



STORM LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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OCTOBER 2009

LANGUAGE ARTS IN FIFTH GRADE

This week I stepped into Mrs. Miller's room to observe what they were doing. They were learning some vocabulary. I noticed that every so often she would get the kids up and moving to keep their brains active and ready to learn. This includes jogging in place or doing jumping jacks. All the kids looked like they were very alert. Mrs. Miller looks like she's got all these kids under control. She uses different strategies to get the kids' attention. They're learning words like image, complex, and defend. It

seems like we have got ourselves some pretty smart 5th graders here at Storm Lake Middle School! Mrs. Miller is very good at explaining the definition of a word to the kids. The students

would put the word into a sentence and add a picture to remind them of the meaning. I think these kids, and Mrs. Miller, deserve a round of big round of applause.

by Sydney Cerizo



ON THE CALENDAR

7th Girls Volleyball

10/5- at Spencer, 4:15 pm
10/6- at LeMars, 4 pm
10/8- in Storm Lake, 4 pm
10/13- in Storm Lake, 4 pm

8th Girls Volleyball

10/1- at LeMars, 4 pm
10/6- in Storm Lake, 4 pm
10/8- at S. O'Brien, 4 pm
10/13- at Spirit Lake, 4 pm

7th Football

10/1- in Storm Lake, 4 pm
10/6- in Storm Lake, 4 pm
10/15- in Storm Lake, 4 pm

8th Football

10/6- at LeMars, 4:15 pm
10/13- at Spencer, 4:15

7th and 8th Cross Country

10/6- at Cherokee, 4:30 pm
10/13- at LeMars, 4:30 pm

7/8 Honor Band

10/17- Auditions at Storm Lake High School

7th and 8th Band

10/23- Performs at home football game

STUDENT/PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

October 27, 29, 30

EARLY DISMISSAL

October 16, 11:20 am
October 27, 11:20 am
October 29, 11:20 am

NO SCHOOL

October 30

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Once or twice a month on Wednesdays, students will be dismissed at 3:10 p.m. to allow teachers to meet in their Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).

Every teacher in the building engages with colleagues in these PLC meetings to do ongoing exploration of three crucial questions that drive the work of those within a professional learning community:

- What do we want each student to learn?
- How will we know when each student has learned it?

- How will we respond when a student experiences difficulty in learning?

Teachers are looking at the essential learnings required for each content area, using common assessments to determine if students are learning what is required and then setting up interventions to help those students who are not learning. This constant collaboration and discussion is meant to meet the goal of ensuring that all students are learning.

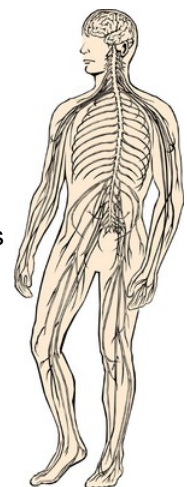
BODY SYSTEMS IN SIXTH GRADE

Mrs. Behm's science class' students are studying the systems in the body such as the nervous, cardiovascular, skeletal, digestive, and respiratory. They are investigating what organs do in each system

and why it is important to learn about the human body. Each student is doing a project on one of the body's systems.

by Brynna Baumhover

The nervous system.



THANK YOU!

Thanks to all the parents and students who sold our World's Finest Chocolates. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go to many student activities including field trips and costs for this year's musical, "Annie".

Hunter Schmitt

Lunch accounts must be paid if your child is over \$10.00 due. He/she will be offered a peanut butter sandwich, an apple and a milk. You will receive a telephone call from one of our office staff to remind you to bring money or a sack lunch for your student.



Most students have one or two study back periods each day. These are times when students can work on homework and prepare for classes. Each student is given a student handbook in August that they use throughout the school year. This handbook has a calendar for daily/weekly class assignments. Help your student to become organized by encouraging them to use the assignment pages in their activity book.

Parent involvement makes a difference!

STUDY TIME!

CROSS COUNTRY 2009

This year's cross country is being coached by a father and son team: John and Mike Brostad. They have three eighth graders and two seventh graders participating this year. The middle school running course is two miles long. We hope the cross country team members are able to better their time throughout the season.

Grant Kofmehl

The 7th and 8th grade choir members are eager to perform the musical "Annie" this fall, so keep your calendar open for November 13th and 14th. 'Hope to see you in the audience!

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Mr. Croker's eighth grade social studies classes are learning about the Revolutionary War. The students are also studying how the Declaration of Independence inspired the Bill of Rights and the Constitution, which have given us all the

rights we have as citizens today.

The Declaration of Independence was signed by 56 men who had everything to lose by signing it, and most of the signers lost much throughout and after the Revolutionary War.

by Grant Kofmehl

TORNADO LEARNING CLUB NEWS

The Tornado Learning Club has had a great start to the school year. We are again providing homework help along with math and reading tutoring. We are also offering many activities in our first session.

October 22nd is our annual Light's On Afterschool rally. TLC students and their families are invited to the Middle School from 4:00-5:00 p.m. TLC students will have the opportunity to show their parents what they do when they are at TLC. We hope you can attend!



FALL FOOTBALL

The 7th and 8th grade football players are learning about the basics of football. The 7th grade team has four games and 8th grade has five games. Blocking, tackling, running and many other fundamentals are being taught by Mr. Besch, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Kopriva and Mr. Croker. The boys will use these skills to bring the Tornadoes victory!

Hunter Schmitt and Grant Kofmehl



GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Fall volleyball has begun for the 7th and 8th grade girls. We have been sharing the middle school gym for three weeks and now we can use the elementary school's gym as well. The coaches for 8th grade are Ms. Fisher and Mr. Wabeke. The 7th grade coaches are Mr. Schekirke and Ms. Lundberg. Good Luck girls!

Brynna Baumhover

