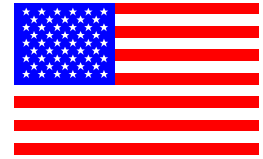




# Winnisquam Regional Middle School Monthly News

Issue 2, October 21, 2011

[www.wrsdsau59.org](http://www.wrsdsau59.org)



## From the Desk of the Principal

Greetings!

As this newsletter goes out, we are just finishing up our fall NECAP testing! We will be gathering data from staff and students to see how they thought the new format for testing worked out this year. We suspended classes for three days in order to just focus on our testing. This meant that students did not have to worry about class work and all teachers were available to work with students during the testing sessions. Eighth graders had two additional mornings of testing, because they take an additional writing test. We had snack and tested in the mornings, then we had grade level activities in the afternoon. One of our goals this year, based on parent and student input, is to provide more opportunities for recess and physical activities. When the weather cooperated, students were able to have an afternoon recess. On Friday, we surprised students with a pep rally to recognize fall sports teams and had a faculty/student volleyball game. Monday afternoon, we had a BMX assembly that addressed the issue of bullying and making good decision. Students seemed focused during testing and had some time to have fun with their peers. Everyone seemed refreshed and ready to go each day! We should receive our scores sometime in late January.

I want to thank everyone who came out for our first Family Fun Night last Friday and made it a big success! We moved the



event indoors because of the rain – but that didn't seem to make a difference. Families came out to play games, take on "Minute-To-Win-It"

challenges and win prizes. Face painting was a big hit as was the "Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?" challenge, hosted by Mr. Hampe. A big thank you to our PTO and Kids That Care for organizing the food, to teachers and students who facilitated games, and especially to Mr. McNutt who came up with the idea and organized the whole event. We plan to make this an annual event!

Hope you all have a Happy and Safe Halloween!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Pamela Miller  
Principal



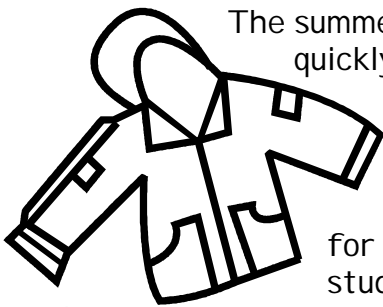
## Notes from the Assistant Principal

Fall NECAP testing is now officially over! It was remarkable how quiet the building was during testing and how responsive the students were to the theme days, assemblies, and recess. Thank you to everyone for your efforts!

Quarter one grades will close early-November. The MMS parent portal is up and running and grades are updated every Monday after 2:00 p.m. If you need assistance accessing the system, please call 286-7143, ext. 205 or ext. 201. If your student is out sick, he/she has two days for every day out to make up the work. If a student is missing an

assignment, the following grade level policies apply:

- ➔ **Grade 6:** Students will receive 10% off of the grade for each day late down to a 60%. 60% is the highest grade a student will get on the fourth and following days. Late work may be passed in until midterm or the end of the quarter.
- ➔ **Grades 7 & 8:** 1 day late = 90% of the grade; 2 days late = 80% of the grade; 3 days late = 70% of the grade; 4 days late = 60% of the grade; 5 days late = 60% of the grade. After 5 days, the assignment will not be accepted.



The summer warmth is quickly slipping away. Please make sure that your child dresses appropriately for the weather. All students are outside

in the morning and are only permitted in the cafeteria to buy breakfast or a snack. In addition, students now have a 40 minute recess once each week and should be prepared to be outside.

Shannon Kruger  
Assistant Principal

## GRADE 6

### Mrs. Hewey's Reading/Language Arts Classes

We are finishing up our Diversity & Tolerance unit by Reading Summer of the Swans by Betsy Byars. As a follow-up to what we are doing in class, you could ask your child: Who are the main characters in the novel? What is the conflict in the story?

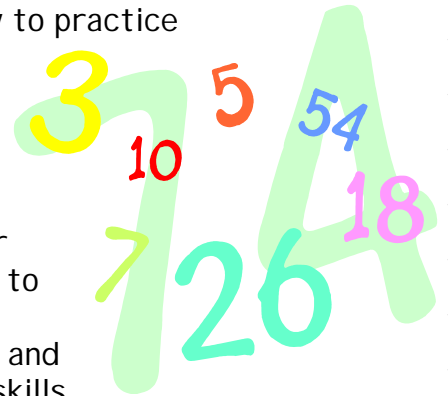
For students who have chosen to complete Honors Option work, the novel papers are due on **November 1**. Students have chosen an independent reading book for our Diversity & Tolerance unit and are writing answers to some relevant questions.

A reminder that students are required to read a minimum of 100 minutes per week in their Accelerated Reader (independent reading) book. Students have set goals for the quarter and are charting their progress toward their goal.

~ Mrs. Hewey

### Math with Mrs. Beliveau

Our general math with lab students are currently working on decimal division. They are using base 10 blocks to model decimals in their work. Ask your child to show you his/her multiplication ladders. They complete these at the start of each class as a way to practice multiplication fact fluency. This week, they also started using empty number lines as a way to build their number sense and mental math skills.



~ Mrs. Beliveau

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

In social studies, for the past few weeks, we have been studying Ancient Rome. As part of this unit, we viewed the special exhibit at the Boston Museum of Science, "A Day in Pompeii" this week.

We have watched several clips on Roman Life that can be viewed online at the following sites or by scanning the QR: with your smart phone.

Rome's Beginnings  
[http://www.glencoe.com/video\\_library/index\\_with\\_mods.php?PROGRAM=9780078750502&VIDEO=2517&CHAPTER=8&MODE=2](http://www.glencoe.com/video_library/index_with_mods.php?PROGRAM=9780078750502&VIDEO=2517&CHAPTER=8&MODE=2)



The Roman Republic  
[http://www.glencoe.com/video\\_library/index\\_with\\_mods.php?PROGRAM=9780078750502&VIDEO=2518&CHAPTER=8&MODE=2](http://www.glencoe.com/video_library/index_with_mods.php?PROGRAM=9780078750502&VIDEO=2518&CHAPTER=8&MODE=2)



Pompeii: The Last Day  
<http://movies.netflix.com/WiPlayer?movieid=70020148&trkid=4213507>



We will spend the remainder of the month finishing up Ancient Rome. We will be focusing on the Fall of Rome and the Early Empire of Rome.

~ Mrs. Marcotte

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

The students in Mr. Savage's science class are currently working on a unit in astronomy. The class is taking a close up look and analysis of our moon and some of the major accomplishments the United States space program made in getting to

the moon. The students have recently been introduced to the major lunar features on the surface of the moon. For example, one feature that dominates the surface is craters but why are there very large black and gray flat areas called "mare" with virtually no crater impacts? These questions will be studied further in our quest to find out the mysteries of the moon.

The class had an opportunity to visit the Boston Museum of Science. In one of the exhibits called "On the Moon" created in 2009 to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States achievements in our space program, the students had the opportunity to get into and feel what it was like to be in an exact replica of an Apollo space module.

~ Mr. Savage

## GRADE 7

### Social Studies

We have now finished our first unit. Due to testing, we have been a little delayed starting our next one which will be the United States and Canada. We will spend time becoming familiar with some of the physical and political features of each country. The students will also learn about our form of government and our economic system. All students have been given a unit letter that outlines the goals of this unit. Students should be reviewing notes at night and studying their states!

~ Mrs. DiNardo

### Grade Seven Life Science

Students are currently studying classification by using and creating dichotomous keys to place similar objects or life forms into groups. They are also learning about the history of classification, the kingdoms, and what the benefits of classification are.

Following this topic, cells will be studied to find similarities and differences in plant and animal cells. Students will be using the microscopes to view plant and animal cells as well as prepared slides stained to show the organelles.

~ Mr. Saltmarsh



### Pre-Algebra 7 & 8

This is a reminder to all Pre-Algebra students that warm-ups are due at the end of every week. Students should be working on these throughout the week and asking for help when needed.

Students, please don't forget that there is online support available for our Pre-Algebra textbooks at [http://www.classzone.com/cz/books/pre\\_alg/book\\_home.htm?state=NH](http://www.classzone.com/cz/books/pre_alg/book_home.htm?state=NH). This site is excellent for any extra help needed or if you just want to practice your skills. Keep up the great work!

~ Mrs. Coughlin

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA

NECAP testing is finally over! In English/Language Arts, students are continuing their work on "Transformations". They are currently reading an in-class novel called Inventing Elliot. Please look for vocabulary and writing assignments pertaining to the unit.

The Parts of Speech Grammar Project will be wrapping up in the next couple of weeks. Students are working on the visual presentation layout and design. Remember to check



in with your child to make sure he/she has completed his/her weekly reading logs. This is a weekly on-going assessment.

~ Mrs. Morse & Ms. Simoes

### GRADE 8

#### Geometry

The geometry students are just finishing up a small unit on Reasoning and Proof. In this unit, they began to complete formal proofs of geometric theorems. Our next unit is a study of parallel and perpendicular lines. In this unit, they will review slope, and learn various types of angle relationships formed by parallel and perpendicular lines. Now that NECAP testing is done, student warm-ups will change from being based on NECAP release items to working on NWEA skills.

~ Mrs. Beliveau

#### Grade 8 ELA

October has been rich with writing activities. Students have practiced the OREO paragraph form, done lots of free writing in their journals, and developed a strong position on the topic of teen laziness to use in a persuasive essay. This week there also seems to be a lot of excitement about practicing the skills needed to write great horror and suspense stories, just in time for Halloween!

Students have also been reading short stories by classic authors, including Edgar Allen Poe and O. Henry, as vehicles to study irony. These writers can help hone an appreciation of the horror genre. Ask your child about the gruesome story of "The Telltale Heart".

Reading during free time has been equally strong, judged by the great success on many quizzes taken through Accelerated Reader. Nikita

Gaydos and Anna Moreau recently won a drawing for a free book from Scholastic, based on the number of points they earned during the first half of the quarter. This is something that will occur each quarter this year. Now that NECAP testing is finished, everyone will resume research on their position papers on current topics. Everyone is to be commended on the hard work accomplished.

~ Ms. Blevens

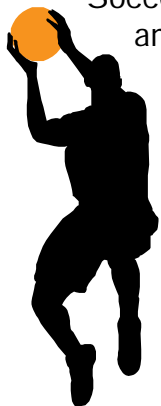
**Calling all 8th graders:** OZTOBER FEST IS COMING! You don't want to miss it! More information to follow.

~ Mrs. Jurta

## Unified Arts

### Physical Education

The second term in P.E. has begun and students will be participating in a variety of games/units. Units include Cooperative Games, Handball, Basketball, Soccer, Badminton, Fitness (Testing and PACER) and Floor Hockey.



Offense and defense strategies are explained and used during game play along with basic skill introduction of all units. Physical Education only goes for 30 days, so effort, participation and proper attire are very important.

Intramurals will begin 10/18/11. Intramurals will start with basketball for those interested in getting ready for the basketball season and for others that just want to have fun playing the game.

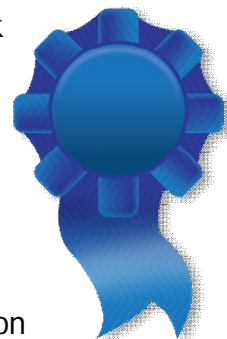
~ Mr. McNutt

### Art Education

Congratulations to all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders who entered artwork in the Sandwich Fair. Receiving "Best of Show" and a First Place ribbon in her division

was Kaylee Tierney on her painting. "Judges Award" went to 6<sup>th</sup> grader Mackenzie French for her "Mondrian Shoe Painting".

7<sup>th</sup> graders who also took awards were Christina Dutton with a blue ribbon, Brooke Long, a second place ribbon, and Avery Martinson with a third place on their ceramic Salt and Pepper Shakers. Avery Martinson also placed first for his "Stylized Face Print".



~ Mrs. Cobbett

### Health Education

New Unified Arts classes have just begun! The rotation for these classes is every 6 weeks this year. If your child has Health this term, you should be receiving several papers, some which need to be signed and returned. Please review the various papers with your student and feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. Students at each grade level are involved with a health project as part of the health curriculum.

Grade 6 students will be working on a Consumer Health project during their regular class. More information outlining the project criteria is coming your way within the next several weeks that will be valuable to both you and your child.

Students in grade 7 will be working on a long-term project (Health Board Game) that will be due November 21<sup>st</sup>. Please ask your student to show you the informational packet with the details of the project, including criteria, rubric, reference sheet and more. Students will be starting research toward this project very soon!

Students in grade 8 also will be involved with a long-term project. Your student will receive the Project Choice List, with descriptors, so you and your child can decide which project will work best. Please make sure to sign the last portion indicating that you are aware and have agreed to their choice of projects. The project due date is November 21<sup>st</sup>.

I'd be happy to talk to you to help clarify any questions you may have concerning your child's health class. Thank you.

~ Mrs. Kemmerer

### Nurse's Corner

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The weather is turning colder; please have your child bring a jacket or sweatshirt to school daily. Students will probably be required to be outside at some point during the school day.

I have been strongly encouraging students not to share food and drinks, to keep objects such as pencils out of their mouths, and wash their hands before eating. It would be very helpful if you could also stress the importance to your child to help prevent illness.

The common cold seems to be leaving the building (at least for now) and the students overall have been healthier. However, if your child is sick, please let me know his/her symptoms, and if s/he has a fever over 100 degrees. Please do not send your child to school until s/he is fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of any medication.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that all children ages 6 months to 19 years of age receive the seasonal influenza vaccine each year. Please speak to your child's

physician regarding the flu vaccine.

Happy Fall ~  
Mrs. LaBranche



### Library/Media Center

During the summer of 2011, I was selected to attend the prestigious National Endowment for Humanities workshop "The Hudson River in the Nineteenth Century and the Modernization of America" at Ramapo College in Mahwah, New Jersey. This workshop offered educators the opportunity to study how the growth of the Hudson shaped our nation through commerce, technology, industry, and culture.

This month, I am highlighting Washington Irving, American writer who rose to prominence during the period of Expansion, 1819-1859. Irving was born in NYC, and named in honor of the first president of this country. He is famous for Rip Van Winkle, about a man sleeping for 20 years and The Legend of Sleepy



Hollow, about the gawky schoolmaster Ichabod Crane and his race with the Headless Horseman. He has left a rich heritage of remarkable tales of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century Hudson Valley in his *Sketch Book*. His works are now

considered classics but may still be enjoyed for his ability to honestly capture a time in our history with humor, horror, and historical accuracy.

The eighth grade English classes have

been busy researching with Ebsco, a database of periodicals, pamphlets, and newspapers, and library print material to prepare for their persuasion assignments.

- Ms. Chapley  
Media Specialist

## Athletics

Rick Hinck, WRSD Athletic Director

### Cross Country

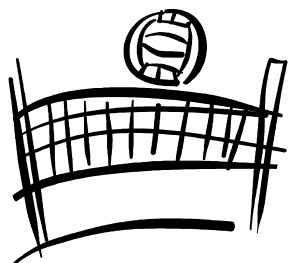


WRMS Cross Country is nearing the end of the season. The turnout of runners this year was excellent. The team consists of 20 runners, the most in the four years Mr.

McNutt has coached. We have three meets left with the State Tournament coming up Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Marc Roy has dominated this year, winning every race for the boys, and he will look to win the State Meet for all 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys in N.H. Marc won the 7<sup>th</sup> grade race last year, out of 220 boy runners. Sierra Dolan has had a strong year as well, finishing in the top 5 of every girl race this year, with Tea Michaloski and Sierra Laughy finishing in the top 10 at Gilford. Overall, the boys and girls teams have been strong and will continue to get stronger with the emergence of some young runners and the consistency of others.

### Volleyball

The B Team volleyball has improved a great deal. We have 5 wins under our belt now. We had great participation with 16 players, 2 of which swing to A team.



### Soccer

The A Soccer team is 5-4-1 and getting recognition in the Lakes Region on their overall improvement this year. Coaches

and referees have complimented the level of competition the team has brought to the field this season. The program is really starting to develop and the boys are working diligently on the team's success this season.



### WRMS Field Hockey A Team

Currently the Winnisquam Field Hockey A Team has a record of 6 wins and 4 losses. With 5 games left in the season vs. Newfound, Hopkinton, Bow, Kennett, and Plymouth, the team is excited to finish strong against a tough schedule.

With players like Lauren Bolstridge, the high scorer, recording 11 goals this season, matched with a strong forward line up of Madison Langan and Sophia Blanchard, team captains, and mid-fielders like Hallie McNamara, Cora Kelly, and Erin Atherton also with goals and strong assists, this team is really starting to shine. It is hard to name just a few players, because the entire team is really working well together. There is a lot of talent on this team, and we are all excited to see how the season will finish.



Here is a photo of the Winnisquam A Team, after having fun in the mud. This,

marking my first year coaching these girls, has been a great experience, and extremely rewarding. These ladies should be proud of the way they are playing.

~ Coach McNamara

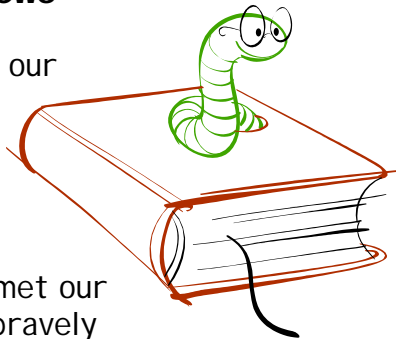
## Memory Book

The WRMS memory book held a cover contest. Many pieces of artwork were contributed but the winner was Sierra Laughy in grade 8. Congratulations to Sierra! She will receive a free book. Thanks to all who participated in the contest.

~ Mrs. Berry

## WRMS PTO News

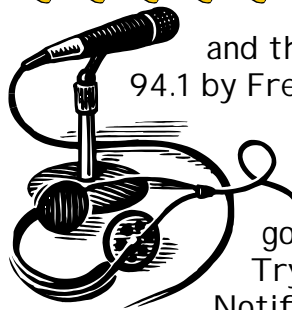
It has returned... our second FEAR FACTOR! Dare to join us as we welcome our second Book Fair. Last year, as we met our goal in sales, we bravely went where no students or teachers had gone before. We ate crickets, hot lunch goulash, and live worms and survived to tell. Come to the book fair in November and help us meet our goals. The book fair is sponsored by the WRMS PTO.



The first Box Tops collection deadline is soon approaching. The money helps the PTO to purchase new items for our school. Keep them coming. They can be collected all year. Each teacher has a bag in his/her room as well as the large container near the office.

## Word of the Week

It's that time again when we begin the word of the week!!!! The students and the staff, pick a positive word and then they put it into a sentence. Their name



and the word will be aired on 94.1 by Fred Caruso around 7:00 a.m. on Monday mornings. Remember this is to keep our good friend Dave Tryon's legacy alive. Notify Mrs. Roy in the office if you have any questions.

## Hispanic Heritage Month

In September 1968, Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week. In 1988 the observance was expanded to a month long celebration (Sept. 15 - Oct. 15). The purpose was to celebrate the culture and traditions of U.S. residents who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central America, South America and the Caribbean. In recognition of this celebration, WRMS students in Spanish classes created collages depicting the multifaceted culture found in more than 20 of these Spanish speaking countries around the world.



The collages contain images and details about the countries' customs & culture, geographic location, music, dance, food, national holidays and most importantly famous people from these countries and

their accomplishments. Stop by the 7<sup>th</sup> grade wing and see the display outside Señora Pearson's room.

### Youth Assistance News

The Youth Assistance Program is pleased to announce two upcoming informational workshops for parents to be held at the Winnisquam Regional High School. Presentations begin at 7:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria, are free of charge and open to the public.

On Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, Detective Jen Adams of the Northfield Police Department and Executive Director Bethany Cottrell of the Merrimack County Child Advocacy Center will speak on issues of child abuse, identification and reporting.

On Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, School Resource Officer William Patten will be speaking to parents about drugs and teens. Come out and meet our new school resource officer.

The Youth Assistance Program of Northfield and Tilton provides court diversion and support programs to youth who have gotten into trouble, or who may be going through a difficult time. Prevention programs and support are also available to parents and young people. Please call the Youth Assistance Program at 286-8577, if you would like more information.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 4: Quarter One ends
- Nov. 10: Teacher Workshop Day  
*No School*
- Nov. 11: Veterans Day  
*No School*
- Nov. 15: Parent Conferences  
3:00 – 6:00 p.m.  
*Please schedule an appt.*
- Nov. 16: Report cards go home
- Nov. 17: Parent Conferences  
5:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
*Please schedule an appt.*
- Nov. 23-25: Thanksgiving Break

