

Hartnett Elementary Blue Pride
February 7th, 2012

Student Council: The Hartnett Student Council is organizing a food drive to fulfill their local community service project. All the food that is collected will be sent to the food pantry right in Truxton. The students have set the goal of collecting 500 hundred cans of food and have already reached over 300 cans!! Each week we celebrate how many cans the students have donated at our Morning Meeting.

6th Grade Social Studies: To conclude the 6th grade unit on the Ice Age, our sixth grade class created a museum for our k-5 students to tour. They kicked off the tour with curators who introduced the exhibit during our morning meeting and then performed two skits for our entire school. Students then visited each 6th grader to hear about the research they had completed on different animals from the ice age. The 6th graders' ability to communicate their information clearly and engage the interest of our young students was very impressive.

Science Fair: Hartnett 5th and 6th graders are working on their science fair projects in preparation for the Hartnett Science Fair on February 29th at 6:30pm. The students are currently conducting research on their topic, writing a research paper, and applying the scientific method to their experiment. In addition, our younger students are preparing class science displays to share what they are learning in science as well.

Homer Elementary
Blue Pride

Visitors at HES

All students and staff were recently treated to a puppet presentation about students with disabilities. The puppets depict students dealing with physical disabilities, developmental disabilities, and other challenging situations. Students were able to ask questions and be part of this interactive program.

This week, Second Grade students at HES were visited by a Presenter from the Rogers Environmental Education Center. Students were able to learn about local animals and birds through presentations, models and hands-on activities.

Later in the month, Kindergarten students will have the opportunity to meet Cortland County Dairy Princess Meghan Poole. Meghan is a student at Homer High School and a resident of Truxton.

Winterfest

The Homer ES PTO and several Local Service Groups took time out during Winterfest to host a day of family fun and entertainment at Homer Elementary School. Last year, proceeds from Winterfest went towards the purchase of a new popcorn machine for the school.

Homer Intermediate School
Blue Pride Spotlights
2/7/12



1. The National Geographic Geography Bee was held January 4th and 10th in the HIS/JH Schools; over 160 students completed from grades 4-8!! Eleven students advanced to the second round. Neil M. placed first, Katie M, took second place, and Tighe G. and Matthew P. tied for 3rd. Thank you to Mrs. Shirley and Mrs. Slade for volunteering to coordinate the competition.
2. The Home and Career Skills' department would like to recognize the following 6th grade students for the second ten week block. These students have exhibited a positive attitude, worked to the best of their ability, met or exceeded class requirements and co-operated with peers and teachers. Certificates of Excellence and T-shirt were awarded to: Caley Cornwell and Michael Gregory. Certificates of Excellence for Honorable Mention were awarded to: Sara Ellis and Kyle Ryan.
3. The HIS Library is once again sponsoring the "The 3 Apples Book Award." It was developed to encourage the joy of reading for pleasure, and to give the children of New York State the opportunity to participate in honoring their favorite books. It is co-sponsored by the Youth Services and School Library Media Sections of the New York Library Association, which together represent the public and school libraries of the state. Each year children in grades 3-6 nominate their favorite book, creating a statewide ballot of fifteen of the most popular titles.
4. Students in the HIS STAR program have been studying the Chinese New Year. They have learned about their Chinese birth sign and other traditions.

**Homer Junior High School
Blue Pride Spotlight Items
2/7/12 Board of Education meeting**

Cortland Youth Bureau Spelling Bee Semi-finals

The Junior High will be hosting the CYB Spelling Bee semi-finals on Wednesday, February 15th at 9:30 a.m. in the Bonne Auditorium. Eight of the sixteen participating students are from Homer Junior High! We are extremely proud of the number of students we have participating in this annual competition and look forward to seeing who will move on the finals that will take place later this month at Cortland Junior-Senior High School.

Supply/Toy Drive is a Huge Success

The Junior High Student Council recently completed a supply/toy drive for the Child Life Program at Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse. Under the direction of club advisors Stacy Bell and Chris Leins, the students collected 444 items that have been delivered to the program. The Child Life Program at University Hospital helps young patients cope with their fears and anxieties by offering pre-operative sessions and therapeutic activities that are tailored to meet their social, emotional, and developmental needs.

Science Club Trip to Raquette Lake

The club made their annual trek to Raquette Lake Outdoor Education Center in the Adirondacks on January 27-29. Twenty-nine seventh and eighth graders made the trip this year, and although they did not have snow, had a wonderful experience. On the way to Raquette Lake, the JH along with the BOCES New Visions program hiked Rondaxe (Bald) Mountain. While at Camp Huntington, the students took part in outdoor activities such as hiking, nature walks, and taking a plunge into the lake after a nice hot sauna! Additionally, the students participated in indoor educational programs focusing on hypothermia and hyperthermia and the history surrounding the great camps of the Adirondacks.

Homer Senior High School
Blue Pride Activities
January - 2012

- The Cortland Area Communities that Care recognized four Homer students at the Cortland Youth of the Year Awards Ceremony, Tuesday, January 24th, 2012. The students recognized include:
 - Devon Drake, Collin Lake, Max Randolph, and Amber Lee
- United States Naval Academy has awarded a Certificate of Accomplishment to Aaron Zimmerman, allowing him the opportunity to attend the academy after graduation. We are very proud of his accomplishment!
- The following Homer Students have been recognized in the Scholastic Writing Competition
 - Gold Keys: Jasminique Harris--short story
Taryn Heath--short story
Hannah Lundeen--short story
Rachel McNeil--flash fiction
Theodora Weatherby--short story
 - Silver keys: Samantha Peckham--short story
 - Honorable mentions: Nadine Downing--poetry
Alice Jenkins--flash fiction
Megan Kelleher--short story
Rachel McNeil--flash fiction
Stephanie Steed--short story
Anthony Urda--dramatic script
- Members of the D.A. (Dumbledore's Army) Book Club gathered recently. The book club was named after a school club in Harry Potter. Marina Pizzola and Kindrah Kohne started the book club as a book interest group in 2011, and Adrianna Pizzola and Molly Gray have helped it continue. In this book club, members don't read a mandatory book each week; members each read a different book and then give our opinions and recommendations. The club meets every other Tuesday in Mrs. George's room. (Thank you Mrs. George and Ms. Kucerak for your support!)
- Students in Ms. Kucerak and Mrs. Wakula's English & Literacy 9 class traveled to the Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse on Tuesday to read books to the children staying there. The new books were then donated to the Hospital Library. The students have been practicing their reading skills for weeks and did an amazing job! After reading, they got an extra treat by getting a tour of the new facility.