

MIDDLE LEVEL NEWS NOTES



Volume 11

Issue #6

October 23-27, 2006

Calendar

Oct. 25 & 26	Grade 6 Trip to the Albany Institute of History & Art
Oct. 30	LifeTouch School Pictures, Gr. 6-8
Nov. 1-3	Middle School Book Fair
Nov. 3	Teen Night
Nov. 4	Cabaret Concert, 7:00 p.m., MS Gym

**** The computer room will be open after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30 to 3:20 starting November 2.**

Middle School Book Fair

The Middle School Book Fair will be held in the library Wednesday, November 1, to Friday, November 3. Books will be on sale 7:30 A.M. - 3:30 P. M. each day and during Teen Night on Friday. Middle School students will be able to visit the book fair during their English classes, study halls, and after school.

Grade 6

Sixth graders must bring lunch money on the day they're scheduled to visit the Albany Institute of History and Art.

This week, students will wrap up the Ancient Egyptian unit by discussing "The Gifts of the Nile" and Modern Egyptian history. They will also learn about the Egypt Room at the Albany Institute in preparation for our trip this week. Lobel and Clair Homebases will go on Wednesday. Zeh and Curran will go on Thursday. We will prepare for the Ancient Egyptian test, scheduled for Monday, October 30. Students will write a Study Guide in class on Tuesday. Sixth grade English students will begin writing a compare/contrast essay on Chasing Redbird and Walk Two Moons. They will also finish reading Walk Two Moons this week. In Science 6 we will be continuing our study of Earth's moon and then moving into a study of our solar system. In Math 6, we will be starting fractions. In Math 6X, we will be doing operations with fractions. In Computers 6, we are halfway through learning the keys on the keyboard. We love to play Dance Mat Typing.

Grade 7

In English, students will take a unit test on Bearstone Thursday. They should be picking a leisure reading novel to begin next week. Projects are due Monday, October 30. In Math 7 and Math 7-2 students will continue unit 2 with order of operations and exponents. Math 7X students will finish square roots, power rules and exponents. Math 7X will have a quiz on Thursday, 10/25. In social studies, a class DBQ has been worked on, and this activity will be completed. Students had a research period on Friday to get or add notes for the American Panorama project. Presently we're at the turning point of the war – Saratoga! Monday, science students will write up their nature calendar summaries in class. This is the final part of the project and is due on Friday. Tuesday, we will begin the excretory system. In Computers 7, we are beginning PowerPoint.

Grade 8

In English, at the beginning of the week, students will hear a dramatic reading of the classic ballad "The Highwayman" by Alfred Noyes. After discussing the literary value of this ballad, students will perform audio theatre using the one-act radio play The Legend of Sleepy Hollow based on Washington

Irving's short story. Later, students will compare and contrast these two pieces of literature. At home, each student will write an original poem and visually interpret it. Finally, please note that Mrs. Pod has a new Web address: www.freewebs.com/podpage5. Please visit this site weekly. Math 8 students will continue their study of Rational numbers and also talk about Irrational numbers. Course 1 students will begin to put the skills that they have learned with polynomial operations into solving more complex algebraic equations. In Social Studies 8 this week we will be working in the library on Monday and Tuesday to find information on our important American for our Halloween project. Students should be working on their costume idea (please don't spend a lot of money!) and their speech. Next week we will be working in class on a "Wanted Poster" project on their famous American. Most of this project will be done on the computers here at school. We will also write our first DBQ of the year in class on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. In science, we will be reviewing density in the beginning of the week. We will then begin talking about atoms and the periodic table of elements (chapter 3 in textbook). There will be a quiz on chapter 3 material later in the week.

Room 215 – Ms. Jadick's Class

Last week a permission slip was sent home for an excursion on October 30th to Liberty Farms. The destination is approximately an hour from Voorheesville but we will be using the B.O.C.E.S van to save on costs. The fee for each student will be \$8.00. Students will be able to explore the haunted farm, go on a hayride, pick pumpkins and search out the corn maze. Prior to the trip students will be using their mapping skills to locate the destination both on the computer and on a hand held map. Then when we travel on the 30th students can use their maps to follow the trip. This will tie into our current mapping theme in social studies. In addition, we will continue to research our Halloween costumes in class. Last week in cooking, we began our herb garden. We planted thyme, basil, parsley, chives, pickling cucumbers as well as a few forget-me-nots. Students will have an opportunity to watch the plants grow and use them throughout the year in our weekly cooking group. Finally, please mark your calendars for Monday, November 20th at noon for the annual Thanksgiving Feast. Any food donations will be greatly appreciated. Thanks in advance for your kindness.