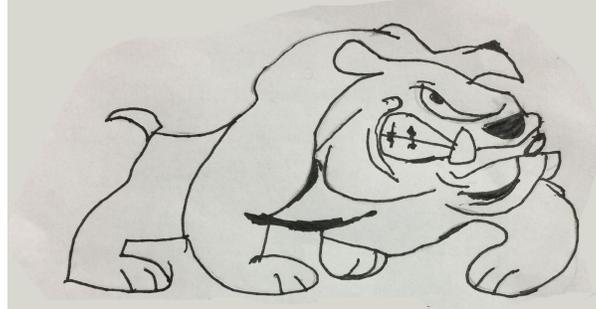


The Bulldog Bulletin

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Thanksgiving Editorial

(Kallie Horan)

Thanksgiving is a great time of year to show your appreciation for your family and friends. You sit around a big table of food with all of those you hold close to you. Students at RLMS get a half day Wednesday November 23, along with Thanksgiving and the following Friday November 25. This gave them extra time to spend with their close family and friends.

On Wednesday, November 23, some students wore turkey hats, while other showed their enthusiasm for the holiday in other ways. They wore fall colors like maroon, red, and orange. This was a more subtle way to show how much they love thanksgiving. There are many ways that you can show spirit towards Thanksgiving.

In the word “Thanksgiving” the word “giving” is included. Thanksgiving is a great time of year to give the most important people in your life gifts to show appreciation. You could even write them a note telling them how much you appreciate them.

Although sometimes looked over, as it is between Halloween and Christmas, it is an important holiday. It is the one day a year where

everyone is encouraged to thank all of the important people in their lives and show appreciation around a big dinner table.

Nathan Hale Book Review

(Eli Moyse)

Recently over the summer I read Nathan Hale's *Hazardous tales Treaties, Trenches, Mud, and Blood.* It explains the tactics complicated strategies, sides and overall history of WW2 very simply. Not only does it teach a great amount about WW2, it adds in tons of comedy to lighten the tragic history of the war. I would recommend this book to children aged about 10 to 13. It is fairly gory hence being based off of WW2. Nathan Hale, the author of the book not only made this book but has published several other books about important wars in the graphic novel format. Even though it is a graphic novel, it is jammed packed with tons of information, that if you ask me, children of this age will retain much better than pages and pages of text. Their storyline includes Nathan Hale, the famous spy who is about to get hung in the book. His famous last words go into the great big book of history where he learns everything that happens in history up to today and teaches the people who are going to hang him all about all important american wars that have happened. It is a great storyline that teaches a lot to kids! I definitely recommend this book!

Nathan Hale Author Visit

(Eli Moyse)

Author Nathan Hale visited RLMS Wednesday, November 9th. Mr. Hale grew up in Provo, Utah. and before his career as an author he painted Murals for museums all around the world. His presentation was very creative. Mr. Hale told students a seldom told story about The Lewis and Clark expedition while at the same time drawing pictures to enhance his

story. As Mr. Hale sketched pictures to augment his tale they pictures were projected onto a very large screen at the front of the auditorium.

While the story of the Lewis and Clark expedition is well known, Mr. Hale filled in many facts about the background on the Lewis and Clark story that his publishers would never publish it for him. The way he told the story though was unedited and he filled in a lot of fun, little known facts. His presentation talked about their whole journey from Sacagawea to the Thunderclappers.

In the Science Classroom 7
(Maitreya Fabbro)

At the end of the first marking period and into the second Ms.Dias Kohler's 7th grade science class was going full swing in the study of cells. Ms.Dias Kohler began this until with teaching about cell theory, the parts of a cell, the people who discovered cells, and the difference between an animal cell and a plant cell.

For their first look at cells, students were assigned to a partner for their microscope lab. Then, their task was to scrape their inner cheek cells with a toothpick and then examine them under a microscope, whilst drawing how the cells look on an assignment sheet. This also was a lab that followed up on the students' microscope unit and quiz, helping them apply their knowledge to an actual microscope. Ms. Dias Kohler's students also got a chance to examine strands of human hair under a microscope and pre-made slides of insects or insect parts.

The next big project for this unit was the cell analogy, also known as the "Metaphorically Speaking" project. For this assignment, the students individually made posters comparing the parts of a cell, called the

organelles, to a book, movie, or tv show. They were given 2 days to work on this project in class, and 4 days to work on it at home. The project was graded out of 100, with points being removed for little details such as saying “The Nucleus is like _____”, instead of “The Nucleus is _____”, which is the proper way to write a metaphor.

Ms. Dias Kohler finished this unit with a test that required knowledge of the scientific theory, the cell theory, the scientists who discovered cells, and parts of a cell, which all students knew due to the quizzes assigned to them around every 2 weeks, helping them memorize and test their knowledge on the study of cells. The next unit was Dna, genes, and chromosomes, and all of those involved the knowledge of cells!

The Drama Club Auditions (Eli Moyse)



The Drama Club Auditions were held Monday November 7 and Wednesday November 9. As a student, in the auditions, you would sing a song that was assigned to you previously when you filled out the Drama Club form. The teachers running the auditions (Mrs. Lafond, Mrs. Fredericks, and Mrs Brown - Wilusz, who kep control of the kids outside the audition room) asked how much acting experience you had. The tryouts were held in the chorus room and callbacks were held Wednesday,

November 16. The cast, the chorus, the narrators, and the stage crew (painting, lights sounds, greeting, ushers, and backstage.) The stage crew info will not be released until early 2017 as it says on the RLMS website. You can find all the drama club info under the activities section on the RLMS homepage.

In the Math Classroom: Grade 7

(Kallie Horan)

During the week of December 5, Mr. Reilly's 7th grade Pre-Algebra class is doing a fun project. They were asked to plan two birthday parties. One family party, one friend party. The students were put in groups of three to four students. The students were given a budget of \$900 for food and \$300 for entertainment.

Although students were free to choose any food or any entertainment within budget they could not use money from the other budgets. For example, if you were over on entertainment you can not use money from the food budget to cover the costs. Also they can not use the party price for a place that includes food. Finally, students had to use the adult price in entertainment venues and count in tax and tip.

It may sound as though this project does not relate to math, but it does. Students have to set up equations to find the solution point of the equation to figure out how many people can come to the adult party and how many people can come to the friend party. They would need to use two methods to find the solution points.

On Friday December 9, students went to the computer lab and worked on their research and started their projects. Students had a choice from either a powerpoint or a poster. They needed to finish their project by December 22. Then, students presented their project to the class.

Overall the students thought that this project was a fun way to use their math skills that they had learned in chapter 6.

Winter Choral Concerts

(Maitreya Fabbro)

On Monday, December 1, Tuesday, December 2, and Wednesday, December 3, sixth, seventh, and eighth grade had their chorus concerts.

After the concerts, many people were wondering how Ms. Lafond could have pulled off this concert in just 14 weeks, not counting that she was working with minimal time and lots of details to perfect. Here's what she had to say when interviewed about how this performance came together.

The first question she was asked was "What Genres of Music do you usually choose?" she answered with "Each grade has certain styles required by the curriculum. But soon the curriculum is going to change, so we'll be doing new songs from genres for each grade". This was easy to see, based on the wide range of genres chosen for the concert. Sixth grade did "Hot Chocolate", a salsa style song, "Ode to Peace", a take on Beethoven's "Ode to Joy", "Winter Light", and "When I Grow Up", from Matilda. Seventh Grade did "La Vida", a Spanish song, "Winter Song" by Sara Bareilles, and "Treat You Better" by Shawn Mendes. Eighth grade did "Seasons of Love" from the Broadway musical *Rent*, "Imagine" by John Lennon, "Candle for Peace", and "A Charlie Brown Christmas"

Following up on this question, Ms. Lafond was asked further questions about the styles and types of music she chose. "Sixth grade is required to do foreign music and classical music, seventh grade does multi-cultural songs, and pop songs, while eighth grade does Broadway music and gospels", she explained. When questioned about what songs the different grades struggled with, she answered honestly, explaining that "7th grade struggled with Nutcracker Jingles, which later ended up being cut from the concert as it was an acapella of *The Nutcracker Ballet*, and 8th Grade struggled with Seasons Of Love from the Broadway musical *Rent*, as I didn't have them do an easy version- I had them do a full, Broadway version". As one of her last questions, she was asked how she thinks the concerts went. She easily answered with "I think the concerts went very well! I changed the concerts so that pre recorded piano was my accompanist, and the timing was right, with no guessing", she stated. Lastly, she responded to "What do you do when faced with challenges?". Ms. Lafond responded positively with "I laugh and figure it out, and I always

ask for help. If you don't have a sense of humor, don't teach middle school".

Visiting Chefs (Eli Moyse)

Over the last couple of weeks the Ludlowe cafeteria has had some visiting chefs. I interviewed Margaret, who has been working as RLMS head chef for 10 years now. She says that some meals that the visiting chefs have made include the ramen and sushi, but they have visiting chefs very often. Even the executive chef for the district visited. It is actually the company that sends the visiting chefs to cook there. The head chef at the kitchen gets some say in who comes to cook, but it usually isn't much. The chefs plan out their own meals by making a list of what they need. Some of the things that need may not be available in the RLMS kitchen, so the visiting chefs usually shop for what they need. I not only got a good glimpse into the RLMS kitchen, I also got a sneak peek. Margaret was attempting to get a smoothie day at the school when I was there. That is definitely something to look forward to.

3D Printer (Eli Moyse)

3D printing has come to RLMS. The printers were purchased by a grant from PTSA. They arrived on Monday, December 5 and the Tech Ed teachers already had them hard at work with students the next day. The 3D printers are about 2 by 3 feet and all the sides are open. I created a key fob to get a feel of how to use the 3D printer. The first step is to go into the program Sketchup. Sketchup is a free program that allows one to draft. Once you get the hang of using Sketchup, you would



create a rectangle and then place your initials on top of that rectangle. After you create the rectangle, you have to make a circular hole in the rectangle. Then you can make 3D letters. I made my initials. After all of that is done, you can print it. First you have to save it to a USB drive. Then Mr. Boocks or Mr. McAleese will open the software and print it. Overall, it was a very interesting experience and the Tech Ed teachers are happy to have the new technology to introduce to RLMS.

S.A.T. Sixth Grade
(Eli Moyse)

In week one of marking period two, every Thursday in every 6th grade classroom a group of 8th graders come in to teach one 6th grade class about behavior and respect. This is called S.A.T or student assistance team. Currently RLMS is in week 3 and the program is running very well. There is usually a very fun game to go along with the subject we learned about.

Usually the students get prepared by going to the team room every 3 weeks and plan what they are going to do for the next 3 weeks. I spoke with the student that is a representative for Mr. Tomei's homeroom. They always meet on Tuesdays and prepare for what they are going to do. His favorite thing about RLMS is the social interactions and the people. He just moved from New Jersey and he said that in New Jersey he was much less likely to obtain such interesting and riveting interactions with other people. So far students have primarily learned about respect and good behavior throughout the school. Students also learned about the Bulldog Box where one can report good behavior anonymously and get the person you awarded a t-shirt and a free bulldog lunch, this person is called a top dog. Overall the teachers and the dean seem very happy with this initiative.

(Eli Moyse)

On Thursday December 8th in Mr. Swallers' class, the students were preparing opening arguments cross examinations and closing arguments in preparation for the big day, December 9th. The students were getting ready for mock court cases based off of the Hammurabi code of law. This was a very creative idea to teach the students about early civilizations, specifically Mesopotamia, or the land between two rivers. King Hammurabi was a powerful king that created his own code of law hence the name, Hammurabi's Code. He promoted fairness and justice throughout his kingdom after he conquered mesopotamia and renamed it Babylonia. He reinforced his laws by bringing people to courts throughout his kingdom. His code of law though, is similar and represents the saying an eye for an eye. There were three parts you could be in the court cases. They were lawyer, judge and client. On Friday, the students followed the law and acted out their cases. Here is a sample case. A boy is asked by his father to go do a chore. The child doesn't do the chore because he already knew what he needed to know to complete the chore. Without telling his father, he goes and hangs out with his friends. The father gets extremely nervous after his child doesn't return for a while. He finds him with his friends. He gets so frustrated that he kicks his son out of his house. Again, the students have to act out the case. Overall this was a very creative idea and teaches us about Mesopotamia in a very creative way.
