

CAPT. NATHAN HALE MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS

Phone: 742-7334, Fax: 742-4565

1st Quarter

Dear Parents,

It is with a heavy heart that I leave behind my position as principal of the Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School. I find myself reflecting on all of the varied learning opportunities and experiences that have been a part of my tenure as a building administrator in Coventry. I have watched so many students accomplish amazing physical, emotional and cognitive growth over the years. As I assume the new role of Superintendent of Schools, I plan to continue to be a familiar face to the students and staff at all of our schools. If I am to be truly effective as a leader, then I need to be "where the action is," which means spending time observing students in their classrooms.

As my responsibilities shift from a building to a district focus, I look forward to strengthening my relationships with the parent groups in Coventry. I have been so fortunate to have the unending support and assistance from many parents and the PTO. The boundless supply of time, talents and financial support have helped Coventry students in countless ways. I am truly appreciative for all they have done for the students and I look forward to continuing to foster this relationship. In addition to the parents, I wish to thank the teaching and support staff for what they have done and continue to do to make the Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School an exceptional learning environment for everyone to enjoy.

In closing, I wish to remind you, although I will assume my new role in January, I will pride myself on being assessable to parents should the need arise. I wish everyone a safe and wonderful new year.

Sincerely,

David Petrone



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 13th 7:00 PM Band concert in Veterans Auditorium
December 14th 7:00 PM Snow date for winter band
December 26th – January 2nd Holiday Recess

Media Center is open late on Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30—4:30

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL ~ Mrs. Carla Kennedy

Fifteen students in grades six through eight have been selected as a **Student of the Quarter** for demonstrating **Outstanding Citizenship** for promoting kindness and respect in our school. The staff selected each of these students because of their ability to demonstrate the characteristics of a good citizen in daily life. These characteristics include:

- Being honest with others and within one's self
- Being a good role model for fellow students
- Being dependable
- Being helpful
- Above and beyond all, being kind.

Out of honesty, compassion, and respect comes responsibility; doing the right thing. Finally, the theme of **courage** is important to good citizenship. Human beings are capable of moving beyond mere goodness toward greatness. Courage enables people to do the right thing even when it's unpopular, difficult, or dangerous. Many people including Ben Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Susan B. Anthony, have had the courage to change the rules and achieve justice. Please join me in recognizing:

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Brianna Martin	Emily Kennedy	Jake Michaels
Erin Mairson	Nina Yilmaz	Mikala Cavin
Maggie Ziko	Megan Hurley	Peter Thompson
Lakota Potter	Luke Terrence	Jeremie Belekewicz
Ethan Valdes	Leah Sattar	Kevin Huppert

I appreciate the leadership each of these students use in the classroom, cafeteria, and hallways every day. Thank you for setting a positive example in our school.

Please log on to our website <http://www.coventryps.org/cnhms/cnhms.html> to read more about these outstanding citizens!

Rachel's Challenge Program

On Wednesday, November 9th, Captain Nathan Hale Middle School hosted a special assembly entitled "Rachel's Story", a presentation from the Rachel's Challenge program. The program is based on the life of Rachel Scott and the inspirational story that emerged following the tragedy at Columbine High School in April of 1999. Students and staff were moved and inspired by the assembly which posed 5 challenges to everyone:

1. Dream Big and Believe in Yourself
2. Be Kind to Others
3. Practice Positive Gossip
4. Show Appreciation to Those You Love
5. Be the Answer

After the assembly, students and staff were given the opportunity to sign a banner that indicated that they were ready to "take the challenge".

Moving forward, a Friends of Rachel (FOR) club has been started in order to keep the momentum of positivity going and continue Rachel's message. The first meeting was held on November 17th and by all accounts was a very successful one, full of fun and great ideas. Our next meeting will be held on December 13th and any student interested in participating in the club is encouraged to attend. All meetings will be held afterschool and parent permission is required. Permission slips can be picked up in the main office. For more information, please contact Erin Henrickson, Social Worker at CNHMS, at (860)742-7334, Ext. 403.

A Note from your School Psychologist:

I believe that two of the most important skills that children should have developed by middle-school age are: 1) taking “no” for an answer; and 2) cooperating. When children are brought up knowing that there are expectations for their behavior and that others depend upon them to help out, life (at home, in school, on vacation, on the team, in the band, etc.) is more problem-free, relaxed, productive, successful, and by far, more fun!

Speaking of fun...We know that all work and no play leads to boredom and dissatisfaction in all of us. To keep kids motivated and invested, parents often find it beneficial to change things up a bit and depart from the routine (e.g., go out for a family meal, support children’s development in extracurricular activities, invite friends over to the house, get away for a few days or even a few hours). During these middle school years, the positive work habits and academic skills our children develop lay the foundations for them to enjoy life-long learning and to *make a living*. Additionally, by modeling our own participation and enthusiasm in activities and relationships outside of work and by providing enjoyable outlets for them, we as parents can teach our children *what makes life worth living!* Finding a balance between schoolwork, homework, chores, involvement in extracurricular activities, friends, family time, and just plain fun stuff is critical!

Wishing the whole school community a satisfying, cooperative, and fun holiday season!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Donna Plen

Challenge and Enrichment Program

The Challenge and Enrichment program is in full swing with various activities and projects under way in each grade level. 6th graders are currently involved in the Learning Lands program, sponsored by EastConn, where they are interacting and meeting with partner schools from Windham and Mansfield as they learn about stewardship and conservation in northeast Connecticut. This year’s topics include life in vernal pools and bird biodiversity. In addition to the Learning Lands Program, some 6th graders are working through their first Future Problem Solving Scenario dealing with Coral Reef destruction. Other students in 6th grade are working on the Stock Market Game, Challenge Math activities, and independent Renzulli Learning projects. Students in 7th grade have been working on an extended reading enrichment project dealing with disabilities. These research projects will be presented to their fellow classmates in a PowerPoint presentation. In addition, 7th grade students will begin enrichment work on their next novel, Tangerine, in the upcoming weeks. 8th Grade students are also working hard on their “FPS” scenario as well. In addition to these programs there are opportunities for students to get involved with a variety of CEP projects including; The Connecticut Invention Convention, FOXCT Student News, CASCIAC Students Leadership Conference, Celebration of Young Poets Publication, and the Renzulli Learning Wizard Project Maker. If you have a child interested in pursuing one of these enrichment opportunities, please have them stop by the CEP room (across from the CNHS Boys Locker Room) and speak with Mr. Spivey. I am looking forward to a wonderful, rewarding year in CEP!



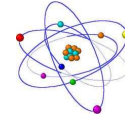
Reading Consultant

It’s hard to believe the holidays are upon us already! Hopefully the few days off will provide us all with time to relax and rejuvenate, and one of the best ways to do that is to pick up a good book. Please take some time to encourage your students to spend some time reading. The benefits encompass not just their reading class, but success across the curriculum. Time spent reading increases fluency, builds vocabulary, and enhances comprehension skills in all areas of the curriculum, which, in turn brings grades up a notch or two. What better gift can our kids give themselves than that!

GRADE 6**Math**

Grade 6 math students are completing Unit 3, Multiplication and Division of Whole Numbers and Decimals. This unit includes multiplication and division involving whole numbers, money amounts, decimals, and powers of ten. In addition, students work with estimation of products and quotients, solving word problems, metric conversions, and one-step algebra problems.

Students will continue on to Unit 4, Number Theory and Fraction Concepts. In this unit, students learn the rules of divisibility, prime factorization, equivalent fractions, and how to compare and order fractions. This will be followed by adding, subtracting, and multiplying decimals.

Science

We are currently in the midst of a unit on matter and are looking at ways to classify matter based on characteristic properties. Students are exploring physical vs. chemical changes through a variety of hands-on inquiry based activities. To end the unit, students will be examining atomic structure and the patterns and organization of the periodic table. Ms. Peterson and Mr. Landry have truly enjoyed getting to know the 6th grade students this year!

Reading

Reading classes for the month of December will be participating in the annual Nutmeg Book Award program sponsored by the Connecticut Library Association (CLA) and the Connecticut Association of School Librarians (CASL). Students are encouraged to read at least one of the 20 books that have been nominated for this award during a 3 week period extending for some classes into early January. Students will be allowed to bring the books home. Students should already have read one Nutmeg book during their summer reading. During this time students will complete reader response packets and come January they will be voting for their favorite book. If you would like to know more about the books you can check out www.nutmegaward.org.

**Language Arts**

Language arts classes will continue to focus on expository writing in the form of CMT writing prompt preparation and continued practice of grammar with daily language review. Also, in December students will be working on a project which incorporates family history and favorite memories. Students will be asked to bring in photographs (if available) to help create a memorable keep sake just in time for the holidays. Students will incorporate writing techniques such as exploding the moment, dressing up our nouns with adjectives, using 500 HP verbs, providing sensory detail, and figurative language (i.e. metaphors and personification).

Social Wtudies

In sixth grade Social Studies for the month of December we will be working on Mesopotamia and Ancient Egypt. Students will be working in the computer labs and researching information on a topic of their choice. The research will be guided and completed in class. Students will also have the opportunity to learn about many interesting facts such as: ziggurats, the amazing stairways built for their Gods, and the pyramids for the dead pharaohs to visit the afterlife and become a God.



Math

GRADE 7



During the second quarter in 7th grade math, we will be starting a unit on integers. In this unit we will learn to identify where we see integers in our everyday lives, compare and order integers, and perform all four operations with integers. Some extension activities include illustrating a given integer through a scene of their choosing, human number lines, and computer labs.

Following the integer unit we will get into solving one- and two-step variable equations. Within this unit students will review computation and the coordinate plane. Next we will visit the world of fractions discussing where we see fractions in everyday activities such as cooking, driving, and music. Students will be able to visualize fractions as well as convert them into decimals and percents. This unit will culminate with a project that might get a little messy!

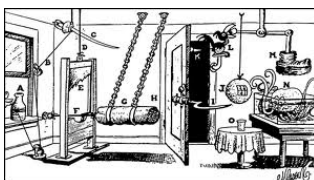
Social Studies For the month of December we will be working on the Great American Road Trip. Students will be planning a cross country road trip. They will be researching accommodations & entertainment in the different places they plan to visit. Students will also need to budget enough money for the attractions they visit, the accommodations they will stay in, as well as the food they eat on each day of their trip. Students will also be composing journal entries describing the landforms and weather they experience as well as all the fun they have on their journey!



Science

Grade 7 science students are completing a unit on Energy Transfer and Transformations; CT State Standard 7.1. More specifically, students have been learning about WORK, yes WORK. We have explored the transfer of energy through the application of force on an object which produces movement, which in turn is defined as work! The culminating activity was the construction of a Rube Goldberg Machine (see the cartoon below).

Our next unit will explore the Structure and Function of organisms from cellular level to organ systems. CT State Standard 7.2.



Rube Goldberg Machine

Reading and Language Arts

Reading

Students in reading classes have just completed the Nutmeg Book Unit while working on reader response journals. Students have thoroughly enjoyed reading one or more books from this selection! To continue with our challenge and awareness unit, students will read Tangerine by Edward Bloor. While focusing on the theme of diversity, students will examine the author's use of imagery, simile and metaphor. Students will also study challenging vocabulary from the novel.

All students should have a personal silent reading book as well!

Language Arts

In language arts, students recently completed their first Writing Workshop. This focused on the creation of a personal narrative. In Writing Workshop, students used peer editing, teacher conferencing and wrote multiple drafts to produce a quality piece of work. In addition to the personal narrative, students gave an oral presentation on three items that represented their individuality. This offered everyone an opportunity to learn more about one another!

Our next writing unit will delve into the art of persuasion and the use of various writing techniques. This will culminate in a final persuasive writing piece.

In preparation for the Connecticut Mastery Test, students continue to work on vocabulary, grammar development, and editing/revising skills.

GRADE 8**Language Arts**

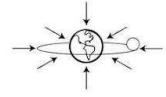
Students have finished their first long-term writing assignment, a persuasive essay, and have started writing a tribute essay. As they work on this assignment, they are focusing on the writing process, which consists of four basic steps: prewriting, rough drafting, revising, and editing. However, these four stages often overlap, and sometimes students have to back up and repeat a stage. In addition, students are also improving their persuasive writing skills, concentrating on their areas of weaknesses that were identified by the schoolwide writing prompt taken in October. Students have also been learning to make logical inferences through analogies, editing and revising through Daily Oral Language (DOL), and expanding their vocabulary through *Word Wisdom* (vocabulary).

**Reading**

“Literature is the art of writing something that will be read twice.” Cyril Connolly

8th graders are learning what a “close reading of the text” means, and most often it means reading the text a second time in order to find text evidence to support their assertions and opinions about the text. It’s all critical thinking, and it’s what our brains love! We are about to begin *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* by Mark Haddon. This unique novel is written from the point of view of a teenage boy with Aspergers—a type of autism. Students will discover that it is possible to share thoughts and feelings with someone who is very different from them. The essential questions we will be exploring through this novel are: How do authors imply meaning in their writings?

Why do authors choose to express their ideas the way they do? How do effective writers produce a convincing argument? As you can see, inferential comprehension is a significant component in our reading. Students are also practicing CMT reading skills each week. Parents, please continue to encourage your children to read books beyond the novel we read as a class. It’s fantastic to see so many students with books from the library. A writer once said, “Every time you read, it’s a writing lesson too!”

Science ~ Mrs. Landry & Mr. Goodale

What makes objects move the way they do? Students in 8th grade science class began their year studying forces and motion. They have already tested and calculated the average speed of objects in various labs. Student manipulated distance as a variable and began their analysis of distance and time and how both impact average speed.

As students continue to study motion they will learn how to calculate the speed of a moving object and illustrate motion on a graph. Students will analyze the qualitative relationships between forces and objects to explain how an unbalanced force changes an object’s speed or motion.

They will test how gravity and friction affect a falling object and experiment with the forces that act on an object that moves in a circular path. This first unit is physics based and incorporates a multisensory approach to learning some challenging concepts!

All students have an access to a great learning tool called GIZMO (www.explorellearning.com) ask your son or daughter to show you this website sometime! We have specific assignments posted but they can always log on to manipulate different science games and activities.

Now that we are into the second marking period, students will soon be studying the next unit: Heredity and Genetics where they will explore the processes that are responsible for life’s unity and diversity.

Math

Eighth grade Algebra students are beginning a unit on solving equations, which is important when using formulas, ratios, rates, and percents. This precedes a unit on graphing equations. In addition, CMT practice in computing without a calculator is also taking place.

For CMT preparation, Pre-Algebra and Basic Math students are practicing computation with decimals and fractions without the use of a calculator. So if your child is completing Math homework on computation, they must show all of their work. No calculators, please.

**Social Studies: Mrs. Maxwell, Mr. DiBattista**

Students have completed their investigation of the United States Constitution. Students have developed a core understanding of the inner working of the United States Government as it was set up in the Constitution. Students applied the constitution to their daily lives. With the completion of the Constitution Students began the Antebellum Unit. This unit involves the period of the United States prior to the Civil War. Students are actively developing their scripts for the Antebellum Dialogue which will be presented starting December 8th. Students are presently investigating the root causes of the Civil War. From there students will be introduced to the Civil War.



WORLD LANGUAGE

Mrs. Thornton's French Class

Chère Famille (Dear family),

It was wonderful to meet with you at conferences! In November through January, the seventh graders will develop speaking and writing skills in polite conversation. They will continue to request personal information from other students, i.e. name, age, telephone #, e-mail address. They will also learn to ask about likes and dislikes, to agree or disagree, and to conjugate “-er verbs” in the present tense.

Students will experience the traditional dance of Brittany (la bourrée) by following a footwork diagram. They will explore and describe the significance of the artwork of Georges Seurat and create their own artwork using the technique of pointillism. Please remember to check the homework hotline for assignments and projects. Dial 742-7334, and then enter 6465 for 7th grade updates. Homework is also listed on my page of the CNHMS website. Written homework is given 3 times a week, and students are expected to practice the vocabulary daily. In each chapter, the vocabulary is listed in blue/tan boxes. Please check mygradebook.com for specific class and homework assignments, as well as for quizzes and tests.

Eighth graders will continue with chapter 4 learning irregular verbs in the present tense. The students will learn to describe items that they would like to purchase, and express their favorite color for each item. They will practice the “re” verb conjugation in the present tense. Please remember to check the homework hotline for assignments and projects. Dial 742-7334, and then enter 6488 for 8th grade updates. Homework is also listed on my page of the CNHMS website. Written homework is given 3 times a week, and students are expected to practice the vocabulary daily. In each chapter, the vocabulary is listed in blue/tan boxes. Please check mygradebook.com for specific class and homework assignments, as well as for quizzes and tests.

Bonnes Fêtes et Meilleurs Voeux pour la nouvelle année!
(Seasons Greetings and Happy New Year!)



7th grade Spanish, Mrs. Page and Mrs. Voelker

7th graders are finishing up Chapter 1, and it is our hope that they will be able to take the test before the December break. Chapter one focuses on the basic pieces of information exchanged when first meeting somebody, including asking and telling the time and talking about birthdays. In Chapter 2, scheduled to start in January, we will be learning how to really get to know each other. Students will learn a variety of adjectives to describe themselves and their friends as well how to talk about what they like and don't like. Along with this comes the task of making sure that "adjectives agree in number and gender with the nouns they modify." This is just a fancy way of saying that they have to match. This is where some of the similarities and differences between the languages start to show up, so we will do a lot of comparing along the way.

To practice these skills and to show what they have learned, in addition to tests and quizzes, students will be writing and performing skits. Each chapter also includes a final writing assignment that you can read about on the ABC website.

8th grade Spanish
Mrs. Page and Mrs. Voelker

8th graders are currently finishing Chapter 4 with the hope that we will be able to take the chapter test before the December break. Chapter 4 focuses on school and the activities associated with school. We will start Chapter 5 in January. Chapter 5 reviews a lot of the adjective vocabulary from Chapter 2 and builds on it. The major vocabulary focus is on family, the home, and daily activities (including chores!). Our grammar focus is on possessive adjectives (my, your, his, her, etc.), some stem changing verbs, and prepositions of location (under, next to, on top of, etc.).

Students will be creating family trees of either their real family or a made up family of celebrities, along with descriptions of each member of their family. The end of chapter writing assignment will be about their dream home, along with who has to do what chores.

Contact info: Mrs. Page: 860-742-7334 ext. 469, HW hotline, ext. 6469
Mrs. Voelker: 860-742-7334 ext. 466, HW hotline, ext. 6466

NURSE'S NOTES ~ JOYCE MANNING

A word about head lice:

Like the common cold, head lice can be spread when children come in close contact with each other in activities such as sports, sleepovers, or even at school. Since it can be an occasional problem at school for children and their families now would be a good time to review the basics:



Head lice are **not a health hazard** and are not responsible for the spread of disease.

They are **not a sign of uncleanliness** – they actually stick to clean hair better.

The most common symptoms are an **itchy scalp** and nits that stick to the hair shaft.

No product will kill all nits (lice eggs)... they must **all be removed** by hand, before they hatch and start the cycle again.

There is **no reliable prevention** at this time.

Parents are encouraged to **regularly check** their children's scalp and hair at home.

Children should **not share personnel items** such as combs, brushes, scarves, hats, etc.

Please contact me at (860) 742-4541 if you have any questions or you discover your child has head lice. I can provide you with additional information and assistance.

For 6th Grade Parents

You have this school year to have your child's state mandated physical and immunizations done for entry into 7th grade in August 2012. If you hand a physical in and receive a letter back from me notifying you that the physical is lacking something then you have the rest of the year to get it done.

Immediate openings are available for School Nurse Substitutes in Coventry.

You must be an RN with experience in the last 5 years, and have a current CT license.

For more information, please visit the Coventry Public Schools website under job openings or contact Stephanie Levin at 860-234-1969 or slevin@coventryct.org for more information.

Hello from the Cafeteria!!

We are excited about our new event, the Name the Cafeteria Contest. Students will be given a form as they come through the lunch line to write down their name suggestion for our cafeteria. The three best suggestions will then be voted on by the students. We are looking forward to seeing how creative they will be!

Students have been very positive about the variety of fresh fruits and vegetables that we have been offering such as honeydew, cantaloupe, watermelon, butternut squash, cauliflower and more. We are also offering new menu items for breakfast which includes, mini pancakes, French toast bites, and pull apart cinnamon sticks along with cereal, blueberry muffins, bagels and our own Egg McNathan (English muffin, egg, bacon, and cheese). Some of our new lunch items are chili, tangerine chicken, and beef tips as well as old favorites.

It is extremely helpful for students to pre-pay their lunch accounts. Parents can send in cash or checks or take advantage of our convenient on-line payment system. Online payments still qualify for our incentive of 5 free snack coupons for every \$50.00 deposit, as long as not more than \$10.00 is owed on the account at the time of the deposit. Just a reminder if a student has no money on their account, they will be allowed to charge up to two lunches for your convenience. When that two lunch limit has been reached, the student will receive an alternate lunch of milk and cheese sandwich so that they will not go hungry. After two alternate lunches your child must have cash or pay on their account to receive a lunch.

We enjoy serving your children healthy, nutritious meals in a welcoming and pleasant environment. They have been so polite to the staff and when we hear comments about how we are their favorite part of the day, it makes our day!

Happy School Year

Diane Clancy
Cook/Manager

Sally French
Yvonne Gauthier
Rose Yilmaz
Kitchen Assistants



Family and Consumer Science ~ By Corine Cagianello-Jones

Season's Greetings! It has been an interesting and unique start to the school year, to say the least! Whichever quarter your child has Family and Consumer Science this year, they will learn about the topics highlighted below.

Eighth grade students begin their FCS rotation studying Consumerism and the topic of Advertising. They will understand the importance of being financially fit. Don't be surprised if you hear your child ask the question, "Nice to have or need to have?". Students will be asked to think about their motivations for purchasing certain products. Are they influenced by advertising they see or hear? They will explore the complex topic of media literacy.

Students then move into our Food Preparation Unit. Lessons will cover Safety and Sanitation, Kitchen Tools & Uses, Food Preparation Terms, Reading Recipes and Nutrition. Students will have the opportunity to work cooperatively in their kitchens. Lab groups this year have prepared the following recipes: Smoothies, Pumpkin Muffins, Calzones, Oatmeal Raisin Cookies and Chicken Quesadillas. Our school has enjoyed some wonderful aroma therapy as students have practiced their culinary skills. My students are learning that preparing food is a creative experience they can enjoy. You may already have been treated to some of these recipes at home. It is always thrilling when students share with me how they are applying what they have learned to their lives away from the classroom!

Sixth graders in FCS begin their quarter with our Caring for Children unit. Lessons cover Hazards at Home, Emergency Phone Numbers, Positive Child Guidance and Promoting Children's Play. Many lessons are interactive and involve student created skits and role playing. Our next focus of concentration is career exploration. Students will utilize the Renzulli Learning website that focuses on a Personal Success Plan (PSP) that they tailor for themselves. We will spend time in the Computer Lab cycling through different modules that encompass student Interests, Heroes and Helpers, Careers and Goals. To close this unit, students are responsible for completing a, "The Story of Me and What I Want to Be!" project that showcases their career aspiration. I am always impressed with the creativity and scope of students work. Students from Quarter One are interested in pursuing the following careers: Physical Therapy, Culinary Arts, Teaching, Law, Meteorology, Professional Athlete/Coach, Photography and Carpentry – just to name a few!! It is never too early to focus our energies on our future! I tell my students, "Find a career you love, and you will never work a day in your life!"

Finally, students are eager to begin our last unit entitled, "I Made It Myself!". This is a hand sewing project that brings such pride to my students. Many of their multiple intelligences are applied during this creative process – body kinesthetic, visual/spatial, and verbal linguistic. Check out the picture below to see some examples of the end result of student's efforts! They did a fabulous job constructing their projects and you just might recognize one of the "stars" in the picture below!

Should you have any questions about your child's progress in Family and Consumer Science this year, please do not hesitate to contact me at 742-7334 X444 or ccagianello-jones@coventryct.org. Wishing you all a joyous holiday season!



Fabulous 6th grade FCS projects!



Jack and Chase – Star Chefs!

Health News!

One of the goals that we have been working on in every class is to eat a HEALTHY breakfast. We have talked about breakfast being the most important meal of the day and have learned that breakfast eaters get more fiber, calcium, vitamins A and C, riboflavin, zinc, and iron which help to provide energy, improve memory, concentration, problem-solving ability, mood, and test scores. They also have a lower risk of problems later on in life such as high cholesterol, obesity, and heart disease. So, I encourage you to help provide an ideal breakfast which would include a mix of protein, complex carbohydrates and fat. Grab and go options can be helpful for students pressed for time! Join your children for a balanced breakfast to power your mind and body!

Our students continue to be the source of great pride for their contributions through Community Service. They have helped provide meals for the elderly for Thanksgiving, helped at the Booth and Dimmock Library, Bottle and Can Drive., ornaments for the VNA Hospice, cleaned at the fire house, and other charity fundraisers.

If you need student volunteers for your non-profit agency or event – please call me (860-742-7334 x445) – our students have been "Making a Difference"!

Robin Rosen



Computer Technology Applications



Throughout the 36 day rotation of Related Arts classes, students explore and develop proficiency within the CT Information and Technology Literacy Framework along with the Common core State Standards. Beginning with and based on individual student formative pre-assessment results, students develop and strengthen basic keyboarding skills and utilize various word processing applications.

(6th grade) Students identify basic computer components and their peripherals to develop a basic understanding of how a computer operates while comparing the differences between related hardware and software. Students explore how technological innovation affects the way we live, access and evaluate information, communicate, collaborate, work, and learn. Students research and reflect upon the responsible, legal, and ethical use of social and informational resources, security, and safety, and discuss the importance of proper Internet etiquette, copyright laws, citation protocol, as well as the consequences of Internet hacking and bullying.

(7th grade) Through electronic and non-electronic searches, students explore the steps necessary to access and evaluate various multi-media information. As a group, students discuss and respond to questions focusing on research strategies and responsibilities. Individually, students participate in a computerized scavenger hunt to refine strategies and to become more effective and efficient researchers while also identifying and applying standard rules of citation.

(6th & 7th) Additionally, all students choose or design one or more project products to create and present, (or publish), related to their updated learning style and interest profile by applying the tools previously and newly learned using any Microsoft program or other approved software and/or resources. Students demonstrate their individual proficiency in formatting skills related to the creation of their project(s). Working with a peer, students then edit and revise their work according to a project specific rubric and collaborate to make necessary changes to produce a high quality, final product. All students can practice their keyboarding skills for increased speed and accuracy by going to learninggamesforkids.com and Dancemat.com



MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Band students can now access professional recordings of the music they are preparing for this year's concerts by logging on to http://coventryps.org/cnhms/related_arts/music.html. They are encouraged to try practicing their part along with the full band recordings to make home practice more enjoyable and effective. Parents are reminded to sign their child's practice log every weekend to verify student effort outside of band rehearsals.

Parents of Saxophone and Clarinet players: Please make sure your child has an adequate supply of **REEDS** in good condition because their instruments do not function well without them! Thank you for your support of this important matter.

Captain Nathan Hale has 22 students registered to audition for the annual Eastern Region Middle School honors festival to be held in March. The auditions originally scheduled for Sat., Nov. 4 had to be moved to Jan. 21 with a snow date of January 28, 2012 due to the power-outages across the region.

Mr. Susi was appointed to direct this year's Charter Oak Music Festival high school Jazz Band. The performance took place on Nov. 10th at Bacon Academy in Colchester and featured musicians from Coventry, Bacon Academy, Middletown, Portland, Lyman Memorial, RHAM and Platt high schools.

The 7th grade band and chorus did their first-ever joint performance performance for the school wide Veterans Day assembly on November 10th with a medley of patriotic songs entitled "Salute to the USA". The 7th grade choir also sang the "Star Spangled Banner". Congratulations are extended to both groups for their inspirational performances. Eighth grade trumpeter Michael Ricard and seventh grade trumpeter Alex Bohr also played "Taps" to honor the fallen Veterans.

The Chorus Winter Concert will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 6th at 7pm and the Band Winter Concert will take place

Chorus

The 7th grade general music classes are finishing up a unit on Latin American Music. They have been studying the different musical styles associated with various cultures of the Caribbean and Latin American cultures. Our next unit will be on Eastern music. Students will study the music of India, China and Japan. Chorus students are reminded to check the chorus web site for practice link to their songs. The web site can be found by going to the Captain Nathan Hale Middle School homepage. Click on related arts and select music and band. You will find the chorus practice link on that page.



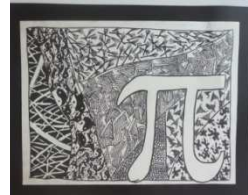
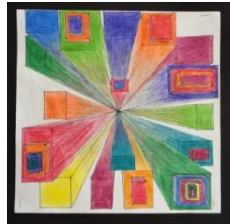
ART- Mrs. Sposato

**CNHMS 6th and 7th Graders have been working incredibly hard in ART!!!!
CNHMS ARTISTS are creating inspiring pieces with expression and personality. Very exciting...
We can't wait to share it all this spring at the CNHMS Art Show.**

CNHMS ARTISTS have created the following:

6th Graders have worked on:

- Birds eye view color theory
 - Zentangle inspired silhouettes
- Fall inspired mixed media landscapes



7th Graders have worked on:

- Color Theory- Monochromatic Self-Portraits
- Fall inspired leaves in Pen / Ink and watercolors
- Three-dimensional Sculpture in the round inspired by Alberto Giacometti

Booth & Dimock Memorial Library

Lock-In and Laser Tag!!!

Coventry Youth Services and the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library have teamed up to bring you a night of after-hours fun at the library. Join us December 30th from 5:45pm – 10:00pm for a Lock-In and Laser Tag event with pizza, snacks, games and movies. Registration is required as space is limited. Pick up a permission form at either Coventry Human Services, the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library or online at www.CoventryPL.org/Teen-Services. Registration runs from December 13 until December 27.

TO ALL GRANDPARENTS WHO ARE RAISING GRANDCHILDREN:

We want to make you aware of a very valuable resource which is available to you. In Mansfield there is a Grandparents Group which meets monthly, on Fridays at 1:00pm, at Mansfield Town Hall. It is coordinated and led by Janit Romyko, who is well-informed about the many services and supports available to grandparents and their grandchildren. Lunch is provided at each meeting along with the knowledge that you are not alone in the role of being parents to your grandchildren, with all the joys and challenges that occur each day. There are legal, financial, recreational and educational sources of information and, in some cases tangible help available to Grandparents As Parents. Take advantage of this offering in Mansfield.

You are requested to call to register for participating (860)429-3319, Pat Michalak. Janit's e-mail address is jromayko@sbcglobal.net. TheTown Hall is located at: 4 South Eagleville Rd., Storrs, CT

CNH PHYSICAL EDUCATION



The physical education classes just finished our Soccer, Flag Football, Ultimate Frisbee, Capture the Flag Games, and Fitness Testing units. In these units, we emphasized the importance of cardiovascular endurance, muscular endurance, muscular strength, and flexibility; along with other team concepts and team strategies.

Over the next few months students will practice basic skills and techniques in the following units: Volleyball, Basketball, Floor Hockey, Pickle Ball, Lacrosse, Weight Training and Team Handball.

We are very pleased with the results of the Ct. State Fitness Test. All students were administered 4 tests in October that included the mile run, sit & reach, push-ups, and curl-ups. These tests measure students' cardiovascular endurance, muscular endurance, muscular strength, and flexibility. Many students passed these tests in the "health fitness zone." Students who perform at this level demonstrate a healthy level of fitness-related skills for their age. These students may be at a reduced risk for certain injuries and diseases that are related to a sedentary lifestyle. The Health Fitness Zone for each task is considered to be a challenging, yet attainable, standard for most students. The following are the students who reached this Health Fitness Zone on all 4 tests:

6th Graders- Jacob Cushing, J.P. Masson, Chris Morin, Zach Stoddard, Connor Tingey, Ryan Doran, Alec Erskine, Kacper Proczek, Robby Steponaitis, Brett Aberle,

Chris Begin, Ronan Fitzpatrick, Cole Hinehline, Trevor Moulton, Josh Phillips, J.P. Roy, Mason Danielson, Chris Arsenault, Jeremy Jatkowski, Ryan Lawrence, Nick Martin, Cameron Luginbuhl, Amanda Piela, Haley Baer, Claire Faulkner, Julia Rutkowski, Sammie Hanrath, Jillian Mateya, Yerelly Blanco, Sofia Calvo, Madison Francis, Rebecca Buske, Grace Galey, Madalynn Taylor, Cynthia Gosselin, Hunter Kleef, Kelsie LaHouse, Margaret Ziko, Suzanne Pranger, Shea Vignone, Sierra Wooley, Morgan Golden, Kirstan Krause, Jenna Papandrea, Lauren Remes, Aidan Kennedy, Matt O'Neil, Devan Burke, Brandon Faulks, Ethan Valdes, Adam Doubleday, Matt Hoss, Nick Kaczowski, Justin Mancino, Zach Plourde, William Rivera.

7th Graders- Reid Davis, Harry DeJulius, Jacob Ellsworth, Connor Morton, Ryan Carlson, Zach Stone, Zan Anwar, Ethan Blanchard, Zack LeGrand, Chris Papas, Morgan Putnam, Connor Ratte, Konnor Schenk, Jared Cote, Corey LeBlond, Sean McHugo, Jack Olivieri, Nat Richmond, Gillian Bullock, Emily Kennedy, Callie Moulton, Alex Pouliot, Harlie Provost, Julia Steves, Julia Stickles, Natalie Tessier, Ellie Tripp, Michaela Hartl, Sydney Bevivino, Lena green, Emma Ingenol, Madegan Morrison, Julia Sernoffsky, Cara Verbridge, India Workeman, Briana Belekewicz, Meghan Blanchard, JeanMarie Jatkowski, Nicole Pelletier, Faith Stinson, Courtney Hendel, Megan McDonagh, Amanda Messier, Ashley Mitchell, Mikaela Nodwell, Nichole Trudon, Amber Breuer, Kristi Francini, Julia Francis, Sydonie Merrell, Katrina Novak, Sydney Pellerin, Nicholas Erskine, Jacob Garcia, Colton Kleef, Anthony Piazza, Nick Zurmuhlen.

8th Graders- Kevin Crosby, Jack Galey, Liam Patrick, Jake Michaels, Ben Norman Jeremie Belekewicz, Ross Eisner, Tyler Hood, Kyle Piela, Marc Richard, Tyler Jamieson, Lexi Chmielecki, Brooke DePascale, Rachael Dumais, Amanda Joslin, Grace Landry, Angela Miller, Megan Boudreau, Sara Bragdon, Makayla Cavin, Vitoria Cramer, Kaila Byram, Madisun Reale, Lexi Hanrath, Megan Vaillancourt, Kaylee Schenk, Abbie Zadrozny, Jennifer Roy, Elizabeth Croft, Nicole Maxwell, Sara Robinson, Olivia Thomas, Chance LoRicco, Jared Luce, Evan Faulkner, Mason George, Jacob O'Neil, Noah Zajac, Paul Bates, Tyler Begin, Kevin Bishop, Josh D'Orazio, Jacob Parker, Lucas Perry, Chase Martin, Charles Riordan, Michael Ricard.

The following students *exceeded* the Ct. Fitness standards and performed at the "High Fitness Zone." Congrats to:

8th Graders-

Emma Grimaldi, Alyssa Zima, Emilie Dufresne, Christian Jamieson, Kayla Sisk, Brenna Marquis, Alissa Johnson, Alison Akerley, Madison Decker. Noah Lanke.

7th Graders-

Caitlin Oberlin, Sean Gannon, Steven Voros, Andrew Wheelock, Jack Olivieri, Julia Caromile, Abigail Nodwell, Logan Araujo, Luke Smart.

6th Graders-

Lakota Potter, Sydney Brierley, Sarah LePage, Amy Akerley, Carli Gullakson, Kaitlyn Sistare, Ben Urbanski, Kalum McIntosh, Devin Slead, Michael Sisk.

Congratulations to the following students that finished with the top scores for the mile run:

6th GRADE

<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Jenna Papandrea-----	6:55
Amy Akerley-----	7:07
Sofia Calvo-----	7:15
Sydney Brierley-----	7:29
Grace Galey-----	7:30
Samantha Hanrath-----	7:35
Rebecca Buske-----	7:39
Kaitlyn Sistare-----	7:41
Taylor Austin-----	7:44
Maggie Ziko-----	7:58
Suzanne Pranger-----	7:58
<u>BOYS</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Alec Erskine-----	6:16
Mason Danielson-----	6:17
Ronan Fitzpatrick-----	6:36
Michael Sisk -----	6:37
Zach Stoddard-----	6:38
Nick Pronovost-----	6:54
Devan Burke-----	7:03
Brandon Faulks-----	7:17
Devin Slead-----	7:18
Josh Phillips-----	7:20

7th GRADE

<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Megan Hurley-----	6:44
Faith Stinson-----	6:50
Nichole Trudon-----	6:59
Emma Ingenol-----	7:03
India Workeman-----	7:03
Julia Stickle-----	7:05
Sarah Crosby-----	7:08
Julia Caromile-----	7:10
Ariel Lewis-----	7:10
Sam Carpino-----	7:12
Briana Belekewicz-----	7:15
<u>BOYS</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Connor Ratte-----	6:13
Steven Voros-----	6:30
Jack Olivieri-----	6:33
Harry DeJulius-----	6:58
Ryan Carlson-----	6:58
Nat Richmond-----	7:05
Anthony Tata-----	7:08
Connor Morton-----	7:13
Sean Gannon-----	7:23
Luke Smart-----	7:36

8th GRADE

<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Meghan Boudreau----	6:34
Amanda Joslin-----	6:50
Madison Decker-----	7:06
Brenna Marquis-----	7:06
Alison Akerley-----	7:09
Kaila Byram-----	7:20
Emilie Dufresne-----	7:25
Madison Reale-----	7:43
Kaylee Farve-----	7:45
Alyssa Johnson-----	7:49
Angela Miller-----	7:49
<u>BOYS</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Jeremie Belekewicz-----	6:13
Paul Bates-----	6:16
Noah Zajac-----	6:19
John Willett-----	6:26
Jake Michaels-----	6:36
Kevin Bishop-----	6:42
Peter Vanek-----	6:58
Brady Dutton-----	7:04
Daniel Workeman-----	7:22
Mason George-----	7:23
Logan Araujo-----	7:52

ZO-NATHAN-0-YEP

Happy Fall!!!

CNH and CHS held our first joint parents meeting on October 12. It was nice to see so many parents there. We had a group discussion and then talked about some things that were school specific. Some of the topics that we discussed for CNH included:

- Walk a thon in June raised \$218. We hope to run the event again this Spring since it is enjoyed by both staff and students, but hope to do a better job raising money.
- Tuesday, November 22 we will be hosting a staff appreciation luncheon for CNH staff. We are looking for donations of drinks, desserts, salads, etc. items may be dropped off at school or sent in with your child on Monday or Tuesday. Please let me know if you are able to help out.
- We will be selling SCRIP as a fundraiser this fall. Information should be coming home soon.
- We are looking for people to help out at the Craft Fair, which will be held on Saturday, December 3 from 9-3. CNH is responsible for running the Take-a-Chance table.
- We are also looking for parents to help out on the PTO board. We only plan on having 3 more meetings this year. If you are interested in helping me out, please contact me.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 6, at 6:30 in the Library/Media Center. Hope to see you there.

Thanks for your help and support.

Sue Dolan

Rsdolan42@gmail.com

860-742-0496



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From this account, you will also be able to place Reload and ScripNow! orders. Reloading allows you to add funds to many physical gift cards you previously purchased on ShopWithScrip. And for more than 30 great brands, you can order ScripNow! eCards that you can download and print right from home, or cut and paste the certificate code for online shopping. You don't have to wait for a physical card to ship. Perfect for last-minute purchases!

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