

**CAWLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL'S REPORT  
"Make a Mark, Make A Difference:  
2017 New Hampshire Middle School of the Year**

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**December 2017**

**Robotics**

The robotics team had a great performance at the regional qualifying tournament in November at Hillside Middle School. There were 18 teams competing and the Cawley team won the robot game, received a second place trophy for Core Values, and earned a spot at the state tournament to be held in Windham on December 3.

The most gratifying award is the Core Values Award, which is given to a team that displays exceptional teamwork, respect for each other, professionalism and also tries to help others. The Cawley team helped two other teams overcome some technical challenges so that they could compete.

Members of the team:

Sai Cherla, Ethan Chow, Nicholas DiMaggio, Jason Lebreque, Camden Normand, Wendy Parcel, Samuel Tilton, James (Royce) Andrews, Aidan Belanger, Mark Hinkley, Coaches, Sue Chow, D.J. Lemmo

**ALPs News:**

As part of the Hour of Code this year Cawley students are participating in the first ever NH Cyber-Robotics Coding Competition co-sponsored by NH Department of Education and Intelitek. This challenge is open to all middle and high school students in New Hampshire. The first stage of the competition runs until December 4. In order to advance to the semi-finals the ALPS teachers have been focusing on encouraging as many students and teachers to log in and complete at least five of the fifty missions. Currently, Cawley is in ninth place, but climbing the leaderboard quickly.

The sixth-grade students in 21st Century Technology class had the opportunity to show off their coding skills for Ido Yerushalimi, the CEO from Intelitek, as he visited and interacted with the students as they completed challenges.

Eighth grade students participated in the Water Warrior Challenge in their science classes. This was an authentic learning experience that included a STEM component of inventing a product that will protect a small house from flash flooding. After testing the absorbency rates of different materials students advanced through the design process. Many students were successful on their second and third attempts after reflecting on the difficulties of their first model.

### **Young South East Asian Leaders Initiative**

On October 27, Cawley's sixth grade social studies classes hosted three international visitors from the Hooksett YSEALI (Young South East Asian Leaders Initiative) program. This mutually beneficial learning experience provided students with an opportunity to think critically about Hooksett's role in the global community.

### **Bell Ringing**

There are many different organizations, clubs, staff members and students at Cawley who will be ringing the Salvation Army bells in Hooksett in December. The Cawley community has always volunteered to support others in Hooksett. Principal, Matthew Benson and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students, Andrew Downer, Declan Ryan, Julia Salvas and Autumn Wood, will be ringing bells at Shaws in Hooksett on December 15.

### **Athletics**

The winter season is off and running with boys and girls basketball teams both starting league play on November 28. The cheerleading team was selected and will be working hard to perform at the second home basketball game on November 30.

### **Performing Arts**

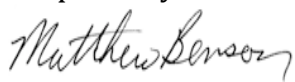
Students are gearing up for the holiday concert, which is December 13. The Cawley Band, Jazz Band, Chorus and Hawk-Apellas have been working hard getting ready for the concert since the beginning of school. The Fine Arts Department will perform for students at Underhill at 9:45 am and then at Memorial at 1:00 pm on Wednesday, December 12. Their final performances will be at Cawley on Wednesday, December 13 at 9:30 am and an evening performance for the community at 6:30 pm.

Drama club kicked into gear on Tuesday, November 28, under the direction of Angelica Rosenthal. Students will be exploring acting basics through workshops and scene-work throughout the year.

### **Upcoming Key Dates to Note at Cawley:**

December 1: PTA Dance, 6:30 – 9:00 pm  
December 3: Robotics State Tournament  
December 4: Geography Bee  
December 12: Fine Arts Department Performs at FCU & HMS, 9:45 am & 1:00 pm  
December 13: Winter Concert, 9:15 am, 6:30 pm, Cawley Gymnasium  
December 18: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Progress Checks  
December 25 – Jan. 1 Winter Vacation

Respectfully Submitted,



Matthew Benson, Principal