



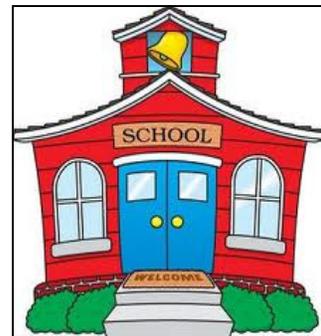
Canon-McMillan Parent Council Newsletter

A little piece of our world.
to share with you.

January 16, 2015

CECIL ELEMENTARY

- Jan. 19th—Snow Make-Up Day
- Jan. 22nd — "Chinese Acrobats" Program
- Jan. 23rd—Clerical Day— No School
- Jan. 26th—Group Pictures
- Jan. 27th — Wellness Day
- Jan. 29th—Report Cards For Second Nine Weeks
- Feb. 12th—PFO Movie Night
- Feb. 13th — No School—In-Service Day for Teachers
- Feb. 18th — No School—President's Day



HILLS

Holiday Excitement

The PTA was busy during December. They held a Parent only Scholastic Book Fair during the Holiday Concert for parents and family members to purchase books for the students. The parents also organized and ran the annual Santa Shop. The students enjoyed shopping for gifts for their family members.

Officer Phil Program

On January 12th the students were entertained and informed about safety procedures through the annual Officer Phil Program.

Hills Kids of Steel

The PTA and staff are working together to get everyone running. Students and their family members have signed up to participate in the Kids of Steel Program. We have weekly practice times for the Hills students and twice a month after school practices where everyone comes to participate in activities and sample food.

FIRST STREET

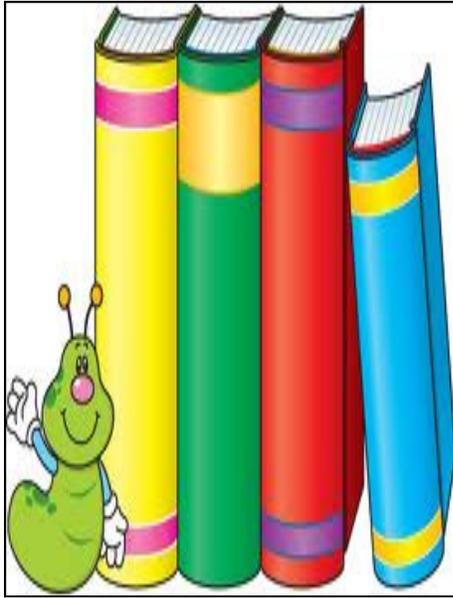
Third Grade is hosting a Food Drive at First Street from Jan. 6 -Jan. 22 to support our local food bank.

January 14th is Officer Phil Program for Grades K-4.

There will be a Book Trade event hosted by the reading specialists on January 28th.

January 30th 5:30-6:30 PM is the Family Book Fair/Family Night





MUSE ELEMENTARY

The PFA held a Pasta Fun Night/Family Game Night for Muse families in December. The event was held at the Muse Volunteer Fire Company and was well attended. Families reserved seating and were treated to a pasta dinner followed by an evening of playing Bingo and socialization.

We have a program coming up on the 22nd of January sponsored by our PFA. The program is entitled "The Fabulous Chinese Acrobats". There will be 3-4 individuals that perform dazzling acrobatic stunts and feats of balance, flexibility, coordination and strength. They will demonstrate how practice, concentration, and hard work can turn their bodies into moving works of art.

The fourth grade students are sponsoring our monthly charity. They are collecting clothes and items for the Washington Women's Shelter. Students in the building have a two week period to bring in the donated items and they will go to help the shelter and people staying there.

We will be celebrating the 100th day of school on February 5th. Teachers are planning educational activities for students throughout the day to celebrate this upcoming day.

BORLAND MANOR

Wednesday, January 21st- The PFO is bringing a Chinese Acrobat assembly @ 2:00 PM

Tuesday, February 3rd- Class Pictures

Friday, February 6th- PFO sponsored Math Day- 100th Day of School Celebration

WYLANDVILLE

As part of the School Wide Positive Behavior Intervention and Support Program, Wylandville students have begun competing weekly for the Silver Spoon and Golden Garbage Can trophies this month. Students will continue to Make their MARK! by being responsible throughout the school day. The Silver spoon is awarded to the cafeteria table consistently exhibiting desired behaviors, while the Golden Garbage Can is awarded to the classroom that is the cleanest!

Parents, staff and children have noticed many changes through the Implementation of this program creating an environment that consistently offers praise and promotes positive behaviors throughout the school. At Wylandville we make our MARK! (Make good choices, Act kindly, Respect ourselves, others and surroundings, and Keep being the best we can be!)



SOUTH CENTRAL

~Thursday, December 4 the PTA hosted a Cookies with Santa Family Night to kick off the holiday season.

~In addition to our Holiday Shop, Winter Concert, and Holiday Sing-A-Long in December, South Central had their 2nd Annual Locks of Love donation. Before the PTA holiday parties in the classroom on December 19th, 4 students, 2 staff members, and a GRANDFATHER donate an 8" ponytail each for the charity that make wigs for children.

~Friday, February 6 our PTA will be hosting a Valentine's Dance.

CECIL INTERMEDIATE

What would happen if a former Canon-McMillan student, teacher, and administrator visited students to share her experience of becoming an author? EXCITEMENT! INSPIRATION! ENCOURAGEMENT! On Friday, November 14th, Cecil Intermediate 6th Graders were fortunate to receive a visit from Mrs. Sharon Warchol, author of newly published novel Jax Sheppard and the Seven Mirrors. Her enthusiasm caused a stir among the students, who were interested in her fantasy novel and how Mrs. Warchol was making her mark on the world. Mrs. Warchol began her presentation by posing the question, "What makes me a writer?" She shared that she had learned that Johanna Reis, a Holocaust survivor who wrote The Upstairs Room, visited Cecil Intermediate two years ago, and she reflected on what an extraordinary person Ms. Reis would have been, to hide from the Nazis. Modestly, she said, "I'm not extraordinary." She continued in this manner, mentioning other authors of books who have led extraordinary lives, or who have had extraordinary experiences. She claims that she has not had an extraordinary life or extraordinary experiences. Yet, she shared, that is the beauty of being a writer. You do not have to be extraordinary! You are only limited by your imagination. Sharon explained that imagination is a muscle that can grow stronger with exercise. To demonstrate, she enticed the students to participate in a game, based on a book, called Fortunately, Unfortunately by Michael Foreman. A sloth, her favorite animal because "they're cool," was passed from student to student in a story building activity. Mrs. Warchol gave a story starter, and the students took turns building the story, alternately beginning with Fortunately, Unfortunately. The game was great fun, and the students understood the meaning of exercising their creativity muscle. Many were interested in how Mrs. Warchol came up with the idea to write her novel, and she explained that it all started with breaking a mirror. Normally, that would bring bad luck for seven years, but Mrs. Warchol has experienced quite the opposite. After breaking the mirror, she saw commercials for upcoming movies, including The Huntsman and Mirror, Mirror, and the idea came to her. She thought, what would happen if the mirror I broke was a magic mirror? This "What If..." question was the springboard for her amazing novel. Mrs. Warchol is a former teacher and administrator with Canon-McMillan School District.



NORTH STRABANE INTERMEDIATE

1. NSIS students volunteered to help current CMS student Drew Engel collect food for the Canonsburg food bank. A half ton pick-up truck was collected at NSIS!

2. The annual Pie in the Face charity contest at NSIS raised over \$700. The money was given to the Salvation Army to support those in need during the holiday season.

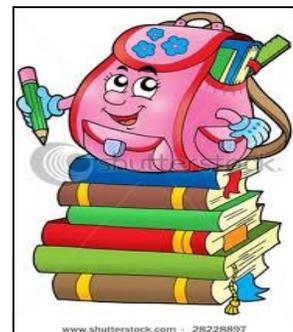
3. Important dates to remember:

January 19- NSIS Spelling Bee

January 22- NSIS PAA Meeting at 9:00 am

January 26- NSIS Geography Bee & Terra Nova Assessment for 6th grade

*As always, please check the NSIS website for news and information.



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MIDDLE SCHOOL

There will be a 7th grade Fun Night at the Middle School on Friday, January 16th. The evening will include sports, swimming, and snacks and runs from 6-8pm.

Auditions were held before break for the annual spring musical and practices are beginning next week after school.

Approximately 15 gifted students have been working on designing their model for the "Future City" competition. The students will travel to the Carnegie Music Hall and present their project on January 17th. This is just one of multiple enrichment activities that have been organized by CMS gifted teacher Miss Moniodes.

The band will also be holding a Fun Night on the evening of Friday, January 30th.

CMS will be starting the annual process for inducting students into the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS). Eighth graders who met the initial GPA qualification (3.70 or better all 7th grade and first half of 8th grade) will be invited (via a letter home in early February) to apply to NJHS. Applications and essays are then screened by a faculty council and nomination is based on outstanding scholarship, leadership, citizenship and service exhibited in the seventh grade year and first two nine weeks of the eighth grade year. The induction ceremony is typically held in March.



HIGH SCHOOL

Winter Sports are in full swing and are going well.
Winter Algebra I Keystone testing has been completed.

Door Decorating and Dance Marathon HUGE success - Marathon held 12/19, entire school involved, over \$7,500 raised for Santa fund!

CM's Got Talent Show took place on Saturday, January 10th.

Sophomore Ring Orders and Senior Cap and Gown meetings were held on January 13th.