



"KNIGHTLY NEWS"

Eastern York Middle School
Newsletter



February 2011

Volume 2, Issue 5



Eastern York Middle School

P.O. Box 2003

Wrightsville, PA 17368

Phone (717) 252-3400

Principal: Dr. Jason Marin

Assistant Principal: Mr. Keith Shoemaker



National School Counseling Week

National School Counseling Week was held from February 7 – 11, 2011. Each day our school counselors, Mrs. Fink and Mrs. Merced, had a challenge for the students and staff to think about what it takes to be successful. Students and staff members who filled out the answers to the challenge questions were entered into a drawing each day in order to have a chance to win a goodie bag from the counselors. The challenges reminded the students and staff of a few things that it takes to be successful:

- 1) A sense of direction
- 2) Perseverance
- 3) Talents and dreams
- 4) Learning from experiences
- 5) Making a Difference.

The counselors challenged the students and staff to focus on the positive things going on in their lives and also reminded students that whenever they need someone who will listen and that they can trust our school counselors are always here for them.

2011 Geography Bee

The Social Studies department hosted the National Geographic Geography Bee. The following 8th grade students participated in the contest: Kiah Fowler, Derick Atwater, Lisa Hartzell, Brianna Oppong-Antwi, Andrea Snyder, Conrad Rhein, Jacob Burns, Mason McLasky, Tara Fowler, Quintin Ettinger, Olivia Painter, Andrew Leiphart, and Christian Warner. Christian was the 2011 Geography Bee winner. Congratulations to all of the contestants for this year's successful event.



News from 6th Grade

"Essential News"

Sixth grade students have finished the "Seven Habits of the Highly Effective Teen". We enjoyed some great discussions on why balance in our lives is so very important. Students explored Habits 5, Seek first to Understand and then to be Understood. Time was devoted to exploring our listening skills as we realized that a good listener listens with their eyes, ears and heart. Habit 6, Synergy provided the students a chance to explore their diversities. Much of the discussion revolved around the fact that we all bring differences to the classroom and those differences are what help us work together to achieve more. Habit 7, Sharpen the Saw lead us to understand that we all burnout and need to regularly renew ourselves physically, mentally and emotionally. Students all agreed that summer vacation is a great renewal time.

Presently we have begun the JA BizTown curriculum with great anticipation. The N-team students will be participating in the BizTown simulation on May 2nd and I-team will be running the city on May 3rd. Everyone is anticipating with a bit of anxiety the job interview process, since this will be the first time ever for most sixth graders. We will be exploring many economic concepts as we prepare for our simulation. Students will be learning about the circular flow in an economy of a community. They will also learn how important banks and government are in the community. Many sixth graders will be asking more questions than usual about our economy and our countries financial situation as they are relating our class discussions to what they may be hearing in the news. Stay tuned for more dates on BizTown from the Essentials classes with Mrs. Dunlap.

Many exciting events are happening in February for the I-Team in 6th grade

Mr. Hengst and his students in English on the I-team recognize that along with February comes Valentine's Day. This being a month filled with love brings a time for the "language of love" poetry. At the end of January and beginning of February, students worked with identifying figurative language and poetic device terms. Reviewing terms such as simile, metaphor, and personification, they also identified new literary elements like imagery, rhyme scheme, and assonance. After we defined these terms, the students looked for examples of these elements in thirty famous poems that included "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost and "Alone" by Maya Angelou. The I-team poets also identified and wrote many types of poetry including Limericks, Haiku, and rhyming poems. They also analyzed three poems and displayed their comparisons through a triple Venn diagram.

World Geography class has been studying the four areas that make up Latin America-Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean Islands, and South America. Students are learning about the cultures and economics of this region. Europe will be our next destination as students will discover the awesome sights of this continent.

In reading class, the students have just completed reading their fiction chapter books including *Number the Stars*, *Tuck Everlasting*, *Who Really Killed Cock Robin*, *Maniac MaGee*, and *Cracker Jackson*. Each student completed a setting project based on his or her class period's book. We have finished our FLIRT unit and are preparing to DRIVE with nonfiction. As a 6th grade, all students will be reading and DRIVING with a literary nonfiction piece called *Harris and Me*.

Math classes have been filled with fractions. We have added, subtracted, multiplied and divided with fractions, and mixed numbers. Those students who are quick with the basic facts are zipping through the packets of computation with very good accuracy. Ask your child what a reciprocal is or how to cancel. They should be able to tell you. We will be working on conversions with fractions, decimals and percents next, and then heading to geometry. We recently took another timed multiplication test. Many of your children are now answering more than 100 problems in 3 minutes. If your child has not yet reached the goal of 80 please keep working to memorize them. The Math Memo is being sent home weekly. I thank the 93% of you who sign and return it. Keep reading it for more information about what we are working on in class. Lastly, we encourage all of you to check your child's account on Skyward often.

In science class students have just finished up their unit upon animals. Now with the knowledge of the vast array of appearances and behaviors of animals, our new direction becomes heredity. The students will begin to look at the works of Gregor Mendel and begin to understand the workings of genes. Before long, students will be able to explain why they have blonde hair instead of brown. Or they will finally figure out why all their other friends can roll their tongue, but they cannot.

News from 7th Grade

PENNY WARS



Pennies for Patients

"Penny Wars"

Team H is excited to begin our 11th year of Penny Wars! Since 1999, Team H has raised over \$13,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society through a friendly directed study competition we call the Penny Wars. This year, we are very excited to have Team G join us with their own separate competition. They are competing with 4th period classes.

Here's how it works: Every student is encouraged to help their classroom gain points. A point is a penny, for each penny a student contributes to their directed study's (or 4th period's) bucket; that classroom gets a point. However, for every silver coin placed in a bucket by someone from another classroom, that classroom loses the value of that coin. (Example: a nickel is minus five points)



REMEMBER:

PENNIES = GOOD

SILVER = BAD



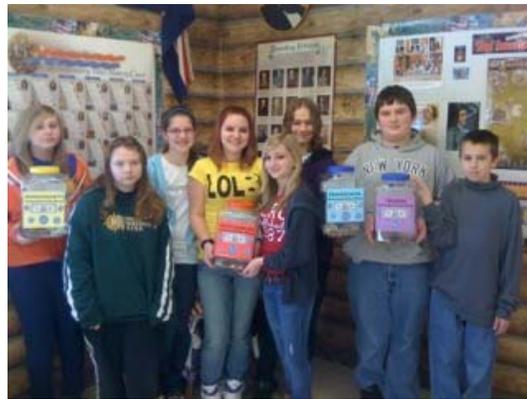
Students need to bring in pennies for their own directed study/4th period and silver for other classrooms. Penny Wars began on Monday, February 7 and will end on Friday, February 25. The winning group from each team will get a Domino's pizza party and major bragging rights! Also, the team that collects the most money overall (G or H) will get an additional prize.

All funds collected will go to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America to help the society continue to discover cures to this and related cancers. We just finished our first week of competition and totals are as follows: The H team has raised \$390.67 and the G team has raised \$426.90. Mr. Hess's classroom is in the lead for the H Team and Mrs. Marcini's classroom is in the lead for the G team. We will be back next month to report the winners!

News from 8th Grade

Colonials Declare Coin Wars!

The S-Team colonials are "Paying it Forward" once again by declaring Coin Wars! For the next 3 weeks, students will be collecting coins. The goal of this coin war is to help the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Our fight in this battle will help win the war that those affected by this disease fight everyday! Together we can make a difference!



Patriot's Pen Eassy Contest hits EYMS



Every year the Hellam VFW sponsors the annual VFW Patriot's Pen essay contest. The theme of the contest this year was "Does Patriotism Still Matter?" The theme inspired over 50 students from Team T and Team S to participate in the contest, and all of the essays were thoughtful and inspiring. The three selected winners were Brianna Oppong-Antwi, Olivia Painter, and John Tebay. Congratulations to the top winners, and all of the students who submitted essays. The essays were wonderfully written. It is so exciting to see such strong patriotism in our 8th graders!

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PTSO Eastern York Middle School

Our Eastern York Middle School Students are having a great school year! Again this year, we are working to help send them on an end-of-the-school year trip to Hershey Park. We call this our annual R.I.S.E. trip, and use this as an incentive to focus positively on good citizenship and student accomplishments.

On Saturday, February 26, 2011 from 1-6 pm, we are sponsoring the EYMS “Lock-In” and “Rise-a-thon” at the school. We are asking student to get sponsors and raise money for this event. The “Lock-In” will be run by the PTSO and our goal is to raise \$15,000.

2011 EYMS Lock-In Activities

“Rockin’ the Lock-In” Dance Hall

Music & DJ with student sponsored song dedications
Intermittent, judged “So You Think You Can Dance” Challenges

“Minute to Win It” Marathon

60 second games, obstacles & challenges using assorted household items

The Creative Lab

Crafting & Scrapbooking stations
Watercolor painting sessions

Karaoke Cabaret

Open-mic for displaying individual and group vocal talents

Wii & Battle of the Bands Challenge

3 rooms offering age appropriate gaming

The Bookworm Lounge

Open library and filtered internet/ computer access, for hanging out with friends

Sustainment Sessions

Session 1: hotdogs, chips & drink

Session 2: Snacks & drink

Adult Support: coffee, snacks

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A Message from the Attendance Secretary

When your child is being picked up early from school, your wait time in the school office can be decreased if you send a note with the student in the morning. The note should indicate who will pick them up and what time they are leaving. When they bring a note to the office upon their arrival to school, we will issue a pass for them to leave class and be in the office waiting when you arrive. Hopefully this can streamline the process for you and for us.

A+ School REWARDS
Earn money for your school...

Click to register



This Giant Program is a cash back program for schools and patrons who place their Giant Bonus Club number into their computer system.

A certain percentage of everything you spend then would come back to the school in the form of a check in April.

A patron can designate up to 2 different schools. If they do that; the percentage is split between the schools. Actually it is FREE money for schools.

Go to www.GiantAPlus.com or www.Giant.com to learn more. Be sure to visit this site often to view program updates and to track your school's A+ School Rewards progress.

The Middle School number for the Giant Program is 00690.

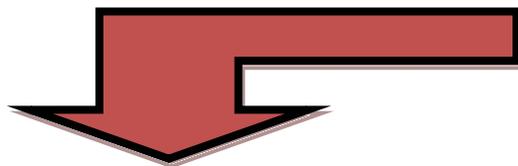
ARMOR CARD Raffle WINNERS

January 2011

6th - Talen Benes

7th - Nate Newcomer

8th - Quintin Ettinger



Eastern York School District

Don't forget to check your child's grades and assignments online at <http://www.eyork.k12.pa.us/>



Help us help our school.

Enroll in Take Charge of Education® and Target will donate a percentage of each REDcard™ purchase you make back to our school.

▶ [Learn More and Enroll](#)