

LION PRIDE



DMS OCTOBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

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Class Spotlight: Technology

6th Grade Robotics

Students in Mr. Coolbaugh's 6th Grade Robotics class are creating their own track for their Edison Robots. Students are finalizing their final drafts of the shape of their track and will then add obstacles based and designed around a set theme. They will then create a program which Edison will use to work its way through the track and then around the obstacles to pass through the start and end at the finish line.



Transportation Technology

Students have been learning the Engineering Design Process in anticipation for designing and creating their paper airplanes for our Flight Unit. Our next unit will be Boats in which students will use the Engineering Design Process as well as their knowledge of Forces to create a successful contraption. Students have been learning how to work together and communicate as an effective team.



The Edison robots that 6th grade is using for their first unit in robotics.

Students from Mr. Coolbaugh's 4th period Transportation Technology class apply different levels of thrust using different material types and sizes. Students observed and noted the differences between how well they flew towards our target on the wall.



Students in Mr. Coolbaugh's 4th period Transportation Technology class take part in their first Air Lab. Students used water at two stations to observe some of its different properties. Students used the cup to put pressure on the air inside the cup and then released it.



Getting To Know... Once Upon A Mattress

Middle School Musical

The Cast and Crew of our Middle School Musical 'Getting to Know ... Once Upon a Mattress' has been hard at work preparing for their performances in November! The Cast is composed of 51 students from all three grade levels at the Middle School and the crew consists of over 40 students from grades 6-12. Our set design team, construction crew, and costume teams have already dedicated late nights and weekends to help bring our medieval world to life. Come see the show on Friday, November 9th at 7:00 pm or Saturday, November 10th at 2:00 pm in the Middle School Auditorium.



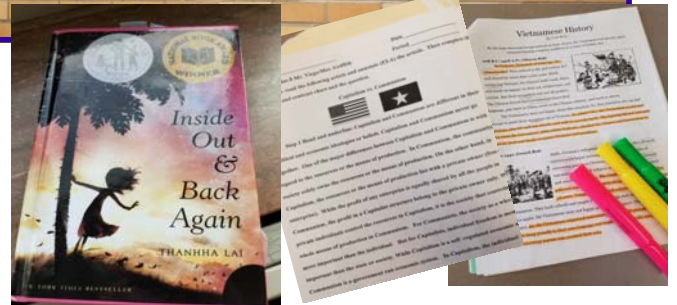
ELA 8

8TH GRADE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

For the start of this year, students in 8th grade ELA will be reading *Inside Out and Back Again* by Thanhha Lai. Since this book takes place during the Vietnam War, 8th grade ELA and 8th grade Social Studies have teamed up!

In Social Studies, students will be learning about the Vietnam War so they can better understand the concepts and setting when they are in ELA class. Already we have seen students more engaged and excited about the lessons.

Skills students are learning in ELA (like annotating and using supporting details) are being carried over into their Social Studies work.



In addition, we are framing the whole year around the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Through everything they read this year, students will be able to evaluate how people are treated and if those rights are being upheld. Students have even begun applying these concepts to their everyday life here at Dryden by creating a positive school-wide display. In this display, students contributed ideas about how to make the school a more accepting, welcoming, and positive place. This year is off to a great start!

The Dryden Middle School mission is to promote the core values of excellence, integrity, and creativity.



6th Grade Happenings

The first five weeks of school have been busy and exciting for sixth grade students. Students have gotten into routines, learned how to navigate through the halls and started to dig into sixth grade curriculum. In science students are learning:

- How to be scientists
- Scientific process
- Metric measurement



As part of the science curriculum, we take a trip every year to Lime Hollow to learn about the Ecology of our area. Our next unit of study is Ecology and students engaged in hands on learning about our natural environment. Some of the days activities included:

- A nature hike and geocaching
- A journey through the water cycle
- “Oh Deer” a game about deers dependence on natural resources
- A guided nature tour with Peter from Lime Hollow
- Team Building activities



Morning Wake-up

Friday mornings in C212 are open for middle school students to come up and have a “dance party” before school starts. This was started by the now-eighth grade students in Mrs. Tasselmyer’s homeroom when they were in sixth grade....it is so nice to have them come back and visit!

The weather was great and students seemed to enjoy learning outdoors!



Accelerated Living Environment

Eight grade accelerated living environment students have been learning all about experimental design and what makes a living thing ALIVE! Students have designed an experiment with Wisconsin Fast Plants on how much fertilizer affects plant growth. They setup the experiment and have been collecting data daily for the last several weeks. They have more recently pollinated their "fast" plants with real bees on a stick. Students will be expected to write a formal lab report on their findings. In addition to a plant lab, they have also been interacting with slugs. They are currently working on a write-up about slugs and their preferences for food. Their slugs have not been as successful at living as their plants, but it



has definitely provided an experience for them thus far in how science experimentation doesn't always go the way we want it to sometimes. They are finishing up the unit talking about taxonomy, classification, and biodiversity. We will begin the large unit of ecology and the study of nature in October before the winter weather arrives. The students are being challenged, but seem to be enjoying themselves in the realm of life.



Media Arts

Eight grade students recently completed Stop-Motion Animation movies in Art class. Students watched clips of the California Raisins commercials from the 1980s then worked in groups to create their own short story lines. Students sculpted their own character using modeling clay and built the set for their movie. **All movies can be viewed on YouTube.com at DMSArt.** For some reason YouTube changes it and opens "Showing results for DMSArt" so you will probably need to select "Search instead for DMSArt" at the top of the page. The Purple Circle with the "D" in it is the Dryden Middle School Art Channel that has all of the stop-motion animation videos, but some individual videos also show in the YouTube listings.

A Family Magic Show....Coming Soon!

Attention all students and their families: please come to a free show featuring our favorite Magician, James Warren. This anti-bullying magic show will be held in the auditorium Tuesday, October 16th from 6:30-7:15 pm, it is open to all Middle School students and their families. Hope to see you all there!