

LION PRIDE



DRYDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

LORA CHAMPLAIN, PRINCIPAL

SARAH POWELL, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



Spirit Week Twin Day!

Looking Ahead:

Winter Break

- February 17-21

OPT-IN:

- NYS ELA
3/24 , 3/25
- NYS MATH
4/21, 4/22

Principal's Message

Believe it or not, we are half way through the school year! Although January feels like it has lasted for two months, I'm surprised we are already planning for things like #LionPride Fun Day (last day of school) and the 8th Grade Moving-Up Ceremony! **TIME IS FLYING!!**

This week we enjoyed our First White Out Spirit Week: from Decade Day to Character Day, fun was had by all! The 6th Grade enjoyed a "free" period of doing fun activities for winning the PBIS Battle of the Grades competition that took place in December! Well done 6th Grade!!



Keep your head up..
Go "All In"
...You can succeed!

Looking ahead...PLEASE Opt your child IN for taking the NY State ELA and Math tests. They are March 24/25 and April 21/22. The tests are shorter, provide students with practice for Regents Exams that they can NOT opt out of, and they provide teachers feedback on how to best support *your* child.

Our MS/HS Musical - **SEUSSICAL** will be on March 13 and 14!

March 20th is a half day for students. (Students will be leaving school at 11:00) THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW MARKING PERIOD! KEEP YOUR HEAD UP...GO ALL IN...YOU CAN SUCCEED!

The Spring Sports Season will soon be upon us. This season we will offer the following Modified sports: Baseball, Softball, Track, Girls' Lacrosse and Boys' Lacrosse. The deadline to submit paperwork (Health History Form & Signed Code of Conduct) for this season is Monday, February 24. Students who turn forms into the Nurse after the deadline may not be cleared in time to start on the first day of practice, Monday, March 9th.



Student Council Update

After a successful Fall semester of food drives, door decorating and dances we are planning on even more activities in 2020. February promises to be very busy. We have a flower and candy sale activity to celebrate Valentine's Day. This is not a fundraiser. We sell items a little

above cost in hopes we break even. This is a chance for students to purchase flowers or candy for a friend or family member and have it delivered in school on February 14. On February 28, we will have our next dance, theme to be announced. Students love the dances! (see next page for more Student Council activities....)

*“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.”
-Helen Keller*



Art Students of the Month

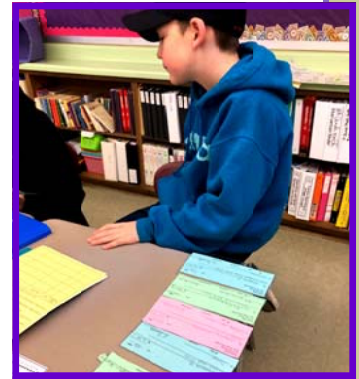
Both the 6th and 8th grade “Art Student of the Month” are selected based on their positive attitude, creative thinking, and outstanding effort demonstrated throughout the month.

Congratulations to both Weronika Conroy (6th grade) and Nathaniel Conway (8th grade) for being chosen as Art Student of the Month for December. Nice work!

6th Grade Science

Next week students will be finishing up their unit on Ecology, "Disruptions in Ecosystems". Over the past few months students have looked at the effects the reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone has had on the entire food web. Students then learned about the invasive species, zebra mussels and their effect on the Hudson River. I am so impressed with how well students are able to write and

explain scientifically what is happening in these ecosystems. Up next we move onto Energy and Matter. Students will be learning how we use and control thermal energy. This will result in a culminating project in which they will design and conduct an experiment: *This Porridge is Too Hot!* Hopefully they will bring their creativity to this unit.



6th Grade Math

This month, 6th grade math students are learning how to write and register checks! They learned about credits and debits, and how to keep track of their own balance in a (pretend)

bank account. They also learned about the importance of their own signature and are practicing their cursive!

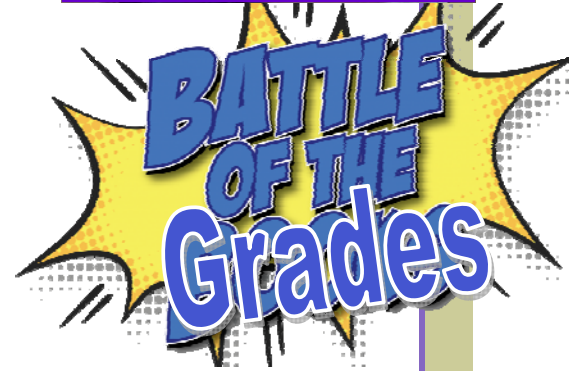
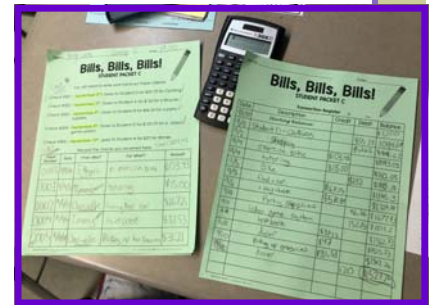


The Dryden Middle School mission is to promote the core values of excellence, integrity, and creativity.

Student Council Continued

March 4 is our dodgeball tournament. This tournament is free and open to the entire middle school. Parents are welcome to come and watch. On March 20, students have a half day in the morning and we will be having fun as we build our

community. Battle of the Grades is an event which allows students to have fun and play games while trying to win bragging rights and their name on a trophy. May the best grade win!!





Character Champions

The Counseling Office is proud to announce our “Character Champions” for the month of December! Two students from each grade level are chosen by their teachers as champions for each month’s character value. These students are rewarded with a certificate and a small prize, as well as recognition in the newsletter. Princess Powell declared that December’s character value was “Optimism!” December’s Integrity Character Champions are: 6th grade- Abby Turco; Nico Scott-Mendez. 7th grade-



Olivia Sheive; Bruce Debo. 8th grade- Roxy Peyus; Kaleb Reeves. Great work in demonstrating Optimism! Thank you for modeling this characteristic to your peers!

Queen Champlain has announced that January’s character value is Leadership.

Look for opportunities to demonstrate Leadership and you could be a January Character Champion!

“The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty.”

Winston Churchill

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Find more information about Dryden Middle School on the web at: <https://ms.dryden.k12.ny.us/>