

PRIDE *in Education*



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President's Message

As warm weather approaches, albeit earlier than we expected, we are all anticipating the exciting time ahead of us! Students are enjoying Read Across America week celebrations, "Souper" Bowls and National Art Honor Society activities. These are just a few of the highlights you'll be reading about in this latest issue of the *Pride in Education Magazine*. Enjoy!

Carol Mould



Elms Leap Day: Mrs. Shields Kindergarten class celebrated Leap Day by making frog hats. The last Leap Day occurred when these kindergarten students were only a year old.



Switlik Hosts its Second Annual Science Fair

The Second Annual SWITLIK Science Fair was held on Wednesday, February 24th in the Switlik gymnasium. All fifth graders were invited to create experiments that strictly followed the Scientific Method. Guided by Mr. Aju Mathews and Mr. Kyle Perrine, students spent three weeks hypothesizing, experimenting and creating their displays. Some students worked on whether the five second rule was valid and another student created a model beach with a live working tsunami machine. Many students used candy and soda in their experiments. Every fifth grade class had participants in the Fair which was attended by over 200 people throughout the evening. ■

Schools Across the District Celebrate Read Across America!

Schools around the district celebrated Read Across America in many different ways. Each celebration was unique in its own way, but one thing holds true: all of the students that participated were reminded of the importance of reading every day!

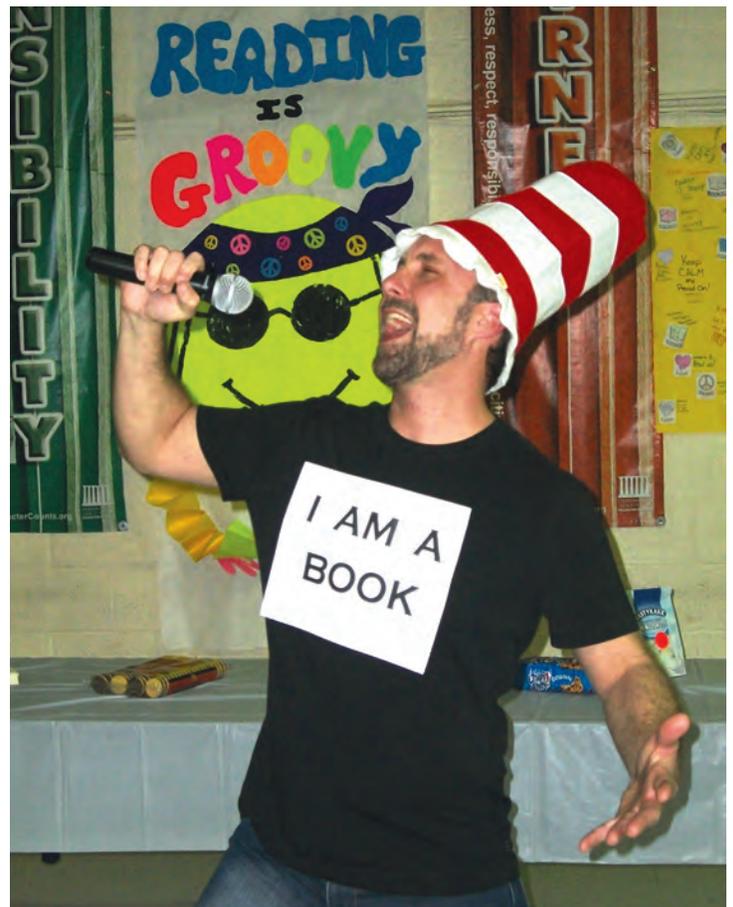


Students at Goetz School celebrated Read Across America with the theme “Peace, Love and Books”. On Monday, students created a “Reading Power, Let it Flower” display to illustrate their understanding of sign posts marking significant parts of their reading in their literacy class.

On Tuesday students and staff showed they were “groovy for books” by wearing their favorite tie dye. Lucky students that found a golden ticket in their library book during the month of February were treated to lunch and book fair bingo on Wednesday.

Prizes included vouchers that students could use to purchase books at the Scholastic Book Fair. Students had the opportunity to “Stand up for Books” and vote for a ‘student’s choice’ book to be included on the district’s summer reading list. “Keep the Peace and Read” brought the week’s activities to a close as all students and staff read for the last 15 minutes of the day on

Friday. The week’s activities encouraged reading among our students to help them develop into lifelong learners.



On Wednesday, February 24th, Switlik celebrated Read Across America with their always popular Family Night. This year’s theme was “Feeling Groovy – Peace, Love, and Books”.

The festivities began with entertainment provided by Switlik teachers and staff. They sang and danced to songs including “I’m a Good Reader” and “Step Up and Read with Me.” Afterwards, students listened to teachers read some of their favorite

books, and had the opportunity to win prizes. Families were also able to visit the book fair sponsored by the PTN, along with a visit from Clifford. All in all, Switlik's staff and students had fun honoring the amazing Dr. Seuss and sharing their love for reading!



On Thursday, February 25th, Holman Elementary School celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday with their annual Read Across America Pajama Party! During this evening event, students and their families listened to fun stories read by Holman staff members. Participants also watched Holman staff members perform skits of two Dr. Seuss stories, "Yertle the Turtle" and "The Sneetches".

There were prizes and refreshments for all participants, and the event ran in conjunction with the H.O.P.E.-sponsored Scholastic Book Fair. More than 700 people attended the event, which could not have taken place without the support of almost 50 Holman staff members who gave their time and talents to make the Pajama Party a big success!



Elms Elementary School had a week-long celebration of Read Across America events following the theme of "Reading Takes You on Adventures!" There was a circus theme that invited students and staff to dress up in costumes as well as a fun skit performed by teachers. Events for the culmination of the week included students going to different learning stations as well as a performance by the Encore Ensemble and a photo booth that everyone enjoyed! ■



Johnson Students Exhibit Work for Youth Art Month

Johnson Artists are exhibiting their work in honor of Youth Art Month at the Art Educators of NJ Ocean County exhibit in Toms River. From left to right is Liam Clare, Jaden Vaughan, Abigail Capillo, Victoria Yakes and Nico Costigan. Nico Costigan's painting was selected to represent Ocean County Youth Art Month at the State House in March. ■

Goetz School Has 'Hoops for Heart'

The Carl W. Goetz Middle School celebrated National Heart Healthy Month during February. The Physical Education Department coordinated a variety of activities to educate and create awareness of heart disease and stroke, the number one and number five killers in America. Throughout the entire month staff and students were provided information, cross curricular lessons and education on healthy lifestyles, heart attack, stroke, nutrition and how to support research and funding.

Mrs. Potter's video technology class developed a series of heart healthy tips that were presented on our television station "Goetz Live". The "Kevin and Luca Show" interviewed Principal Mr. Carl Perino and staff on the importance of this initiative. Infomercials were developed to keep students and staff involved and informed on all of our school-wide events. Appearances from our Heart Healthy Super Heros "Captain Cardiac" and "Colonel Cholesterol" were entertaining as well as informative for all.

On February 8th "National Go Red" kick off event was coordinated by Mrs. Paneque from the Phys. Ed. department. Donations from staff were collected to fund research, and support education programs on increase the knowledge of cardiovascular health. The entire school was dressed in red, showing support for this worthy cause.

On February 22nd, our staff and students participated in the student/faculty basketball game. This event was a huge success, a sold out event, due to the support of our administration, Goetz Spirit Band, parents and staff. We would like to thank all who came out to watch and support this highly contested



match! The faculty were fortunate enough to secure the win, Ms. Corbo the female high scorer for the staff!

On February 25th and 26th the Heart Healthy month long initiative concluded with our annual Hoops for Heart event, in Physical Education classes. All students participated in a variety of heart healthy activities and a number of students supported the American Heart Association by fundraising. On Thursday February 25th, Mr. Jim Presbey from the NJ American Heart Association stated "Carl Goetz school provides and tremendously effective multidisciplinary approach to creating awareness and educating our youth and community on cardiovascular health and stroke. The team of teachers who are instrumental in supporting our program our doing a terrific job."

"If you don't take care of your health, where will you live?" ■



Goetz Students Participate in All-Shore Intermediate Band

In November, five students from Carl W. Goetz Middle School were accepted into the 2015-2016 All Shore Intermediate Band, a prestigious ensemble of the finest middle school musicians from Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Students first had to pass an audition consisting of scales, a solo, and sight reading. The 2015-2016 All Shore Intermediate Band performed a concert on February 3, 2016 at Freehold Township High School, conducted by renowned band composer Robert Sheldon. ■



Reader's Workshop Reading Buddies!

Switlik students in Mrs. Kahn's first grade and Mrs. Wardell's second grade have become reading 'buddies'. During Reader's Workshop the children have been reading independently and working hard to solve tricky words and make their reading sound like talking. This month the 'buddies' got together again to show off their reading strategies and then they were able to share their favorite parts and opinions with their buddy. "I can't wait to read with them again", said Aidan K., "because I like to read." ■



Holman First Graders State Their Opinions

First graders in Mrs. Morales' class participated in a Goldfish cracker "taste test" to launch the new unit of opinion writing. Through this activity, students were able to gain an understanding of what it means to form an opinion. They were able to write their own opinions on which flavor Goldfish cracker was the best and supported it with a reason. As the unit unfolds, the students will compose opinion pieces in which they will introduce the topic, state their opinion, supply a reason, and provide some sense of closure. This fun activity was an engaging way for students to become immersed in writing. ■

Switlik "Souper" Bowl is a Huge Success

Switlik School showed they are true Bucket Fillers by collecting over 600 food items for the Jackson Food Pantry. The week before the Denver Broncos played the Carolina Panthers, Switlik students and staff cast their votes for their team favorite. Boxes decorated with the team colors were placed in the gym hallway and votes were cast by placing a canned item in the box of their favorite Super Bowl team. Switlik School has supported the community for the past six years by helping stock the shelves of the food pantry by collecting over 3,000 items. ■

100th Day: 100 Year Old Selves and Valentine's Day Fun!

The students in Mrs. Alkalay's third grade class at Crawford celebrated the 100th day by dressing up as a 100 year old man or lady and playing multiplication BINGO.

Various other teachers voted on the best dressed...Best Dressed Man was Arick Buckley and Best Dressed Woman was Kathryn Spalthoff! All the contestants were AMAZING, AUTHENTIC, AND SO CREATIVE!

Mrs. Alkalay's third grade class also celebrated Valentine's Day with a Valentine Mailbox Contest. Congratulations to Ava Bocchiaro, Arick Bickley, and Justin Rizzo-Troxell for winning the contest! After the contest, all of the students LOVED making homemade pizza. Some students chose to make a large group pie, while others chose to make a personal one! Moms, Mrs. Kisseberth and Mrs. Buckley, helped us have a delicious day! ■



Leap into the Future

To celebrate the Leap Year, eighth grade students in Ms. Callahan's class wrote letters to their future selves. The letters will be delivered during the next Leap Year, in four years, when the students are seniors. Students included memories of their time at Goetz, predictions of where they will be in four years, hopes for goals accomplished, and advice to themselves. ■



Goetz Honors Choir students performed at Westlake at the 9/11 ceremony held there in September.

Welcome to the Shark Tank

When you think “entrepreneur,” you probably don’t think an eight, nine, or 10 year old. However, there are no rules about age when it comes to starting your own company. Switlik’s “Shark Tank”, was recently open to opportunities regardless of the founder’s age, and while Enrichment teachers Mrs. Magee and Ms. Zaninelli were kind to these mini sharks-to-be, that didn’t mean they cut them a break.

Enrichment student entrepreneurs in grades 3-5 recently learned all there is to know about the business world. After inventing a product, students had to pitch to “investors”, make an investment deal with the “Sharks”, and ultimately persevere through roadblocks, whether they came out with an investment deal or not. Aiden Sweeney, a fifth grade Enrichment student introduced his \$175 dollar “Smart Slugger”, a self correcting bat which helps young children improve their batting skills, while saving their parents money from having to pay for individual lessons. “I would invest in this for my daughter who plays softball”, Shark Mrs. Pagano-Hein said.

The Shark Tank activity was a great learning experience for Switlik students, who were able to invent a product, come

up with a business and marketing plan, “pitch” their ideas to “sharks”, and ask for potential investors for certain prices and percentages as a buy in. Switlik enrichment students walked away wanting to become young entrepreneurs! ■



District S-P-E-L-L-I-N-G Bee

The Annual Jackson School District Spelling Bee was held on Thursday, March 3rd at 7 PM at Jackson Liberty high school. 30 students, five from each elementary school, represented their respective schools. The Jackson Rotary Club sponsored and presented the prizes which included a beautiful trophy and \$100 Barnes & Noble gift card for the champion Brian Cooper, a fifth grader from Switlik School; each school champion also got \$25 gift cards from B&N as well.

Brian won by spelling the word “blandishment” in the 10th round. Brian, along with five other school champions will represent the district at the *Asbury Park Press* Spelldown 2016 on March 14th at Monmouth University.

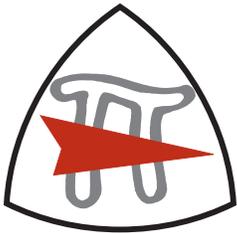
Mr. Dave Kasyan, Assistant Principal of Crawford-Rodriguez School was the MC for the evening. Mr. Aju Mathews (Switlik) coordinated the District Bee with the help of a team of JEA teachers from the elementary schools: Donna Donner (Elms), Kerry Detura (Crawford), Debbie McGuckin (Rosenauer), Shaina Chagrin (Rosenauer), Heather Donnelly (Johnson), and Shawn Levinson (Johnson). Special thanks to Harry Ferone and his Liberty HS JTV student team, Roseanne Carello (Rosenauer) and student teacher Connor Murphy (Switlik) for their assistance at the event. ■

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Lions Club Hosts Peace Poster Contest

The Goetz National Junior Art Honor Society (NJAHS) participated in the Lions Club International Peace Poster Contest. Mr. Ed Townsend, from the Toms River Lions Club, sponsored the contest and rewarded the winners with a monetary prize as well as a delicious dinner at Olive Garden. Goetz art teachers and NJAHS co-advisors Helene Capicotto and Holly Callahan were also invited to participate in the award ceremony. The first place winner was Jamie Navarro, second place was Megan Casper and third place was Abigail Bell. Congratulations to our artists! ■



The Goetz Honors Choir sang for the Jackson Township 10th Annual Menorah Lighting Ceremony on December 9th, 2015 at the Jackson Township Municipal Building.