



Student Newsletter

Forensics practices are underway, and the 6-8th grade students are putting their acts together. Here are some groups that will be performing: Shannon Keenan, Rachel Roth, Anna Van Daalwyk, and Kayla Van Handel are doing a play on Rumpelstiltskin-Private Eye. Nick Krueger, David Slickman, Kyle Balster, Jacob Stumpf, Dana Schumacher, and Rebecca Phipps, are doing Murderer in the Mansion. John Ryder, Marcus Shimon, Allie Olson, and Andrea Arenz are doing Who's Line is it Anyway? Megan Brochtrup, Shelley Butler, and Karli Van Camp are doing a group interpretation of The Ghost With One Black Eye. Alli Ruffing, Sarah Gebhart, Katrina Franda, Angela Gebhart, and Jackie Probst are doing an interpretation of Charlie the Caterpillar. Carter King, Kyle Stadmueller, and Mitchell Weyenberg are doing a play on The Sleeping Principal

In Spanish class, the 6th graders have learned basic greetings and questions, colors and shapes, numbers 0-100, and days and months. They are creating the 2010 calendario. The 7th graders learned parts of the body, and created a life-size poster of a person with the labeled body parts. After learning about the body, the next step was learning the articles of clothing and creating advertisements to sell their clothing. They also learned sets of opposite adjectives, and are currently working on household items. Their next step is to create and label a blueprint drawing of their own home.

The 8th graders started the year by learning how to tell time in Spanish. Next, they started a lesson about all different types of food. They even made a menu with all the food they learned about and enjoyed some delicious chips and salsa! Next, they learned Spanish verbs and are working towards being able to conjugate them in sentences.

In Language class, the 6th graders wrote fictional stories. They had to choose a picture card to base a story on, and used their imaginations to come up with the best story possible. The pictures were of wildlife, people, or settings. The first step in this writing process was to write the rough draft in the classroom. Then, their drafts went to the computer lab to be typed. After that, they had a classmate read and edit their stories. Once the writing process was complete, the final draft was submitted.

In Science, the 7th and 8th graders learned about plants and their structures. With all that they learned they are doing a 40 day experiment on plant observations. On November 25th they started a project that will go all the way into May. Each class got into groups of 3 or 4 and each group is going to have their own flower business. They have to pick out who is going to be their treasurer, president, a graphic advertiser, a person who gets the seeds and a person who plants them. Next, they will go around and ask people to buy the flowers that they planted. All the money they earn will go to the class field trip fund we will be going on next year.

The 7th grade Social Studies class is learning about ancient Europe and the medieval times. They recently learned about Charlemagne, a king of Europe. They made an acrostic poem about him. On the back side of the poem they made a stained glass window with a scene from the bible, just the in the medieval times.

They are working on building a 3-dimensional replica of a medieval castle. They will need to include twenty-eight vocabulary terms and definitions in their castle.

In computer class, the 3rd through 8th graders use new program. It is an online website that the kids have their own account on. The teachers go on the website and assign lessons to each student. When the students log in they have a little chalkboard that shows what the teacher assigned. What's so great about this program? Well, the kids get assigned the lessons based on what they are struggling at, so they get an activity and assessment for more practice. The students like that they are able to go at their own pace in the learning. This really helps the kids, and has been successful so far!

In Health class, the 7th graders learned about self-esteem, long-term goals, and short-term goals. A long-term goal can be something you work on your whole life or just a few years, such want to learning another language. That might take a longer time period. A short-term goal is something that can be done in a short time period such as getting your homework done before dinner. Hopefully these goal setting lessons can help students with their achievements!

6th Grade Science class was studying Newton's Laws of Motion. They made balloon cars and were given strict rules for their projects. The cars were required to have wheels that moved independently on an axle, but they couldn't be real wheels. Students needed to use their creativity to substitute for wheels. Also, there could only be one balloon per car. The car that went the farthest was Alli Ruffing's, with a distance of 5 meters.

In art class, the students recently finished working with clay. They made Santas, snowmen, penguins, wreaths, coasters, mangers, elephants, plates, bowls, and many more items. The items were fired in a kiln. The students painted the clay in many kinds of colors. Many students were able to give these away as Christmas presents.

The 7th and 8th grade students in science are learning about flat worms, round worms, segmented worms, and tape worms. The 8th graders dissected earth worms, and the 7th graders started by watching a video on worms while taking notes. The 7th and 8th graders will eventually be dissecting crayfish, fish, starfish, frogs, clams, and grasshoppers also.

Mrs. Lewis and her Religion classes would like to say: Thank you parents for the bean bags! There are now enough for all of the students get to sit on them during religion. We really appreciate your generosity!