

WILDCAT PAW PRINTS



IN THIS ISSUE

CHRSITMAS MAD LIB

**VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS
CONCERT**

**FINANCIAL LITERACY IN
MRS. WRIGHT'S ROOM**

Dr. Wells - Superintendent

Christmas During COVID

We are at a wonderful time of the year, Christmas!

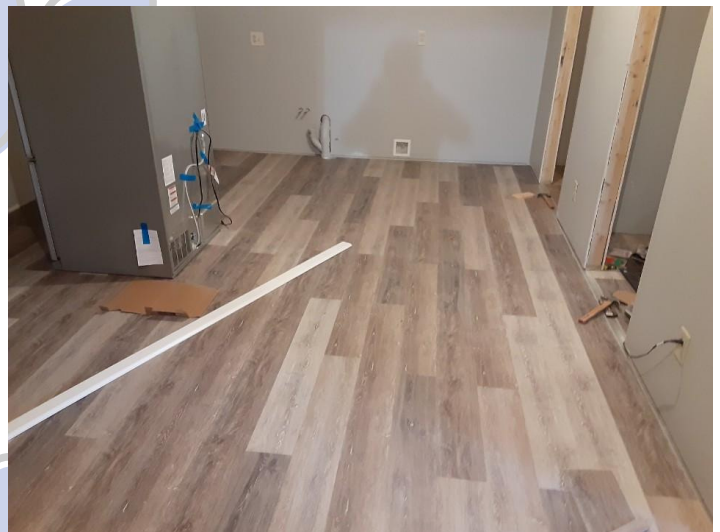
Children are excited to get their gifts from "Santa" and to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

The hallways of the school are full of energy and anticipation for the holiday. Teachers are looking forward to some quality family time and to step away from their work for a few days. Yes, Christmas is full of the spirit of giving, caring, and loving.

This year's Christmas is very different from years gone by due to COVID. Most people did not enjoy their annual Black Friday Shopping. Many families are choosing to stay home rather than traveling to see others. Sadly, many nursing homes and adult care facilities are not allowing visitors so this Christmas may be lonely for our elderly family members. COVID has caused some to be sick, and others to be laid off of work or even released from their jobs. Although things will be different it is important to remember the reason for the season. Let's be thankful for all God has given us, for our families, for our jobs, and for our health.

On behalf of the Hamburg Community School District's staff and school board, "Merry Christmas". If you have any questions or concerns about the school please contact me at mwells@hamburgcsd.org or at (712) 350-1065. Thank you for your unwavering support.

The house has a few more steps and it will be completed! Here are some updated photos.



Mrs. Barrett - Principal

December has always been one of my favorite months of the year. It signifies the end of one year and the beginning of the next. It is a time of reflection that allows me to contemplate the previous year and make plans for the new year at hand. As I look back over the last year, I think of all the changes to everyday life we experienced, from virtual learning, canceling our sporting seasons, having to present our Christmas Concert virtually, and closing down many of our businesses, just to name a few. This has greatly impacted our students and their families. Many have struggled physically and emotionally and continue to do so. With the beginning of the Christmas season, there is always a feeling of peace and hope. People treat each other better. They go out of their way to help each other out. They make the extra effort to care for the poor and needy. It is my hope that as this year comes to a close and the new year begins, we can keep that feeling of hope and love for our fellow beings in our hearts not only during this season, but throughout the coming year. It is my hope that we can serve as an example of goodness to our children. That they will emulate our love for one another. That the love and kindness we show to one another will be contagious and reach far beyond our little school. That we might be an example to the world of what goodness and kindness looks like, and that others might follow our lead and treat others with love and kindness in all that they do. What a wonderful world that would be.

We had the privilege of having Santa, Mrs. Claus and one of their elves come to visit the day of our Christmas concert. They presented each child a gift that was provided by the Hamburg Kiwanis. Students, as well as some adults, were able to get a picture with Santa and Mrs. Claus, from a respectable distance of course. Each child will bring home 2 - 4X6 copies of the picture for you to enjoy.



*May you and
your family enjoy
a fabulous
Winter Break
and Happy New Year!*

Secretary - Mrs. Peeler

A note from the office –

- Please remember to call the school if your student is sick or will be late.
- Call the office with any new updates such as a new phone number or a new address. Keep it updated for times your child is ill and needs to go home.
- Don't forget to send a water bottle to school with your child every day. Children need water to stay hydrated.
- Also, a friendly reminder please do not send your children to school if they have a fever of 100 degrees or higher.

Everyday is A New Beginning

-Thanks, Trisha Peeler

MERRY
CHRISTMAS

Preschool - Mrs. Williams

The Preschool class would like to share with you what they would like for Christmas this year:

Abby- a unicorn, a horsey, and a monkey

Elsi- a toy dragon, a baby with a pacifier and bottle

Joella- a Santa Claus toy, a unicorn, and a scooter

Wyatt- a mega dinosaur

Abel- a Santa ornament, elves, and a red toy semi

Ryan- a playset, a yo-yo, play dough, and a Mr. Potato head

Myla- a Teddy Bear, dolls, and Barbies

Athena- Poppy stuff and Minnie Mouse stuff

Olivia- big toys and a baby doll

Brynna- a DVD player, Alexa, and a new kitchen set

Parker- a dragon that throws water out

Hazel- a baby doll, a baby crib, and baby food

Peyton- some slime and a bike

Uriyah- a dragon toy and Barbies

William- a Power Ranger

Lilly- a Barbie and a Barbie dollhouse

Layla- Gotta Go Flamingo

Barrett- Dinosaurs and Fall Guys game

Drayson- an iPhone and a new dollhouse for Myah



Have a Merry Christmas Everyone!

Kindergarten - Mrs. Brandt

The Kindergarteners are excited and ready for Christmas so they decided to share with you their most important items they want for Christmas. We hope everyone enjoys their family time. See you in the New Year!

Here are their responses:

Liam - Markers and paper to draw on with a case, a Transformer that moves, and a Toy Clock

Noah – Spiderman book, Mr. Potato Head game, Spiderman Water Bottle

Hazel - LOL Glamer, Barbie Face Mask Maker, Kitty stuffed animal

Kingston – Legos, Robot Snowman, Mr. Grinch Stuffed Animal

Bailey – Elsa and Anna Lighthouse, Puzzles, Rainbow Water Bottle

Nora – Barbie Doll, Dresses for me, Color and Drawing books

Brennen – Electric Monster Truck Bus, Batman house, Xbox

Easton - A Puppy stuffed animal, 2 Walkie Talkies, Legos

Kenzlie – A real Puppy, Rapunzel Princess Doll, Doll House

Bristol – LOL stuff, Baby Yoda

Sylas – Fortnite Stuff, Water gun, My Own Shark Game

Sakura – A Pink and Purple car I can drive myself, Talking Baby Doll, Jack n the Box, Toy Make-Up



First Grade - Mrs. Hendrickson

First graders studied "Christmas Around the World" in Social Studies. We visited different countries and learned some of the traditions and how to say Merry Christmas in different languages. We traveled to France and learned that Pere Noel visits the children and leaves goodies in wooden shoes called sabots instead of in stockings. We made sabots and Pere Noel left us goodies in our shoes. **Joyeux Noël from France.** First graders then "traveled to" Germany by train. In Germany, they say **Fröhliche Weihnachten!** We learned about the legend of the Christmas tree and read [The Cobweb Christmas](#) and found out why tinsel is on Christmas trees. We made Christmas spiders to decorate each of our trees. The next stop was Italy. **Buon Natale!** La Befana fills the children's' stockings with goodies. The children made La Befana and wrote how giving gifts makes us feel. Mexico was a little further away so we "boarded our plane" and took off for another celebration. We were greeted with people saying **Feliz Navidad!** Starting December 16th, families go to different houses for Las Posadas each night. They eat, sing, and play games including the pinata. Hot Chocolate is enjoyed by all! The poinsettia is the Christmas flower.

Our class talked about how Christmas isn't always about getting things, it's about giving too. When asked how does giving someone a gift make them feel, here are their responses:

Kinslee - good

Charlie - very, very, very happy

Christian - very, very, very, very happy

Bodie - glad

Rylee - happy

Nadalyn - glad

Ziggy - happy

Drayden - happy

Easton P. - happy

Carly - happy

Rease - very, very, very glad

Wyatt - good

Jonathan - happy

Joshua - good

Kyle - good

Shane - happy

Easton H. - special



Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

I will see you all in 2021!!

2nd Grade - Mrs. Welch

If Santa was stuck in my chimney, I would...

Taryn-get a ladder and pull him out until he got out then he would climb down! I would pull him out with a crane.

Ella-help him get him out of the chimney with my hands. Carsyn-get butter and I would get a car and pull him out.

Eden-help him then give him milk and cookies. I would ask him what he got for my brother and me.

Callie-get him out by grabbing his feet.

Spencer-help him get out of the chimney but before we get him out, we need to get the butter and then pull him out with a crane.

Shaye-help him with my hands and tell my Mom and Dad.

Zach-get some butter and ask him if he could give my parents a joke book and I want a two story house.

Landon-pull on his feet and get him out.

Myah-grab the butter and I would slip him out with my car.

If Santa does make it out of the chimney and he needs a few last minute ideas, here's a list of what to get the second graders:

Myah-a jeep

Landon-Nerf guns

Zach-a trailer for my skid loader and an eight foot tree

Shaye-an iPod

Spencer-a drone and a dirt bike

Callie-a beautiful princess doll

Eden-a Nintendo Switch and an iPad. My brother wants a dinosaur.

Carsyn-a decal kit for a vac Case

Ella-make-up pack, a rainbow ball, and a princess doll

Taryn-a tent

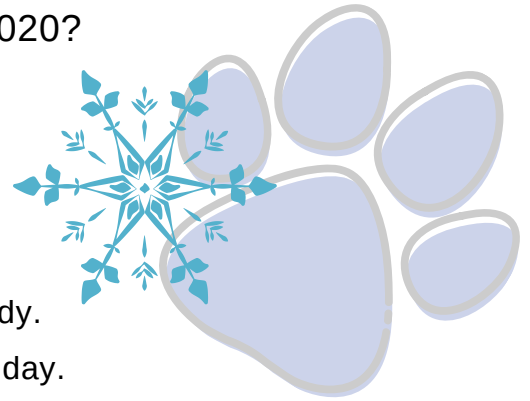


Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

3rd Grade - Mrs. Fann

What was the best part of 2020?

Isaak's best part of 2020 was catching the big catfish.
Leland's best part of 2020 was his birthday.
Benny's best part of 2020 was going to the pool.
Laynee's best part of 2020 was going to the pool.
Cash's best part of 2020 was when he saw his Grandma Judy.
Bryn's best part of 2020 was not having a COVID-style birthday.
Anjayleigh's best part of 2020 was seeing her sister.
Graysin's best part of 2020 was driving with Dad.
Mia's best part of 2020 was sleeping in the summer.
Kyler's best part of 2020 was eating crab and the Chiefs winning the Superbowl.
Sam's best part of 2020 was riding a mini bike.
Kowa's best part of 2020 was starting volleyball.
Matthew's best part of 2020 was going to school!



What do you wish for in 2021?

Isaak wishes for the Rams to get a new football player in 2021.
Leland wishes for COVID to go away in 2021.
Benny wishes for everything to open back up in 2021.
Laynee wishes to go ziplining in 2021.
Cash wishes for COVID to go away in 2021.
Bryn wishes to go ziplining in 2021.
AJ wishes to go to the zoo in 2021.
Graysin wishes to drive with Dad and get a bar of gold in 2021.
Mia wishes for COVID to go away in 2021.
Kyler wishes he wins the FNCS (Fortnite Champion Series) in 2021.
Sam wishes for new controllers for his Switch in 2021.
Kowa wishes for COVID to go away in 2021.
Matthew's wishes for a razor dirt bike in 2021.



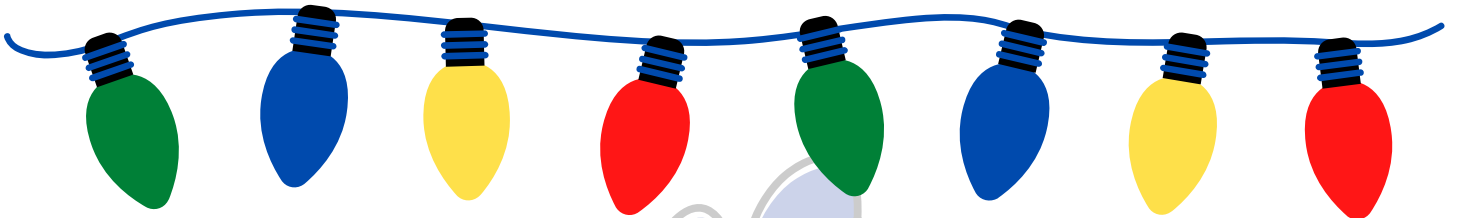
Winter is approaching. The colder weather is already here. Students will be going out for recess as long as the temperature allows. Please make sure your child(ren) has appropriate clothing for outdoor recess. If you would like, students are able to leave their snow gear at school during the weekdays. *If we are blessed with enough snow to sled, students will be required to wear snow pants and boots to participate.

4th Grade - Mrs. Duncan

In the 4th grade, we have been studying a lot of things to go with the season! We spent a week reading A Christmas Carol and then got to watch the movie. It was interesting to see the differences and similarities between the movie and the story. We have also studied The Polar Express. We were able to learn several new vocabulary words from the book. Our spelling words for the last two weeks have been from those two stories. We also made our own stockings and decorated them. We made special presents for loved ones. We have also learned how people from other countries celebrate Christmas, and where some of our Christmas traditions have come from.



Finally, on Tuesday, we will be singing Christmas carols in the gym, watching "The Polar Express", wearing our pajamas, and having a Christmas party!!! Thanks so much to everyone who has helped out by sending snacks, drinks, cups, napkins for the party and a special thank you to Sara Ward for sewing our stockings. I hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Enjoy the break with your family and friends! See you in 2021!!!



5th Grade - Mr. Peters

The fifth graders would like to share their favorite Holiday memory.

My favorite Christmas memory is.....

Alexa - when I went to my dad's house for Christmas and got a cat two days before Christmas. It climbed up our tree and made it fall.

Isaiah - seeing my family and cousins.

Hannah - waking up with a bunch of toys in the living room.

Rebecka - when I was with my dad and we went sledding and one of us fell off the sled.

Lukas - looking at Christmas lights last year when I had the flu.

Kyra - when we go to grandma's to make cookies, play with hula hoops, and bring presents to put under the tree.

Bram - waking up to a lot of presents.

Emerson - going sledding with my family.

Keagan - seeing my cousins and playing with them.

Hailee - playing the frozen creek at my grandparent's house.

Savanna - when my dad got his old music hat he wore in High School from Mr. P for Christmas last year.

Lucy - when I went to the hotel with Hailee and my little sister.

Jayla - when my family and I went out to eat on Christmas.

Noah - when my dad had his four-wheeler tied a floaty tube on it and we rode it.

Ava - looking at Christmas light with hot chocolate. And getting a goat for Christmas.

Xavier - when I got a Nintendo Switch and games to play with my brothers.

Cole - snowboarding at my house.

Emily - when it's snowing.



Resource - Mrs. Owen

Everyday Math Activities Kids Can do at Home

Opportunities Abound in the Kitchen, Grocery Store, and Elsewhere By Amanda

Morin Opportunities to explore math with your child pop up everywhere. Going to the grocery store, cooking dinner, or even watching the news together are some of the ways these opportunities present themselves.

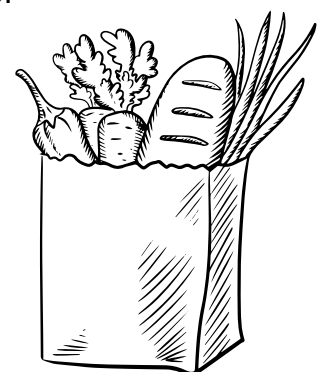
IN THE KITCHEN At the end of a long day, when you're thinking about getting dinner ready and getting everybody off to various appointments and lessons, creating mathematical moments is probably the farthest thing from your mind.

However, having your child help you in the kitchen not only offers the benefit of an extra pair of hands but also involves math. From measuring and sequencing to estimation and multiplication the kitchen is a real-life school for kids of all ages.

MATH ON THE ROAD While road trips and other types of travel are a wonderful way to get away from the pressures and responsibilities of real life, they also provide some really interesting opportunities to practice math.

A game called license plate math requires participants to pretend to be spies breaking codes to turn letters into numbers. That's only one of many ways to drive home math while you're driving away from home. There's also budgeting meal money, calculating the cost of gas and figuring out distances on maps.

MATH AT THE GROCERY STORE Grocery shopping, or any other kind, can be a stressful chore when your kids are with you. In between the cries of "can we buy that?" and "Ick, asparagus!" you can make the trip more manageable by drawing on some math learning. The store provides wonderful opportunities to, among other things, practice estimating cost, creating and sticking to a budget, and using the scale to weigh produce.

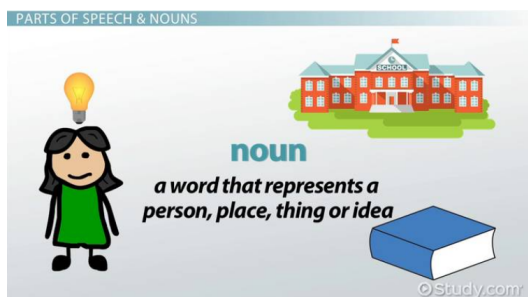


Middle School SPED - Mrs. Hazelwood

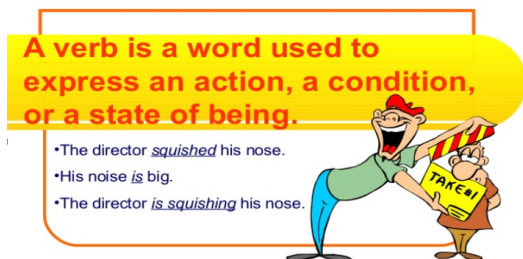
The parts of speech are the foundation of writing.

Here are three parts of speech:

Noun- Person, Place, Thing, or Idea



Verb- Express an action, a condition, or a state of being



Adjective- Describe a noun



Now that you know what these 3 parts of speech are, have fun testing your knowledge using this Christmas Madlib!

Word List:

1. noun that names a place:

2. noun that names an animal:

3. plural noun that names people:

4. plural noun that names things:

5. adjective:

6. noun that name a place:

7. noun that names a thing:

8. adjective:

9. plural noun that names things:

10. plural noun that names things:

11. noun that names a thing:

12. noun that names a thing:

13. past tense verb:

14. adjective:



A Wacky Christmas Story

'Twas the night before Christmas and all
thru the 1._____ not a creature was
stirring, not even a/an 2._____. The
3._____ were tucked, all snug in their
4._____, while visions of 5._____
plums danced in their heads. Then up on the
6._____ there arose such a clatter. I sprang
to my 7._____ to see what was the matter. It
was St. Nick with his little 8._____ belly that
shook when he laughed like a bowl full of
9._____. He spoke not a word, but went
straight to his work and filled all the 10._____,
then turned with a jerk, and laying his 11._____
aside of his nose, and giving a nod, up the
12._____ he rose. And I heard him exclaim as
he 13._____ out of sight, 14._____
Christmas to all, and to all a good night!!!



English - Mrs. Dovel

HELP! THE CITIZENS OF WHOVILLE NEED HELP DECIDING IF THE GRINCH IS MISCHIEVOUS OR MISUNDERSTOOD.

The past two weeks the middle school students have engaged in a Christmas unit about the Grinch.

The objectives were to learn argumentative writing and practice grammar. The topic for writing: Is the Grinch mischievous or misunderstood? Whatever the student's stance, prove it by providing a rich thesis statement, a fantastic hook, and evidence from the book and movie to back up the claim.

Specific terms in this unit:

- Issue - a topic people have different opinions about
- Claim - an individual's conclusion about an issue
- Evidence - logic, facts, and examples that support the chosen claim
- Bridge - the statement that explains how the evidence supports the claim
- Counter Argument - challenging the argument by addressing the claim of someone who doesn't agree with the chosen claim
- Turn-back - demonstrating why the counterargument is wrong

EXAMPLE for creating a thesis statement

The Grinch is (mischievous/misunderstood) because (reason 1), (reason 2) and above all, because (reason 3).

Each student wrote a 5 paragraph argumentative essay on Google Docs using the correct format. Grammar items this unit included TENSES of VERBS, DENOTATION AND CONNOTATION of words, and practicing parts of speech through Grinch Libs!

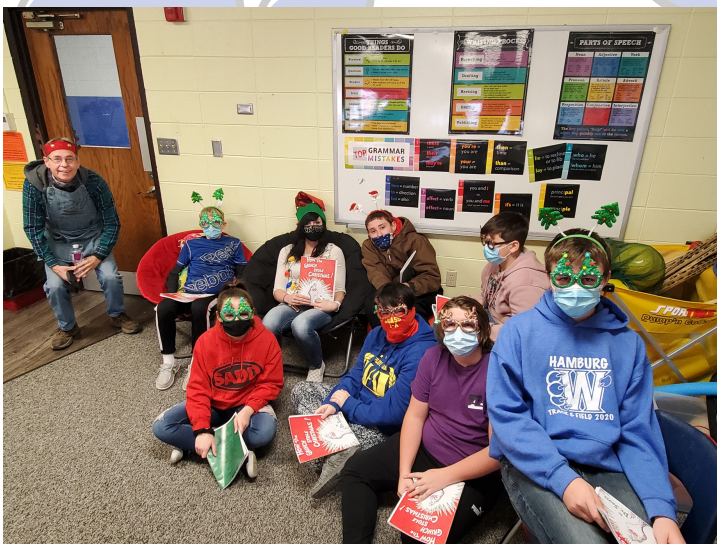
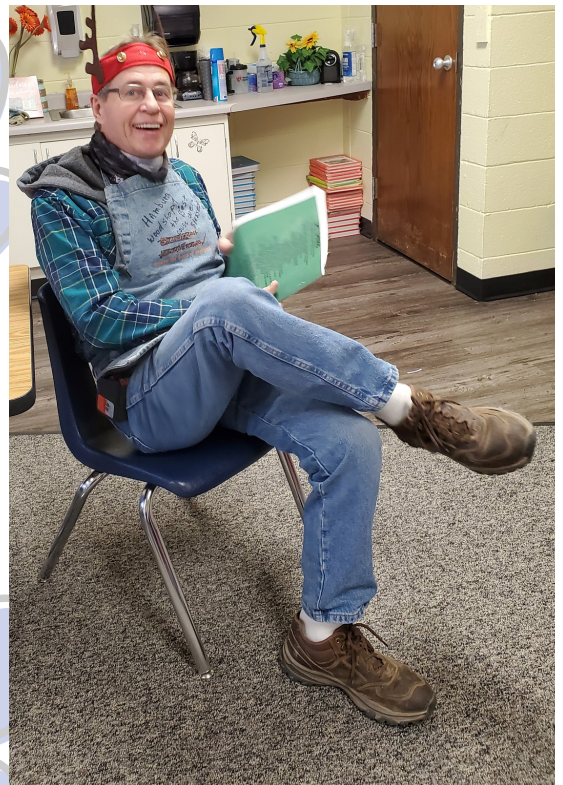
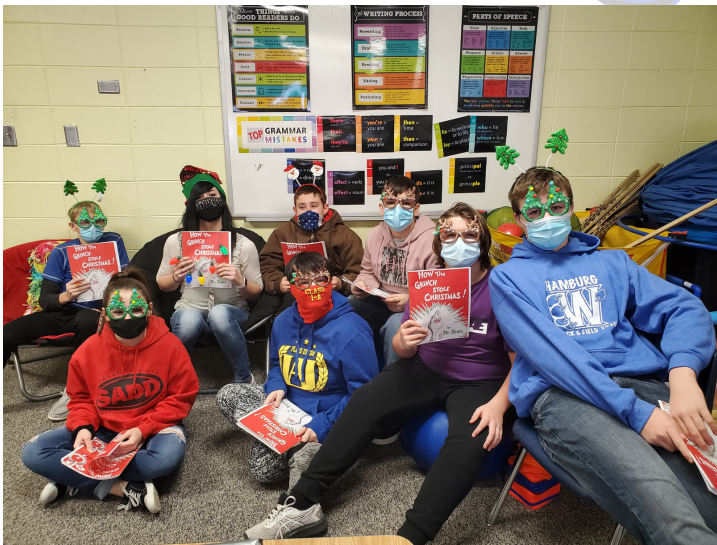


This unit was a lot of fun! We had two guest readers, Steve Hansen and Lindsey Fann and we thank them for bringing the characters to life! To add to the fun we had a snowball fight in the gym. (Crumpled paper with grammar questions) If a student found a snowball with a Grinch, he or she had to complete push-ups, jumping jacks, and sit-ups. The snowball fight was a big hit as were the silly Christmas glasses each student received during this unit.

Merry Christmas to all of my students and colleagues and to all of you. I hope everyone makes special memories this season however they may, and I pray for blessings for our school, our community, and our country.

Much love.

Kim Dovel



MERRY
CHRISTMAS

Middle School Science - Miss Martin

Are you smarter than a 7th grader?

Quiz

Word Bank:

- A. Tissue
- B. Organ
- C. Cell Differentiation
- D. Stem Cells
- E. Organ System
- F. Fiber
- G. Complex

1. A group of different organs that work together
2. A cell that can develop into many different cells
3. A group of similar types of cells that work together
4. The process by which cells become different types of cells
5. A group of tissues that work together
6. A long muscle cell
7. Made up of two or more parts



Middle School Math - Mrs. Wright

Financial Literacy Values

This semester has been full of great discoveries for the 7th-grade class. We have discussed everything from spending and saving to investing and insurance. The students have been studying all kinds of financial scenarios and discovering the best practices for managing their money. They completed with a final project that required them to apply for a job and get a paycheck. With a one month paycheck, the students then had to create a budget that allowed them to include all expenses of living on their own, such as: renting/buying a house, buying a car/using public transportation, car, and health insurance, buying a week's worth of groceries, Dining out, and paying gas, electric, water, cellphone, internet, and cable tv services. The students were also expected to budget for "Daily Event Cards". These cards would include random scenarios that would have them pay for things that may come up in daily life. I was curious to see what the students gained most from the class. Here are their responses.

Camren R: I learned the value of money and how much money my parents have to spend for water and electricity and other things.

Kamui T: I learned how not to spend so much money.

Martin R: I learned not to get credit cards because they put pressure on you to go into debt. I also learned to invest in Mutual Funds because they are lower risk than the stock market.

Hilda T: I learned to never go into debt and never get a credit card.

Keith T: I learned that life is hard.

Hailey W: I learned about taxes.

Wendy P: I learned about money.

Brooklyn M: Life is expensive.

Mason P: I learned to save money.

Whytt B: I learned how to save money and spend money wisely.

Tessa S: Debt isn't fun. Being an adult isn't that easy.

Taven H: I learned how much an editor gets paid. I learned how to control my spending.



FCS - Mrs. Woodward

In FCS class this December we have been wrapping up our projects for the semester. We have covered a variety of topics in this course including careers, cooking, and now focusing on etiquette. Our final lesson for the semester will be a table decorating contest and etiquette meal that I know the students are very excited about! We will post pictures on the school website. I've really enjoyed getting to know this group of students and I can't wait to see how next semester and then their high school goes for them!

For Food Nutrition class we have been able to participate in more cooking labs and lessons. Probably the most popular lab we have done is the "Santa snowball" recipe we did. This was a peanut butter and graham cracker mixture coated in white chocolate to replicate snowballs. The kids have impressed me with how much they have improved in the kitchen and in their nutrition skills and I'm very confident going forward that these kids will have skills they can use for the rest of their lives!



Music - Mr. Meinert

The Christmas concert was held on December 17th. Everyone did an excellent job, and I am extremely proud of everyone who took part! Special thanks to Ms. Martin for recording and editing the video, and to Teri Emberton for playing the piano.



Art - Mrs. Wells

December is a fun time to work on winter-themed art and holiday crafts. Preschool students made snowy owls by tearing paper. Did you know that their eyes are yellow?



Snowy Owl by Brynna

Some animals hibernate in the winter.

Second, third, and fourth graders were asked to imagine what hibernation scene might look like in a cave, or in a burrow under the ground.



Hibernation by Bryn



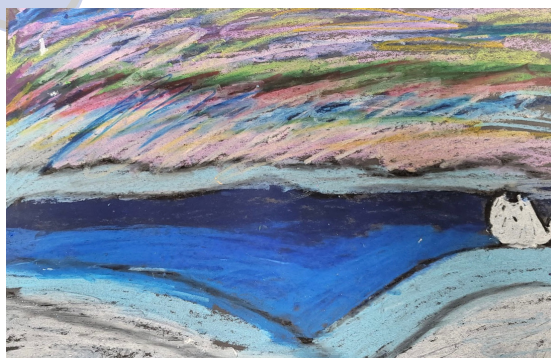
Polar Bear by Isaiah and Cole

Kindergarten and first grade students briefly discussed birds in winter before making a Cardinal out of construction paper and setting it against a snowy background. Cardinals do not migrate; they prefer to nest in areas close to where they hatched.



Cardinal by Easton R.

Older students used oil pastels to create a scene with an animal in a snowy landscape under the Northern Lights. The Northern Lights are caused by protons and electrons from a solar wind hitting particles in the atmosphere.



Arctic Fox by Keagan



Merry Christmas!

from Hamburg Community School Staff

Non-discrimination Policy

It is the policy of the Hamburg Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact the district's Equity Coordinator, Dr. Mike Wells, 309 "S" Street, Hamburg, IA, 712-382-2703, mwells@hamburgcsd.org.

Statement of Assurance Related to Highly Qualified Teacher Assignments

If, due to circumstances out of the districts control, a substitute or replacement teacher will be assigned to your students classroom or class for a period of time of four or more consecutive weeks and that teacher is not highly qualified in accordance with federal and state laws then the district will notify you of the situation. It is the intention of the Hamburg Community School District to provide 'highly qualified' teachers in all areas to the best of the district's ability throughout the school year. Hamburg: Parents or guardians may request this information from the Office of the Superintendent by calling 382-2017 or sending a letter of request to Office of the Superintendent, 309 "S" Street, Hamburg, Iowa 51640.