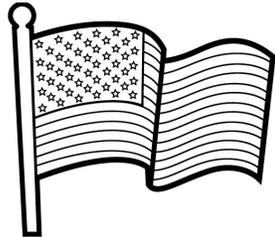


VETERANS HONORED AT PCJH

Patriotism. Respect. Honor. These are qualities that Student Council tries to emulate through our actions and activities. On November 3rd, Student Council members sponsored a Buddy Poppy Day. Members put on the VFW aprons and stood outside of Dave's Supermarket to collect donations for the VA hospital.

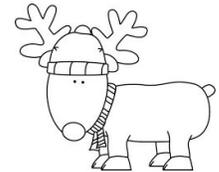


Veterans and community members were glad to do their part and receive a poppy; however, the Council didn't stop there. They wanted the students here at the Jr. High to learn about the history of the Buddy Poppy and how it helps disabled veterans. During the week leading up to Veteran's Day, the Council spent time in their homerooms sharing background information on this project. Students also watched a video from the national VFW website, and members shared the poem written by John McCrae. The Council passed out poppies to the students who donated

UPCOMING EVENTS* December

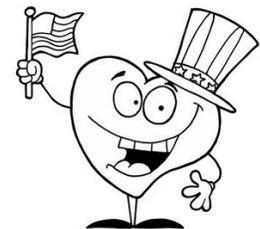
- Dec 10** JH Boys Basketball w/ Mahomet
- Dec 11** JH Wrestling w/ Eureka & Dwight
- Dec 17** JH Boys Basketball @ El Paso
- Dec 18** JH Boys Basketball @ Olympia

*See PCJH website for all events



during the week, so that those students would have a poppy to wear on Friday, November 10th during our school assembly which honored and celebrated local veterans. The money collected from both activities totaled \$519.00.

When Friday arrived, 15 student council members were nervously rehearsing their parts for the assembly. The band members missed homeroom to set up for their performance, and the Forrest American Legion Color Guard arrived, as did the guest speakers, Mr. and Mrs. Weichman. Council members did a fantastic job running the program. They shared poems that



honored our veterans, defined the Pledge of Allegiance in parts, and led the entire student body in the Pledge. The band played a song which honored each branch of the military and asked those veterans who were present to stand and be honored when their branch portion was played. Mr. and Mrs.



Weichman spoke about their military service. Mr. Weichman served during Vietnam as a pilot. His wife briefly shared about the role of a wife of a serviceman.

We would like to once again thank all veterans for their service and particularly the ones who helped to make the Jr. High Veteran’s Day assembly a success. The assembly furthered students’ understanding of patriotism, respect, and honor for our country.

MATH PROJECTS

The 7th grade students will be constructing gingerbread houses. The students will be using the Common Core Geometry standards to create a net and fold



the net into a house. When the house is structurally sound, the students will calculate the surface area and the volume of the various faces. When the volume and surface area are calculated, the students will decorate the house with frosting, graham crackers, and candy. As the students finish decorating the house, they will type a paragraph using math vocabulary. Make sure to ask your student about this project as there are supplies that need to be brought in from home.

Mrs. McClure’s Advanced Math 8 students have been working hard on slope, lines, and linear equations. The students will continue studying these concepts and apply what they have learned on a STEM project called “Elf Stuck On A Shelf- A Zip Line Adventure!” Students will work with a small group to get the “Elf” to safety. If you have any spare washers sitting around, we could use some for the project. The washers will be returned when we are done. Make sure to ask your student about his/her zipline adventure!



PCJH MATH TEAM

The PCJH Math Team has been meeting now for a month or so; we meet on Wednesday mornings at 7:00. The students have been working to get ready for the upcoming contests while enjoying breakfast. Later this month we will be having a Christmas party. This



will take place during our practice time, and we will have a \$5 gift exchange and enjoy some delicious food. More information will be

sent through Remind.

STUDENT COUNCIL WORKSHOP

On November 10th, fourteen council members traveled to St. Joseph Middle School to participate in the Mid-East District Fall workshop. Over one hundred council members from across the district spent the morning “Following the Clues to Find the Leader in You!” Each member worked to



acquire the leadership skills through activities that focused on teamwork, communication, collaboration, and more.

CHRISTMAS OF THE PAST

Time is flying by! Hard to believe that Christmas is almost upon us. Students in 7th grade Social Studies have been learning about Christmas seasons of the past. George Washington spent one holiday season crossing the Delaware River in a daring attack on enemy forces in Trenton, New Jersey. The next year was spent suffering at Valley Forge!

Students have been very busy studying the American Revolution and learning about the many heroes we can



be thankful for as we celebrate this holiday season. Many lives were lost and sacrifices were made to create the United States of America. We will continue learning about our country as we begin the difficult task of forming our new government and writing the Constitution of the United States of America.

PCJH BAND NEWS

The Junior High Band is now in the midst of one of our busiest and most exciting times of year! The Pep Band has performed at three basketball games already, and we will be playing at two more games on December 10th and 13th.



In addition to these performances, we also played at the Chatsworth Halloween Parade. On the Concert Band side of things, we performed at two

Veteran's Day assemblies and just recently had our first concert on November 20th. We are now beginning to prepare for our Winter Concert on February 11th and Organization Contest on February 22nd.

On October 8th, several of our junior high band students traveled to Bloomington to audition for the ILMEA All-District Band/Jazz Band/Orchestra. All of these students spent a great deal of time preparing their audition music, and I am happy to say that the following students were selected:

All-District Concert Band – Piper Rieger, Madison Walker

All-District Jazz Band – Jack Sheridan

All-District Orchestra – Jack Sheridan

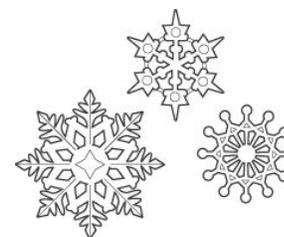
Congratulations to these students on this tremendous achievement! These students performed with their respective ensembles at Olivet Nazarene in November.



As always, don't hesitate to contact Mrs. Lackaff if you have any questions or concerns!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

With winter weather upon us, the P.E. department has been busy inside the gym. Students worked in teams to brainstorm, develop, and teach their own P.E. activity. The 'Create-a-Game' unit



allows the students a chance to use their

creativity and talents along with some higher order thinking to develop strategies, rules, and fitness concepts to go along with their team activity. It also allows the students the opportunity to take on a leadership role in the class.

There were many interesting activities shared with the classes, and with a few modifications, some of these student-created activities may find their way into the curriculum. Volleyball is the unit of choice



right now; students spent the first few days reviewing the rules, and passing, setting, and serving. Classes then incorporated those skills into some small sided activities, with games and a small tournament to follow. Sticking with net games, classes will soon move on to badminton.

The girls' health classes have been taking some time out of the gym to head to the classroom for a Safe Journeys curriculum that is being provided to us by the ADV/SAS chapter. The boys will take their turn after the new year.

IESA SPEECH SUCCESS

Seven students traveled to Parkside Jr. High on Saturday, November 10 to compete at the state speech contest. Earning a first place rating for their duets were Kayden Baker and Heidi Kelson, Franklin Rathbun and Cali Roy, Emma Hansen, and Natalie Bailey. Mya Lauth memorized and performed a solo humorous skit and received a second place rating for her efforts. The contest marked the end of our short season; however, some performers will travel to share their talents with the sixth graders in hopes of growing our club next year.



PCJH DANCE

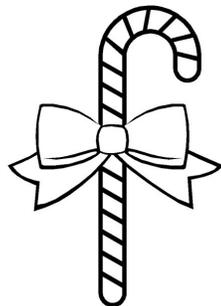
The Student Council hosted its first school dance on November 2nd with Just Cuz spinning the tunes. The luau was attended by more than one hundred students. Many students requested music, so they could show off their



dance moves. All students socialized with their friends and had fun in a safe environment. Thank you to the C.A.R.E.S. Clowns who provided a concession stand.

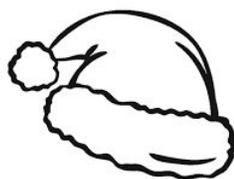
DOOR DECORATING CONTEST

This year marks the 4th year of hosting the holiday door decorating contest. Homerooms will compete to win the title of Most Creative Original Design. This year we are also adding the category of Best Pinterest Spin-off Design. Students will be able to use the popular website to inspire an interesting and creative holiday themed door. Winning homerooms will receive a treat to enjoy the day before Christmas break.



HOLIDAY SPIRIT WEEK

Students will have the opportunity to participate in special dress-up days the week before Christmas break. Council members will



visit homerooms to share a list of the dress-up days. Students are reminded to keep their outfits school appropriate.

COLLECT THOSE POP TABS

The Student Council is sponsoring a contest by homerooms to see who can bring in the most pop tabs this school year. The final collection of tabs will be taken to IAJHSC convention in April. This is a statewide service project we have participated in for more than 10 years. Send your pop tabs to the Jr. High for this worthy cause.



Prairie Central Junior High
Jim Demay, Principal
Kristal Deming, Dean of Students
Kaley Mueller, Copy Editor
