

**CAWLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
"Make a Mark, Make A Difference:
2017 New Hampshire Middle School of the Year
May 2018**



8th Grade Recognition Evening Date Set

Eighth Grade Recognition Evening will be on Monday, June 18. The ceremony will be from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Dinner and a dance for students will be from 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm.

Title 1 at Cawley

Cawley Middle School continues to offer a before and after school Title I program. The program takes place Monday thru Thursday each week either in the morning, 7:00 am - 7:40 am, or in the afternoon from 2:45 pm - 3:45 pm. At press time 20 students were participating in the program. It is expected that ten more students will enroll in the program after April vacation. On Thursday, April 19, Principal, Matthew Benson, Title I Coordinator, Sarah Levesque and Title I Teacher, William Trimmer hosted a parent information night to discuss the program, staff, instruction, selection process and options for a summer program.

Young Writers: The Poetry Game Contest

Students from Cawley Middle School shined in the, Young Writers' *The Poetry Games* Contest. Out of 1,500 entries in the United States, Cawley had 10 student winners. The students entries will be in a publication that will be sent to The Library of Congress in Washington D.C., as well as the British Library in the UK to provide a lasting record of these students' achievement.

The following students submitted sonnets and were named winners: Briana Danis, Sean O'Mara, James Bridges, Kylie Barnhart, Arianna Soucy and Jack Patti. The students are in Mrs. Tremblay's Advanced Learning Program language art class.

The following students in Mrs. Saltus' eighth grade language arts classes submitted award-winning essays: Leah Morin, Alison Bright, Ethan Boucher and Sarah Pinard.

Expanding Your Horizon Conference

On Saturday, May 5, 47 girls from Cawley Middle School will board a bus and head to the Expanding Your Horizon Conference that will be held at the Cooperative Middle School in Stratham, NH. This all day conference encourages middle school girls to explore math and science careers and it is completely free of charge. The girls participate in five different workshops throughout the day each presented by women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers. The Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) Network programs provide STEM role models and hands-on activities for middle and high school girls with the ultimate goal to motivate girls to become innovative and creative thinkers to meet 21st Century challenges. Teachers,

Jayne Abbas and Margaret Collins volunteer to coordinate and attend this outstanding experience for our students.

SEAPEARCH

The **Seacoast SeaPerch Regional Competition** was held on April 13, at UNH in Durham, NH. There were two eighth grade teams representing Cawley in the competition. Out of 50 teams, *Team Boaty McBoatface* consisting of Austin Bobay, Nick Chaffee, Jeremy Burke, Kaleb Wood and Will Shields was lightning fast on the obstacle course and ended up placing 2nd in the middle school division. *Team Pink Puffy Unicorns* comprised of Diamond Paige and Gabe Thibodeau had some technical difficulties, but finished both the obstacle and the challenge courses within the time frame.

The after-school STEM Club members at Cawley are continuing the journey of learning how to build their own SeaPerches. The eighth grade competition teams will be sharing their experiences and mentoring members of the STEM Club.

Mock Trial Team

Mock trial is an activity that gives students the opportunity to experience the criminal justice system by performing as lawyers and witnesses. Mock Trial as well as speech and debate involve a presentation by a group of students that is judged against a similar type of presentation by others in a round of competition. On May 5, the twelve-student Cawley Mock Trial team will be travelling to Amherst Middle School to compete in the Middle School Mock Trial Tournament. Students have been working diligently on a civil case by preparing statements, arguments and honing public speaking skills. The students have been guided in their preparation from a retired Detective Sergeant from the Manchester Police Department, John Patti. Sixth grade social studies teacher Katy Devine is the advisor for the team and is working to coordinate a judge to also speak with the students.

PSAT Update

Cawley Middle School finally received an access code from "The College Board" in order to be a testing site to administer the PSAT for students in eighth grade. The next step is to begin coordinating testing dates in the fall.

National Junior Honor Society

The National Junior Honor Society held its annual pancake breakfast on April 14 and raised \$700.00. The money will be donated to Becky's Gift, a local organization whose mission is to provide short-term assistance for the feeding and care of horses. The toy/game drive for Boston Children's Hospital was highly successful and a plethora of items will be delivered over April vacation. Members are now preparing for the annual talent show, which will be held on May 11. The money raised from this event will also be donated to a local charitable organization.

Project Safeguard

Seventh grade students and their parents will participate in the annual event, Project Safeguard on Thursday, May 24 at Southern New Hampshire University. This is a family oriented prevention program, which deals with social issues such as, substance abuse, bullying and communication skills and how they impact the quality of students' lives.

CPR Introduction Course for Seventh Grade Students

On May 25, the Hooksett Fire Department will be instructing seventh grade students on performing CPR with only their hands. Students do not earn a certification, but they are introduced to hand techniques and the benefits of knowing CPR.

Shakespeare in 8th Grade Language Arts

Since February, eighth grade students have been reading Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in language arts classes. As a culmination of this unit, the ShakespeareNow Theatre Company will be traveling from Boston to perform this comedy for eighth graders on May 1 during the school day.

Camp Mi Te Na Presentations

Matt Hansen from the YMCA and Camp Mi Te Na, will provide an overview of the activities, facilities and supplies needed for the eighth graders overnight trip on May 7. He will meet with students in the morning and parents at 6:30 pm in the Cawley Media Center. The trip is scheduled for June 6, 7 and 8.

FisherCats Reading Challenge

Cawley Middle School was named one of the top three participating schools in New Hampshire for the FisherCats Reading Challenge. Thank you to our students, staff and Reading Specialist, Laura Piccolo for coordinating the challenge at Cawley.

BANANAGRAMS

Cawley Middle School was named the winner of the Most Bananas Décor Award. Mrs. Piccolo's classroom was festively decorated to represent the Bananagram's challenge.

Builders Club

The Cawley Builders Club recently sold "Hoppy Grams" and raised \$120.00 for the Manchester Animal Shelter. On April 3, five students joined Mrs. Kahn at the Kiwanis Leaders Dinner to honor Mrs. Olsen as the 2018 Kiwanis Educator of the Year. Gracie Blackman joined Mrs. Williams on April 12, at Memorial School to explain the Cawley Builders Club to the "Kids Make A Difference" group. On April 13, Wendy Parcel, Arianna Soucy and Aidan Gravina volunteered as Bingo callers for the PTA at Hooksett Memorial School. Members will be going to the Nashua Armory on May 18 to work with Operation Care for Troops. Many members have written thank you notes to the servicemen/women and will be packing those along with other items to ship out to our troops.

Athletics

After a long winter the spring season has finally begun. Baseball, softball, girls lacrosse and boys lacrosse have their teams picked and have started Tri-County games. Track and field athletes have been working hard to find their events and had two meets before April vacation. Golf held tryouts the week of April 16 and will start their matches the first week of May. The schedule for all athletic events can be found on the school's website under the Cawley Middle School calendar and is also posted next to cafeteria on the After School Sports bulletin board.

Performing Arts

Eighth grade students performed "Guys and Dolls JR". They did a fantastic job bringing these well-known characters to life onstage.

The performing arts students are gearing up for the spring concert on Thursday, May 17. The Cawley Band, Chorus, Jazz Band and Hawk-Apella will perform various genres of music and display a creative collaboration between the Jazz Band and Chorus as they bring "Haven't Met You Yet" to life onstage.

The band is once again looking forward to marching in the Memorial Day Parade in Hooksett on May 27.

Upcoming Key Dates to Note at Cawley:

- May 7: Camp Mi Te Na, Student Presentation, 8:00 am
- May 7: Camp Mi Te Na, Parent Presentation, 6:30 pm
- May 11: NJHS Talent Show, 6:30 pm
- May 14 – 18: 4th Quarter Progress Checks
- May 17: Spring Concert, 9:30 am – 6:30 pm
- May 21: 8th Grade Class Picture, 8:00 am
- May 22: CU4Reality Financial Literacy MegaFair 8th Grade
- May 24: Project Safeguard for Grade Seven Students
- May 25: Hands Only CPR for Grade Seven Students
- May 27: Memorial Day Parade, 11:30 am
- May 28: No School, Memorial Day
- May 30, 31: Drama Club Presentation, 7:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Matthew Benson, Principal