

Hartnett Blue Pride-March 2011

SCA-Bingo Night-SCA put on BINGO night. Students, parents, grandparents and siblings enjoyed a Friday night out to benefit Hartnett students. Bingo night raised \$771.00 for SCA and \$94.00 student government selling popcorn and water.

Swim Lessons at the YMCA- The Truxton recreation program is a free opportunity for students to learn how to swim. On Tuesdays and Thursday, more than half of the Hartnett community heads to Cortland to learn about water safety and to learn how to swim. The kids are also learning to ride the bus responsibly!

Word of the month is Responsibility! We are putting together a slide show of our students telling us what they are responsible for and what it means to be responsible.

Student awards and accolades!

Science students- These students from Hartnett attended the Regional Science Fair in Syracuse on Sunday March 25th were John Denkenberger (5) Honor, Ben Herman (5), Nate Potter (6) Honors, and Kollin VanWagenen (6).

Art awards on review at Beaver Lake Nature Center in Cortland.

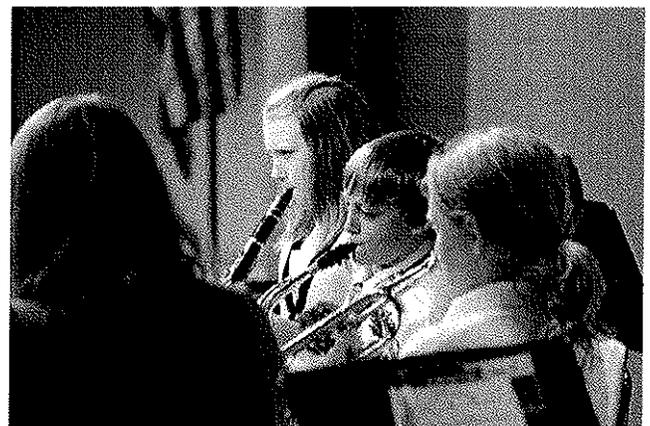
2 students from Hartnett were selected.

5th grader- Emma Morgan and kindergartner Hunter Craig

Play script is complete. The kids have been practicing each week. I have watched the kids working with Karen Keefe and Alison Mastroe and they ROCK!

I have been in many classrooms and am very impressed with the ability for these young students to critique their own work and the work of others.

Emma Dwyer and Isabelle Case participated as Irish step dancers for the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Syracuse. They did a short demo for our Monday Morning Meeting at Hartnett.



**Band concert last Thursday was awesome!
Fourteen students participated and Mrs.
Hartnett played the triangle too.**

Blue Pride Spotlight

Homer Elementary School

Dr. Joel Haber Visit

Special thanks to the HES Site Based Team and PTO for bringing Dr. Joel Haber to HCSD. Dr. Haber provided an informative and interactive presentation on how to “Bullyproof” our School Community. Those in attendance were able to have time after the presentation to ask specific questions of Dr. Haber. Dr. Haber made it a priority to comment on how welcome he felt in Homer, and that it was a first to have Board Members, Administrators, Staff Members, Parents and Community Members in the same audience for one of his presentations.

Homer ES is a Community of Readers

Our annual PARP (Parents As Reading Partners) celebration focused on the theme of Dr. Seuss’ “The Lorax”. The celebration kicked off with a “celebrity” reading of “The Lorax” that was compiled by Mrs. Toby Clark. Students then had the opportunity to read as many books as possible in a 2-week period. For every 10 books, a student was able to post a “truffula” tree in the building for the Lorax to see. 254 Students read a total of 2,540 books and the Lorax was spotted all over the building viewing the trees.

As a culminating activity, all students were treated to a free book from the RIF (Reading Is FUNdamental) program.

Student Art

Homer ES student Artwork has recently adorned the office walls at Heyer Physical Therapy in the Village of Homer. A special thanks to Ms. Tarry and Mr. Ehren Heyer for coordinating this effort.

Homer Intermediate School
Blue Pride Spotlights
April 3, 2012



1. Regional Science Fair Results are in!! Congratulations to the Homer Intermediate students and staff!! They took 3 out of the 12 top awards for the Regional Science Fair.
 - o Nickolai Kerner: Highest Honors (5th grade), Lockheed Martin Award (engineering), US Navy and Marine Corps Award
 - o Devin Lancaster: Highest Honors (5th grade)
 - o Julia Gustafson: Highest Honors (6th grade), Airforce Award, CNY Skeptics Award
 - o Tessa Brown: Highest Honors (6th grade)
 - o Adam Brown: High Honors, Lockheed Martin Award (engineering), Triple E Award (Electrical, Electronics, and Engineering)
 - o J. Andrew Gustafson: Highest Honors (7th grade), SUNY ESF Award (including \$50 gift certificate), and invite to Broadcom Masters

*****Julia and Tessa were nominated to enter the Broadcom Masters which could mean a trip to Washington, D.C.

2. Grade 4 students visited Albany to see the Capital in action and visit the NYS Museum. The families were able to raise ALL the required money for lunches and buses. Thanks to the SCA for their help sponsoring the trip and the grade 4 teachers and parents for organizing the trip. The entire community supported this trip!! Students went above and beyond to raise money on their own with chores, dinners and crafts.
3. Mrs. Mary Dykeman and Mr. O'Callaghan worked with grade 4 students on social skills this week. The students worked on socio-emotional skills in single-sex groupings.
4. Thank you again to Seven Valleys Reading Council for sponsoring the sled dogs to help culminate the grade 4 unit on the Iditarod. All grade 4 students were able to visit with the local Cincinnatus family and learn about the different types of racing, animal care and equipment. Mrs. Martin organized the event for the grade 4 students. Mr. Kirkwyland also hosted a family to teach the students even more about mushing.
5. Coming soon... a 4th grade student will be recognized in an internationally known magazine. *The information is still under press embargo.*
6. Congratulations to Ms. Matteson, Mrs. Henry and Mr. Melvin and the students in grades 4, 5 and 6 for outstanding all-district and all-county performances for "Music in Our Schools" month.
7. Tessa Yonta, Caley Cornwell and Andy Yarnell have art work in the "Student Art- Naturally" exhibit at the Beaver Lake Nature Center. The exhibit opened on April 1, 2012. Thanks to Mrs. Flood for submitting students' work.

Homer Junior High School
Blue Pride Spotlight Items
4/3/12 Board of Education meeting

Hartnett/St. Mary's Visitation Day

Twenty-nine students from Hartnett Elementary (20) and St. Mary's (9) visited the Junior High on Friday, March 23rd. They spent the day shadowing a current seventh grader to become familiar with the building in anticipation of their attending next fall. The students were given a tour of the building by Miss Bell and Mr. Turck as part of their visit.

Miss Representation

The student body took part in a viewing/discussion of the video "Miss Representation" on Friday, March 23rd. The showing of the video was done in conjunction with the American Association of University Women, who has a local chapter at SUNY Cortland. The focus of the presentation dealt with how the popular media portrays women and what we can do to combat these stereotypes. The children were very receptive to the presentation which led to some interesting discussion about the role of women and men in society.

1st Annual Career Exploration Day

The first annual Career Exploration Day was held recently at Homer Junior High. Thirty-nine presenters from a wide range of occupations met with students during the morning of March 21st. Eighth grade students rotated to three different presenters after all attended the keynote address from two area college admissions officers. Student had pre-chosen the occupations they were interested in hearing more about.

Additionally, the seventh graders took part in two high interest presentations. Mary Dykeman led a discussion on bullying and how students can be part of an anti-bullying campaign to improve the school environment. Kimberly McRae Friedman spoke to students about media literacy, and how they can become more media literate to understand the subtle and not so subtle messages that are present in many popular television and print advertising.

All events were planned by Barbara Bachmann and Stacy Bell. It was a fantastic experience for our kids and gave them some information and lessons that they can lean on into the future.

**Homer High School
Blue Pride Activities for March - 2012**

Pi Day

The Math department coordinated activities the week of March 14th (3.14) celebrating Pi (3.14). Students competed in reciting digits in Pi. Pi Recitation Contest Winners:

**First - Robby Johnson recited 552 digits of Pi, Second - Dan Beiter recited 332 digits of Pi,
Third - Jared Pace recited 108 digits of Pi, Fourth - Robin Baumeister recited 102 Digits of Pi**

THANCS Club

The THANCS club continues to be involved in serving our community. Recent activities have included helping out at Loaves and Fishes, the Junior High Career Day, and at the Anti-bullying Presentation.

Youth and Government

Homer High School students debated two bills and cases at the 76th Youth and Government Conference in Albany this past weekend. Over 600 teens from seven districts across the state participated in the weekend conference. Although District Six, which includes Homer and Syracuse, had one of the smaller districts, the students showed their skill in debates and were recognized for "Premier District". The Youth and Government program completed another successful year with "Occupying Albany" and each teen had a chance to see all their hard work pay off.

To help raise funds for their activities, Youth and Government held its annual spaghetti dinner on Monday, March 5th. Thank you to those that have supported the group!

Anything Goes

Congratulations goes out to the entire cast, crew, musicians, volunteers and their families for an excellent effort in performing "Anything Goes" March 8, 9 & 10th. Your efforts were thoroughly enjoyed by the three enthusiastic audiences.

Casino Night

Student Government hosted this fundraiser. Students danced to the tunes of a DJ as well as played a variety of games. Students ended the night with a door prize drawing.

FFA Banquet

FFA held its annual banquet Wednesday, March 21st in which they highlighted events conducted this year and installed the new officers. The group also practiced its presentation on hydro fracking.

Music in our Schools Month

In addition to participation in the all district instrumental and vocal concerts, high school musicians traveled to New York City to show off their talents. 107 students participated in the competition at Riverside Church in New York City. While there, they saw groups compete from all over the country, including groups from Indiana, West Virginia, California, and Alaska! Students also attended the Broadway production of "How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying," starring Nick Jonas. They also saw the Statue of Liberty, Lincoln Center, Central Park, Times Square, and the 9/11 Memorial with the partially constructed Freedom Tower. Thank you parents who assisted with supervising the trip.

The following groups participated in the national music competition and received the following ratings/awards:

**Concert Band - gold - Concert Band division
Concert Choir - gold - Concert Choir division
Chamber Choir - silver - Concert Choir division
Blue Notes - silver - Vocal Jazz division
Ruby Rhythms - silver - Women's Choir division
Men In Black - bronze - Men's Ensemble division**