacteria and now are on to microscopes and cells. Students have learned the parts and proper use of the compound light microscope. Each student had to correctly identify each microscope part and demonstrate the proper use in order to earn a 'microscope license'. We visited Hawes Pond to collect water specimens to view under the microscopes. Students were also busy learning all of the parts of animal and plant cells, along with their functions. Their final project was to construct a 3-d model or drawing of a cell. We investigated how the cell gets the materials that it needs to survive by passive and active transport. These processes transfer materials through the cell membrane.

Our final lab activity explored osmosis, observing how gummy bears interact with water, as the water moves from an area of high concentration to low concentration, expect 'bloated bears'. Stay curious this summer. It's been a fun year exploring with the Green team.



7th Grade Green



Term Four went very well for the Green Team. Students and teachers were all energized by summer's fast approach. Recently the students were lucky enough to engage in two fantastic experiences. First, they were able to participate in a fish dissection lab run by the New England Aquarium. Through this students were able to take part in invaluable hands on learning regarding the body systems. Also, through the diligent planning of Mrs. Norris, we all had a fantastic experience at the Franklin YMCA, taking part in team building and critical thinking activities, as well as a confidence and self-esteem building high ropes course. Several students remarked that it was, "the best field trip [they've] even been on." Have a wonderful summer!



8th Grade Green

English: Students began Term 4 by finishing up their introduction to William Shakespeare with the culmination of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The 8th grade was treated to an outstanding performance of the play by the Shakespeare Now! Theatre Company. Faculty and students alike loved the energetic performance! Ms. Manning's English classes ended the year with a unit on poetry. Students analyzed poems by writers such as Langston Hughes, Edgar Allan Poe, and William Shakespeare. We also explored our creative writing skills by composing a variety of poems, both structured and free verse. The poetry unit of study nicely summarizes the literary terms we've discussed and explored throughout the year.

Science: Students studied Environmental Science Term 4. They researched and created posters about endangered species and presented them to the class, and learned how ecosystems stay in balance. We congratulate our students who won awards in the Massachusetts Science Poetry contest from Green Team, including a first place finish for **Amanda Ciarletto**, and third place finishes for **Ashling Devaney**, **Noah Furcht-Heafitz**, **Lindsay Keady**, and **Kacie Petrucci**.

Math: Intro to Algebra students worked on an in class project comparing the costs of two competing businesses. They analyzed the linear cost equations by comparing tables and graphs. Algebra students learned how to solve quadratic equations by factoring, graphing and using the quadratic equations. Using their new skills they can predict how long it will take for something dropped from the top of a building to fall to the ground.



History: Students started off Term 4 by studying the Renaissance Era in Europe. They wrote a five paragraph essay on how the Renaissance changed European culture. These essays were based on the analysis of primary source documents. Students worked as historians! Their efforts showed in some high quality papers. Students then learned how the Protestant Reformation and European exploration changed the course of history. Students studied Chinese history and culture and have learned about Chinese religions and philosophies. We finished up the year by investigating a few key aspects of the many dynasties of China.



6th Grade Gold

Hello again parents! The end of the year is here.

History: We wrapped up our "Ancient World Tour" with Rome. The students learned about Roman culture and daily life in ancient Rome and the fall of Rome. The Gold students had a post-test in history on Monday, June 17th, which covered much of the information taught this year. This was administered as a diagnostic test simply to see how much information the students retained throughout the year. We finished up the year by watching and discussing, *Ben Hur*, a historical epic drama that incorporates many of the ancient beliefs taught this year.



Math: We were thrilled with the tremendous effort each student displayed while completing the Mathematics MCAS. The students should be proud of how much work they put into preparing for the MCAS as well as how focused they were while taking the MCAS. For the rest of term 4, we worked on completing the remaining chapters in the text book. Term 4 wrapped up with a review of the entire 6th grade curriculum in order to prepare for the 6th grade math final which was given on June 18th and 19th.



English: Some of the classes read the novel *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin and others *Savvy* by Ingrid Law. Both novels have been enjoyed by all students. Along with our novels, we had a marathon (race) to learn as many Latin roots before the end of the school year. Students were motivated and had fun! Those reading *Savvy* read their book at the same time as senior citizens in town. Recently, they joined them for a Literary Luncheon in our school library. Together they shared this book through group discussions, playing a board game (created by students) and enjoying a delicious lunch. We ended the school year having fun with poetry!

Science: We finished a chapter on bacteria and now are onto microscopes and cells. Students have had the chance to use compound light microscopes and stereomicroscopes. They were able to bring in specimens from home to see what they look like at 40x, 100x, and 400x magnification. We checked out pond water to see what critters we could find. Students were also busy learning all of the parts of animal and plant cells, along with their functions. We ended the year working on cell transport where students learned how materials get through the cell membrane. We did an activity that demonstrated osmosis, which will involve water and gummie bears.

Although we're on our final stretch, it's important for the students to stay focused and continue to work hard through to the end. Your continued assistance and support is much appreciated. We hope everyone has a wonderful summer and wish the students the best of luck in 7th grade!



7th Grade Gold

7 Gold took its annual field trip during term 4 choosing to forgo our annual Patriot Place trip in exchange for an upper deck bus tour of historical Boston. The facts were flying as students absorbed interesting information about a variety of subjects from Paul Revere's ride to colonial architecture to the recent Boston Marathon bombings. At a stop along the temporary memorial to the bombing victims, our students exhibited the utmost class, dignity, and respect as they toured the site. We are all so proud of them. The trip ended on a fun note as students were given a lunch break...time on their own at historic Quincy Market.

Geography: We have made great strides in term four of the 2012 - 2013 school year. We have been using our basic map skills to explore the world with hard work and determination. Students have used those skills to create an ABC Book incorporating all of the member countries of Southwest Asia. Also, we have continued our examination of the basic cultural features of the many countries in Asia and South America so we may better understand the differences of the people of

the world. Also, we have been using our Seven Gold Passports to visit and discuss the many countries of South Pacific and Latina America. We completed our studies of Latin America with a unit on South America. After leaving South America, we travelled to Australia and Oceania spending time discussing the land, economy, climate and people of area. We are excited about finishing up a great term four.

English: Students have completed the novel *Out of the Dust*, and they have finished the huge *Out of the Dust* project. The project has five sections that require research, close reading of the text, creative thinking and detailed artwork. This year's group did a very nice job overall. With *Out of the Dust* out of the way, we moved back into *A Long Way from Chicago*, another novel set in the Great Depression but with a completely different tone. We did a team-wide project along with this book.



7th Grade Gold

Mostly, completed during class time, we created a picture book, one page per student, based on *A Long Way from Chicago*. Every kid on the team will receive the same grade! It's quite a lesson about community and supporting each other. When finished kids worked to not only compare the two most recent novels, but also to complete one last essay that demonstrated how well they have learned new skills taught to them this year. Thanks to all for a great year!!!

Science: We have been studying how the human body works. During this unit, they have learned about the different organs in our bodies and how they function through notes, worksheets, videos, projects, and hands on activities. They practiced their researching and science writing skills by creating a disease brochure and writing a lab report on pulse rates. We were also very lucky to have the New England Aquarium come to our school to help us dissect fish!

Math: Students completed the Chapter on Percent by investigating how Percents are used in everyday life. Students wrote their own problems about Discount, Sales Tax and Percent of Increase and Decrease. Timely topics such as the cost of gasoline, cell phones and the minimum wage were discussed. There were several hands on activities using tiles, blocks and dice while working on Probability. Building three dimensional structures with centimeter cubes and then drawing them from three different views was a fun way to learn about volume and surface area. The students completed their Scale Drawing project, which was a good example of how to draw a top view of a three dimensional room. The team's Line Design is now complete and on display. The design is a giant Tessellation that resembles a quilt made up with individual squares made by each student. It gives the illusion of being three dimensional and we are all very proud of it. The Final Test was June 18th wrapping up a successful and fun school year.



8th Grade Gold

History: Students learned about Confucianism, Buddhism and Daoism. The Great Wall, the famous Terra-cotta warriors, the many achievements of ancient China, as well as, Marco Polo's visit with Kublai Khan were studied. After learning about the enormous Mongolian empire, the students were treated to a demonstration of how an actual recurve bow is strung by the Gold team's favorite archer - Ian Moulton! A brief "visit" to the Americas provided the students with a greater appreciation of the Columbian Exchange. Photos of Peru's famous Machu Picchu were examined, including the profile of "a giant's face" which magically seems to appear in the mountains that surround the Incan ruins. In June, we studied the Renaissance. In addition to discussing the evolution of Europe from the Dark Ages into this time period, the students learned about some famous masterpieces of the Renaissance such as the *Mona Lisa*, *The Last Supper*, the Sistine Chapel ceiling fresco, the statue of *David* and the *Pieta*. Lastly, are learning about the causes and effects of the Protestant Reformation which included reading a play on Martin Luther and viewing a humorous video on King Henry VIII set to modern music. - **Mrs. King**



Science: Students have been learning about Ecology. Students understand the three main energy roles organisms play in the environment: producer, consumer, or decomposer. They also discovered how vital each organism is to its food web, the environment, and to maintaining balance in nature. Students are also gaining knowledge of Earth's biomes- both land and aquatic. We finished the year studying Earth's many resources and conducted a lab investigating tree "cookies"! - **Ms. Foye**

English: We traveled to Athens to become immersed in the poetic language of William Shakespeare's dramatic comedy, "*A Midsummer Night's Dream*". The classroom was transformed into a stage as the students brought to life the dynamic and mischievous characters while reciting and analyzing the play in its true form. The unit ended with a live performance from the Shakespeare Now! Theatre Company, which was enjoyed by all! Ms. Mooney's classes ended the year with a final character based writing assignment and discovered their inner-poet through analysis of traditional and modern poetry as well as creative writing experiences.- **Ms. Mooney and Ms. Terray**

Math: Students in both the **Intro** and **Algebra 1** classes have completed the Math MCAS. In the **Intro** class, we delved more deeply into linear equations and systems of linear equations. Students created a project to represent their business and a competitor's products or services in linear equation form. This may be the beginning of a future business plan! In **Algebra 1**, the students worked on Polynomials. In Chapter 8 we performed the four operations on monomials and polynomials, and in Chapter 9, students have been factoring binomials and trinomials. The students are experts on FOILING! In the remaining days, both groups worked diligently to prepare for the Math Final Exam. -**Ms. Wilcox**



6th Grade Blue

History: This term we have been exploring ancient Rome and all its glory. The students finished projects which included artifacts, brochures, or poetry books from all of the ancient civilizations. Their work can now be seen in our library. The students have really shown how much they have learned over the course of the year.



Science: We finished a chapter on bacteria and then moved on to microscopes and cells. Students used compound light microscopes and stereomicroscopes. They were able to bring in specimens from home to see what they look like under 40x, 100x, and 400x magnification. We also examined pond water for microorganisms and were surprised at what we found. Students were busy this term learning the parts of animal and plant cells, along with their functions. We have also studied cell transport where students learn how materials get through the cell membrane. We did an activity to model osmosis which

involved water and gummy bears. If you want to try it at home, have your student use gummy worms. The effect is more dramatic! Most recently we went outside to check the trees on school grounds for evidence of Asian Longhorn Beetles. We did not find anything conclusive, but please be sure to use

the handout given to your student to check for signs of this tree-killer as you go places over the summer. The handout also gives instructions on what to do if you think you have found ALB.

English: To kick off term four students utilized their creative writing skills with a focus on strong word choice through imagery, figurative language, and descriptive adjectives. In long block, we worked on expanding these writing skills to compose a multi-paragraph essay based on a favorite place. We also completed our unit on the novel, *Daniel's Story*. This historical fiction story about the Holocaust led to many reflective journal entries and discussions while centering on the novel's many themes. The students have done an amazing job expressing their understanding about respect for others, standing up for what is right, the power of love, hope, and family, and embracing other cultures and traditions. To expand on the lessons that they learned, the students have been working on a poetry anthology. This anthology brings together themes from the novel as well as creative writing techniques. Plus, it is entirely done by hand which demonstrates the effort and hard work put forth. It has been a productive and engaging end to the year, and we hope everyone has a fantastic summer!



Math: This term we did a significant amount of MCAS prep work in order to get ready for the grade 6 MCAS Math test given in early May. In chapter 9, we covered algebra and inverse operations, number properties, function tables, and graphic function tables. In chapter 10 we worked on ratios, unit rates, proportions, and scale drawings, as well as percents, decimals, and fractions. We also covered probability in chapter 11 and prepared for the end of the year Final Exam.



7th Grade Blue

Geography: Term Four focused on exploring the diverse landscape and culture of Asia and South America. In Asia, we learned how people's lives are affected by the geography that surrounds them—whether they are in a big city and have to deal with population density and pollution or whether they live in the mountains and do not have access to modern facilities. Mrs. Lane enjoyed showing her own personal experiences from her travels to Ecuador and Costa Rica. Many of our Brazilian students shared their connections to their homeland in class. They helped us to make better connections to the unique culture! In Long Block, students brought out their creative side when designing a tourism poster for the Galapagos Islands. We also played a "desert survival" game applying our knowledge about the Atacama Desert in Chile.



Science: Term four focused on learning about the human body. Students were presented with material that focused on many of our organs and organ systems and the vital roles they have in keeping our body functioning the way it should. We were extremely fortunate to have the New England Aquarium come to the school for an interactive dissection. We also travelled to the Boston Science Museum where students explored through the interactive exhibits, attended the Lightning show and watched the IMAX presentation "The Greatest Places".

English: We finished Karen Hesse's historical fictional novel, *Out of the Dust*. This novel is written from the perspective of a fourteen year old girl who lives in the Dust Bowl, during the Great Depression. *Out of the Dust* is written entirely in free verse, which perfectly accompanies our poetry unit. Students also worked diligently to compile a "Poetry Portfolio." We have experimented with creating various poetry pieces, writing in a variety of styles, and writing to varied audiences. We ended the term by having a "poetry slam" where the students read some of their poems from their poetry portfolios.



Math: Students moved from solving two-step equations to statistics. They examined the difference of Theoretical and Experimental Probability by conducting multiple mathematical experiments, record the results, and analyze the data. MCAS was also a focus as it was conducted in May. A highlight for the accelerated classes was Math Madness and for the grade they claimed first place in the Continental Math League Competition. As the year ends, students investigated surface area and volume of prisms as well as cylinders and analyze why objects use a certain shape of packaging.



8th Grade Blue

Science: It was a great year in eighth grade science. We covered many different topics and subjects. This term we completed units on life and environmental science. We began the term studying photosynthesis and respiration. We continued by studying populations, interactions among living things, ecosystems, cycles of matter, biogeography, and land and aquatic biomes. We discovered the outcome of what happens during natural selection. We went outside and found biotic and abiotic factors in our own unique ecosystems. We drew biome maps of the world and graphed the precipitation and temperatures of each major biome. We drew and described cycles of matter, wrote a paper comparing and contrasting different biomes, and watched the video Wall-E to see what could happen to Earth if we don't protect it. We finished up the year studying environmental issues. Our project on endangered species saw the potential of species becoming extinct and how we can save them. Good luck next year! You are a great class!



Social Studies: We ended the year with civilizations and eras from all over the globe. After spending a significant amount of time on Europe, from medieval times through the Age of Exploration, we branched out and briefly discussed the Aztec and Inca civilizations of Central and South America. We also studied China and its religions, with Buddhism being the first. We also discussed current events, spending a long block period on Whitey Bulger and his impending trial, as well as continue our traditional Friday viewings of the ten-minute CNN Student News videos that cover news stories and other educational features. It has been a great year in room 202 and I hope the students will have lasting memories of the material covered and the fun times.

Math: Both the Introduction to Algebra and Algebra 1 students took the MCAS test last month. They prepared for their final test that was given on Tuesday, June 18th. I would like to thank the students for their hard work throughout the year both in and out of class, including completing unpopular Friday homework on a regular basis! Congratulations on your promotions, Grade 8 Blue!



English: From Tolkien's *Hobbit* to Shakespeare's Athenian woods we have roamed. Term four in English class began with the conclusion of our reading of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, in which students were not only introduced to the complex and rigorous language of Shakespeare, but also got to try on their acting skills. We then transitioned into a brief poetry unit in which students applied their knowledge of poetic conventions (rhyme, meter, repetition) and types (ballad, sonnet, haiku) to various short poems. We are concluding our year in English with a unit aimed to illustrate both the hardships and rewards of growing up. Our unit on the fairytale has engaged and inspired students to think about both the academic (elements of fairytale) and thematic



importance that some of our favorite fairytales have to offer. This academic year has been a special one. I will truly miss this class of students. In the words of Tolkien, may the "Roads go ever ever on."

Foreign Language:

Congratulations to the following grade 8 students who have received awards for their performance on the 2013 National French & National Spanish exams:

National French exam winners:

Sarah Bredy and Laura Fleming
Lauréat National - National Winner
Mary Erickson and Rochelle St. Jean
Certificat de Réussite - Chapter Winner

National Spanish exam winners:

Erin Walsh—Plata / silver medal
Carissa Turner - Bronze/bronze medal

Honorable Mentions:

Amanda Ciarletto
Maria Horbaczewski
Julia Kiley
Hafsa McCloud
Giulanna Schallmo

Cross-Team

Visual Arts: This year has been successful with a great turn out for the Fine Arts Festival and the creation of FOVA (Friends of Visual Arts Norwood). Students have been working hard in the art room. Highlights from each grade include: 6th Grade still lifes and paper mache masks, 7th grade self-portraits and architectural studies, 8th grade acrylic paintings and linoleum cut prints. The art teachers are proud of the student's exceptional artwork. Artist Circle, an after-school group for kids passionate about the Visual Arts, had a great year

including a field trip to Patriot's Place. At Artist's Studio & Art Gallery, students watched a painting demonstration and flexed their creative and critical thinking skills at 5wits. The students' after-school Digital Art Club mastered the basics of Adobe Photoshop that culminated in a short animated clip.



Music, The CMS Music Department would like to congratulate all of our students on a successful 2012-2013 School year. Students at the Coakley Middle School participated in over 50 performances throughout the school year. These performances were held right here in Norwood, as well as across the state and down the East Coast. Mr. Martin & Mr. Noce hope you have a relaxing summer and looking forward to seeing everyone in September.

Cross-Team

8th Grade Technology: In Mrs. Bernritter's class, students finished their "world's tallest golf tee" design process project. They also did their door alarm project, which culminated the communication systems unit, as well as the magnetic levitation vehicle project, which culminated the transportation systems unit. In Mr. O'Connor's class, students completed bridge design, construction and testing to culminate their construction unit. The year ended with a unit in manufacturing systems. In the last few days, students put the finishing touches on their gumball machines manufacturing project. We wish our 8th grade students the best of luck as they transition to the high school! Have a wonderful summer!



Computers: Sixth graders focused on improving their keyboarding skills. Being able to type efficiently without looking at the keys is a valuable skill that will greatly help with school work. Seventh graders learned how to format documents, customize bullets, add footnotes, and create tables in Microsoft Word. They also used hyperlinks in PowerPoint to create a "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?" game show. Eighth graders continued to work in Excel, learning how to calculate paychecks and taxes. They also explored Prezi, a free online website that is easy to use. Students created dynamic presentations about themselves.



6th Grade Technology: In Mrs. Bernritter's class, students completed a unit on technology systems. Then a final unit learning about the design process where students worked in cooperate teams to solve a design challenge by designing and building the "world's tallest golf tee". In Mr. O'Connor's class, students learned about tools, machines, and materials used in technology/engineering through hands-on projects such as building wooden tops and catapults. We look forward to seeing our 6th graders next year in STEM!

7th Grade STEM: Over the past several weeks, Mrs. Bernritter's students researched and learned about many different aspects of medical and agricultural biotechnology. Mr. O'Connor's students worked on a construction unit specifically focused on the different types of bridges and the forces that impact them. It has been a very exciting and productive term and we look forward to seeing our 7th graders next year in technology/engineering! Have a great summer!



Wellness: Welcome to the wellness report, your update of what's happening in the world of wellness. In all of our P.E. classes the students have been striving hard for personal goals during our Presidential Fitness Testing in which the students need to qualify in all of the tests to achieve a Presidential or National award. These tests include upper body, core, flexibility, the mile run, and the shuttle run, which tests quickness and speed. We have had a good amount of students qualify, which is always nice to see.



In our 6th grade health classes the students just finished a consumer health unit where they learned how to be smart consumers and they all created and designed a product which they presented to the class. In our 7th grade classes we finished a unit on self esteem which was culminated by our BAG-O-ME activity where the students share about themselves through special possessions they have. In 8th grade we are discussing human growth and development. It's been a great

Cross-Team

year. Enjoy the rest of the year and have a great summer. Your wellness teachers, Mr. Dupuis and Mr. Nimblett.

Reading: Project Cafe was an idea that started in October of 2012 by a group of 8th grade students that wanted to make a change in our school. That change was to make the cafeteria a safe and cheerful place to meet and gather with friends. Together, they researched, read articles, wrote letters, planned, collaborated and presented their idea to Administrators. Students then sought help from other members of our school. This idea that became a reality was because of the Administration Group led by Mrs. MacTavish's students Noah Furcht-Heafitz, Michael Kennedy-Troiano, Kayla Epstein, Laylanie Garcia, Malik Forges, Melissa Hussey and Andressa Castro, who, with their ingenuity and drive to make change, made this possible. Special thanks to the Design Group led by Mr. Andrews and his team Janna Motomura, Erica Wong, and Vivien Beauchemin, who sketched the mural. Thanks to the Construction Group who helped with supplies and ordering and upkeep led by Kenny and the Custodial staff as well as Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Riccardi, the Building and Grounds Director. Thanks to the Mural Painting Group led by Ms. Branson and Mrs. Ribiero and their team of Laylanie Garcia, Andressa Castro, Melissa Hussey, Mia Fanizzi, Ryan Garczynski, Ashley Hutchens, Camilla Dunn, Jade Jeanetti, Kayla



Epstein, Florentine Overko, Shane Postler and Michael Cahill. A special thank you to Ms. McGrory, the Art Department Chair for all of her help with the setup of the mural. More thanks to Mrs. Lockwood and Mrs. Bernritter for their time and support. And a final thank you to Mrs. Mitchell, Mr. Chisholm and Mr. Chambers for their continued support.

