

## Dear Center School Parents/Guardians:

Representatives from PeopleStrategy, Jerry Tasker and Neil Tamayo presented The Center School with 4 new computers to use for programs here at the school. *Here is why...*

In 2017, PeopleStrategy CEO, Randy Cooper, his wife, Lisa, and his youngest son, Kiefer, started a program called Inspire Reuse as part of a community service project Kiefer was required to do for school. Inspire Reuse began with the Cooper family going through their house, accumulating items they believed could better serve others in need. Wanting to extend the program beyond their local community, Randy worked with the PeopleStrategy's IT department to incorporate refurbished laptops into the project.

Since then, Inspire Reuse has developed into an ongoing event. When a laptop is replaced internally, the "old" laptop is refurbished and, when there are enough laptops, the company holds an online "contest" directed to teachers in underprivileged schools. Teachers nominate students who are working hard to overcome the adversity and challenges they face every day.

Given the success of Inspire Reuse, PeopleStrategy decided to start a similar program, Laptops of Love, specifically for its non-profit clients. For the first Laptops of Love event, PeopleStrategy selected three recipients of which **The Center School** was one. The selection was based on where PeopleStrategy believed the laptops would be of the greatest benefits based on the client's mission.

PeopleStrategy plans to continue both programs, hoping to bring the benefits of technology to as many people in need as possible.



## FROM THE CLASSROOMS:

### High School

Ms. Livelli's class continued studying Greek Mythology. Students studied the Goddess Nike and Pandora's Box. They learned how the company Nike's logo and their theme of victory was inspired by the Goddess Nike. In History 1 class students studied the Westward U.S Expansion. The technology of the steamboat, railroad steam engine, and prairie schooner played an important role in this development. As a culminating activity the students developed an ad that could be posted on a billboard in the 1800's.

Ms. Gibson's Applied Sciences classes are working on understanding the differences between Pandemic and Epidemics. We are studying how pathogens are transmitted and how we can protect ourselves from getting sick. This week our classes focused on the Corona Viruses, we studied SCARS, MERS and the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV.) Ms. Gibson's students also focused on differentiating between reliable sources (World Health Organization and the Center for Disease Control) and unreliable sources.

## Middle School

Mrs. Burak's Math class has completed a unit on integers. Students worked diligently to understand not only the concept, but each operation's rules as well. They learned how to apply these rules to multiple questions. They were able to relate the concepts to everyday situations. Students discussed the concepts' relevance to money, temperature, as well as sporting game final scores This exercise gave them a frame of reference to utilize and visualize.

RULES FOR INTEGERS ( SIGNED NUMBERS )			
<b>ADDITION</b>		<b>SUBTRACTION</b>	
$+$	and	$+$	$=$ $+$
$-$	and	$-$	$=$ $-$
$+$	and	$-$	$=$ $+$
$-$	and	$+$	$=$ $-$
<b>MULTIPLICATION AND DIVISION</b>			
$+$	and	$+$	$=$ $+$
$-$	and	$-$	$=$ $+$
$+$	and	$-$	$=$ $-$
$-$	and	$+$	$=$ $-$
<small>Compliments of Lois Terms</small>		<small>www.loisterms.com</small>	

In Ms. Small's Science class, students displayed their knowledge of cells through making their own cells out of clay! The cells include organelles like the nucleus, endoplasmic reticulum, mitochondria, and others. Students created these organelles, colored them, and placed them in the proper location in the cell. Students are enjoying this hands-on opportunity to dive deeper into subject matter.

In Mrs. Akushie's Social Studies class students created American Revolution Cards. The students highlighted key people and events that played an important role or impacted the American Revolution. The front of each card illustrated the topic they chose and the back of the cards included details. Students used a rubric to help guide them through the assignment and did a wonderful job.



Ms. Harrison's Language Arts class held an edition of "Shark Tank". Students are working on improving their descriptive and persuasive writing skills. In addition, students practiced public speaking by presenting a new invention to "Sharks" (staff) trying to obtain investments and interest. Students answered questions with confidence and articulate responses. It was very successful and an enjoyable experience by all involved.

## **Elementary School**

The Elementary students began a unit on stormy skies this week. Students learned how to make predictions about the weather by observing clouds and their changes. In our Storm Spotter's Guide activity, we created a small book to record our notes, identify different types of clouds, and consider wind direction to figure out if a storm is heading our way.

Students participated in a reward trip to Branchburg Sports Complex on Thursday. Students played laser tag, spent some time in the arcade and enjoyed time on the field playing Gaga and Tag. We are so proud of the way in which they waited their turn and politely asked for help at the prize counter in the arcade!



## **Phys. Ed.**

This week was the High School's first time back in physical education after nearly three months of taking health. Students celebrated by playing different team sports and games to get the blood flowing again. This 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period the Middle School will be taking health under the tutelage of Ms. Mulcahy. Elementary students played games that worked on their throwing strength and accuracy.

## **Music**

This was another fun week in music. The Elementary tried their karaoke skills on each other and had a great time. Middle School read a couple of short plays with each student reading for a different character. With the beginning of the new marking period different High School students are trying their piano and percussion skills.

## **Career Exploration**

This week Mrs. Ferraro's students learned about budgeting during college with 3 different scenarios, before updating the budgets with unanticipated changes. This provided the students a realistic view on how to manage money, as well as ensure a reserve of money in case of emergencies or unexpected expenses.

## **Life Skills 2**

Life Skills 2 students participated in various online Cyber Security videos and informal assessments in which they needed to apply their knowledge of cyber security, safety, protecting private information, stranger danger, and cyberbullying.



## **Financial Literacy**

Mrs. Ferraro's students began the new semester by defining and becoming familiar with common financial literacy terms, before practicing identifying wants vs needs and the impact of their choices.

## **Life Skills 1**

Students had the opportunity to attend a field trip to a laundromat where they were able to purchase laundry detergent, load a washing machine, time the cycle before transferring the load to the dryer, and budget money. They also had the opportunity to tour a dry cleaners and see the equipment and machines used to dry clean clothing.

## **Financial Planning**

Mrs. Ferraro's Financial Planning students continued to research one specific online personal finance/mobile app in order to create a project which would be presented.

## **Transition Program**

Transition Students took a tour at the Amazon Fulfillment Center on Monday. On this field trip, they learned how a very large warehouse functions productively and efficiently as well as how a job can turn into a career. This was an educational and enlightening trip that the students enjoyed. On the way back, we stopped for a quick pizza lunch.



## **Bistro**

Workers are gearing up for the new snack and menu items rolling out on Monday. These paid workers are reorganizing the stock room, planning signs, allocating responsibilities and making room for the items on the selling floor.

## **Career and Financial Planning**

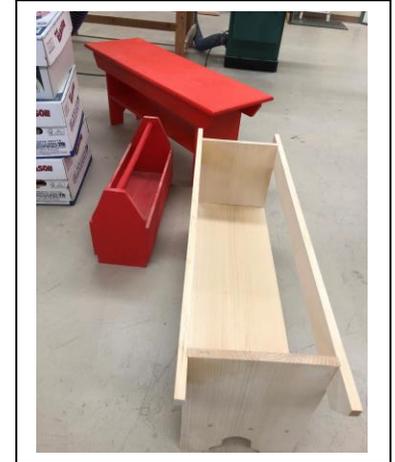
Ms. Slovik's Career and Financial Planning students are finishing their letters to local businesses, hoping for a field trip to their establishment. Their goal is to broaden their awareness of jobs and careers that they may have not known existed.

## **Career Exploration**

Students in Ms. Slovik's Career Exploration class are completing their resumes and starting cover letters as it applies to jobs they may be pursuing.

## **Woodshop**

This was the first week of the new marking period. Things went smoothly and students have selected new projects. There is a variety of projects planned for this marking period, including a coffee table, small bedside tables, Snoopy napkin holder, sport cut outs, benches, and toy helicopters. The students are very enthusiastic and are looking forward to working on their projects.



## **Therapeutic Dept.**

Mrs. Gorski and Mr. Coronado's Middle School groups discussed certain responsibilities that they have as a young teen/adolescent. The groups also discussed different responsibilities of different people in life. The goal of this activity was for students to recognize what responsibilities are and how different people have different responsibilities while increasing self-awareness.

One of Mrs. Gorski's 8th grade groups had a discussion about the upcoming 8th grade trip to Washington DC.

## **Basketball**

Some pics from Friday's game against Banyon.



## **School News**

### **Student Activities**

Our next Student Activity will be on Thursday, February 6th in the Bistro from 2:35pm - 4:30pm. We will be decorating Sugar Cookies and enjoying Pizza! For more information please contact Ms. Gibson (cgibson@center.school) Permission slips are due by February 4th! We hope to see you there!

### **Fundraiser**

On February 6, eat at Zinburgers and present the flyer and help fundraise – Zinburger will donate 20% of food sales to benefit the Drama Club.



Zinburger Wine & Burger Bar

**FUNDRAISING  
NEVER TASTED SO  
GOOD**

A Fundraising Effort for  
**The Center  
School**

**February 6, 2020**  
11AM – 10PM

550 Somerset Corporate Blvd.  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807  
(908) 450-7011

Join us for an entire day of fundraising!  
[www.zinburger.com](http://www.zinburger.com)

**BURGERS FOR A CAUSE**

Join Our Benefit Day!

In partnership with The Center School, Zinburger Wine & Burger Bar will be donating 20% of the food sales when this flyer is presented for the benefit day.



Interested in helping out the community? Visit [facebook.com/zinburgereast](https://facebook.com/zinburgereast) to discover other Zinburger fundraisers and specials

\*Valid at this location only. Excludes alcohol, tax and gratuity. Must present flyer at the time of ordering/purchase

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

<b>Thu. Feb. 6</b>	Student Activity 2:35-4:30 Sugar Cookies/Pizza Fundraiser – Zinburgers, Somerset Corporate Center
<b>Fri. Feb 14-Tues Feb 18</b>	President's Weekend- closed
<b>Wed. Feb. 19</b>	100 <sup>th</sup> day Celebrations
<b>Sat. Feb. 22</b>	Polar Bear Plunge- Seaside Heights

**Clubs and Events February 2020**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Intramurals ES/MS/HS D&D/Adventurer's Guild	4 Spanish Culture Club (MS/HS)	5	6 Pride Club  Sugar Cookie Decorating (2:35-4:30)	7 <u>Bubblegum Day</u>
10 Intramurals ES/MS/HS	11 Cooking Club History Club	12	13	14 School Closed
17 School Closed	18 School Closed	19 <u>Retrocade</u> 3-6 pm	20 Newspaper Club	21
24 Intramurals ES/MS/HS D&D/Adventurer's Guild	25 Music Club	26	27 Art Club Craft Club	28

**EVENTS**

**Cookie Decorating**  
Join us for a fun after school activity decorating Sugar Cookies. Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup> from 2:35 to 4:30. Cost is \$10 Includes Pizza!

**Bubblegum Day**  
Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> is National Bubblegum Day. Did you know that chewing gum helps your concentration and reduces stress?

**Retrocade**  
3 hours of nonstop gaming for only \$10. Retro systems as well as new systems. From 3-6 pm. Fundraiser for the Special Olympics.

Sincerely,



**Dr. Ronald P. Rinaldi**  
Principal