

**CAWLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

**"Make a Mark, Make A Difference:
2017 New Hampshire Middle School of the Year**



February 2023

January "Hawks of the Month"

Congratulations to the January "Hawks of the Month" who best represented the word of the month, "Initiative," Elena Travassos, Brenden Dumont, Ella Harnisch, Ajdin Husejnovic, Joey Doyon, Isabella Fleming, Kaleigh Stephenson, Raphael Coll, Jace LaBranche, Violet Doty, Alvin Chalise, Lydia Raymond, Usman Ali and Abigail Brown.

Daughters of American Revolution Essay Contest

Sixth grade teacher Mrs. Erin Brewitt had her FLEX students participate in the Daughters of American Revolution Essay contest this past fall. The following students submitted essays; Natalie Bergeron, Jace LaBranche, Blake Merrow, Violet Llyod and Emily Little.

Jace LaBranche was selected as the 6th Grade Molly Stark Chapter winner. Jace wrote about being from New Hampshire and a delegate from the New England colony. He wrote about not approving of the colonies being split up and how the country should be united. He wanted equality for all people.

Jace will be recognized on February 17 at the General John Stark House in Manchester. He will read his essay and receive a Bronze American History medal, certificate and monetary award.

National History Teachers of Year Award

Seventh grade social studies teachers Mikaela Gauvain and Paige Benotti were nominated and awarded the Behring Co-Teachers of the Year Award for their outstanding leadership and instruction of the National History Day program. Mikaela and Paige were nominated by Kelsie Eckert, the coordinator of the NHD program in New Hampshire. Mikaela and Paige are now eligible to compete for the national awards and the opportunity to attend the national ceremony in June

7th Grade Students Visit the NH Supreme Court

On February 2, 7th grade social studies teachers Mikaela Gauvain and Paige Benotti coordinated a field trip for 25 seventh graders to the NH Supreme Court to participate in a mock trial with real lawyers and justices. Lawyers initially came to the school to prepare the students on the Supreme Court case, Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District. Students worked collaboratively to prepare their arguments for either the side of the students or the school district. While at the NH Supreme Court, students acted as lawyers for their case and argued for their clients in front of a panel of lawyers. Later, they applied the decision from Tinker v. Des Moines to other Supreme Court cases involving the First Amendment and its relevance in schools. Ms. Gauvain and Mrs. Benotti will be coordinating another field trip for an additional 25 students to the NH Supreme Court on February 16.

Sixth Grade Science Classes

In February, sixth graders will be braving the cold to go outside and witness an amazing science phenomena. Using only boiling water and the cold surrounding air, students will witness the power of air to crush a metal 55 gallon drum. As they learn more about the behavior of gases and how they are affected by temperature, students will ask questions, discover connections, and design models to make sense of why the drum was crushed instantaneously.

Advanced Learning Program

ALPs classes have been exploring a variety of topics by grade level: memoirs, mythology, and research skills. Additionally, in FLEX, students are focusing on Random Acts of Kindness week by building school wide challenges, designing a bulletin board, reading and discussing research on kindness theories. Students also ranked books and will be engaging in book clubs based on fiction and non-fiction texts that center on the power of kindness.

The ALPs program is also working with Family and Consumer Science classes to teach students about electricity and circuits. Students will be exploring circuits using the MaKey MaKey designed by MIT, and then creating e-textile designs: masks that light up using basic circuit knowledge and sewing skills. Lastly, Mrs. Yeaton is currently planning a school wide reading challenge for March.

Middle School Month

The coming of spring brings with it the celebration of adolescents. March is National Middle School Month. Ten to fifteen-year-old students make a difference in their families, schools and communities, so Cawley designates one special month to celebrate middle school students and who they are and what they have accomplished.

Middle School Month is kicked off with Foreign Language Week immediately after we return from February vacation. The annual school-wide dodge ball tournament where students contribute \$1.00 each to play for their team will be on March 17. The money collected will be donated to a local Hooksett charity.

Students and staff will also participate in homeroom events such as "Name that Tune," "Finish the Lyrics," and "Geography Bingo." Throughout the month there will dress up days, motivational quotes and trivia. The schoolwide pep rally and evening dance will conclude the monthlong celebration on March 24.

911 Education from the Department of NH Homeland Security Presentations

On March 16 the New Hampshire Department of Homeland Security will present to all grade levels by introducing students to the Text-to-911 capability. In addition to the overview of 9-1-1 and work NH DHHS does, this presentation will cover caller etiquette and how to avoid accidental calls by being aware of the features on smart devices.

Builders Club

The Cawley Builder's Club has been busy making Valentines for Veterans. These Valentines will be distributed to The Hooksett American Legion, and The Hooksett Vet Center on Valentine's Day, along with some sweet treats. The members also volunteered at the PTA's annual Father-Daughter Dance on February 10.

Several members attended the Hooksett Kiwanis Dinner on February 1 and updated the group on our activities.

There are several big events planned for March and April. In March the Builders Club will celebrate Middle School Month and Builder's Club Week by thanking the Cawley teachers for all they do. A special treat is being planned for the staff as well as some "Rays of Sunshine."

"April Showers" is back as the members will be collecting personal hygiene items, as well as laundry items, for the Hooksett Food Pantry. The event will take place the week of April 10.

National Junior Honor Society

The National Junior Honor Society is hard at work preparing for Trivia Night. This new event will be held February 23 from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm in the Cawley cafeteria. Students and staff will be able to test their trivia knowledge and compete for prizes. Teams of 5 can register with Mr. Davini or Mr. Gregoire. The cost is \$10 per team.

The 8th grade NJHS members will visit Underhill on February 22 to meet with their book buddies. The members are really enjoying these opportunities to connect with future Cawley Hawks.

Unified Sports

The Unified Sports team has been working hard preparing for their first basketball game of the year on February 22 against Rundlet Middle School from Concord. In March the Cawley Unified Sports team will visit Rundlet for their second basketball game.

Athletics

Congratulations to the cheer team for finishing 2nd place at the Bishop Guertin Groovy Classic on February 5. The cheer team finished in first place for Division 3 at Cheer Madness on February 11. The team was led by their captains Selena Alaias, Ava Rozzi and Cali Sylvia. The girls continue to work hard in preparation for their final upcoming competitions.

Congratulations to the girls basketball team on winning back to back Division 3 championships. The girls finished the season with a 13 - 1 league record and beat Pelham in the finals for the 2nd consecutive year.

Congratulations to the boys basketball team for finishing with the 3 seed with a 9-3 league record. The boys were victorious in the quarterfinal round vs. South Meadow to advanced to the semi-finals v. Pelham.

Co-ed volleyball began on February 13. There are eight scheduled matches for this season.

Performing Arts

This month students in the Cawley Music Department are hard at work learning their new music for the upcoming Large Group Festival in March. Large Group is a performance where the band and chorus students travel to a venue and perform rehearsed pieces for professional judges. The judges provide a rating and feedback based on the performance as well as a sight-reading excerpt. Sight-reading is when the students receive music that they have never seen before and perform it as an entire ensemble. Rehearsals for the 8th grade musical have begun for Shrek the Musical Jr. The performances this year are April 6 and 7.

Upcoming Key Dates to Note at Cawley:

February 22: Book Buddies with Underhill

February 22: Unified Sports Basketball, Rundlet at Cawley

February 23: NJHS Trivia Night, 5:00 pm

February 27- March 3 – February Vacation

March 6 – 24: Middle School Month

March 10: 3rd Quarter Progress Checks for Unified Arts Classes

March 14: Professional Development Day for Teachers, No School for Students

March 17: Dodgeball Tournament During Unified Arts Classes

March 18: NHMEA Large Group Festival for Band and Chorus

March 20: 2nd Trimester Ends

March 21: 3rd Trimester Begins

March 24: Student Council Dance, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Matthew Benson, Principal