

LION PRIDE

DRYDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

LORA CHAMPLAIN, PRINCIPAL

SARAH POWELL, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Greetings from Ms. Champlain

I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying this long Holiday Recess! Time is flying by and before you know it we will be celebrating; 8th graders "Moving Up" to high school, 7th graders "ruling the school", 6th graders "moving downstairs" and welcoming our "new middle schoolers" from DES! (*I know it seems like a long way off, but it really isn't!).

While Mrs. Powell is enjoying being a new mom, Mrs. Kristin Kashuba will be the Interim Middle School Assistant Principal. If the name sounds familiar, it is because Mrs. Kashuba is coming from DES. She is looking forward to seeing familiar faces as well as making new connections.

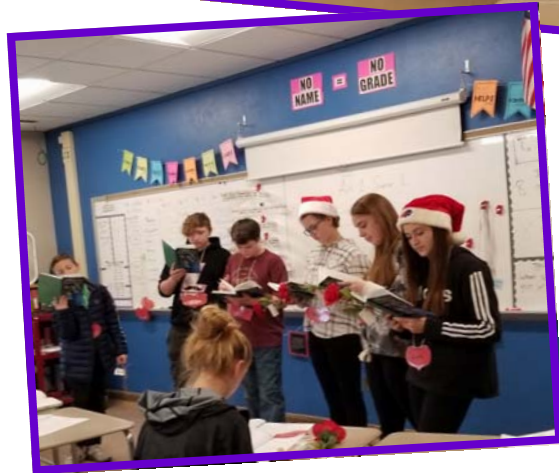
As you rest and relax over this break take some time to; read for enjoyment (that is what I will be doing), have fun with family and friends, and reflect on how you want to finish out your school year! All DMS Teachers, Staff and Administrators are here to support you. We look forward to seeing you in **2020!**



Student Council Food Drive

The Middle School Student Council wants to say thank you to every parent and family that helped support our canned food drive. We set a goal to collect 375 canned food items, 10% higher than last year. We far surpassed that goal collecting over 700 food items. WOW! All the items were donated to the Dryden food pantry. The 7th grade students donated the most items so they were given a make your own sundae bar during their lunch period.





8th Grade ELA

In 8th grade ELA, students have just finished their first novel, *Inside Out and Back Again* by Thanhha Lai. To wrap up the book, students created posters that represented the main character's hardships as she became a refugee after the Vietnam War, and the hardships she faced while settling into life in America.

The Holiday Bazaar was a huge success!



To connect this content to our world today, students then read personal stories of refugees from Somalia, Bhutan, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria. After reading, students analyzed the hardships faced by refugees from around the world and presented those experiences and hardships to the class. Students were able to see how what we read in ELA has applications to our world today. Now, students have started reading William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

For this unit, students will be watching various versions of this entertaining play and analyzing the characters' point of view. Students are reading lines and acting in front of the class. Already we are having fun getting into character and making this classic text come alive!

The Dryden Middle School mission is to promote the core values of excellence, integrity, and creativity.





Music Department

The Music Department would like to thank everyone for helping to make our first "Gymnatorium" Middle School Winter Concert Spectacular a smashing success. The auditorium renovations are still underway and we are excited to host our spring events in our brand new space. Our district core belief of encouraging

Thank you to everyone who helped make the "Gymnatorium" Winter Concert Special a success!

creativity, problem solving and innovation was put on display one performance group at a time. Another Dryden District Core belief that positive relationships and partnerships are essential was also on display at our winter concert.

FACS

Ask your 7th grader to help with holiday baking! Mrs. Vorstadt's classes wrapped up the week before break with a tasty cookie lab. The students got to practice their measuring techniques, and the place smelled just like Santa's bakery. It was a win-win for all!



Art Students of the Month

The 6th grade and 8th grade Art Student of the Month for November was announced on the last school day of November. The students chosen were selected for this award based on their positive attitude, creative thinking, and outstanding effort demonstrated throughout the month! The 6th grade Art Student of the Month was Julian Genson. The 8th grade Art Student of the Month was Ella Blomfield-Brown. Congratulations to you both!



Decking the Halls

Dryden Middle School students have spread the holiday spirit by decorating the classroom doors throughout the middle school. Many students were involved in the contest. Doors were completed on Wednesday, 12/18. Voting took place on the 19th. We had fantastic participation and a record number of doors decorated this year.



There was a three-way tie for third place— Ms. Sinnegan's door (gingerbread house) designed and decorated by Kenesey Drake, Morgan Foster, Emma Deely and Mason Nygard, Ms. Stache's door (mustaches) decorated by Eddy King, Tyler Head, Elise Stillwell, Riley Mentiplace, Abby Willer, and Maia Tennant and Mr. Oursler's door (Polar Express) designed and decorated by Abby Turco, Maddyx Fiero and Molly Chase. With only one point separating first and second place it was a very hard decision by the judges.

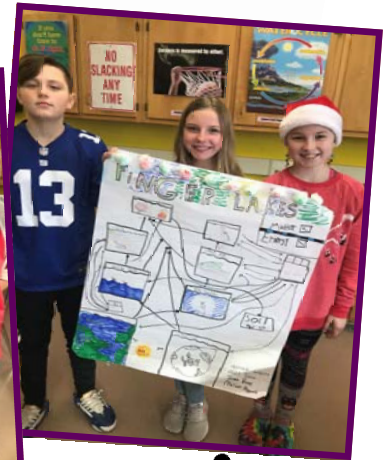
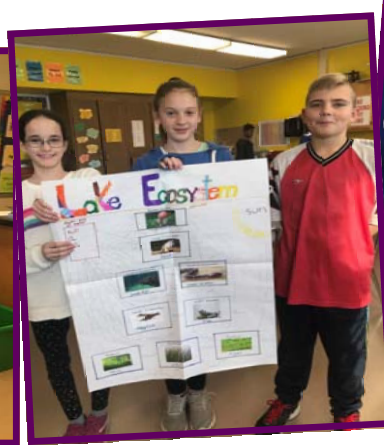
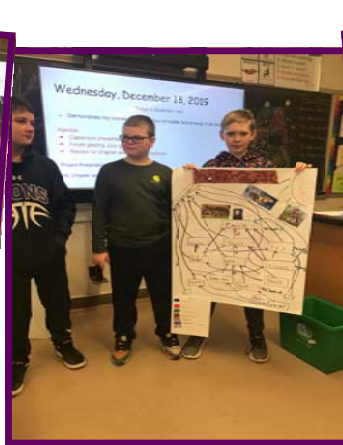
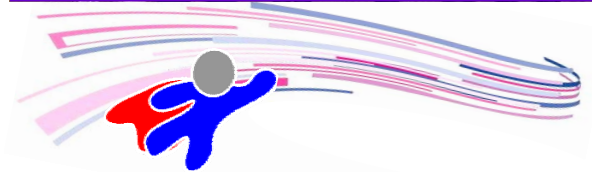
2nd place - Mrs. Tasselmyer's door (How Geo lost his rock) - Celia Stuart and Nora Anderson designed and decorated this door complete with interactive rock run.

1st place - Ms. Hayes and Mrs. Griffiths's doors (The Evolution of Christmas) - designed and decorated by Ella Bloomfield-Brown, Ella Goggan, Kate Lee, Clair Cuykendall, Roxy Peyus, Lauren Anderson, Morgan Conway, and McKenna Crocker.



Character Champions

The Counseling Office is proud to announce our "Character Champions" for the month of November! Two students from each grade level are chosen by their teachers as champions for each month's character value. These students are rewarded with a certificate and a small prize, as well as recognition in the newsletter. Queen Champlain declared that November's character value was "**Integrity!**" November's *Integrity Character Champions* are: 6th grade- Aaliya DeJesus & Kaiden Wilki, 7th grade- Autumn Lanzilotta & Elias Stillwell, 8th grade- Emma Lobdell & Christopher Greene. Great work in demonstrating Integrity! Thank you for modeling this characteristic to your peers!

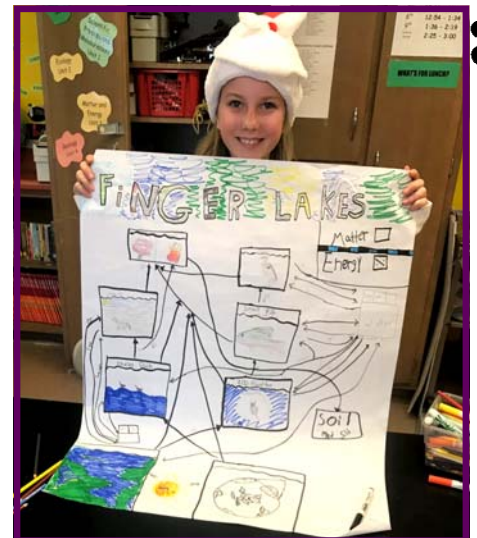


6th Grade Science

Science class has been busy this week demonstrating their knowledge of how energy and matter flow through an ecosystem.

Students worked in groups to build a two or three dimensional model showing how energy and matter move from the biotic and abiotic and back again. They presented their work in class and then completed a chapter assessment about the flow of energy and matter.

After break we will continue studying ecology by learning about invasive species and the effect the zebra mussels have had on the Hudson River ecosystem.



Math 6

By Miss Sinnegan

The 6+ class calculated how much money would be spent if they had to buy everything from the 12 Days of Christmas Song. After they calculated the total, they were asked to come up with a song about the last week of school to the tune of 12 days of Christmas. One of the songs they came up with is seen below.

5 Days Before Break

(to the tune of 12 Days of Christmas)

5 days before break my teachers said to me,
Did you do your homework?

4 days before break my teachers said to me,
Project due on Friday and did you do your homework?

3 days before break my teacher said to me,
Please quiet down, project due Friday and did you do your homework?

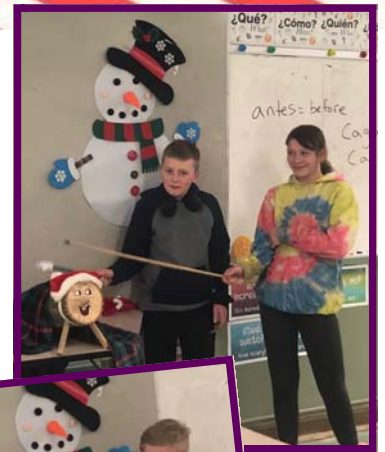
2 days before break my teacher said to me,

Do you have a pass, please quiet down, project due Friday and did you do your homework?

1 day before break my teachers said to me,

Show your Lion Pride, do you have a pass, please quiet down, project due Friday and did you do your homework?

During Christmas break
my teachers were soooooo happyyyyyy!



The 8th grade Spanish students had a lot of fun learning about a holiday tradition from Catalan Spain called “el tío de nadal”.

Dryden Middle School
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*Find more information about Dryden Middle School
on the web at: <https://ms.dryden.k12.ny.us/>*



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