

LION PRIDE



DRYDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

LORA CHAMPLAIN, PRINCIPAL

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DMS art students shown here with ink portraits (6th grade), and pencil drawings (8th grade)

Have a Super Summer!

Summer Reading Program



The ELA teachers want ALL students to read for pleasure this summer! Reading can be a FUN and relaxing summer activity! Students can read on a park bench, on a road trip, in a hammock, or at the beach! They can read when the Solar Express comes around! Also, we want to encourage all students to take advantage of the Summer Reading Program "A Universe of Stories" at Southworth Library in Dryden! It is going to be out of this world! So have a great summer, and discover a love for books!



A Universe of Stories at Southworth Library

Summer of Space Teen Takeovers

Will be held weekly on Wednesday nights from 7-9 PM for kids entering grades 6 to 12. Pizza and snacks provided. Registration is recommended.

- July 10: Galaxy Paint Night
- July 17: Movie Night: Solo
- July 24: Escape room: solve the clues and test your wits
- July 31: Movie Night: Shazam!
- August 7: Gaming Unplugged & Space Jeopardy



August 14: Movie Night: Avengers Endgame

Free books distributed on movie nights! Summer teen programs are funded through a generous grant from the Dryden Youth Opportunity Fund. Each participant also receives a coupon for a free McDonalds ice cream sundae

Want to learn how to use the 3D printer? Sign up for the training on July 8 from 5-7 pm. Training includes how to look at models, using Tinkercad and other programs, and the procedures for using the 3D printer at the library.

Open board games on Friday afternoons from 1-4 throughout the summer. Be sure to check out the new books we have for this summer!



Counseling Corner

Over the summer break, the Middle School Counseling Office encourages students and their families to recharge, relax, and rejuvenate. We ask you to reflect on the meaning of the proverb, "You cannot pour from an empty cup." Please take time each day to find small moments that bring you joy.

This includes media wellness also; make sure your student

gets into a habit of taking time without electronics to sit and have thoughts, read, garden, walk, journal, draw, dance, bake, clean, etc. Often, students get overly used to being constantly connected to others and being distracted by their phones. Experiences are heightened if we are mentally present for them, even something as simple as watching a sunset or enjoying a glass of lemonade!

Try to develop positive self-care habits over the break. We don't mean flossing (although, it won't hurt!); you and your student should examine sleep, personal hygiene, screen time, diet, and exercise patterns. Additionally, practicing good mental health through small lifestyle changes such as meditation, gratitude journaling, or positive self-talk will be beneficial.

Student Council Food Drive

In May the entire middle school participated in a food drive campaign, "Kids Feeding Kids". Having never done this food drive before the student council wasn't sure what to expect. They set a goal of 200 non-perishable items and in just two weeks were able to gather that much food. The great part is, the food stays in our community. The student body was treated to an ice cream snack on the last day of school in recognition of their donations and for meeting our goal. Thank you to all the parents that helped by sending items into the school.



A huge thank you to Sherry Tasselmyer and the Student Council for joining with UnitedWay: Kids Helping Kids Food Drive !

On that note, the Counseling Office wants to share our "Steps to Positive Affirmation," a project we took on with the help of our counseling groups and the 6th grade teachers. Ask your student what their favorite affirmations are, and suggest that they repeat them to themselves daily. Positivity is a language we should all try to be more fluent in over the summer months. Take care!



Crudite Critters—FACS

The imaginations ran wild in the FACS food lab! Mrs. Vorstadt's 7th grade students practiced safe knife skills as they sliced, diced, chopped and slivered a variety of fruits and vegetables and then used the pieces to build a menagerie of edible (and nutritious) creatures. It was a zero-waste project too because all scraps, critters and "happy little accidents" were gobbled down by the end of the class period. This summer's challenge? Try a new fruit or vegetable!

Reflex Math Grade Level Challenge

Throughout the school year we had a grade level challenge using a math facts fluency program, Reflex Math. Our 6th graders won this challenge by improving their starting fluency (recalling basic math facts 0-10) of 31.5% to 70.3% in June. This means as a whole class

they gained 10,436 facts which is an average of 103 facts per student. Way to go!!!!

The 6th graders enjoyed their treat after their field trip to Treman State Park. Keep working on your math facts during the summer to help with your transition.



6th Grade Field Trip

Sixth graders thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Robert Treman State Park in Ithaca. Despite a little mud, they liked exploring the trails and the historical mill house. After the hikes the students enjoyed a sunny break at the playground followed by a kickball game. When we returned to school the students had another surprise- as a reward for winning the Reflex Math challenge, the entire sixth grade was treated to an ice cream after the trip. This was a perfect way to finish the school year and usher in summer vacation. A huge "Thank you!" to Mrs Tasslemyer for applying for the grant that made this trip happen!



DMS Music Department

I'd like to thank our young musicians for all of their progress this 2018-2019 school year. It's been a very busy and productive school year for all of our Middle School Band students. We've worked hard on regularly using Premium Playing Posture, memorizing Fingering chart worksheets, hosting the Seneca Tompkins County Music



Educators Association Fall All County Music Festival, using Smart Music accuracy indicator computer recording technology, preparing for NYSSMA Solo

Festival, raising funds for the Dryden Music Boosters at the annual Jazz Dessert Night, reading and exploring great articles like "How To Guide and Workbook for Music Student Practice," "The Neuroscience of Deliberate Practice," and "Practical Ways to Play Better Now, Right Now, C'mon, Go Do It!," implementing three different rhythmic counting systems (Ta Ka Di Mi, 1 E & A, and subdivision), creating desirable difficulty, memorizing rhythmic subdivisions, interpreting rhythmic images, and of course entertaining our local community with all of our great public performances.

Thank you again to everyone who helped to support student attendance at all of our joyous community events this school



year. Building renovations will continue throughout the summer and we are excited about all of our newly updated spaces. We will continue to share our building renovation progress with you. I look forward to an exciting and productive 2019-2020 school year as well. I hope you enjoy the summer weeks ahead and please continue to support live, local music.



Free Summer Meals

for kids and teens 18 and under!

Sponsored by the Dryden, Ithaca and Groton School Districts

July 8 - August 12 @ Dryden Elementary School,
36 Union St, Dryden

Monday-Friday Lunch: 12:15-12:45

July 8-August 23 @ Little Creek Trailer Park,
North St and Brightday Rd, Dryden

Monday-Friday Lunch: 11:40-12:10

July 8-August 23 @ Poet's Landing,
4 TS Eliot Drive, Dryden

Monday-Friday Lunch: 12:55-1:25