

**CAWLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
"Make a Mark, Make A Difference"
2017 New Hampshire Middle School of the Year
January 2024**



Cawley Mascot 6th Grade Competition

After 15 amazing auditions and hours of deliberation by Cawley's student lead group, Heart of the Hawk, the school is excited to announce the 6th grade Cawley Mascots in Training winners, **Zoey Godbout and Genivyve Judge** and the Mascot Handlers, **Lily Fitzpatrick and Everly Fornier**. The four students will be an integral part of promoting school spirit for the next three years.

Cawley Wellness Update

The Cawley Wellness Committee designed a week of wellness activities to energize and inspire a healthy lifestyle for staff and students for the week of January 8 - 12. The committee's goal was to promote a healthy lifestyle and school community by presenting the students and staff with engaging activities to communicate, collaborate and problem solve together.

Students started the week by participating in a BINGO format of selecting and completing health activities for the month with the chance to win a raffle for free admission into the dance on January 19.

In addition, student representative Stewart Gregory created a *Would You Rather* movement break presentation starring the Cawley mascot, Captain. Hawkins. The presentation consisted of sixteen slides in which students were presented with a healthy choice like *Would You Rather Be A Strawberry or Banana*, and then performed the movement Captain Hawkins did such as jogging in place or five lunges.

Student representative Hannah Russell, along with seventh graders Lucy Callahan and Emily Upton, created another movement break. Together, they wrote lyrics using Cawley's Portrait of the Learner traits and videoed their choreographed dance to the tune of the Go Noodle song, Purple Stew. Sixth grade mathematics teacher, Hailey Thompson designed an art activity where each student placed their New Year's Healthy Choice Resolution Feather onto a grade level Cawley Hawk display.

School Counselor, Lea Maguire along with eighth grade students Brayden Come, Emmanuel Mokuia, Nadia Cosic, Bria Tremblay and Keegan Hunt recreated The Jar of Life - Rocks, Pebbles, Sand Experiment. During this activity students were presented with the challenge to consider which parts within their jar matter most and fill their lives with positivity, purpose and personal growth and which parts take up the majority of their focus, energy and time and whether these parts define them or distract them from their purpose and growth.

Finally, to create additional excitement and positive energy the committee assigned a Spirit Day wear for each of the days of the week in which students were encouraged to dress to a daily theme from Mellow Out Wearing Your Favorite Sweatpants and Fruit Salad Mismatched Colors Day.

The culminating celebration of wellness will be on Friday, January 19. In the morning students will participate in the school wide Brain Games Assembly followed by an academic screen free day. During this day, students and staff will be engaged in a day of learning that promotes the pillars of Cawley's Portrait of a Learner: Communication, Collaboration, Problem- Solving, hands-on and collaborative learning free from screens and technology.

PTA Brain Games

The Hooksett PTA is sponsoring the annual Brain Games. The Brain Games will be on January 19 during a whole school assembly. This is an interactive assembly in which students are randomly selected to participate in a quiz style game show.

Pinkerton Academy 8th Grade Electives Information Day

On January 22, only 8th grade students who are attending Pinkerton Academy next school year will be going on a field trip to Pinkerton Academy during the school day to talk directly with other students about their experiences in the areas of Junior ROTC, the Arts, Career and Technical Education and World Languages. Students will move through these four programs during the full-day activity.

Advanced Learning Program

December ended with the Advanced Learning Program's Flex student's participating in the chorus concerts by providing an American Sign Language accompaniment for John Lennon's "Imagine." The more than a dozen students did a marvelous job, and received many compliments on the emotional impact of their performance. January marks the beginning of National History Day work in which the ALP's teacher Mrs. Yeaton will be assisting students with their research and presentations. Mrs. Yeaton also presented to the Cawley staff on developing instructional strategies to increase rigor and deepening understanding.

Student Council

The Student Council will host their third dance afterschool on Friday, January 19 from 2:45 pm - 4:45 pm. Students worked to promote this time change to increase dance attendance and participation and advocated for more options to be included such as dancing in the cafe, basketball in the Gym, board games on the stage, concessions, and several raffles and pay-to-play fundraiser activities. The Student Council is also in the beginning stages of planning for a whole-school event in February and Middle School Month in March.

National Junior Honor Society

The NJHS pancake breakfast will take place on January 27. This is the largest and most popular fundraiser of the academic year. In previous years NJHS has donated hundreds of dollars to local charities and nonprofit organizations from the profits of this event. The breakfast is in the cafeteria from 8:30 am -11:00 am. Along with the warm pancakes, sausages and a breakfast beverage there will be a 50/50 raffle and themed gift baskets created by the members of the NJHS to be raffled off. Tickets can be purchased for \$5.00 either at the door or from an NJHS member.

Winter Assessments

Starting on February 6, students in grades six through eight will complete the New Hampshire Statewide Assessment System interim assessment for mathematics, reading and writing.

This interim assessment will allow math and language arts teachers to elicit evidence of learning to inform teaching and evaluate grade level instructional progress. It is a light footprint and takes less time to administer than the summative assessment, which takes place in the spring.

Students identified with severe cognitive disabilities that are eligible for the alternative assessment, Dynamic Learning Maps, will not participate in this winter assessment.

Builders Club

The students are currently planning a pet drive where collections will take place to help the local shelters in January. In February the students will attend a Valentines for Veterans event. In March the Builders Club will help celebrate Middle School Month as well as Builders Club Week.

Athletics

Boys Basketball: The boys have been working hard and half way through the season in D2. The boys are 3-4 in league play and are starting to gel together and look to make a playoff push down the stretch.

Girls Basketball: The girls team is 6-1 in league play (12-2 overall) and are starting to play well together heading towards the playoffs.

Good luck to both basketball teams and basketball standings can be found on the league website: <https://www.tricountyathletic.org/>.

Cheer: The cheer team has been cheering at home games and begin their competition season this month. The team has five upcoming competitions across NH.

Co-ed Volleyball: Volleyball is a non-cut sport that will begin on February 12. Sign ups and detailed information will be posted in January.

Performing Arts

December was a successful month for the music department, with the band, chorus and jazz band performing winter concerts. All three performing groups have already begun looking at new music in preparation for their adjudications that will take place in March.

The end of January will mark the start of quarter three, which means it is time to begin work on the 8th grade musical. Auditions for roles in *The Little Mermaid Jr* will take place on January 17 and 18.

The Cawley Music Department would like to congratulate Emma Tilton who auditioned for the New Hampshire Band Directors Association Honors Band. She was chosen as one of the trumpets to perform in the band out of almost thirty students who tried out from all over the state. This honor recognizes Emma's hard work to be one of the top middle school trumpet

players in New Hampshire. She will perform on April 15 with the Honors Band at Pinkerton Academy.

Upcoming Dates to Note at Cawley:

January 8 - 12 Wellness Week
January 15: No School, Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 19: Brain Games Assembly, 8:00 am
January 19: Student Council Dance, 2:45 pm - 4:45 pm
January 22: 8th Grade Trip to Pinkerton Academy's CTE Program
January 22: Current 7th Grade Washington D.C. Informational Night, 6:00 pm
January 23: No School, Presidential Primary
January 26: Quarter 2 Ends
January 26: Trimester 2 Progress Checks
January 27: Pancake Breakfast, 8:30 am
January 29: Quarter 3 Begins
January 30: 8th Grade NAEP Assessment
February 6 - 9: NH SAS Interim Assessments
February 21: Cawley Coffee House, 6:30 pm
February 26 - March 1: February Vacation

Respectfully Submitted,



Matthew Benson, Principal