

Dear Center School Parents/Guardians:

This coming week is short but busy...

This Saturday evening do not forget to change your clocks, setting them back one hour, ending DST.

We are returning to in-person schooling this coming Monday, November 2.

On Monday we are also holding our annual Walk-A-Thon, so dress warm.

On Tuesday we are holding Picture Day for students and staff, so dress your best!

Tuesday is Election Day so do not forget to vote.

Wednesday evening we are holding our 2nd Parent Therapeutic Meeting at 7pm.



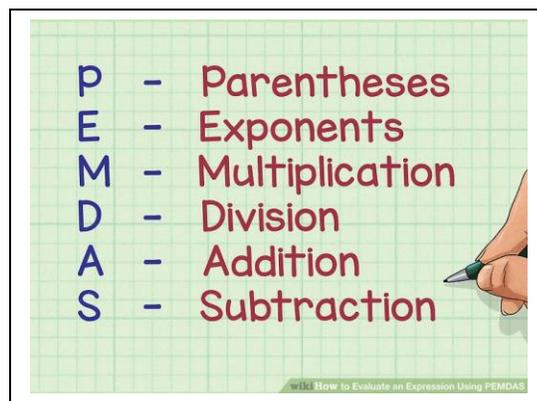
Happy Halloween!!!!

FROM THE CLASSROOMS:

High School

Dr. R's Mathlab class is investigating numbers and how they can be broken down into sums of smaller numbers. Dr. R's Algebra 2 class is starting a unit on functions, function notation, and composition of functions. Dr. R's Algebra 1 class has continued working on starting from words to come up with expressions or equations that describe a real-world problem situation.

Students in Ms. Harrison's Algebra class reviewed perfect square roots, square roots, and exponents. The class completed many multi-step math problems using order of operations to test their application skills of the reviewed content. In a "challenge" activity, students had to work together to decide if completed math problems using PEMDAS were correct or incorrect. Students also had to identify if an error was made and how to correctly complete the problem. The class demonstrated patience, knowledge, teamwork, listening and communication skills in order to successfully collaborate and complete the challenge questions. The group activity proved to be triumphant; both academically and socially! Well done!



Ms. Gibson's Language Arts class is continuing their work in Globe. We are working with "Lame Deer Remembers his Childhood" by John Fire/Lame Deer. This is a story about a Native American recounting the time that he pierced his sister's ears and the consequences that followed. Students discussed events in their past that were not the wisest decisions, such as cutting their siblings hair when they were younger or coloring their dog with markers. We discussed how we grow and learn from past mistakes.

Environmental Science Class is working on understanding how energy moves in the ecosystem through biotic and abiotic factors. We are also identifying the roles of producers, consumers, and decomposers. One of our class assignments was using google slides to illustrate the concept of energy moving through the different trophic levels.

Geometry class is continuing their work circles. Students are finding the radius and diameter of circles along with identifying the line segments.

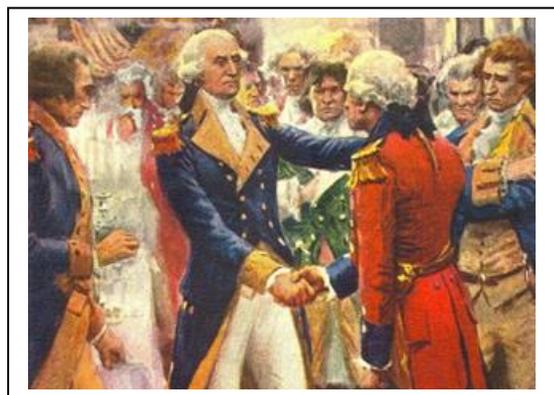
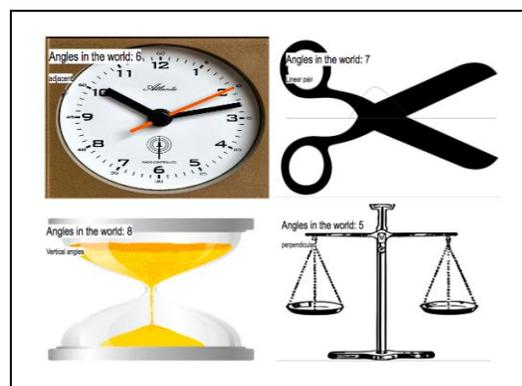
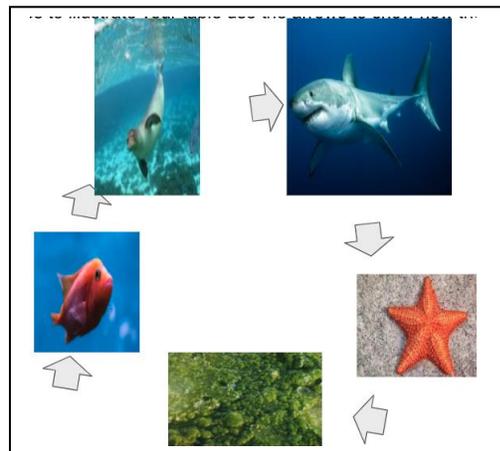
Finally, Ms. Gibson's Applied Science class focused their studies this week on learning all about bacteria, viruses and fungi. We are continuing to monitor our bread experiments from last week. So far, the students have not reported any mold, however there has been one casualty of a pet snacking on the experiment. Stay tuned for further updates!

Over the last few days, the students in Mrs. D'Alessandro's Algebra 1 Part 1 class have completed the Chapter 1 Review and Study Guide and are prepared to test on this first unit, Patterns and Multiple Representations, next week. You are ready!

In Geometry, some students have been working on their marking period 1 projects on angles and where each type of angle (or angle pair) can be found in the world around us. Some work from one student's slide show presentation is included here.

In Algebra 2 Part 2, the students have accepted the definition that $-1 = i$ and therefore can now solve problems that previously had "no solution." So much for "keeping it Real!!"

This week in Mr. Leichtling's LAL, students wrapped up their examination on theme and thesis with a newspaper editorial appealing for their city to use a vacant lot to build a park. Students determined the overarching thematic ideas and the thesis statement of the editorial. The classes then moved on to explore concepts of nonfiction. After discussing and noting several kinds of nonfiction, including exposition, persuasion, description, and narration, they worked to apply these ideas in George Washington's "Farewell Address," the oration the first president gave announcing his intent to not run for a third term.



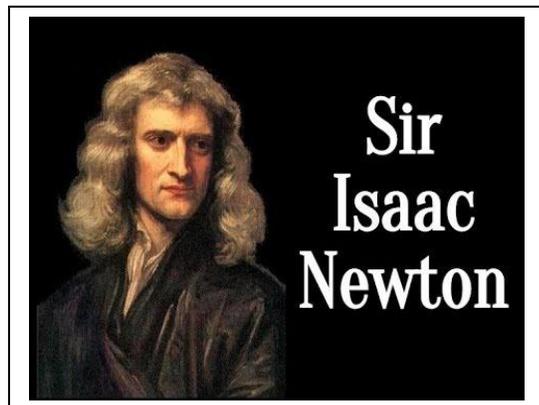
In US History I, Mr. L's class wrapped up their reading and dissection of the Declaration of Independence. We connected the Continental Congress's many grievances towards Great Britain to our past lessons on the causes of the American Revolution. Following that, we traced the course of the Revolutionary War, from the "Shot heard round the world" at Lexington and Concord in 1775, to the escalation of fighting as the French allies entered on the side of the Thirteen Colonies, and finally to the end of major fighting with the British surrender at Yorktown. Along the way, students learned about warfare of the time, including what Line Infantry were, what kind of "mercenaries" the Hessians were, and the kinds of assistance that came from France, Spain, and the Netherlands. Finally, the week rounded out with the Treaty of Paris in 1783 and the recognition of these United States of America as their own nation by the British.

For Friday's Halloween festivities, students joined Mr. Leichtling for online games through The Jackbox Party Pack 7. We played several games, including fill-in the blank jokes, sketching out ridiculous wrestlers, and tried to get along as a family of little devils, trying to survive in the real world. All-in-all, students had fun and got to relax, letting out their sillier sides.

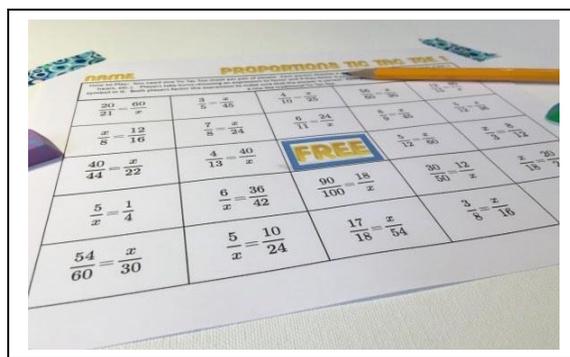
Middle School

Students in Middle School had an enjoyable day Friday. They watched Halloween movies and were encouraged to wear their costumes.

Mrs. Burak's Science class concluded their study on Isaac Newton and his three laws. The students were given an independent project with an outline of the information that needed to be included in their presentation. One of the requirements was to state the law and give their own example. The presentation required them to find correlating graphics to use. They were given several choices of how to present the material. Some chose a Google Slide presentation while others decided to do a PowerPoint, yet others utilized a Google Doc. They were given a day to collect the necessary information and record it on a Google Doc. The students did an amazing job with this project.



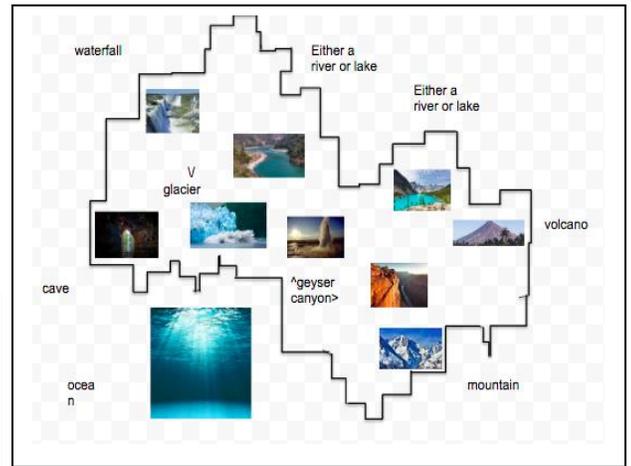
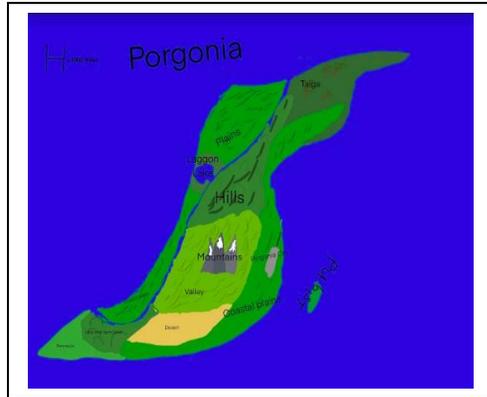
In Mrs. Akushie's Math class students are working on a math project that requires them to choose a math concept and create a math game. The students are brainstorming ideas and using their creative minds to develop a math game that they can use as a review. Once the students have completed their projects, they will present it to their peers. Students will be able to make a game each month to help them review a variety of concepts!



In Ms. Small's and Mr. Duffy's 6th grade science classes, students finished up their Create-A-Continent projects. Along with creating a drawing/map of their continent complete with ten labeled landforms, students also created an accompanying story. Within this story, students described how their continent was discovered, what the weather is like in different parts of their continent (if the continent is big), what kinds of animals live on their continent, if their continent is divided into several countries, like Africa, or is one country, like Australia, and which landforms are the most famous on their continent. Students created these stories on Google Slides, Google Docs, or physical lined paper. After completing the drawing/map and the story, students presented their projects to their peers. Students' grades were not only based on their own work, but also on how they

behaved during their friends' presentations. The multifaceted elements of this project allowed for students to express and apply their understanding of current science concepts and vocabulary, strengthen their writing and grammar skills, become more proficient in using technology, develop and maintain their public speaking skills, and practice showing empathy and respect during others' presentations.

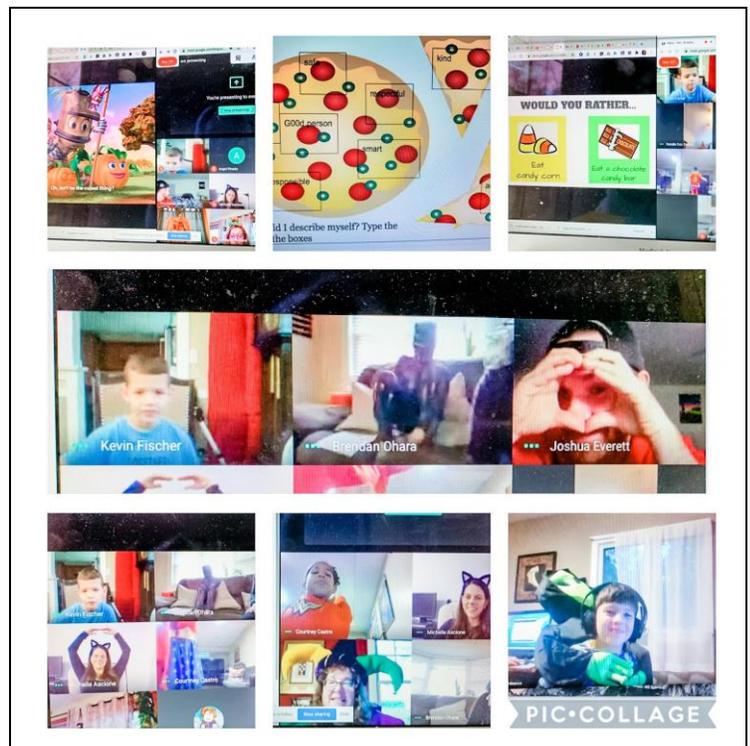
Both teachers are extremely proud of their students' fine work!



Elementary School

Our students enjoyed a virtual Halloween party with a scavenger hunt and game of “Halloween Would You Rather”. Students had fun sharing about their favorite candy and their costumes with their peers. Students also had a second social emotional learning day on Friday. Students watched videos and participated in discussions about positive self-talk, self-confidence, and self-esteem. Our Elementary students created a pizza in which the toppings were positive characteristics about themselves. We learned that our amazing students are strong, fun, silly, polite, creative and so much more.

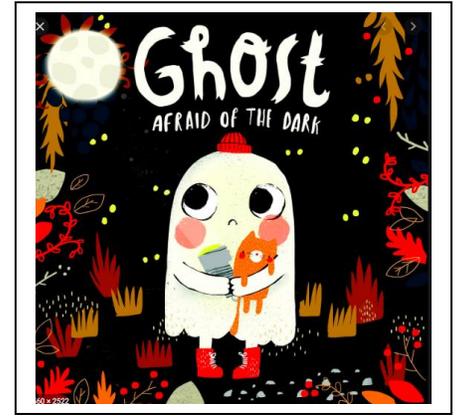
In Social Studies, students continued to learn more about the election process. Students were introduced to the Electoral College and took a virtual tour of The White House. Did you know the White House has six floors, five chefs, and 6000 people visit it every day? In Language Arts, students in Mr. Everett's class read about the history of Halloween. In Mrs. Sheeley's class, students read "Creepy Carrots" by Aaron Reynolds and completed a retelling graphic organizer. Students also read "Room on the Broom" by Julia Donaldson, and shared characteristics about the witch and the dragon. Students were also able to use skills we practice in our picture of the day to make inferences about the witch and the dragon. We are proud of how hard our students worked during our remote learning these last two weeks and cannot wait to be back in the building together next week!



Speech and Language

This week, the Elementary students listened to a Halloween story, “Ghost Afraid of the Dark” and learned how to retell the story using the Expansion Expression Tool, a color-coded graphic organizer.

Some Middle School students were reviewing vocabulary by playing matching games on Wordwall.



EXPANDING EXPRESSION TOOL	
	Green: Group What group or category does it belong to? Example acting, furniture, food
	Blue: Do What do you do with it? What does it do? Example sleep, it keeps you warm, eat it
	What does it look like? Size/ Shape/ Color
	What is it made of/ from? Example wood, oak
	Pink: Parts What are its parts? What parts? Example stem, seeds - apple
	White: Where Where would you see it? Where would you use it? Example trees, store, school
	What else do you know? Prior knowledge and Fun Facts Example it can be green, wormlike inside

Transition students learned how to provide a cohesive answer to a common interview question. At first glance, “Tell Me About Yourself” is difficult to tackle, but the students were able to follow a “present, past, future” formula, discussing their technology experiences that they have gained in their work study program under Mr. Ostrander’s guidance. Next week, they will be proofreading and editing their answers in preparation for videotaping their responses.

Reading Support

It was another great week with Reading/Literacy Support for all of the TCS students. Transition students, in College Prep LAL, focus on expanding their vocabulary skills and identifying the varied setting in which one may encounter the word (academic, community, work, etc.). Practicing note-taking, they experienced their first open book/open note test. Elementary students have been reading Halloween themed books and sequencing the events. We are beginning a few Thanksgiving books, with varied predictions of the ending, and alternatives to turkey for Thanksgiving dinner (Pizza is the forerunner here.) Other students are ‘dissecting’ figurative language such as cliches, idioms, slang and proverbs which can be challenging on many levels. Finally, High School students are all working in their next level short story book that emphasizes literal and inferential comprehension, vocabulary in context and cloze application and the literary elements.

OT

In OT, students continued their Halloween theme Sensory Diet. by finding missing letters in the alphabet and unscrambling the letters to make Halloween words. As we continue with the Zones of Regulation Curriculum, we have started to have students look more into themselves to understand their emotions, by giving us examples of times they felt like they were in each Zones (ex: Times they have felt happy, sad, excited, nervous, and angry).

Phys. Ed.

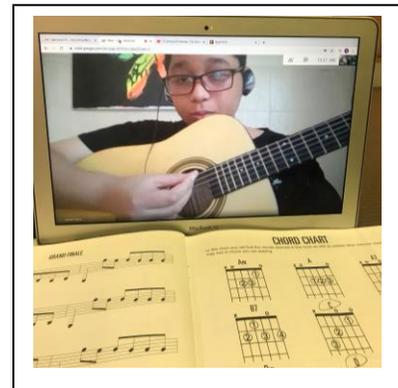
This past week has been all about accepting a challenge, and pushing ourselves to complete it. The High School and Middle School were challenged to complete 4 different cardio workouts this week. They were all given 3 low impact HIIT sessions and one cardio-boxing workout. High-



intensity interval training is a form of interval training, a cardiovascular exercise strategy alternating short periods of intense anaerobic exercise with recovery periods. Our students are encouraged to push through being tired, but are always allowed to take breaks as needed. Goals are to help every student increase their cardiovascular endurance, and muscular strength, while giving them the tools they need to live a long healthy, active life. Our Elementary students practiced mindfulness and worked on core strength and flexibility. Together we completed 2 different yoga workouts, the most recent being a spooky Halloween adventure.

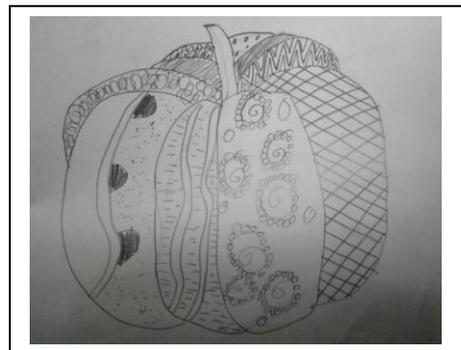
Music

In Elementary Music students listened to the story “The Bass Clef Monster” from the Freddie The Frog series, and learned about the notes on the Bass Clef Scale. Middle School students played Musical Kahoot and continued word on their Fakebook pages. High School students worked on their “Wicked” resumes. Each student picked a Character from the musical “Wicked” and created a resume for that student. Students also continue working on guitar and piano.



Art

Elementary students completed their zentangle pumpkins. Middle and High School students completed their Halloween themed or individual efforts.



Career Exploration/ Home Ec

Our Career Explorations student is on the home stretch of finishing the armoire'. He has the shelves to do and then it's coming back to TCS to be enjoyed by everyone! Please see the pictures to see how amazing it looks.

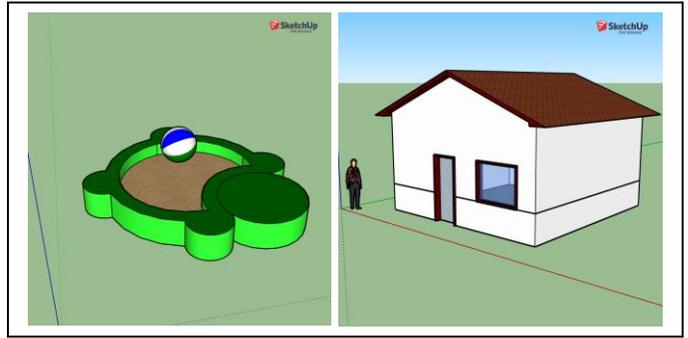
Students in Home Ec class have been brushing up on their nutrition facts, how to read a recipe and the exact recipe for balancing all the food groups.

We're all excited to get back to school to see how the garden has progressed while we were away. We would like to thank Mrs. Marino who has stepped in to take care of the plants in our absence. More pics to come!



Industrial Arts

Mr. Dulak's Industrial Design classes have continued to explore 3-D modeling software. Most students are using SketchUp, but some are also using TinkerCAD or Autodesk Fusion 360. Students have finished creating their Turtle Sandboxes, and have moved on to creating a 3-D rendering of a house!



Therapeutic Dept.

In celebration of Halloween, all High School groups watched funny Halloween clips and discussed their ratings of each clip showing respect for one another's opinion. High School Girls Groups combined and watched the new Addams Family movie as a special treat for Halloween and to allow them to mingle with all of the high school girls.



Transition

The "Bridges to Employment" group worked with the Transition Students on the concepts and types of non-verbal communication as well as matching personalities with various jobs which included discussing various situations and scenarios. They then began discussing the differences between personal attributes and skills as a prelude to building resumes in November.

One group of Transition Students reviewed and discussed Holland Code Compatibility with regard to Consistent and Inconsistent Personality Code results using the Holland Hexagon Chart. They then watched and discussed various Time Management videos depicting different priority setting methods including but not limited to Procrastination and ways/strategies to avoid it, Eat the Frog, and Eat the Frog and the ABCDE Priority Setting Method. They then practiced rating different tasks, school and personal, using the ABCDE Method. The other Transition group worked on reading various job ads for information.

Math classes continued to work on reviewing all concepts previously learned in September and October.

School News

The Center School Foundation:

The Center School Foundation is a group of devoted individuals who volunteer their time and talents to raise money for The Center School Community. Our sole purpose is to give back to the school! We had our first meeting of the year this week and are in the process of planning some very exciting fundraising opportunities. Look for information in the weeks ahead on how you can purchase holiday items for your friends and family and support the Foundation.

If you would like to know more about the Center School Foundation, please contact Kerri Spotts at 908-253-3870 x 303.

Walk-A-Thon- November 2

We are still planning to hold the PTO Walk-a-Thon on Monday, November 2nd, with a rain date of Wednesday, November 4th. Students are encouraged to get sponsors to walk, as a fundraiser for the PTO. They will walk laps around the school field and will be offered a colored bracelet for each lap walked. Music, water, and a snack will be provided. Parents volunteers are needed, and parents are invited to walk with their students. Remote students are welcome to join us as well. This is a fundraiser for the PTO. We accept checks made out to The Center School PTO, or cash.



- Elementary and Middle School will walk from 9:15 - 10:00.
- High School will walk from 10:30 - 11:30. Flyer and forms are being emailed home.
- Contact Marcia Lees at mlees@center.school for more information or to join the PTO.

Our Cards for a Cause fundraiser is still going on. You get 30 beautiful cards for only \$30. There is also a new Holiday box with 50 cards for the same \$30. All card sets come in a gorgeous reusable box. Flyers were emailed home earlier this week.

Contact Marcia Lees at mlees@center.school if you have any questions or to order. Cash, or checks payable to The Center School PTO will be accepted.



IMPORTANT DATES:

Mon. Nov. 2	In-Person schooling resumes Walk-A-Thon
Tue. Nov. 3	Picture Day
Wed. Nov. 4	Parent Therapeutic Meeting 7pm- Challenges of Remote Learning
Thur. -Fri. Nov. 5, 6	School Closed- Teacher Conferences
Fri. Nov. 13	Marking Period 1 Ends
Mon. Nov. 16	Marking Period 2 Begins
Wed. Nov 25	Early Dismissal
Thu. – Fri. Nov. 26, 27	Closed Thanksgiving Holiday

Sincerely,

Dr. Ronald P. Rinaldi
Executive Director