

DSLA Newsletter

November, 2011



News from Mrs. Henkel

Students have been participating in Community Service every Wednesday. Projects have included gathering pumpkins, helping to hang posters for Red Ribbon Week and a local theatrical production. In addition, selected students have been volunteering on Fridays to help at the Dodge County Humane Society. Ms. Mueller and her advisory have been assisting Trenton Elementary by clipping box tops and collecting milk caps. Ms. Polka's advisory have been instrumental in keeping the football bleachers free from debris. Ms. Sorenson's advisory was busy this fall harvesting our gardens and processing the vegetables. Beginning in November, Ms. Henkel's advisory will be building benches for the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust properties. All materials will be donated by the Land Trust, and Mr. Terry Zimmerlee will be leading the construction projects in our Tech Room.

The senior class has been busy touring Moraine Park Technical College and Fox Valley Technical College in preparation for their anticipated graduation in June, 2012. Students toured the campuses, met with

current students, and investigated potential programs they are interested in applying to. On November 11th, all seniors will take the ACCUPLACER entrance exam at Moraine Park here in Beaver Dam.



Ms. Mueller's news

The students in Algebra 1 have been cruising through the book. We have made it up to Chapter 5 where we are starting to get to Exponents and Polynomials. The beginning of the year was more review and we are now getting to some new concepts for the students. Algebra 2 students have been busy with graphing equalities and inequalities as well as slope and y-intercepts. They are doing more work with polynomials in the next few weeks. Biology has just finished up the chapter on Bacteria and Fungi and will be getting into how animals stay alive.



McIntyre Minutes

The SAPAR class recently took a trip to Waldvogel's Pumpkin Patch with their children. A beautiful day welcomed the group as they explored the Hay barn, the Haunted Mine, the giant slide and the corn maze. They began the day with a hay wagon ride to the pumpkin patch where they all found the perfect pumpkin to take home. The toddlers navigated the pumpkin vines and the multitudes of pumpkins to return to the hay wagon unscathed. The day ended with traditional caramel apples and a chance to rest. Many of the children fell fast asleep prior to their return to DSLA! Another great memory for SAPAR!

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Mrs. Sorenson's Stories

Environmental and Earth Science students are studying renewable and nonrenewable forms of energy. They will each select and research a system or machine that generates or uses an alternative form of energy. Next, they will design and create their own machine or system which, theoretically, generates or uses an alternative form of energy.

Cooking and gardening ended with a small celebration and using donated Halloween candy to make goody bags to send to soldiers deployed overseas.

The theme for English Literature students is *The Tenacity of the Human Spirit*. We have read stories, poems, book chapters, written our own goal statements and selected an influential person to research. Students are now selecting a "tangent", an issue or subject that is somehow related to their individual.

Intermediate English students are working on a unit that centers on the theme of *Childhood in America*. Students have read various short stories, poems and excerpts from a wide range of childhood experiences. They are now in the process of selecting a "perspective" or "lens" through which they will examine the American childhood experience. Perspectives include children or poverty or wealth, various cultures, religions or ethnic experiences, children of the military, farming families, children of famous families, and so forth.



Ms. Polka's Projects

The Math Basics students have been working very hard and diligently during math to master all the material they are working on. They have effectively mastered many of these concepts and ideas without the use of a calculator, therefore becoming more proficient with their mental math skills. The first quarter Tech Ed. Class is coming to an end and I would like to congratulate the students on their commitment and effort they put into the many projects completed during the quarter. Great Job!



Don Smith Learning Academy School Staff

