

Western Wayne Middle School

The Wildcat Paw Print

May/June Newsletter
Volume III, Issue VIII

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ June 9 - 6th Grade Field Day
- ◆ June 10 - 7th Grade Field Day
- ◆ June 11 - 8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony and Field Day
- ◆ June 12 - Last Day of School

Visit us on the web at
www.westernwayne.org

Principals' Corner

The end of the school year is upon us and it hardly seems possible that another school year has ended. We have accomplished great things this year as a team of teachers and students and the extended Western Wayne community. Whether it has been working together on community service projects, completing algebra homework, or working on science lab experiments, Western Wayne Middle School students have risen to each challenge and have set the tone for excellence. Our sports programs have enjoyed expanded participation and winning seasons, as evidenced by the football team and girls track and field teams, both of which won division championships and finished undefeated. Our Junior Academy of Science team and reading competition teams also fared well, with the winning middle school team in NEIU-19 coming from Western Wayne Middle School. We have traveled to many distant sites, including Washington, D.C., State College, and New York City in pursuit of knowledge and academic excellence. We met our goal for Adequate Yearly Progress for the 5th consecutive year and will continue to focus our efforts on academic achievement for all students. Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you in the fall.



Eighth Grade Students Release Trout

In the November issue of this newsletter a story appeared reporting that our eighth grade students were raising trout as part of the "Trout in the Classroom" program. On May 28, 2009, students from our eighth grade released over one hundred trout into the Van Auken Creek. These trout were raised from the trout eggs we received in November. The students have been taking care of the trout since then in preparation for their release into the creek. The students will also be doing a chemical analysis of the water and a study of the macro invertebrates they find there.

Summer School Information

Students can register summer school on June 29th, 30th and July 1st in the High School Guidance Office at the high school from 9:00 – 12:00. A **GUIDANCE RECOMMENDATION** is required since all summer school students must have an average in the 55-69 range for the subject they need to make up. A **payment of \$150.00 per student/per course** is due at registration. Checks may be made payable to the Western Wayne School District. **ALL financial obligations MUST be met!**

SMART SUN SAFETY

An estimated one in five of all Americans will develop skin cancer at some point in their lives! Here are six sun-smart ideas you can use to declare yourself sun-safe!

1. Use SPF every day – SPF 15 or higher every day in every season no matter what your skin color is.
2. Wear sunglasses.
3. Seek Shade – UV rays are especially strong between the hours of 10 am and 4 pm.
4. Don't use tanning booths – Tanners have a higher risk of developing skin cancer.
5. Wear a hat –
6. Learn not to burn – Just one blistering sunburn in childhood or adolescence more than doubles your risk of developing melanoma (the deadliest form of skin cancer) later in life.

TOO MUCH SUN MAKES YOU LOOK OLD BEFORE YOUR TIME. SAND, WATER, SNOW, ICE AND OTHER BRIGHT SURFACES REFLECT UV AND INCREASE YOUR UV EXPOSURE BY UP TO 80%.

This has been a great health tip from your Health and Physical Education Department.



Eighth Grade Advanced Research

The 8th grade advanced research classes bring experience to their culminating project.

The 43 students who have been involved in Mrs. Petrosky's Advanced Research Classes are closing the year by using their knowledge of highlighting skills, note taking, MLA Writers for Research Papers format for outlining, and electronic resources to complete their last project, involving learning about the history of "Mad" Anthony Wayne, for whom Wayne County is named.

This class offered not only the opportunity to learn these skills, but also how to efficiently utilize web resources, choose appropriate Internet search tools, utilize the state database (The POWER Library), and use professional recommendations in order to choose quality reading materials. The students and their parents were able to reach Mrs. Petrosky via a specially offered email address so that questions could be answered in the evenings, weekends, and during holidays. Students enjoyed having the opportunity to edit their work continuously throughout the quarter until they reached the desired grade, with "Learning" and "Trust" being the two mantras of the program.

The High School Marching Band is looking for a few flag twirlers, dancers and helpers

The Western Wayne Marching Band is accepting new Color Guard Members for the 2009-2010 School Year. Any student who will be in 8th grade or higher next year may join. The Color Guard uses flags and other equipment along with dance to add a dynamic visual to the band show.

Students with cheering or dance experience usually take to this art form very naturally and become our best performers. No experience is necessary. All you need is a desire to work hard and be part of an excellent performing organization.

We also need equipment managers for the band and color guard for the upcoming year. Do you have a friend in band and want to be part of it but performing is not your thing? Come help us out with the large amount of equipment that we travel with and become an important part of the marching band. **Sign up in the middle school office.**

Visit the High School band's webpage at:

www.wwband.wikispaces.com

6th Grade Students Attend Science Camp

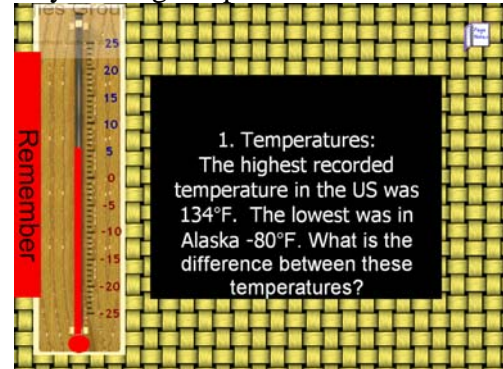


Western Wayne Middle School 6th grade students and teachers recently participated in Science Camp activities at Camp Watonka, Hawley, PA from May 18-20, 2009. For the third consecutive year, 6th grade teachers and students completed five science activity stations which included robotics, a stream study station on Middle Creek, a laboratory analysis station, a watershed and ecosystem station, and a GPS land navigation station. Led by middle school science teachers Jan Novak, Tim Hess and Vince Tomassoni, the students and their 6th grade teachers enjoyed hands-on, engaging lessons which were designed to inspire students to think of careers in science, technology and mathematics. Students and chaperones remained overnight in Camp Watonka cabins, enjoyed recreational activities and games, and ate delicious family-style meals in the dining hall. At the end of their science camp activities, it was obvious that a good time was had by students and faculty as evidenced by the smiles, laughter and storytelling heard on the bus ride home and in the middle school hallways and classrooms.



Problem of the Month

Test your skills on the concepts we have covered in 6th grade by solving the problem of the month.



*The first two 6th grade students (1 per team) to hand in their answer and work to Mrs. Bianchi or Mr. Pauler will receive a small prize.

Chorus News!

The Chorus department has been extremely busy with many wonderful and musical experiences these past few months. The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade chorus held their spring concert "Journey In Song" on May 5th. Their performance was nothing short of amazing. All of the students worked extremely hard to prepare for this outstanding performance which was richly and warmly received by parents and the community. The Concert was followed by an awesome chorus trip to New York City to see the newly mounted production of "**West Side Story.**" What an experience!! The students are still talking about the music, dancing and caliber of the production.

Our 6th grade Chorus took their show on the road to Julia Rubaudo's Nursing Home on June 2nd. There the students performed with great enthusiasm and spirit for the residents. Everyone there was so grateful and touched by their gift of music; it truly was a memorable event for both the students and the residents. Our final chorus performance will be for the 8th grade moving up ceremony on June 11th. The 7th & 8th grade Chorus will be performing two selections, "Amani Utupe", and "**I Am a Small Part of the World.**"

As you can see we have had an outstanding year filled with music and memories. Our chorus department wishes everyone a wonderful and safe summer....See you next year.



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School

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“Excellence
Starts with
You!”

Gone Fishing!

Miss Taylor’s Autistic Support classroom went fishing at Lake Ladore in Waymart on May 26, 2009. The students who went were Jacob Bishop, Travis Carey and Trevor Komar. Kyle Williams, a student from Mrs. Morgan’s class, and Shane Bronson from Miss Olson’s class also joined. Each student learned the safety rules of fishing along with catching their own fish!



Coordination of Library Services

Western Wayne Middle and High School students are benefitting from the coordination of library services offered by The Wayne County Library System through a partnership established by Mrs. Michele Petrosky. Using their public library cards, students have been requesting books from the Wayne system, having them delivered to their homeroom, and returned on their behalf, free of charge and with no extra travel necessary. This is an especially nice service now that the academic year is coming to a close, and the school library collections are being inventoried, so that students can continue their reading experiences. Students and their families are encouraged to continue borrowing materials in this fashion until the last day of school, but will then be responsible for returning the materials on their own at their convenience.

The Lake/Salem Community Library and Mrs. Petrosky are working on some future collaborative efforts for the following year, such as further research experiences and on-site after-school study options at the Hamlin facility.

Folktales, Fairytales, Fables and Myths

The students in seventh grade Language Arts classes have been studying a unit on folktales, fairy tales, fables and myths. They have been reading a variety of stories from around the world such as “Aschenputtel” from Germany, “Waters of Gold” from China and fables by Aesop. Some students have even written fables and folktales of their own. The students have come to a much better appreciation of the importance of our oral tradition in the world.

Dear Students of Western Wayne School District

There is a wounded soldier at the Fisher House in Fort Sam Houston, Texas by the name of SGT. David Thornhill. SGT. Thornhill lost both legs as well as being burned on 56% of his body while serving this country in Iraq. He has been at the Fisher House for a year and his parents have reached out for support. They are not asking for money but they are asking for as many service members, veterans, and others as possible to please send him a birthday card. His birthday is this coming week and it would be great if we can send him a birthday card to show him how much we love him for what he has sacrificed for his country. His parents are worried about his emotional status as he hardly ever has visitors. Let's help this soldier and send him a lot of cards.

Mailing address:

Sgt. Daniel Thornhill
Fort Sam Houston Fisher House
3623 George C. Beach Rd
Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234