

FROM THE PRINCIPAL: I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and is eager to begin the spring semester; after all the icy weather and being without electricity for an extended period of time, I know I am ready! Spring is a perfect time for families to begin planning for their children's educational futures. One way to help families to begin a financial plan for college is to log onto okcollegestart.org and use the tool called Paying for College. Families can find information about:



- ❖ How much does college cost?
- ❖ Planning ahead for the cost of college - the Oklahoma College Savings Plan
- ❖ Types of financial aid
- ❖ Sample financial aid packages

By clicking on Plan for College students can begin with the Planner Timeline, which can be used by students as early as fifth grade. It gives tips on what to do each year to get ready for college.

Seventh graders can start planning by developing good study habits, working hard, and thinking about different jobs that sound interesting. Eighth graders should continue to work hard, think about what ninth grade classes they will take and enroll in OK Promise (see www.okpromise.org).

It's never too early to begin planning. If you have any questions, call your child's counselor. They are always happy to help.

Parents I would like to express our appreciation to you for the support you give to your children and to the staff at Central Middle School; without you we cannot be successful.

Thank You!!!

TEAM NEWS:



Yankee Doodle Dandies will be traveling to ancient Egypt in world history class. While there, each student will create a name cartouche using hieroglyphics as well as an Egyptian brochure. Recently the science classes designed slingshots. They shot paper wads of varying sizes using different sizes of rubber bands and recorded their data as a study of potential and kinetic energy. English classes will begin a guided research unit and will then be assigned an individual research topic.

The team will begin a cross-curricular unit in February during Black History month. The students will be reading *The Watsons Go to Birmingham, 1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis. Activities regarding the book are planned in each classroom.

Team Patriot just completed an IDU over the Census 2010, where the students were able to conduct a mock census in history class. Our students are working hard to prepare for the 8th grade writing test at the end of this month. We just finished making fossils in Science; just in time to start the Geometry Unit in Math class.

Gifted and Talented News

Submitted by Mrs. Adair GT Facilitator

The CMS 8th grade Gifted and Talented students visited the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History on December 11th. Students toured the museum and participated an Archaeology Lab, where they were able to experience scientific archaeology of the five cultures of Oklahoma's past. Thanks to Mr. McKillip for driving our bus!

The CMS 6th grade Gifted and Talented students will be attending a piano concert performed by Dr. Whang, Professor of Music at Cameron University on February 5th. Her program is titled "It's Our World." She will play several classical piano pieces related to nature, animals, birds, and the environment. Her ultimate goal is to tie the program into being kind to our planet and to encourage individuals to "go green".

Seven CMS 7th grade students, applicants for the Duke Talent Search, have signed up to take the SAT test or ACT test this winter. Students are: Oshea Ababon, Matthew Herrick, Christopher Jones, Kristina Ly, David Pires Ihsaan, Riley Swinford, and Joshua Winton.

The 6th grade Explorations class will host a birthday party for Dr. Seuss on March 4th from 9:00-10:00 in our library. Two first grade classes from Lincoln Elementary will attend the celebration. The Central students will read Dr. Seuss books, lead activities and games, and serve refreshments (of course, a birthday cake!).

Congratulations go out to Katy Hawk and Ashley Fineran for being selected to display their artwork at the McMahan Auditorium. They were part of a competition in which over 400 students participated from Lawton and surrounding area schools.

DATES TO KNOW:

Feb 5	All Region Band
Feb 5	6th Grade G/T trip to Cameron University to hear a Piano Concert
Feb 5	8th Grade tours to Cameron University
Feb 9	Reggie Dabbs Assembly 2 pm
Feb 9	Parent University
Feb 12	Valentines Dance sponsored by the Military Student Club
Feb 12	8th Grade Tours to Cameron University
Feb 15	In-service
Feb 23	African Teen Conf 1:30 pm
Feb 24	CRT Writing Test
Feb 25	LHS Enrolls 8th grade for 9th grade
Feb 26	Stars & Bars
March 5	NJHS Induction Ceremony
March 6	Cheer & Dance Tryouts for LPS
March 15-19	Spring Break

Seventh Grade Ceiling Tile Project

Thanks to the ingenuity of Mrs. Henley, a grant from the Lawton Public Schools Foundation, and the teamwork spirit of the 7th grade teachers, our 7th graders are working on a huge project. They will be using their skills in several subject areas to design and paint ceiling tiles to colorfully decorate their classrooms.

In their science classes, students and teachers will discuss the topics they cover during the year and students will research photos they would like to copy onto their ceiling tiles. In language arts, these same students will research their topics and write a paper about them. Math comes into play when they create a scale drawing of their science concept and apply it to the ceiling tile, using the skills taught in their art classes.

The project includes classes taught by Mrs. Henley, Mr. Thompson, Ms. Bauchman, Mr. Christian, Mrs. Kirby, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Payne, and Mrs. Simpson. Come check out our ceilings!!

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2009 School Report Card: Parents are encouraged to access the Lawton Public Schools Website and view our 2009 School Report Card. The Lawton district and school site report cards are available at the following website address: <http://www.lawtonps.org/Departments/Testing/index.html>. If you do not have internet access at your home, you may request a copy of the school report card at the principal's office.

The Purpose of OK Parental Information and Resource Center (PIRC) is to help implement successful and effective parental involvement policies, programs, and activities that lead to improvements in student academic achievement and that strengthen partnerships among parents, teachers, principals, administrators, and other school personnel in meeting the education needs of children. Contact info: www.okpirc.org toll free number: 877-765-7472

The **LPS Spelling Bee** has been rescheduled to convene in the auditorium of Central Middle School located on 1201 NW Fort Sill Boulevard at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, February 11, 2010.

The Leadership Team led out in our annual **Canned Food Drive**. Thanks for participating in this worthy community project.

The **Orchestra** goes to district solo and ensemble contest on Saturday, Feb 27 at Mc Arthur Middle School. The orchestra students will start taking orders for Our annual Easter Bunny sale on Feb 16. On March 1 the 6th grade solo festival will be held here at Central Middle School starting at 3:30.

The **DRIFTERS TEAM** is actively crossing the curriculum in a measurement activity. "Metric vs. Customary!!" First, the reading classes spent time in the library researching metric and customary systems.

Then, our World Studies classes located North American countries and capitals who embrace the metric system.

The next week science classes compared metric and customary systems using hands-on activities and discussion.

Afterwards, our math classes will convert kilometers to meters and miles to feet to compare the usage and ease of each system.

Our language arts class will end the activity by preparing a persuasive essay based on their opinion on whether the United States should change to the metric system or stay with both systems.

Special Olympics Track and Field Event will be March 26 at Fort Sill.

TRACK EVENTS

March 9: Elgin Junior High Track Meet 9 am

March 25: Duncan Middle School Track Meet 2 pm

April 3 Lawton Middle School Track Meet 9:30 am

April 8 Marlow Junior High Track Meet 1:30 pm

BASEBALL

March 22 @ Cache 4:30 pm

March 26, 27, 28 Cougar Classic Tournament for Varsity players

March 29 @ Elgin 4:30 pm

March 30 @ Altus 4:00 pm