



December 2011-January 2012

LMS Positives

CLUBS:

Campaigners for Christ continues to host prayer for those in need during our meeting times.

We made sent ecards and home-made cards for those that were sick and which we had been asked to pray for. We have also been working on getting to know one another (as all grade levels have become involved) through games. Their favorite is Train Wreck.

The **scrapbooking club** has really created some beautiful memory books. The kids have learned about how important listening to family histories and preserving those stories in pictures really is.

Mr. Shipp's Classes: Marathon Men

Marathon Men, our nine-week C.S.I. club, has ended. We spent the last four weeks learning about nutrients and new healthy foods. We concluded each small block with **WWE: Money in the Ring: Championship Push-ups**. Our winning group consisted of two young men who seemed to be able to do sets of 20 push-ups 'forever'!! So after the two "monsters" tired themselves out, they accepted other challengers. We found a new champion (or at least a powerful runner-up) the last week of Marathon Men. Our reigning champion was feeling under the weather that day- it happens.... So he lost the title. He has said several times that we need one more day of *Marathon Men* so that he can reclaim "*The World's Strong Man*" Push-Up Champion Title once again.

FFA worked on creating board games. Students selected a certain topic and made very creative board games. Some explored life on a pig farm, the adventures of a llama or alpaca as it escapes one farm to visit another, and even a beef farm from calving to the stockyard and beyond. Other groups worked on a game from the ignition to exhaust of a tractor, and one group worked on agricultural products in the different regions of Virginia. Board games will be used in club sessions as well as for the Food for America day with visiting fourth grade students. We're currently selling citrus fruit for delivery in March. See any club member to place an order.

7th grade Language Arts- Mrs. Kelly's classes have recently created and played board games based on the novel The Westing Game, by Ellen Raskin. They had a great time playing each other's games.

FCCLA officers have begun preparations for the third annual Mister LMS beauty pageant which will be held March 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in the LMS auditorium.

Grade level information:

Algebra I classes have been working hard on applying linear concepts to real world examples. We have also added on the task of learning about square roots, cube roots, and their relationships to exponents. Our next steps will involve exploring quadratic equations and comparing them to concepts already encountered over the past 9 weeks.

The **Pre-Algebra** class has been working on modeling integer operation and multi-step equation solving activities. They have utilized tiles and drawings to assist in visualizing the result of their math application. We have also included real-world word problems (discount, tax, tip, sales price, temperature changes, etc.) to ensure a solid application of the mathematical concepts.

Mr. Shipp's Language Arts Classes

In **Language Arts** we are in the midst of completing our Fairytale Unit. We are reading the original *Grimm's Brothers* and comparing them to the styles of tales from other countries, cultures, and time periods. We – all three classes- have almost completed our 50 units of *Reading Plus*. This is the seventh grade computer-driven reading comprehension program. We have enjoyed the rewards, as well as the growth. But moving on a new reading comprehension tool will be welcomed also.

Core Plus students are hard at work focusing on the composing component of the writing SOL test using strategies for planning to ease the drafting process. English 8 students reviewed for the Reading SOL test during the month of January and successfully demonstrated mastery of the skills.

Humanities students demonstrated proficiency in writing persuasive essays by writing essays for the Martin Luther King, JR essay contest.

8th grade science students applied the knowledge they gained about Newton's Laws of Motion when they built cars that could protect an egg in a front end collision. Some of the eggs were so protected they withstood a fall from a third story window.

My **6th math** kids have had a great time finding the center of balance using manipulatives. Every sixth grade student got to enjoy ice cream when we reached a goal for attendance. My

CSI had to be kind to someone and share for MLK day.. The response was very encouraging and uplifting. Nancy Jett

Sixth grade Science worked on learning lots about elements. Also, we had a great time observing and making predictions of the upcoming weather conditions. Students were surprised with the various ways to predict the weather including red skies in the morning or evening and noting patterns with animals behavior. Students also completed some great solar system writings of fictitious journeys to their favorite planet or planetary moon. They were a great combination of scientific fact with required literary components of fact, opinion, and figurative language.

My **Core Plus** students really enjoy interactive smart board lessons. They are more engaged in the learning process using this technology :) Sherri Kibler

Family and Consumer Science:

Sixth grade classes have been learning about basic sewing tools and the correct usage of each. They have also been practicing sewing buttons and hemming stitches.

Seventh grade classes have been learning about choosing major and small appliances to match their needs, as well as to compare the price, features, warranty, and energy efficiency of appliances. Students have also learned about meal service, table setting, and table manners.

Eighth grade classes have been learning about the basic ingredients and steps in preparing quick breads. They have been enjoying preparing waffles, biscuits, popovers, and blueberry muffins. They really enjoy sampling their "creations".