Taking Home a Win

By: Lacey Billau



As the eighth grade volleyball team went undefeated all day in their tournament taking home the win 2 years in a row. They were working since August, and have been practicing two twice a week with games twice a week as well. Ellie Rasor (31) said, "Yes we had to work hard to win the tournament because we were against hard competition, and we knew we had to all work together and not get down on ourselves."Ellie also leads their prayer before the games “I like leading the prayers before our games, because then me and my team know he is with us throughout the game. Also then people know that I believe in God, and I can also try to lead other people to believe in him," Rasor said. Rasor prayed 9/11 games having Avery Dietz(31), Raegan Hubbard(31), and Lacey Billau(31) who volunteered praying before.

Touchdown Victory

By: Riley McCullough

The football team finished undefeated in their season for the second year in a row. During their season, they practiced three days a week while playing games every Thursday. Their season started in September, and they finished in October. The coaches helped the players improve their skills and taught them the importance of teamwork. Quarterback Brady Zilba (31) said, “Our team goal this year was to go undefeated in the season. One thing our team has improved on this season is defense and not letting teams score. We celebrate a win by watching films and eating pizza. I will miss the coaches and celebrate the middle school season.”

Zach Ovall Definsive Tackle (32) said, “Both our defense and running the ball are strong skills. In practice it was a lot of hitting each other to gain strength and skill for the games.”

Running Success

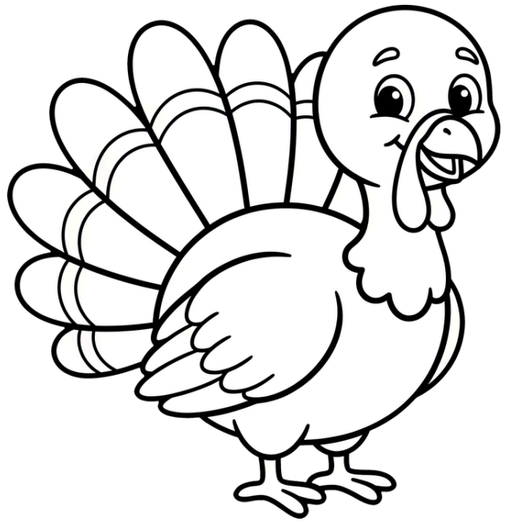
By: Adeline Farr

The cross country team won the Tri-County Conference (TCC) League Championship. The the TCC is made up of six teams Erie Mason, Summerfield, Whiteford, LCS, Britain Deerfield, and Morenci. They had practice four times a week and then a met most weeks for the last two months. They had three boys and four girls finish in the top 10.

Blake Browning (32) placed 2nd for the boys team. Browning’s best time was 12:56 for two miles. Marley Kemritz (31) placed 2nd for the girls team. Kemritz’s personal record for the two mile is a 13:42.

“Running is hard but I am enjoying my middle school years on the team,” Kemritz said. “Cross country is different because I can compete indvidually, but still be on the team at the same time. My next goal is 13 flat and I finished the year with a PR of 13:20.” All XC races are two mile runs in middle school.

Color me!



The Season of Gratitude and Unity

By: Irelyn O’Neal



November is known for all of the holidays, cultural days, and awareness days. Some of these special holidays are Veterans Day, Day of the Dead, and Thanksgiving. Mrs. Flynn organized a fun craft called the Unity Tree. Every middle school seminar watched a video about a Unified Basketball Program from Woodhaven-Brownstown School District. Mrs. Flynn was the Unified Coordinator of this basketball program. This team was all about anti-bullying and about including everyone in activities. After watching the video, every student signed their name on a piece paper shaped like a leaf to show that they will follow the rule of including all of their peers and classmates. Mrs. Flynn taped all of the leaves up to make a big tree called the Unity Tree with everyone's name on it. Lyla Dibert (33) said, “In the video I learned to include people. If someone is sitting alone at the lunch table, I could ask if they wanted to sit with us.” This month is a great time to show friends and family gratitude and to be inclusive to the people around.

United We Stand

By: Riley McCullough

This school year, teachers came up with a new motto for the school year, it’s named United We Stand. Mrs. Hoppe came up with a statement for the 2026-2027 school year. The principal Mrs. Bollin said,“ The mission statement reminds all of our staff and students that we are in this together - we are a MS team. When we support each other and work together great things happen.”

This motto is something that will guide daily actions and words whether it is helping someone who is struggling, including someone who feels left out, or cheering on classmates, all of that makes a difference. It can also take one person to start making a difference, and together it can make great things happen. This motto is also more than just a saying, it makes us a MS family. The goal is for students to support each other and build each other up as a team.

Mrs. Hoppe said, “With fifth grade coming over, we hope to be united fifth through eighth grade middle school. This unity will be better for our kids.”

Spooky Celebrations

By: Adeline Farr

Many students celebrate Halloween. The fifth and sixth graders had a Halloween party the Friday before Halloween. The sixth graders did stations while they had a movie playing in the background. Some of the stations were bingo, create your own skeleton, pumpkin decorating, mummy wrapping, relay races, and a make your own snack bar. The mummy station consisted of kids wrapping their friends in toilet paper. “Making Josh [Gust] (34) into mummy was my favorite part of the party,” Hunter Owens(34).

The sixth graders watched a movie. Mrs. Hoppe’s class and Mrs. Desing’s watched Hocus Pocus and Mrs. Jacoby’s class voted to watch Monsters Inc. “My favorite part of the Halloween party was hanging out with my friends and watching a movie,” Addyson Wenzel said.

They also made paper bag monster masks and took pictures as a class with their masks around the school. The sixth graders worked on Halloween math in Mrs. Hoppe class while watching the Hocus Pocus.

Welcome Mrs. Bollin

By: Avery Dietz



A new position was created for a middle school principal as the fifth graders joined the 5-12 building. This position created a 5-8 grade middle school within the building. Ms. Alicia Flynn was hired in June for the position. She got married in October and is now Mrs. Bollin. This is her first year as an administrator and she is so excited. She previously taught at Woodhaven-Brownstown School District. She came to the school with a fresh mindset and new goals. Mrs. Flynn said, “My goals for the middle school is to focus on building a middle school culture and for students to take pride in being a part of our middle school family. I also want to see students grow as individuals both in and out of the classroom by working hard and doing the right thing.”

Mrs. Flynn said, “Everyone on the staff is so kind and welcoming; it feels like we are all family.”

Adding Opportunities

By: Irelyn O’Neal

This school year is going to be remembered because it is the first year bringing fifth grade into the middle school building. This change of officially adding on a whole grade to the middle school will be going down in the record book. The effects of this change is big for students and teachers. Bringing the fifth grade into the middle school is opening more learning opportunities for the students to grow. Mrs. Young said,“I think that it is a good move for them to grow and learn new things in a new environment. I like being a part of creating a new culture.”

Having the fifth grade come into the middle school a year earlier than they usually do can help the students adjust quicker to this new environment with older kids. Mrs. Cousino said, “I like that they’re around bigger kids. The older kids can be positive role models as they grow into this new school building. My favorite part of moving into the middle school is forming new friendships and getting to know the staff better.”

Phone Policy Renewed

By: Adeline Farr

Recently the school cell phone policies were updated. Seventh and eighth graders are allowed to bring their phones to class as long as they leave them turned off in the caddy. They can use phones respectfully in passing time or at lunch. However the fifth and sixth graders are following a different policy. They must keep their phones off and in their locker from 7:50 to 3:00 every day. Fifth and sixth graders can not use their phones in lunch, recess, during classes, or passing time. “I feel like it's pretty fair. I don't think people should just be allowed on their phones in the middle of class,” seventh grader Simon Wright said. Red posters regarding these rules are posted in classrooms usually near the door. “I don't really use my phone as much as a lot of other people, but the new one's a little bit better. It feels a little less restricted in a way,” Carson Lockhart (31) said. This is effective throughout the year and may be updated next year.

Students of the Month

By: Lacey Billau

For the students of the month there is an awarded for every grade. The award for October was inclusion. The fifth grade winner was Josh Gust , the sixth grade winner was Aubrieana Butler, the seventh grade winner was Bowen Keeney, and the eighth grader was Greyson Reed. They have earned it by including everyone, and making sure that no one feels left out. There are many ways to include people such as: inviting someone that looks lonely to sit down, asking them to play a game, be their partner in a project for class, or even down to just talking to them. Gust said, "I am proud of myself for earning the award because I enjoy getting awards, and I always try hard to include everyone."

Reed feels very accomplished that Mrs. Bollin awarded him this. Reed said, "I try my best to include everyone, and if someone feels left out or looks left out I always try to include them. Also I worked hard in trying to notice when someone is left out."

A school should have an inclusion award because it recognizes students who make everyone feel welcome, respected, and valued, no matter their differences.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

By: Irelyn O’Neal



This year, the class of 2034 went to fifth grade camp. The students, teachers, and group leaders left on Oct. 6, and they all returned on Oct. 9. Kali A. Lehberger (34) said, “I learned to build a shelter, I learned to make fires, and other things.”

They did many activities at camp including a reptile and amphibian class, tie die, pioneer day, fire starting class, shelter building class, square dance night, wacky relays, and more. The weather was nice and cool throughout the four days they were there which made the outside activities more enjoyable. Ms. Buck said, “Square dance night was definitely my favorite activity. Also, the weather was perfect! It was in the 70's during the day, and cool at night. No gloomy weather or rain!”

The main point of fifth grade camp is for the students to learn independence, to grow stronger relationships with classmates, and connecting skills learned in school to real life situations.

Ticket Winners

By: Adeline Farr

Through out the year, the teachers give out Bobcat tickets to students as a reward for good behavior like being responsible, respectful, and safe. All tickets handed out could be drawn for the for any of the prizes. The tickets have been drawn for a winner each week and a big winner every marking period. The winners of the first marking peroid were seventh graders Eli Milot and, Simon Wright, and sixth grader Ava Russeau (33). Russeau won a Chick-Fil-A lunch, Principal for the afternoon, and a $15 gift card to Dairy Queen. Milot won $30 of Robux and $20 of Minecoins (Minecraft money). Wright won $20 of Robux, $20 in Minecoins, and a $5 gift card to Crumbl. “I got two or three tickets for pushing in chairs. My favorite prize was definitely the Chick-fil-a lunch,” Russeau said.

“The Minecoins were my favorite since I got to give them to my brother,” Milot said.

The next winner will be drawn on December 16 at the end of the second marking period. All of the gift cards were donated to the WPA by parents at the open house. Overall for MS and HS about $1000 of gift cards were donated.

The History of November

- November is for remembering the veterans and people who had died for the country during military services
- Dia De Los Muertos is a holiday that originated in Mexico. This holiday is about remembering the ones that passed away.
- Thanksgiving is on the 4th Thursday of November every year since the time of the Founding Fathers.
- Thanksgiving was made a national holiday on October 3, of 1863. President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed this holiday.
- On November 1, 1800, John Adams became the first President to live in the White House.

AG ALERTS

By: Lacey Billau

Riley McCullough and her family raise cows all year round. Raising cows requires chores such as feeding, changing water, and cleaning out pens and washing them once a week. McCullough’s cows are 9-10 months old. She shows them in July for a week in the Washtinaw County fair.

Eighth grader MucCullough said, "Fair week is fun because I get to see my friends and show my projects I have worked all year. Also I enjoy staying up late with all my friends. Last year I showed lambs and got second in showmanship and second and fourth in market class."