

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Volume 7 Issue 6

HAMS

March 2013

Principal's Message

Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA)

On April 9, 10, and 11, 2013, our sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students will participate in the Mathematics and Reading part of the 2013 Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA). The information obtained from the assessment serves as a valuable tool for students to plan for their future academics, for planning prospective school programs, developing curriculum and in-service training, and informing the public.

March 12, 13, and 14, all eighth grade students will participate in the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) Grade 8 Writing Assessment.

April 23, and 24, all eighth grade students will participate in the Pennsylvania System School Assessment (PSSA) Grade 8 Science Assessment.

Parents may help their children prepare for the assessment by encouraging them to get plenty of sleep the night before and providing them with a good breakfast on the morning of the assessment or purchase a breakfast at school. Also, parents can reassure children that the assessment gives them an opportunity to demonstrate their learning and help teachers plan the best possible instruction for them.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Middle School.



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Interim 8/9 Assistant Principal

We would like to welcome Mr. Nicholas Payne to our team as Interim 8/9 Assistant Principal. Mr. Payne will serve our students and staff working with our eighth grade at the middle school and ninth grade at the high school. We look forward to having his support along with our dedicated staff in providing the best possible educational program for our students. Parents, teachers, support staff, community and administration all have important roles to encourage our children to become active, life-long learners. It is my sincere desire to provide expanded opportunities for our students to acquire the skills to become productive citizens in our vastly changing society.



MISSION

Working together to inspire all students to become lifelong learners and productive global citizens

VISION

Every day, all students are challenged to develop their full potential and experience success leaving school inspired and eager to return the next day

VALUES

Safety, Respect, Collaboration, Empowerment

Huntingdon Area

Middle School

“Working together so all students can learn”



6-BEARS

6 Bears Social Studies Class

The 6 Bears students have moved into the area of Geography with an emphasis on Pennsylvania and the United States in social studies class. Students are becoming familiar with the landforms, states, and capitals. They are also learning about the counties of Pennsylvania and their locations. Students have been coming up with creative methods to recall locations of counties within our state. They were able to break the counties down into color coordinated regions and name the regions to gain some ownership of their work. Students were able to use the Ipad to complete research on how, when and why the counties were created. A game was used on the Smart Board in Mr. Anders room to practice and find each county on the Pennsylvania Map. Students have shown great interest in learning basic information about their state and are gaining valuable knowledge that they can utilize as they begin to travel throughout our state.



6-CATS

Biogeography at Its' Best!

Imagine yourself sitting, on the beach, enjoying the sun. Suddenly, you feel something breathing down the side of your neck. You turn to find a polar bear staring you straight in the eyes. "Could this really be happening?" you ask yourself. The answer to this question can be found in one word... biogeography. Biogeography is the study of where living things are found on Earth.

The continental drift plays an important role in the distribution of species around our world. The movement, of the continents, has given us our present day six land and two water biomes. Having its own unique characteristics, each biome, allows the plants and animals to survive and thrive. So when you think a polar bear in Hawaii is not possible...you're probably right. Yet, we find ourselves awe struck when we watch a television program, read a newspaper article, or read research on the internet that confirms that an unwanted(invasive) organism has invaded a space that it is not native to. The stink bug, dandelions, some certain types of carp, kudzu, and many other species are prime examples of these organisms. How did they get here? Why are they taking over? How are they surviving? Good questions for 6th grade scientists to answer. Nothing better than a lab to help us figure these questions out!

The students were given some basic tools for this lab. Each group received a cookie sheet, a piece of paper, a cotton ball, a pair of tweezers, tape, eye dropper, container of water, microfiber towel (for clean up purposes), and a corn seed. The objective was to get the corn seed from one side of the cookie sheet to the other side without touching the corn seed with bare hands. The students were to find as many ways as possible to accomplish this task. The students were to work together to record and time as many methods as possible. The students devised miniature boats, paper air planes, fictional bird, tape creatures, floods, rivers and many other innovative methods to get the job done. The lab was a great way to lead into the discussion of how organisms are dispersed by wind, water, and other living things. It also gave us the opportunity to talk about what limits the dispersal of organisms like physical barriers, competition, and climate. Students seemed to really enjoy coming up with their own unique way of dispersal and watching it struggle or succeed. They also enjoyed experimenting (playing) in the water!

Thank you Sixth grade Cats for all of your great ideas, cooperation, and awesome cleaning up skills!



7 –BEARS

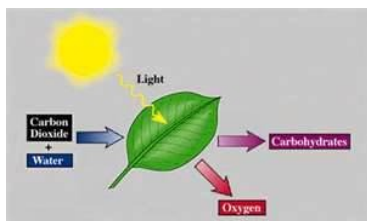
7 Bears Language Arts

It was a time of dragons, wars, and princesses needing rescued by gallant knights in shining armor. The medieval stories, both real and fictional, have been engaging readers for years. The 7Bears have been learning about this time period through research and in essence training to become knights. This is all in preparation to read the novel, Freak the Mighty. One of our main characters in the novel, Freak, has a love for knights because they represent true warriors, fighters until the end, which becomes important to him in his own life. The 7Bears researched weapons knights used in battle, a real battle that occurred during the Middle Ages, a knight, real or fictional, they would like to have knight them, a code of chivalry they would live by, and a quest they will go on in their real lives. Students then presented this information to the class and finally took a knee and were knighted.



7 Cats Science

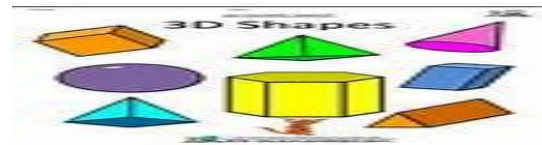
In Science, students have been studying photosynthesis. They were introduced to an innovative way to creatively express the important aspects of photosynthesis by using a Web 2.0 program called Glogster. Glogster allows students to make a virtual poster with the capabilities of adding not just pictures, but animations and videos as well. Visit www.edu.glogster.com for a look at some examples, have your son/daughter log into their account to view their work!



7-CATS

7 Cats Math

In Holt 2 and Pre-Algebra we have been doing many different things involving geometry. We have been finding perimeters, circumferences, areas, and volumes. We have been solving many real-life application problems that involve these ideas. In Algebra, we just finished up a chapter on solving systems of linear equations and linear inequalities. We have been using systems to solve real-life applications as well.



7 Cats & Bears

Students made iMovies about ancient Greece this past month. This is a hands-on way of exploring the country and its past as well as working cooperatively with fellow students. Most kids have done a fine job and have enjoyed it along the way. Ask the



7 Cats & Bears

After the treacherous voyage on the Titanic, we have moved on to the perils of the Vietnam War. Two stories from the literature book lend themselves to further exploration of the war and the history of that era. The students seem very much interested and are responding with personal information that will gain them extra credit points! Without getting into the politics of the situation, they have heard live interviews of survivors from “Hamburger Hill”, learned about the reaction from the public (both pro & con), and have viewed the “Changing of the Guard” at Arlington. We have also listened to several popular songs from that era. Soon, we will move on to activities in preparation for the PSSA. Wish them well....it is right around the corner!

Counselors Corner

By Mrs. Miller

Sister to Sister Conference

On March 27, 2013, 30 seventh and eighth grades girls will participate in the Sister-to-Sister Summit at Juniata College. The Sister-to-Sister Summit empowers middle school girls to overcome obstacles involving body image, self-esteem, relational aggression, and peer pressure. Through utilization of chat sessions, a keynote speaker, and fun activities, students establish positive peer relationships and develop strategies needed to navigate in the complex world of adolescence. The participants learn that they are not alone during these tumultuous years and can attain success. Special thanks to Juniata College for providing this unique opportunity.

JC Blair Volunteers

Any 8th grade student who aspires to enter a medical profession or become an administrative assistant should obtain an application to serve as a volunteer at JC Blair Memorial Hospital for summer months or weekends. Interested applicants can specify interest in patient care or secretarial skills. Students must be 14 years of age and have another individual complete a reference form. Applications are located in the office. Young people are encouraged to gain experience that can be valuable when applying to institutions of higher learning. Please contact Holli Smith– Volunteer coordinator at (814) 643-8833 for more information.

8-BEARS

Spring Is a Time of Anticipation

It's the time of year when blossoms are anxiously waiting to burst through their buds and show the world what spring is all about. Unfortunately, the changing weather is also becoming the time of year when students are ready to burst through the school doors and show the world what having fun is all about. The Eight Bears would like to take the time to encourage students to not lose sight of all the goals they have set and reached during the 12-13 school year. Often times, when the sun is shining and students are in class looking out of the windows, thoughts of riding bikes, swimming, fishing and playing sports are lazily drifting behind their eyes. At the same time students are daydreaming about summer, homework, grades and work ethic are pushed to the dark corners of their minds. The last marking two periods are the most important because the way students end their eighth grade year will be the way they start their ninth grade year. If a student finishes his/her eighth grade year not completing assignments, then there is a very good probability that he/she will not do his/her homework when he/she returns to school as a freshman, since the weather is similar at both the end and the beginning of the school year. Students need to anticipate the coming of their high school years and prepare for the academics and responsibility that lies ahead of them, just as they are anticipating the summer and the relaxation that it brings. As coaches, we have often told our players at the end of a game to "finish strong." We would like to extend this bit of advice to our students as well. Finish strong at the end of your eighth grade year, so you will develop the habits necessary for success in the high school.

8-CATS

There is never a dull moment around the 8 Cats team and this time of year proves to be no different. In Math class students are learning to find different measurements and calculations for various two and three dimensional objects. This includes students using measurement tools and different formulas to find the area of circles, triangles and quadrilaterals and to find the volume of cylinders, prisms and cubes. Students will be able to apply this knowledge to tile a floor, insulate an attic or store liquids and solids.

In Social Studies Mr. Ketterer and Ms. Miller will be hosting a secret meeting of the local *Sons and Daughters of Liberty* group. Students will attend this meeting as an important "patriot" from the American Revolutionary war. They will have to create a *broadside* describing to their fellow patriots who they are and how they are contributing to the cause of liberty. Along with their broadside students will need to bring an object that represents their patriot's character.

Students in Language Arts have been exploring three types of expository essays and will now put that understanding to use by creating a thesis that they will explore through a five paragraph essay. The essay can be on nearly any topic of interest to the student but must use at least two outside sources. These essays will be in MLA format and should impart wonderful knowledge to all of their readers.

In the upcoming weeks students will complete an interactive poster project, showcasing a mineral that they will choose for Science class. Pictures and facts about diamonds, rubies, sulfur, and a wide variety of other common minerals will soon grace the hallway outside the science rooms. Students will get the opportunity to find out what their mineral is used for and also utilize their creative side to make colorful posters.

-8 Cats Team

Ark of Learning

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of each week, students from Juniata College provide tutoring in all subject areas from 6:00PM-8:00PM. The location of Arc of Learning is 2514 Shadyside Avenue (Salvation Army), Huntingdon. Tutoring services are free of charge. Sandra Altman, Federal Community AmeriCorps representative, may be contacted at 641-3364 for additional information

Yearbook

Orders can be placed NOW for the 2012-2013 Yearbook! *Orders are to be placed ONLINE with Jostens, Inc.*

At www.jostens.com

Search Huntingdon Middle School.

Books begin at \$12.00

You can even add your name, an icon or protective cover!

Send your photos!

If your student plays a school-sponsored sport, please send us some candid shots of the team! Submit to agoodman@huntsd.org OR send a CD, SD card or Flash drive to Ms. Goodman at the Middle School. *It will be returned immediately (your student can wait while I download the images)*



Art

By Mrs. Shaffer

**Up to 3
entries per
person!**

GET YOUR CAMERAS READY: FIRST ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

We are holding our first annual Photography Contest. Prizes will be awarded by grade level for the following categories: LANDSCAPE, DIGITALLY ALTERED, and SEASONAL

ALL PHOTOS should be submitted to Mrs. Shaffer by FRIDAY, MARCH 8

Any size photo will be accepted, but 5X7 and 8X10 would be ideal.

Photos will be returned.

**No photos
Of people,
please!**

ART CLUB: MOSAIC PROJECT

Art club both in school and after school is up and running. The clubs are currently planning two big projects: A Mythical Mural to be hung near the school library and a glass mosaic for our cafeteria. Many thanks to the Huntingdon Area School Education Foundation for funding the mosaic project! Students are excited to begin work on the projects. Be on the lookout for new art around the school.

**Prizes will
be
awarded!**



SPRING THAW: ART AND WRITING COMPETITION

SPONSORED BY THE HUNTINGDON COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

The Art's Council's annual youth art show, Spring Thaw, will open to the public on Friday, April 27 and will remain open during regular business hours at the Art Space on 212 Fourth Street in Huntingdon until May 5. Students are encouraged to enter their art work on Wednesday, April 25 from 4 to 7pm or on Thursday, April 26 from 11am to 6pm.

Registration Forms are available online: www.huntingdoncountyarts.org



UPCOMING: CLAY WORKSHOP

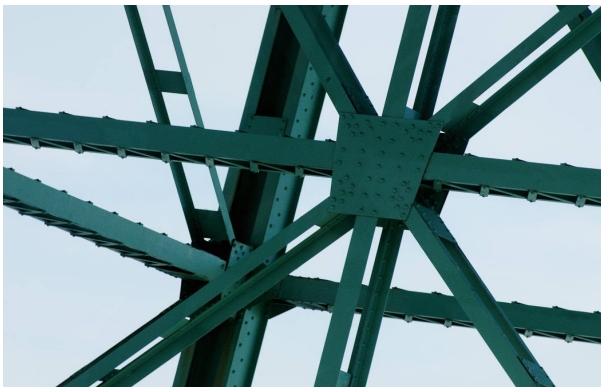
Middle school students and their families are encouraged to join students at the Standing Stone Elementary School on **APRIL 25** for a clay workshop. At the workshop you will be able to purchase a piece of bisque ware clay and then glaze it. The piece will then be fired and returned to your student during school in the following weeks.



Technology Education

By: Mr. Rakar

Students in the Technology Education department have now finished the West Point Bridge Designer project. Our next major activity will be a catapult activity. This activity requires students to use many different skills that they have learned throughout their educational career. The students will learn about trajectory of a projectile (ball of tape) that will be thrown by the catapult. The students will also learn about building a structure that can hold several different forces and how to build a propulsion system for the catapult. After students learn about the previous basics, they will begin to design their own prototype that we will test in class. The students will be required to write an approved instruction manual on how to build their catapult. This allows the students to use a slightly different aspect of writing than what they are acclimated to. When each instruction manual is approved the students will then begin the construction process. Students will be able to use rubber bands, popsicle sticks, tape, and a plastic spoon to build their catapult. After the project is complete we will test all of the designs and then discuss the best design and analyze why that particular design is the best. Finally, we will be able to discuss as a class the features of a perfect catapult design.



ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance at school is necessary for a good educational experience. If a student is under the compulsory school attendance law, proper steps will be taken to enforce that law. Unexcused absences will result in no credit for the day and no opportunity to make up work that was missed.

When a student returns to school after an absence, the student must report to the office during homeroom and present a properly signed written excuse. If you have obtained a written doctor excuse, please send this excuse also. The student has 3 days after his/her return to school to bring this note. Failure to bring a proper excuse within 3 days will result in 1 illegal day.

The Huntingdon Area School District attendance policy provides that a claim of continual or repeated illness in excess of 10 days per school year requires a physician's statement regarding illness. If a student has absences in excess of 10 days with no medical excuse, the absences will be considered illegal. Students whose absence is determined to be illegal will not be allowed to make up their work.

Parents will receive an attendance letter in the mail after 10 days of recorded absences and doctor's excuses will be required. State legislation stipulates that students (and/or their parents) may be fined for excessive absences.

TARDY TO HOMEROOM

Students are responsible for being in class on time. A reasonable amount of time is provided for changing classes. Teachers will keep appropriate records and work with students to resolve problems of tardiness. Disciplinary consequences are listed below:

Procedure for handling tardiness –

1. Student/Teacher conference – 1st tardy
2. Student/Assistant Principal conference – 2nd tardy
3. Letter sent home – 3rd tardy
4. After School Detention – 4th tardy
5. Two After School Detentions – 5th tardy
6. Administrative discretion – 6 or more tardies

Feel Free To Contact Us

Address: HAMS
 2500 Cassady Avenue
 Huntingdon, PA 16652

Phone: 814-643-2900

Fax: 814-643-6513

Website: www.huntsd.org

Events At HAMS

March 8th—Tri-weekly Reports

Act 80 day—

Early Dismissal for Students— 12 noon

March 11th- School Board Work Session

HS Lib. 6:30pm

March 12th– 14th PSSA Writing –8th Grade

March 15th - Activity Night –6-8pm

March 18th- School Board Mtg.

HS –Lib. 6:30pm

March 25th—Spring Photos

March 28th—Snow Make-up Day

March 29th and April 1st– No School



HONOR ROLL FOR 2ND

MARKING PERIOD

Logan Allen	Morgan Banks	Mackenzie Bennett
Gabrielle Brown	Jacob Brown	Michel Brown
Noah Brummet	Taylor Bumbarger	Kaylie Coder
Vicotria Conrad	Mikayla Cummings	Halina Dingo
Sarah Dunkle	Logan Eckley	Andrew Finkle
Katie Freeberg	Skyla Funk	Andrew Garman
Jacklyn Gaugler	Rebeka Gearhart	Natalyn Gladfelter
Kylie Glorioso	Allison Goldstone	Haley Goldstone
Rachael Gwinn	Sierra Hanlon	Lauren Harris
Conner Heath	Tyler Hess	Bradley Houp
Andrew Hudy	Skyler Humer	Lauren Itinger
Zane Kazmarski	Allyssabeth Kinder	Camden Knode
Ned Kouth	Emily Kurtz	Alyson Kyper
Owen Lane	Maddison Langenbach	
Cuyler Leidy	Andrew Lewis	Marshall Lowe
Natalie Lucas	Bradley Maidens	Aalyah Mateo
Catherine McCarthy	Ethan McDaniels	Sean McLaughlin
Aronley Miller	Grace Miller	Kylie-Jo Miller
Jaelyn Mithcell	Amanda Norris	Austin Norris
Hayden Norvell	Chrislyn Patrick	Hunter Peterson
Regan Querry	Ryan Querry	Nicholas Rigby
Nellie Romicki	Kali Rotharmel	Lindsey Scialabba
Hayleigh Scott	Mallory Sellers	Sheth Sheeder
Lindsea Sherlock	Jordyn Shultz	Olivia Simpson
Kaden Sims-Basil	Bryant Speck	Erin States
Lucas Stephens	Olivia Stinson	Amanda Stone
Noah Strickler	Monica Stromer	Rachel Stuber
Ashlynn Suchan	William Sulesky	Patrick Sweet
Kasey Trexler	Jacob Wagner	Emily Walters
Dakota Weglarz	Isabella Welsch	Amanda Wentz
Richard Widman	Robert Wilson	Victoria Wiser
Kieara Worthy	Camden Yabloski	Camryn Yocum
Seth Yocum	Joshua Zimmerman	

Dylan Anderson	Amber Arnold	Julie Atherton	Devin Atherton	Anneliese Aurand	Ryan Baker
Johathan Basom	Syler Batzel	Ian Border	Seth Baney	Sarah Banks	Sydney Barnett
Ryan Brechbiel	Benjamin Briggs	Lance Brown	Hannah Bell	Tara Bollinger	Alex Bookamer
Madison Buckley	David Bukowski	Abigail Casner	Caleb Bookhammer	Carly Brown	
Payton Casner	Ariell Chilcote	Patrick Clapper	Brayden Bumgardner	jarid Cerett	Alexis Clifford
Grace Cook-Huffman	Madaline Crobin		Kathleen Colton	Simon Conrad	Marcadies Corbin
Cecilia Crayosky	Sysdney Cressman	Aubree Cresswell	Jonathan Cunningham	Hope Diehl	Joshua Duffey
Abigail Cunningham	Shawn Dearmitt	Kyle Deluca	Matthew East	Carolann Edwards	Jacob Edwards
Jacob Dillon	Melissa Dunkle	Timani Easter	Hunter Einodshofer	Kaitlyn Ewing	Kristin Ewing
Katherine Emel	Landon Fisher	Sabin Fisher	Eric Finkle	Paige Fouse	Brianna Gearhart
Bradley Flasher	Nathan Fleming	Tiara Garlock	Noah Goodman	Mckenzie Grissinger	Joseph Hark
Corrine Garlock-Wagner	Maddison Gearhart		Mikayla Harrington	Shannon Harrington	
Ryan Geissinger	Chelsea Gladfelter		Carrie Hawbaker	Margaret Hawbaker	Olivia Himes
Julian Groenendaal	Zachary Grose	Dylan Grove	Kallie Honstine	Jaden Hood	Rachel Householder
Dylan Grubb	Heather Gutshall		Kendall Hudy	Caleb Hughes	Michael Huntsman
Miranda Habbershon	Jordan Hawkins	Charles Hawn	Sarah Hurley	Nicholas Kidd	Johnny Kline
Jenna Herncane	Natalie Holesa	Nicholas Holesa	Faith Kurfass	Emily Kyle	Bridgett Lake
Abigayle Hollibaugh	Paige Hollibaugh	Natasha Hoover	Leah Lashlee	Jayden Levin	Daniel McClure
Maswell Hosler	Pierce Hunter-Kysor	Sadie Johnston	Nichole McClure	Autumn McDivitt	Jacob McElroy
Owen Kauffman	Tessa Keller	Katelyn Kelsey	Mckynly Miller	Tyler Miller	Maci Moran
Braedon Knode	Peter Kruse	Rickayla Lane	Dana Myers	Dankeem Ngo	Shayna Peck
Timothy Lightner	Jaselyn Lillibridge	Audrey Marker	Morgan Peterson	Eliana Powell	Maxwell Prosser
Paige McCabe	Regan McKim	Cahterine Miller	Keandre Radick	Lauren Reed-Brown	
Fox Miller	Jadelyn Miller	Hunter Mitchell	Devon Robbins	Samantha Roth	Abraham Rudolph
Kaleb Mondo	Christopher Mort	Alex Mykut	Tyler Scott	Matthew Sellers	Kylie Shea
Bailey Norris	McKenna O'donnell	Hannah Park	Taylor Shultz	Matthew Smith	Emily Spennati
Jenna Powell	Hayden Price	Jonathan Price	Kimberly Stratton	Nadine Swan	Nora Tietiens
Leah Reed	Alexis Ritchey	Alexander Rothstein	Lucas Walter	Seema Weaver	Emily Wennick
Jacob Safko	Jennifer Shaffer	Megan Shetrom	Meredity Windman	Olivia Williams	Alecia Wilson
Natalee Shingler	Warren Shope	Jared Showalter	Laura Woodward	Adam Yoder	
Katie Shultz	Madalyne Skipper	Brandt Sliver			
Carrington Smith	Megan Smithmyer	Christine Stone			
Jenna Swan	Sabrina Terrell	Thomas Tuten			
Hunter Vlasak	Drew Weglarz	Jarius Werner			
Nicholas Wiser	Meghan Wright	Paisley Yablonski			
Joseph Yocum	Nicholas Zanic	Rebeka Zoerner			

