

FLYNN MIDDLE SCHOOL

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A MICHIGAN BLUE RIBBON EXEMPLARY SCHOOL

NCA Accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and School

February, 2010

WHY SCHOOL IS COOL!

By Marissa Morrison-Mr. Dudek's class
Down in room 205, we have been learning about disease spreading, microorganisms, and microscopes. The 7th grade science classes did a lab on showing how the spread of a disease works. Two to three people had started off with the "disease" in our fake "saliva" and spread it to over half the class in a three day period.

Now we are learning about microscopes and microorganisms. We took our microscope test, and everyone passed! We have looked at cells of leaves and the protists living deep down inside them. Nothing we can see with the human eye compares to this.

The class has struggled but succeeded throughout all of the brainteasers so far. Can you get this one?

I'm fatherless and motherless, and born without sin. Roaring when entering the world, I never speak again. What am I?

The answer is somewhere else in the newsletter.

REMINDER:

The Area Concert scheduled for February 2, 2010 has been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict.

The **new date** is to be **Wednesday, March 24, 2010**. Mark your calendars.



**PARENT-TEACHER
CONFERENCES
TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2010
12-3 AND 5-8
REPORT CARDS TO BE
DISTRIBUTED AT THIS TIME**



FROM MRS. OKUN **STEREOTYPES**

Jessie Kluz and Danielle Jajo
Stereotypes are very mean,
Rude, and sometimes hurtful.
They can hurt you in your heart,
And maybe in your soul.

People use them all the time,
In school, sports, and even in your yard.
Us ourselves, have tried to ignore them,
But sometimes, it can be hard.

These statements are nothing but rumors
and lies,
So keep them away from me.
Through they mean nothing and are not
true,
They hurt people, can't you see?

Nobody likes when rumors are said,
So ignore all the people who start it,
For we all are just people living life,
Not trying to get caught in

STEREOTYPES

By Alex Ngo and Alysha Debeul
Someone who they're not
Terrible thing to do
Everybody does it
Right? I think not
Even though you think it's fun
Other people get hurt
Together we can stop it
You and your friends can help
Prejudice is wrong also
Everyone must stop
Stereotypes

MORE STEREOTYPES

By David Narso & Donovan Delly
If an Irish man is at a bar –
maybe he's not drinking.

If a girl is talking – it doesn't mean
she's gossiping

All blondes are not dumb.

Not all white skinned people can not
dance – just look at Michael Jackson

Donald Trump is not mean – all he
wants is green.

And if a Middle Easterner say "hi" –
doesn't mean you are going to die.

Not all Asians are smart.

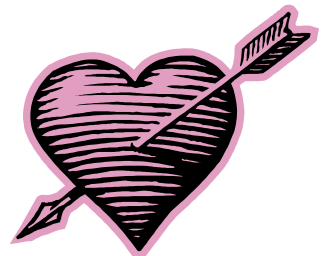
That's how stereotypes are.

Mrs. Okun's classes were studying and
discussing stereotypes. Students wrote
poems about "stereotypes" and how they
come about and what makes a saying a
"stereotype".

A WRITER'S DREAM

From Ms. Nance
Congratulations to the following
students for their poetic writing. Their
poems will be published in the 2010
anthology, A Celebration of
Poets. We are truly proud
of our 8th grade students
writing achievement in the
ELA Success class.

This anthology edition will
be available in our media
center, June 2010.



GENERIC QUESTIONS TO USE WITH INFORMATIONAL TEXT

Main idea Questions

1. This article passage is MOSTLY about:
2. What is the MOST important idea in the article (passage)?
3. If you were going to tell someone about what you have read, what would be the MOST important thing to say?
4. According to this article (passage) what is the MOST important idea about _____ (choose a sub-topic)
5. What is the main purpose of this . . . (article, passage, paragraph, sections)?
6. Another good title for this selection would be . . .

Vocabulary Questions

1. According to this article (passage), a _____ (choose a vocabulary word, word in bold print or in italics) is MOST LIKELY . . . :
2. What does the word _____ (choose a vocabulary word, word in bold print or in italics) mean as used in this article (passage)?
3. This article (passage) tells us that _____ (choose a vocabulary word, word in bold print or in italics) means. . .

Detail Questions

1. According to this article . . . (pick out a detail, i.e., “the camel’s hump”) is for . . .
2. What is NOT true about . . . (pick out a detail, i.e., “the camel’s hump”).

Drawing a Conclusion Questions

1. Why did the author write “...” (choose a statement from the article)?
2. If you were the author of this article (passage), what might you have included?
3. The author wrote “...” (choose a statement from the article) to show/tell you (what?).
4. Which would NOT be a good way to check how well you understood this article (passage)?

Reference Questions

1. Where might you find the MOST information on this topic?
2. If you don’t know what ... (choose a vocabulary word, word in bold print or in italics) means, how can you find out?
3. Where would you MOST LIKELY read an article (passage) such as this?
4. If you want to know more about this subject, where would you look?

10 Ways We Use Math Everyday

Math is a part of our lives, whether we clean the house, make supper or mow the lawn. Wherever you go, whatever you do, you are using math daily without even realizing it. It just comes naturally.

Chatting on the cell phone

Chatting on the cell phone is the way of communicating for most people nowadays. It's easy, accessible and cost effective. Every one has a cell phone and it requires a basic knowledge of skill and math. You need to know numbers and how they work, and with today's technology you can do basically everything on your cell phone, from talking and faxing to surfing the Internet.

In the kitchen

Baking and cooking requires some mathematical skill as well. Every ingredient has to be measured and sometimes you need to multiply or divide to get the exact amount you need. Whatever you do in the kitchen requires math. Even just using the stove is basic math skills in action.

Gardening

Even doing something as mundane as gardening requires a basic math skill. If you need to plant or sow new seeds or seedlings you need to make a row or count them out or even make holes. So even without thinking you are doing math. Measuring skills is always needed, and calculations of the essence when doing something new in the garden.

Arts

When doing any form of art you are using math. Whether you're a sculptor, a painter, a dancer or even just doing a collage for fun, you will need to be able to measure, count and apply basic math to it. Every form of art is co-dependant upon math skills.

Keeping a diary

Keeping a diary has become an essential part of our daily lives. We run from place to place and appointment to appointment. Making appointments and having a time schedule that works for you requires math. Without a diary we will crash and burn. Some people even have to make appointments to take some time out. Math is a much needed skill in today's life.

Planning an outing

Every outing you plan needs your math skill. Whether you go to the beach or the zoo is irrelevant. You will plan your way there and you will use your time wisely, math is your guide that will assist you and help you. When driving you need fuel, oil and water, without it your car will break down. All of these require math.

Banking

Can you imagine going to the bank and not having any idea what you need to do or how to manage your finances. This will cause a huge disaster in your life, and you will be bankrupt within hours.

Planning dinner parties

How about that inevitable dinner party or cocktail that you have to host. Planning is essential, how many guests are attending, what foods are you serving, the ambience of the place where you want to host it and so many other essentials all requiring multiplication, division and subtraction.

Decorating your home

Whether you are painting, doing the flooring or just acquiring new furniture, you need math to make your sums add up. Everything you do inside or outside of your home needs math skills. From accessories to a new swimming pool and putting in new lighting.

Statistics

Every basic thing we use in life consist of history. That means statistics. Taking into account the past and the future, and keeping record of what has been done. Without statistics we won't know what worked and what didn't. It helps us to find balance and structure.

LANGUAGE ARTS CLASSES

Seventh and eighth grade classes are continuing to develop their writing skills. After reviewing the Step-Up format introduced last year, all classes are now working to improve on their technique.

A multi-paragraph format has been introduced and thesis statements and plans are being used to write expository essays with a minimum of three paragraphs. This technique will be used for research papers assigned in the future at Flynn, and throughout high school and college.

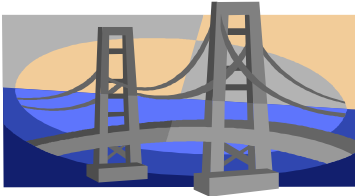
FROM COUNSELING

Flynn Middle School offers support groups on various topics throughout the year. In response to a survey from the Counseling Office, the counselors are offering a Friendship Group. The group will meet during lunch, once a week for four weeks. Students will be given a pass to take to the front of the lunch line and then bring their lunch to group. Students will be doing several group activities and discussing topics dealing with friendships, and getting along with others.

*****BRAINTEASER ANSWER: "THUNDER"*****

FROM MR. SWANK

It has been an excellent year so far. Many new things have been going on in the Industrial Arts classes.



The students in 7th grade have been building bridges, making examples of airplane wings and learning how to fold and create many styles of paper airplanes for our lesson on flight. In 6th grade they designed and built CO2 dragster cars.

In 8th grade, the students built a full scale wall section and wired it with electrical outlets, switches, and lights, designed and cut out white boards for their lockers, advanced CO2 cars, and made and engine out of a pop can.

I have also had the experience teaching the ELA Success and Math Builders class with Mrs. Kaminski. We have been working hard to build their reading comprehension and multiplication skills. Recently reading the book "**Flowers for Algernon**", the students got to make Rorschach Ink Blots that are now hanging in the Flynn hallways, and take an IQ and personality test. It has been great working with such a great teacher and watching the students succeed. I am looking forward to this new marking period and hope that it brings more exciting new projects.



Notes from Nursing



February is devoted to many special things in our lives; this article will focus on a few of them: Dental health, Burn prevention and Women's heart health. Happy Valentine's Day!

Dental Health

How to care for your child's teeth

- 🦷 Brush your teeth twice a day with fluoride toothpaste.
- 🦷 Replace your toothbrush every three to four months or sooner if the bristles are frayed. A worn toothbrush won't do a good job of cleaning your teeth.
- 🦷 Clean teeth daily with floss. Flossing helps remove plaque and food particles from between the teeth and under the gum line.
- 🦷 Antimicrobial mouth rinses and toothpastes reduce the bacterial count which can cause gingivitis, an early, reversible form of periodontal disease.
- 🦷 Eat a balanced diet and limit between meal snacks.
- 🦷 Visit the dentist regularly for professional cleanings and oral exams.

First Aid for Dental Emergencies

- 🦷 **Toothache:** Clean the area around the sore tooth. Rinse the mouth with warm salt water or use dental floss to dislodge trapped food or debris. If the face is swollen, apply a cold compress. See a dentist as soon as possible.
- 🦷 **Cut or Bitten tongue, Lip or Cheek:** Apply ice to the bruised areas. If there is bleeding, apply a firm but gentle pressure with a clean gauze or cloth. If bleeding does not stop after 15 minutes, take the child to the hospital emergency room.
- 🦷 **Broken Tooth:** Rinse dirt from the injured area with warm water. Place cold compresses over the face in the area of the injury. Locate and save any broken tooth fragments. Immediate dental attention is necessary.
- 🦷 **Knocked Out Permanent Tooth:** Find the tooth. Handle the tooth by the top (crown), not the bottom root portion. You may rinse the tooth but do not clean it. Try to reinsert it into the socket. Have the child hold the tooth in place by biting on a clean gauze or cloth. If you cannot reinsert the tooth, transport the tooth in a cup containing milk or water. See a dentist IMMEDIATELY! Time is a critical factor in saving the tooth.

Preventing Scald Injuries

Almost all scald burns (caused by hot liquids, steam or foods) occur in the home. It takes only seconds for a serious burn to occur and all could be prevented.

- 🦷 Lower the temperature settings on water heaters to 120* or less.

- 🦷 Install anti-scald devices on water faucets and showerheads.
- 🦷 When filling the bathtub, turn on the cold water first. Mix in warmer water carefully.
- 🦷 Check the water temperature by rapidly moving your hand through the water; if the water feels too hot for an adult, it is too hot for a child.
- 🦷 Do not leave hot food or drinks unattended or in the reach of young children.
- 🦷 Use caution and supervision of children using a microwave oven.

Women's Heart Health - #1 Killer of Women

Heart disease is the #1 killer of women in the U.S. While certain risk factors cannot be changed, it is important to realize that you do have control over many others:

- ♥ High blood pressure
- ♥ High blood cholesterol
- ♥ Diabetes
- ♥ Smoking
- ♥ Being overweight
- ♥ Being physically inactive
- ♥ Having family history of early heart disease
- ♥ Age (55 or older for women)

Regardless of your age, background, or health status, you can lower your risk of heart disease - and it doesn't have to be complicated.

Protecting your heart can be as simple as taking a brisk walk, parking your car a little further away from your destination, eating more fruits and vegetables, and cutting back on sweets and high calorie snack foods.

You can make the changes gradually, one at a time. But making them is very important. Every woman needs to take her heart disease risk seriously - and take action now to reduce that risk.

H1N1 Update

While the number of cases in our area has decreased, the virus has not disappeared. Vaccine is now available to everyone. There are no restrictions on who may obtain the vaccine. It is available in private doctor's offices, health departments and local clinics. Seasonal flu typically lasts until spring. H1N1 started last May, 2009 and continued through the summer and fall. Additional waves are likely to occur throughout winter and into spring. Prevention is still the best way to avoid getting H1N1 and seasonal influenza.

Marjorie Racine RN
Warren Consolidated Schools
School Nurse

February, 2010 Used with
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Student Achievement

A focus on measurable student achievement in our Professional Learning Communities.

Clear Expectations

Clear expectations for every stakeholder, including students, staff and parents.

Strong Relationships

Strong relationships among all stakeholders, including: teacher-student, parent-teacher, principal-teacher, and superintendent-board member.

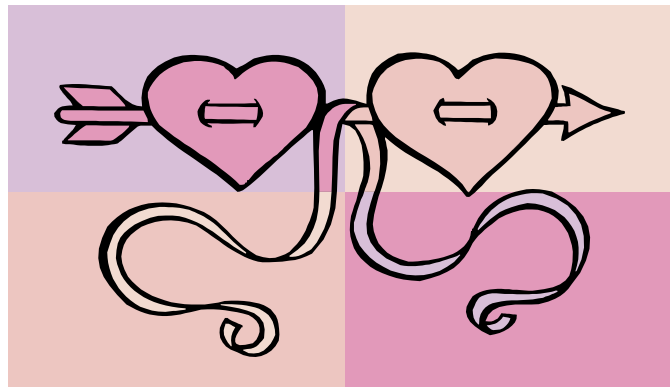
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In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, and the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977, it is the policy of the Warren Consolidated Schools that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, gender, age, disability, age, height, weight, or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to, discrimination during any program, activity, service or in employment. Inquiries should be addressed to the Chief Human Resource Officer, 31300 Anita, Warren, Michigan 48093, (586) 825-2400, ext 63110.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- | | | | |
|------|---|------|---|
| 2/1 | Boosters – 7 p.m. | 2/23 | Volleyball – Roseville @ Flynn |
| 2/4 | Volleyball @ Beer | 2/24 | Parent Mtg- Science Olympiad Shopping @ Target – CI Class |
| 2/5 | Open Study – Science Olympiad | 2/25 | Volleyball @ Carleton Prefestival concert – 7 th , 8 th Gr. @ PAC |
| 2/9 | Volleyball @ Carter | 2/27 | Science Olympiad – Regional Tournament - MCCC |
| 2/10 | Supplemental Count Day
Fun-fest after school
Shopping @ Target – CI Class | 3/1 | Booster Club – 7 p.m. |
| 2/11 | Volleyball @ Eastland | 3/11 | Progress Reports Home |
| 2/12 | Last day – Winter Break Begins | | |
| 2/22 | School resumes | | |

