

Pride in Our Schools

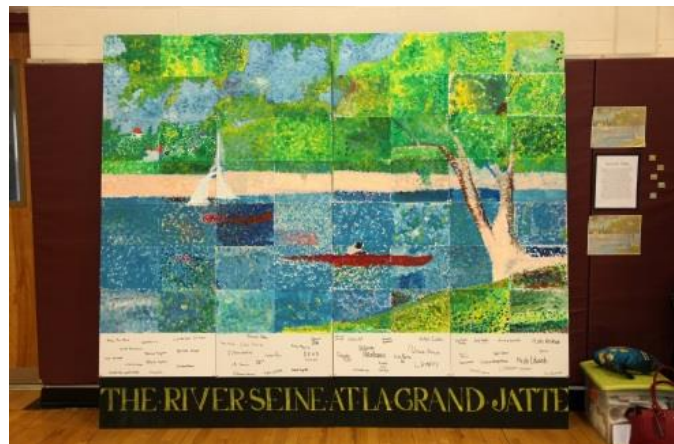
Fall 2013

We are very proud of our students and teachers.

*Alexis Fletcher, a fifth grade student at Mount Horeb School, had her t-shirt design selected for Mount Horeb's school spirit shirt. Her design best represented *Shining Brighter Every Day* and is printed on the shirts that will be worn by students and staff on school spirit days. The Mount Horeb community is very proud of Alexis!*

The Warren Middle School News broadcast, done on a weekly basis, is a direct outgrowth of the 8th grade elective program in the Unified Arts Cycle. Mrs. Alger is the Unified Arts teacher who currently spearheads this weekly effort and who has brought new life to the Warren Middle School News program. Students are literally glued to the news program every Friday when it is broadcast during Guide period. Mrs. Alger's students cover a wide variety of news topics which include "Caught in the Act", "Students of the Month", weekend weather and sports, as well as weekly news coverage of happenings around the middle school.

Towards the end of the 2012-2013 school year, then 4th grade students at Woodland School created a Pointillism mural. Pointillism is inspired by the artist Georges Seurat who created this style of Impressionism. Students were all responsible for a small piece of his painting "The River Seine at La Grand Jatte" and combined each to create their masterpiece. Under the direction of their Art teacher, Mrs. Ronkiewicz, the children created a mural measuring an impressive 8ft. by 7ft.! Visit the All-Purpose room at Woodland to admire this work of art!



Last year's 5th grade class generously decided to use extra money they had to help beautify the school by funding a mural on Central School's playground wall. Parents, Julie Lee and Jill Pila worked with Principal Milita and Mrs. Davenport (Art teacher) to create the mural's theme. Mrs. Davenport then came up with a drawing, and all four worked on painting the wall. Not only does it add art and color to the playground, but it has an interactive component, with shapes equaling a point value for students to aim for when playing wall ball. Their hard work has paid off as the mural project is now complete. Now that is a team effort!



*As the school year began, students and parents were introduced to the New Core Content Standards for Math. Many Warren educators prepared and presented helpful information to parents during the information sessions offered throughout the district during multiple afternoons and an evening time. These presentations provided important details regarding the changes in the Core Math Standards as well as about the new **Go Math!** series, which was adopted by the district. We thank the following staff members for their professionalism, time, and effort: ALT staff members, Mrs. Balkonis, Dr. Kline and Mrs. Ordner as well Mrs. Ceccato (Central), Mrs. Gaglioti (Mt. Horeb) and Mrs. Beekman (Woodland).*



Congratulations to third grader Jayanth Mammen at Mount Horeb School. Jayanth's artwork, a water color of a still life with a collage element, was chosen to be on exhibit at the Adi Blum Learning Center located at The Zimmerli Art Museum of Rutgers University. Additionally, 2nd graders from Mount Horeb were selected to exhibit their artwork at the Center for Contemporary Art in Bridgewater, celebrating the talent we have in young Warren artists. Congratulations to Mrs. Sage and her students!

The Service Club of Woodland School consists of 14 students from grades 3 - 5. Along with their advisor, Mrs. Beekman, their goal is to help communities as much as possible. Their first project was to make and send birthday cards to children via the Homeless Solutions in Morristown. The October and November projects involve raising money from a Halloween flashlight sale as well as collecting canned goods during American Education Week which will be donated to the Somerset County Food Bank. Service Club members also collected extra Halloween candy which was donated to a dentist who creates care packages for the troops overseas. It is clear; children CAN make a difference!

Shining Brighter Every Day...

Many Warren teachers have continued their studies, taking professional development courses, as well as graduate classes toward advanced degrees! We celebrate the achievements of the following Warren Township Schools' staff: Nancy Braunstein, Julie Jagiello, Amy Jensen, Kristina Morano, and Joel Van Tine.



Recently, Warren Middle School students had the opportunity to participate in The Lions International Peace Poster Contest. Students were encouraged to express what peace means to them in response to the 2013-2014 theme, "Our World, Our Future." The goal is to inspire greater tolerance and international understanding. The contributions submitted to Mrs. Cooper were excellent, and Sgt. Saum from the Warren Police Department will select two posters to advance to the next level.



Lauren Trumpore, a local Girl Scout and former ALT student, shared her talents with ALT. Lauren collaborated with Mrs. Brennan, ALT's school nurse, to create drawings and paintings which promote positive nutrition and healthy lifestyles. As a result, Lauren was honored with receiving the Silver Award

in Girl Scouting. This is an example of a wonderful project connecting community and school.



Field Day Festivities! On October 4th, Central School held its Welcome Field Day event. Ms. Lamson, Mrs. Ceccato, Mrs. Fraumann, Ms. Hecht, Mr. Kielblock, and Mrs. Scherzer coordinated all of the activities which revolved around the district's brand, *Shining Brighter Every Day*. One activity was the Diamond Pass which was similar to hot potato; students passed a large shiny diamond around to music. There was also a shoe shining relay, a gold nugget relay, the shiny penny toss, and many more! A crisp and sunny day outdoors added to the excitement of being with newfound friends and classmates!

This year, Woodland students in Mrs. Krumm's class showed support for the troops on September 11th. Two young men, Patrick and Shane, enlisted in the armed forces last spring in the hopes of becoming part of the military special forces. Patrick, a former student of Mrs. Krumm, is Army; Shane, Mrs. Krumm's nephew, is Navy. Students proudly made them signs and pictures which Mrs. Krumm then sent via text and email. As the men are moved often, addresses are not easy to come by so technology has enabled the connections to continue. When addresses are available the class plans to send more expressions of gratitude and best wishes!

The Warren Middle School PTO offers mini-grants in the fall and spring of each academic year. The purpose is to support and enhance the instructional and educational experience of all students, by providing funding to support the educational professionals who are willing to pursue alternative and innovative ways to enhance the curriculum. A total of over \$3000 has been allocated to the following staff members to use towards materials, technology, projects and programs: Mrs. Alger, Mrs. Banks, Mrs. Benn, Mrs. Carlson, Mrs. Cassidy, Mrs. Cirrotti, Mrs. Lepore, Mrs. MacGorman, Mrs. Shimko, Mrs. Bardy, Mrs. Plesmid, Miss Yu, Miss Tanzi, and Ms. Thomson. An additional \$1000 from the Cultural Arts budget was allocated to Mr. Hartshorn and Mrs. LaMorte for the 8th grade Civil War and Lincoln presenters, as well as a bee keeper presentation for 7th grade Science students.

Congratulations to Mrs. Morano (LDT-C at ALT/Mount Horeb) and Mrs. Fishelman (Kindergarten teacher at Mount Horeb)! Both teachers received a scholarship to attend a week long institute at Yale University this past summer to learn about the RULER Approach, which is dedicated to building social emotional literacy through research-based strategies to develop this important aspect of learning. The teachers came back eager to share their findings with their Warren colleagues and they have already begun to see the positive impact in classrooms!



On Friday, Oct 25th the Central School PTO hosted its third annual Trunk or Treat evening. Mrs. Colman chaired this event. The Zamora family set up its annual Haunted House which was a highlight of the evening. This year a DJ was added bringing a "sound" experience to the evening. A pumpkin decorating contest inspired over 30 entries! The pumpkins were displayed on the front lawn of the school during the day and moved to the entrance of Trunk or Treat to be viewed by all. Each winner (below) got a gift card to 16 Handles!

Funniest Category	Scariest Category
Grace Prayias Grade 1	Ashley Parker Kindergarten
Andrew Conway Grade 2	Gina Mortillo Grade 2
Prettiest Category	Most Original Category
Kathryn Flanigan Kindergarten	Sheridan Ameo Grade 4
Kaitlyn Loia Grade 5	Brooke Pfeiffer Grade 5

At Mount Horeb School, students can be nominated for a Star Gator Certificate. The character education program focuses on recognizing students who demonstrate unusual acts of kindness, responsibility, caring, honesty, citizenship, or fairness. Many students have already been nominated. When they are nominated, their names and their act are read on the morning announcements, the nomination is posted on the office bulletin board, and a certificate is sent home to celebrate. Congratulations to all of the students who have received certificates to date. They all demonstrated how we can shine brighter every day!

Thanks go out to our Tech Team staff, Ken Creedon, Tim Ely, Patrick MacNamara and Lance Riegler! They worked very hard to set up the five schools for a successful start to the school year! A large portion of their efforts included a conversion to Google and setting up Google Drives. They also have been working diligently to prepare for the Chromebook initiative which enables all 6th graders to have a Chromebook. It is important that there is enough wireless capability to serve over 200 within Warren Middle School's wireless environment and they have increased the bandwidth tenfold. Mr. Comba and Mr. Cook are extremely excited for the roll-out this January 2014! In addition to the support by both the Warren BOE and PTO, extensive teacher training is being planned as an on-going part of the one to one initiative at Warren Middle School.

ALT teachers, Mrs. Boraski and Mrs. DeRoner ran a 5K to support the Steeplechase Cancer Center and Steps Together, an organization that supports families who have family members experiencing medical issues. Warren staff members are continuously giving of themselves in kind and compassionate ways.



On October 29th, Woodland School's third graders participated in an on-site archaeological dig. The third grade teachers, thanks to the financial support of the PTO, were able to bring Neil Brown, a presenter from "Gem Rocks" to the school for a captivating assembly. During the hands-on "gemstone mining" activity the students were able to dig, identify, classify and keep specimens of rocks, minerals, and gemstones. They also learned that almost everything around us was created because people have taken something out of the ground and turned it into a material that we use in our everyday lives.



The Anti-bullying Bill of Rights Act designates a week in October as a Week of Respect in New Jersey. Warren Township staff planned for their “Week of Making Good Choices” which focused on preventing harassment, intimidation and bullying. At Warren Middle School, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Kaufmann, Mrs. Johnson, and Mrs. Scully organized five weekday themes which encouraged student and staff participation such as “Dress Differently to Respect Differences” and “Team up for Tolerance”. They also hosted a *Share Your Story Challenge*. Students were able to share stories about how a choice they made created a difference in someone's life, or how a choice someone else made created a difference in their lives. The guidance counselors were pleased to receive numerous entries. The following were read during the morning announcements: a poem by McKenna Frey (7th), a narrative by Cutler Walton (7th), a story by Jack Valenti (6th), and another story by Sara Franks (6th). Additionally, Caroline DiGrande (7th) was a featured guest on the WMS News, reading her poem on taking a stand. At the elementary level, Mrs. Blessing-Maire, Mrs. Langworthy, Mrs. Morris, and Dr. Stankiewicz organized their week which encouraged children to perform an action such as making a new friend or showing good manners. Daily slogans led the way such as “Be a Positive Problem Solver” and “Take a Stand-Lend a Hand”. Talk to your child about his/her experience, and how a welcoming school climate revolves around positive attitudes, feelings and behaviors!

A note from Dr. Crader....

Our district is working hard to implement the elements of our recently developed Strategic Plan. We have made progress in the areas of Communication, Technology, 21st Century Learning, School Environment, and Assets. To learn more about the Strategic Plan, watch the introductory video posted on www.warrentboe.org. Watch our website and eBlast notifications for updates on the Strategic Plan progress.

