

Dear Center School Parents/Guardians:

Next week is a short week with Thanksgiving break upon us. Tuesday all students are invited to the Thanksgiving Feast for lunch. Wednesday is an early dismissal.

On behalf of all the staff of The Center School I want to wish all of you a happy Thanksgiving.



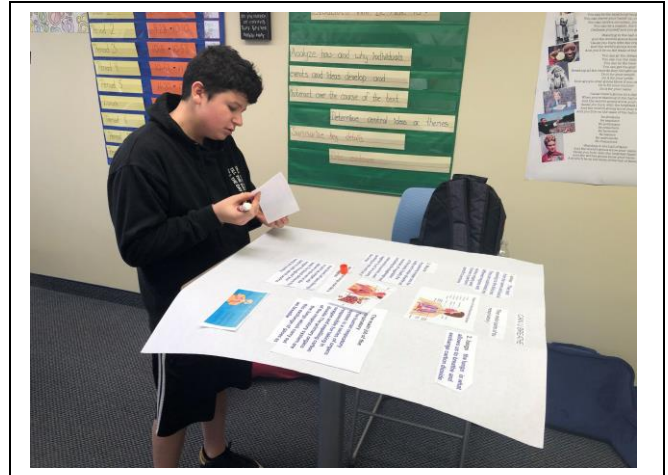
FROM THE CLASSROOMS:

High School

Ms. Gibson's Applied Science classes are finishing up their unit on the Human Body. Students are creating posters that represent either the Respiratory System or the Nervous System. Students will be applying their knowledge giving a mini presentation of their system.

Students in Mr. Cardona's Algebra 1 Part 2 class have begun their hero's journey through a fantastical world. Using the software ClassCraft, the students have been able to create their own avatar hero and earn points and experience by completing their "Substitution of Equations" assignments. Once assignments are completed, students have the chance to unlock powers and abilities, as well as plot points through story that is uniquely their own. They can directly influence their fate with the Math Quest!

Mr. Leichtling's English students made their first use of IXL, establishing their baseline for their reading and vocabulary. They also took first steps into a four-week independent reading project, where the students will summarize the book they chose to read and create a 5-minute presentation as a means of interpreting and sharing what they found.



Throughout the past two weeks, TCS Science students have been researching/analyzing/rehearsing and finally presenting the first of four "Adopt an Element" presentations; students will present one project per marking period: November/January/March/May. Our freshman were given the opportunity to "see how it's done" by having sophomore Matthew L. present his AAE on C, Carbon, element 6 on the Periodic Table of Elements. Matthew had presented 4 AAE as a freshman last year and a 5th last week; it has been gratifying to see the personal and academic growth in our students last year and so far in Semester 1 as they navigate how to best present themselves and the element of their choice while improving public speaking skills.

Students primary reference sources were our textbooks and excellent supplementary guides from American Chemical Society. Students were also given the following scientifically valid websites: webelements.com, periodictable.com, acs.org, britannica.com (no wikipedia allowed). Student grading criteria included: enthusiasm, evidence of research, evidence of rehearsal, poise, diction, voice modulation, and visual aids. In their 4-5 minute presentation students were to include: relevant use, physical & chemical properties, matter state, origin or person who first isolated or discovered the element, cost, what countries have it, and location in periodic table. All student produced posters are on display in Science classroom 342- they look great.

Dr. R's Consumer Math class is looking at expense statements and balancing wants and needs when they try to find money for something important they had not budgeted for. Another part of the class is looking at dealing with emergency expenses when they do not have enough money on hand to take care of everything at once.

Dr. R's Algebra 2 classes are working on factoring polynomial expressions and solving polynomial inequalities.

In Ms. Livelli's LAL classes students just started the novel, "Treasure Island". Students brainstormed pirate words, and talked about some famous pirates. In World History, students explored inventions in Ancient China. Students chose their favorite ancient invention and completed a Powerpoint about its history and usage. Finally, they compared the ancient invention to the modern day version.

Middle School

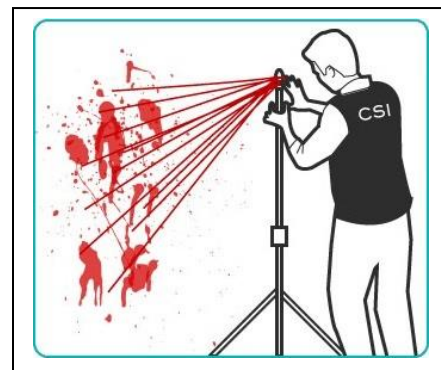
In Mrs. Burak's Science class students have been investigating blood spatter. They determined the different types common in forensic cases. They were asked to identify and match the spatter pattern to various types of crimes. During our lessons they also discussed 5 cool technologies used in forensic science. They determined that without these technologies a majority of cases would either not be solved or take much longer to solve.

Ms. Harrison's Social Studies class have started creating Mayan, Aztec, and Incan temples after completing thorough research on these



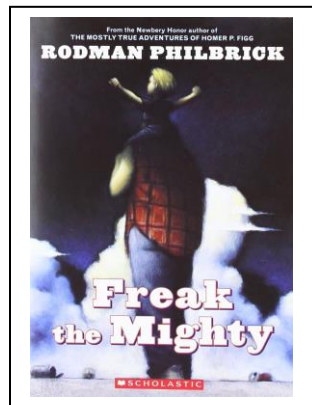
historical sites that continually are unearthed due to new technology. Students are using clay, popsicle sticks and other creative supplies to recreate eroded textures while maintaining the significance and unique architecture styles of each culture. In addition students utilized the Mayan number system, the most sophisticated number system conceived in the Americas to create their own math problems.

In Mrs. Akushie's Science class students are working on a project about famous physicists. They are researching the information of the physicists and creating a project that



highlights their accomplishments. The students will present this information to the class and explain what inspired them and how their accomplishments made an impact to the world.

In Ms. Small's LAL class, students finished reading "Freak the Mighty". Discussions were held regarding plot points, characters, motives, and other literary elements. Students also had the opportunity to rewrite the ending of the novel, letting them investigate and elaborate on their own creative thoughts.



Elementary School

You could feel the excitement in the Elementary school this week as we began to plan for Market Day 2019. Students learned about supply and demand and scarcity. Students completed a performance task in which they had to build a community that had food, water and shelter, but the necessary materials were scarce. Bargaining and trading for materials was imperative in order for each community to be successful. Students quickly realized that it was easier to trade materials that they had in surplus, but they were more cautious with materials that were scarce. Market Day brainstorming followed and students chatted in groups to generate three goods and three services that they could possible market. We are excited to work through a business plan to market our items for Market Day 2019. We also talked about what it means to be grateful and how many things for which we can be thankful. Students then added leaves to our "Thankful Tree."



Music

For Middle School students this week in music was Instrumental week. All the students are practicing on the violins. It was very exciting for them to play their first notes. It was even more exciting to have them play together as an ensemble. Elementary students practiced recognizing their notes on the musical staff. As always, they leave the last bit of class for playing on the keyboards.



Art

This week in Art High School students started working on pastel pumpkins and glue relief leaves. Middle School students continued work on their version of glue relief leaves while Elementary School students began work on Fall-themed torn paper trees and leaves.



Woodshop

Students are making very good progress in the shop and it's good to see the hard work being done. Many projects are being finished including: benches, knock hockey boards, bird houses, and corner shelves. The Elementary students are finishing corner shelf projects, and are applying stain this week.

We have some students taking part in the Transition to Work program, and they are working on a mock wall. They are currently learning about applying joint compound to the sheetrock seams. There is always a variety of activities going on in the shop!



Career Exploration

The Career Exploration Class and the Transition student participated in Travel Training, which was hosted by NJTIP@Rutgers and Ridewise of Somerset County.

Students watched a short presentation on the types of public transportation available, how to choose the correct type of transportation to suit their needs, and how to read time schedules for different modes of transportation. Additionally, students were shown how to text N. J. Transit in order to determine real time bus arrivals and departures. The training helped prepare students for real life experiences with public transportation.



Bistro

Bistro workers are working diligently in getting ready for the Thanksgiving Feast. The entire Center School Family will be eating Thanksgiving dinner together. The paid student workers are helping set up tables, determining portion sizes, and manning serving assignments. They will be working the entire time and helping with clean up. So much to do, but the workers are very well prepared for the crowd.

Life Skills

Students continued to prepare for the upcoming school Thanksgiving Feast by creating and posting flyers, shopping for the materials needed to create centerpieces, making centerpieces, and learning about formal and informal place settings in order to create placemats.

Financial Literacy

Students continued to calculate percentages, including sales tax, discounts, and tip and apply these skills to real world situations such as ordering food and splitting the bill evenly, as well as individually. Calculating the bill included incorporating any coupons, sales tax, and tip. Students also had a chance to teach their classmates how to calculate and solve a specific problem.

Financial Planning

Students learned the importance of check registers, and reconciling and balancing their checking account. The students gained insight on the information needed to write out a check

Therapeutic Dept.

Mrs. Gorski's Middle School groups brainstormed and discussed people and things that they are grateful for and why. Students generated a list of 10 things that they normally complain about and were asked to come up with a way that their complaint could result in something that they are grateful for. Here are some examples of the students' responses: Doing laundry=clean clothes, Doing homework=becoming more educated, Waking up=life, Doing dishes= had a meal, Cleaning the house= having a home and shelter, Annoying brother= having family, Cleaning cat litter box= having a pet to comfort me, Annoying parents= people who love me. This activity generated discussions about things that we are grateful for but often take for granted. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, this activity was very timely.

Mr. Coronado's groups played a Character-Building card game to celebrate character traits, specifically citizenship. The objective of the game was for players to collect one of each of the character cards. Character cards have questions and scenarios that players must respond to. The game ended when a player collected each of the character cards. As the game was being played, students had dialog about the character traits and how they show examples of good character in their everyday lives.

This week, high school students played the "Awkward Moment" game. Awkward Moment puts 3-8 players in terrifically awkward social situations! Players gather a hand of Reactions and together face hysterical, embarrassing, or stressful events. Taking turns as "the Decider," players use Decider Card to determine the basis for a winning Reaction. Players try to impress the Decider by submitting the best response from their hand of cards! This allows students to see different perspectives of their group members, as well as discuss different social scenarios that they experience."

High School Explorers

The High School Explorers enjoyed a fun filled afternoon bowling at Bowlmor on Saturday, November 16th. Our next High School Explorers outing will be December 15th from 9am to 3:30pm. The students will be snow tubing at Shawnee Mountain. Permission slips will be sent home after Thanksgiving break. If you have any questions please contact Ms. Gibson (cgibson@center.school)

School News

Support The Center School when you shop on Amazon

Every time you shop with Amazon, .05% of your purchase will be donated to The Center School. Use this link to start your Amazon Center School donations: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1933177>

Cooking Club

The Cooking Club is hosting its annual Gingerbread House Decorating Event on Tuesday, December 10th. We need to know quickly how many students will be attending so that we can get enough kits before they sell out.

Please turn in permission slip (or email Mrs. Lees at mlees@center.school to hold a spot in advance of permission slip) by Thursday, November 21st. Permission slips are available from Mrs. Lees or homeroom teacher.



Senior Class Fundraiser

The senior class is holding a Krispy Kreme doughnut fundraiser. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be benefitting the senior class trip held in the spring.

The famous Krispy Kreme doughnuts and their coffee will be available for purchase until November 19. All sales will be distributed on November 26. Each student has been given an order form. Doughnuts are being sold for \$10.00 per dozen and coffee for \$10.00 per bag.

Holiday Flower Sale

Holiday flower sale to benefit the Drama Club. Order form will be sent home All orders must be in by December 4th. Flowers delivered December 10-12.

Please return order form to Mrs. Mutchler or Mrs. Marino. Any questions please contact Mrs. Marino at 908.253.3870 X160

HOLIDAY FLOWER SALE
TO BENEFIT THE DRAMA CLUB
ORDERS MUST BE IN BY THURSDAY DECEMBER 4
FLOWER DELIVERY WILL TAKE PLACE DECEMBER 10-12



CHRISTMAS CACTUS



6" AMARYLLIS



4.5" AND 6" POINSETTIAS



6" POINSETTIAS



10" POINSETTIAS



14" POINSETTIAS

ALL POINSETTIAS ARE AVAILABLE IN RED, WHITE, OR PINK
ALL PLANTS, EXCEPT THE 14" POINSETTIAS, INCLUDE POT COVERS AVAILABLE IN RED, GOLD, OR GREEN

DESCRIPTION	PRICE	PLANT COLOR	POT COVER COLOR	AMOUNT
CHRISTMAS CACTUS	\$10	N/A		
6" AMARYLLIS	\$15	N/A		
4.5" POINSETTIAS	\$7			
6" POINSETTIAS	\$10			
8" POINSETTIAS	\$22			
10" POINSETTIAS	\$30			
14" POINSETTIAS COMES IN DECORATIVE POT	\$60			

PLEASE RETURN TO MRS. MUTCHLER OR MRS. MARINO
ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT MRS. MARINO AT 908.253.3870 X160

IMPORTANT DATES:

Tue. Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Feast
Wed. Nov. 27	Early Dismissal- 1:05pm
Thu. - Fri. Nov. 28 & 29	Closed- Thanksgiving Recess
Wed. Dec. 11	Early Dismissal-1:05 pm Staff Professional Development
Fri. Dec. 13	High School Mall Trip- Bridgewater Commons Mall
Thu. Dec. 19	Winter Concert 12:00- 1:30
Fri. Dec. 20	Early Dismissal- 1:05pm
Sat. Dec. 21- Wed. Jan. 1	Winter Recess <i>Happy Holidays!</i>
Thu. Jan. 2	Winter Recess Ends, back to school

Clubs and Events November 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
4 Intramurals ES/MS/HS D&D / Adventurer's Guild	5 Spanish Culture MS/HS	6	7 School Closed Teacher Convention	8 School Closed Teacher Convention
11 Intramurals ES/MS/HS	12 Cooking Club	13	14 Pride Club E Sports Club	15
18 Intramurals ES/MS/HS D&D / Adventurer's Guild	19 Spanish ES/MS History Club	20	21 <u>School Picture Retake Day</u> Newspaper Club Art Club Craft Club	22
25 Intramurals ES/MS/HS	26 <u>Thanksgiving Feast</u> Music Club	27 Early Dismissal	28 School Closed Happy Thanksgiving	29 School Closed

EVENTS

Picture Retake Day
You can have your child's school photo retaken on **Thursday, November 21st**.

Thanksgiving Feast

We will be having a school-wide Thanksgiving Feast on **Tuesday, Nov 26th**. Contact Mrs. Slovik with any dietary concerns or restrictions.

Happy Thanksgiving

Sincerely,



Dr. Ronald P. Rinaldi
Principal