



Principal's Message

A *Roll your Goals into 2012* Pep Rally was held on January 13th. Students have also posted their goals for the second half of the school year. Each student selected one personal, one school, and one home goal to focus on. From what I read, you can expect cleaner teenager bedrooms at home!

We just completed "Don't Hate Communicate Week", where students and staff celebrate what makes each of us unique and special. With all the technology out there students considered how seemingly harmless messages/posts can be hurtful to others. A particular emphasis was given to those short, cryptic and sometimes hurtful text messages that get sent.

You might begin to hear a little buzz at home about the upcoming PSSA testing which begins mid-March. Boosting your child's confidence throughout the next six weeks will be our focus and we invite you to join us in those efforts. Everyone here works together to help them mentally prepare for these tests, so that they can go into them with self-assurance. As you work with your child on homework, take the time to point out all they have learned.

This year's musical, *Into the Woods*, will run February 16th and 17th here at Northley. This is the Thursday and Friday before President's Day. The production features a cast of 45 talented NMS students. Both shows start at 7 pm and will run about an hour and 15 minutes. Mark your calendar!

Carol Russell
Principal

Northley News Network Goes World-Wide!

The Northley News Network is the name of our closed-circuit LIVE Northley News Broadcast. Northley staff and students start every day with a dynamic combination of news and announcements: The Pledge of Allegiance, weather forecast, the Northley Promise, club and sports reminders, educational trivia, music and highlights from historical events. Now, the broadcast can be seen daily on the Penn-Delco Channel, Channel 11, every day at 11:15 am, 3:15 pm, 7:15 pm, and 9:15 pm. Please be sure to check it out and get an insight into what we are doing here at NMS!

N3 has a top-notch news team. Our daily on-air talent and technical team includes Dylan Bleattler, Nick Garvey, Seth Wachman, Carly Bondrowski, Nichole Schnee, and Randy Ford.

Mr. Biordi and Miss Sharp share advisorship responsibilities. Mr. Biordi is the Technical Advisor, and keeps our on-air talent on task, edits announcements, and directs the cameras. Miss Sharp is the Creative Advisor, and creates the PowerPoint announcement slides, and uses interdisciplinary academic themes and music to add an educational component to our morning mix.

"Our kids are outstanding" says Mr. Biordi. "It can get a little crazy doing live news, but we have a responsible crew, which makes it easy."

"We try to keep it light in the morning, with a little humor and add a little bit of educational trivia for good measure," Miss Sharp says. "I always like it when I hear students humming our day's theme song in the hallway. I like to think it's a fun and painless way to promote learning and share information and announcements at the same time."



Miss Sharp, Mr. Biordi and the Northley News Team

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT UPDATE

Students at Northley are constantly being recognized for following Northley's 3 Be's: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe. Those who receive a Viking 200 sticker are automatically entered into a weekly drawing. Every Monday, five students' names are drawn to receive a prize for having displayed positive behavior. There are new prizes to choose from all the time!

In addition to these weekly rewards, Mr. Siegel and Mrs. Barg recently took a group of students to St. Joseph's University for an event called Healthy Hawks Fitness Field Trip. Congratulations to the following students: Nate Armour, Destiny Copps-Trusty, David Kearney, Devon Linn, Julia Skwirut, Malcolm Mason, Tommy O'Hara, Robert Smith, Stephanie Farnsworth, Eleni Hartas, Angelina Maroulis, James McDaniel, Shane Sarosy, Maurice Martin, and Danielle Fooks. These lucky students spent the day participating in fitness activities, learning about healthy living, and watching a women's basketball game!



Eagle's great, Vince Papale, met with NMS Students at St. Joe's

SCIENCE TEACHERS HELP CELEBRATE BEN

On Friday, January 20th, 2012, Ms. Blaisse and Ms. Hawbaker attended *Celebrate! Ben Franklin*. The event celebrated Benjamin Franklin’s 306th birthday and his contributions to science, innovation and energy. The 8th grade teachers were invited to attend as participants of PECO’s Energizing Education Program, a grant that provides energy instruction materials for our 8th graders.

At the event, they got to hang out with Benjamin Franklin, himself, and participate in a parade through Old City to Benjamin Franklin’s grave for a wreath laying ceremony! The event also included several interesting speakers including Dr. Derek Pitts (The Franklin Institute, and WXPN Kids Corner), Dr. Henry C. Foley (Dean, Penn State School of Graduate Studies, Director of GPIC – DOE) and Denis O’Brien (President and CEO, PECO Energy).

They also attended a luncheon to honor the Franklin Foundation Award recipient, Dr. Steven Chu. Dr. Chu, who is the United States Secretary of Energy, received the recognition because of his contributions to energy and innovation. Ms. Blaisse and Ms. Hawbaker greatly enjoyed the event, learned many exciting things about energy in Philadelphia and are excited to share the information and all of their new connections with their students this spring when they study energy.



Ms. Blaisse & Ms. Hawbaker with Ben Franklin

NOTES FROM THE NURSE:

Some things to remember:

- Please do not delay contacting your physician for the immunization information that is needed. You would have already received 2 notices this year if I still need information from you regarding your child. Students with incomplete immunizations will be excluded from school on **May 6, 2012**. Please call Mrs. Saunders at 610-497-6300, extension 3338 if you have any questions.
- Encourage your child to be active, especially during these cold winter months. The Rocky Run YMCA has a fantastic opportunity for 7th grade students. They will give your 7th grade student a free membership for a year! This not only includes the ability to use all of the facilities at the Y but also individualized training sessions to help your child set up an exercise plan. Call 610-627-9622 for more information about this.
- Please don’t forget to provide Northley with updated telephone numbers. It is crucial that we have a current number in order to contact you about your child.



Stay healthy and warm!!

ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB GOES TO LINVILLA

Northley’s Environmental Club traveled to Linvilla Orchards on Thursday, January 12, 2012. At Linvilla, the club played the newly introduced “Fore! The Planet Mini Golf.” The students had a blast playing “18 holes of serious fun” while also learning many things about the environment. Each hole had a different theme. Some of themes included: the butterfly lifecycle, food chains, myths about bats, dinosaur extinction, recycling, water pollution, landfills, and many more interesting facts. We hope to go to Linvilla again to do some other activities. All Northley students are invited on the Environmental Club trips, so encourage your child to check the club bulletin board located outside of the Guidance Suite to see which trips are coming up.



INTO THE WOODS

In addition to preparing for our upcoming Spring Concerts in March, the NMS music department is currently focusing efforts on the Drama Club production of “Into the Woods, Jr.” The musical will run on Thursday, February 16 and Friday, February 17 at 7 pm. Tickets cost \$5, and may be purchased at the door, or ordered in advance using the ticket form available for download from Northley’s website. Come out and support a talented cast of Northley students!



TIPS FOR HELPING YOUR CHILD BE SUCCESSFUL

Every Day---ask specific questions about your child's social and academic day. "How do you think you did on the math test?" "Did Mr. Jones say anything funny today?" "What games did you play in PE?" Anything new with your friends?"

Check the teacher and school website regularly. Review the details of assignments recorded on Pinnacle Grade Book with your child.

Give your child a quiet place to study, free from distractions to do homework.

Make the point that homework is the priority-before going out to play, before TV, a game, whatever. If they say it is done, insist to see it anyway.

Check your child's homework, but don't do it for him/her. Offer to check math problems, proofread written papers, and look over spelling words. If you find a mistake, point it out to your child and help him/her figure out the correct answer.

Show you want to be involved—join the PTL, help out and attend school functions.

Make sure your kids get enough to eat, and plenty of rest, no matter how old they may think they are. Poor nutrition affects the ability to learn. Sugar crashes result in limited concentration and reduced energy levels. Lack of sleep adversely affects concentration, memorization, and the ability to stay alert and awake in class.

Work with your child on organizational skills.

Don't underestimate the positive influence you can have on your child's success!

PTL Update

Thanks to all of you who came to our last meeting. We appreciate you taking the time to come out. It was nice to see some new faces, and we hope you continue to join us.

Looking for easy ways to support the school? You can register your Giant bonus card with the A+ program. At this time we have 79 cards registered and have made \$792.82. It only takes 5 minutes to register your card on the Giant webpage and then NMS earns money each time you shop. Also don't forget to keep sending in your Box Tops, Labels for Education, Tyson and Coke product codes. Most of us are already buying these products so if we all collect and send them in it will really add up.

We are in the midst of planning for the 6th grade Swim Party and 7th grade Skate Party. Both events are being held on March 16th. The swim party is 3:00-5:00 and the skate party is 5:00-7:00 at CN Skate. There will be a meeting for 6th grade party at 6:00 on February 1st in the library before the general PTL meeting anyone interested in helping is asked to attend.

Our meetings are the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 in the library. We would love to see you there!



EARN CASH FOR NMS!

Giant Shoppers- Register your BonusCard with Northley!
www.giantfoodstores.com/aplus
 Northley ID #: 03658

Please help our school by collecting the following Items:

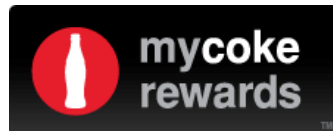
Box Tops coupons = 10¢ each

Tyson A+ labels = 24¢ each

Empty Capri Sun Pouches = 2¢ each

Campbell's labels = bonus points

My Coke Rewards = bonus points



Any questions- contact Christa Ventura at cventura@pdsd.org



Spotlight on... Curriculum

History Alive

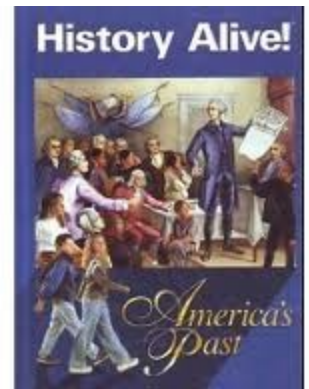
History Alive was first introduced into the secondary Social Studies tenth grade curriculum approximately six years ago at Sun Valley. The initial pilot was so successful that it moved to other grades at Sun Valley and then into Northley. Prior to the implementation of the program at either school, teachers and administrators received intensive training.

The program consists of a series of instructional practices that have come to be known as the TCI (Teachers Curriculum Institute) Approach. Lessons and activities are based on three well-established educational theories:

- Students learn best through multiple intelligences.
- Cooperative interaction increases learning gains.
- All students can learn via a spiral curriculum.

Lessons are carefully structured to lead students through a step-by-step process of discovery. Students first explore an event, idea or personality by using elemental cognitive skills – observation, description, identification, recall – and then spiral to ever higher levels of understanding such as synthesis, application and interpretation.

During the lessons, teachers begin with a preview activity which usually includes a visual to represent key concepts. The skill building includes activities such as mapping, categorizing, analyzing primary sources, graphing and reading a timeline. The lesson also includes an activity to recreate an experience in the period of history being studied. The writing activities help students understand key concepts as well as improve writing skills. Many of the activities take place in response groups which provide opportunities to discuss issues in smaller groups before the whole class discussions. Reading the text involves previewing, note-taking and applying what has been learned. The assessments allow students to use various intelligences to demonstrate their understanding.



ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE IN TOUGH TIMES

Community Action Agency of Delaware County offers several programs to help residents with rental assistance, homelessness, fuel, utility assistance, employment training, food services, welfare to work initiatives, summer teen savings and career development programs, furniture and household donation programs, and many other services.

Try the new **free tax preparation** service with an IRS certified tax preparer in Chester, Media, or Sharon Hill
Call 610-891-6327 or 610-874-84510 x1049 for an appointment.

In these trying economic times, it is tough to know where to turn for assistance. Visit the CAAD website at www.caad.org or contact your child's counselor if we can do anything to help.

Order Your Northley Yearbook Today!



Only \$15.00 until January 31st.

After January 31, books cost \$18.00.

Pay by check or cash through March 16, 2012. Make checks payable to NORTHLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL.

After March 16, all orders will be online only.

To order online with a credit card, visit www.barksdalephoto.com, click "online orders," click "continue," & enter 01047 as the password. All credit card orders require an extra \$1.50 processing fee.

Don't miss out on all the great memories! Order your 2011-2012 yearbook soon!

Do you shop at...



ACME

GENUARDI'S

SAFeway

???

Why?? Each participating product that you purchase from your favorite participating retailer will earn 1 point that will be credited to your school's Labels for Education account automatically when you check out. Our school can redeem points for FREE educational merchandise!

A little work goes a long way!!

- We recently received a check for \$730.80 from Box Tops for Education for just 6 months of collecting! Keep sending in your Box Tops!
- Labels for Education- We have 3,342 points that can be redeemed to earn products used around school.
- Giant A+ School Rewards- We have 79 Bonus Cards registered, giving us \$792.82 so far! Be sure to register your cards if you haven't already!



Are You A



Shopper?

TARGET

If you have a Target credit card or debit card, you can help our school raise money!

How? Register your card with: www.targetredcard.com

Why? 1% of all sales (when using your card) get donated to Northley Middle School!

- Feb 1: PTL General Meeting - 6:30 p.m. in Library
- Feb 3: Report Cards issued
- Feb 20: No School—Presidents’ Day
- Feb 21: No School—Professional Development for Teachers
- Feb 16-17: NMS Drama Club, “Into the Woods”. 7:00 pm
- Feb 29: Progress Reports Mailed



Team Time

6th Blue & Gold

The sixth grade students are working hard to achieve their 2012 goals. With MAP testing and the second marking period behind them, students are looking ahead to perfect their skills for the PSSA. In Reading, after wrapping up the novel *Loser*, students are completing anchor activities to improve on individual strands based on their winter MAP scores. In coordination with Reading, students are mastering the PSSA constructed response in English by using the I-chart and RACER. In Math, students are using data surveys as a way to refine their knowledge of fractions. Science is attacking severe weather with a focus on clouds, humidity, and precipitation. Lastly, in Social Studies, the students are exploring Egypt while sailing down the Nile River on a felucca. Stay tuned as students continue their journey through the second half of the year!

7th Blue & Gold

Students of the Month:

Gold Team

Student of the Month: Julia Smith
Viking of the Month: Alexis Dalton

Blue Team

Math: Frank Smith
Reading: Montana Miles
Science: Gianna Cerrone
Social Studies: Joe Holley
English: Devlin O’Connor

In English, students completed the final drafts of their research papers in which they included parenthetical citations and a works cited page! We recently started a new grammar unit, focusing on fragments and run-ons. In addition, our poetry unit has begun. The students are in the process of writing concrete poems, and after that we will analyze and discuss poetry in terms of mood, theme, tone, and speaker.

During the month of February our seventh grade scientists will be investigating and solving major medical mysteries, hands-on! Although always hard at work, our scientists will be busy learning about the characteristics of viruses and simple organisms, as well as the infectious diseases they cause. Students will navigate through an interactive website, gather evidence, and develop a prognosis for the sick patients.

The beginning of the third marking period finds our Reading students getting a little extra test-

taking skills practice with standards based class work and homework. In addition, our Reading students are enjoying *The Giver*, and the very animated discussions that occur after each chapter. Finally, we are exploring our literature series with exciting short stories and nonfiction articles that include snakes, teen crime, and life on Mars!

In Social Studies, students have been busy carefully studying the United States Government. By exploring the different parts of our government and how they work together students have gained a better appreciation for our governmental system. Students will be ending the government unit by examining what rights they have as citizens of the United States and how their participation in our governmental process can make a difference in our country.

Students in 7th grade Math classes are continuing their journey in the new *Mathematics In Context* curriculum, trekking through the fifth unit of the school year. Some students have finished their geometry unit (Packages and Polygons) and have begun a unit with an emphasis on the connections between different types of rational numbers and percents (Ratios and Rates). The rest of the 7th grade class has completed the Ratios and Rates unit and have ventured into the Algebra unit, Building Formulas. In this unit, students will focus on their understanding of how formulas are built, along with an emphasis on how the meaning of variables relates to geometric patterns. Additionally, with PSSA testing in March, students will be focusing some of their energy on preparing for both multiple choice and open-ended math problems. This will be done through a variety of formats. As with all other subject areas, it's a very busy time in 7th grade Math!

8th Blue

A great start to the New Year has begun for 8th Grade Blue and we are looking forward to what is ahead! 8th Grade Blue Team has been working hard toward reaching their academic and personal goals. We were reminded of how important it is to reach for our goals by participating in a Pep Rally with the entire student body of Northley Middle School this past month. Students cheered together about reaching our goals and being proud of our accomplishments so far this year. This month’s article is going to highlight Science, Reading, English, and Spanish!

In Science, we just finished the discussion on the periodic table through experimenting with differ-

ent metals, non-metals, and chemical reactions. 8th Grade Blue students are working hard by drawing the models of different elements and knowing the differences between different reactions that can occur between elements.

In Reading, 8th Grade Blue is learning a lot about natural disasters around the world and our country through reading non-fiction articles. Students are working hard at picking out the main ideas and supporting details in the articles. We also just read the novel *Seedfolks*, which is an intriguing novel about how a garden brought a community in Cleveland, Ohio together.

8th grade Blue students are becoming poets this month in English. We are focusing on figurative language terms and how they are being used effectively in the poems we read.

In Spanish, students are currently learning family member vocabulary. Their Family Tree Project is due this week, where they will label family members as well as describe members using age, likes/dislikes, and adjectives. In addition, our Spanish class would like to welcome Senorita Milton! Miss Milton will be our student teacher from now until mid March.

8th Gold

As we enter the new year, our team has been actively involved in goal-setting. Each classroom has displayed students’ goals that range from improving attendance to making the Honor Roll. In keeping with our focus on goals, the team will be announcing our Reward Challenge. Students will be encouraged to take responsibility for the following goals: regular attendance and class preparation, which includes bringing a Reading Counts book and an assignment book to every class. Those who meet these requirements will participate in a reward activity on March 9.

The Gold Team is proud to announce Nicole Schnee as our Student of the Month and Erin Tracy as our Viking. Winners of recognition in each subject include:

Mike Prasalowicz, English
Jocelyn Lloyd, Foreign Language
Tori Cason, Math
Danielle Dantonio, Reading;
Braden Myers, Science
Devon Green, Social Studies.