



Pinto Press

a Mass Media class publication

November 13, 2019 - Volume 8, Issue 2

Moniteau County R-1 Schools



“Equipping today’s children for tomorrow’s challenges.”

www.californiak12.org

Fostering a love for literacy

From Mr. Gary Baker, California Elementary principal

Poet and author Emilie Buchwald wrote, “Children are made readers on the laps of their parents.” This quote has circled the globe many times over and has been used to implore parents and kids alike to be engaged in reading and promoting a love for literacy. I doubt that Mrs. Buchwald understood at the time how impactful reading and literacy would be on our world today and how much it affects our academic and financial successes.

When children don’t have access to books or have family members regularly read aloud to them, their reading scores dive far below the national average. Children not exposed to books at an early age are most likely suffering from a word gap, up to 30 million words, compared to children that are read to on a regular basis. Reading exposure helps better prepare children for educational and life experiences that come fast starting at kindergarten. According to Reading is Fundamental, roughly 1/3 of all children entering kindergarten lack the basic language skills to learn how to read.

Literacy, or lack thereof, is not just a child issue though. Every year, one in six young adults—more than 1.2 million—drop out of high school. Recent data show that nearly 30 percent of adults with household incomes

at or below the federal poverty line do not have a high school credential. Low literacy individuals struggle to find employment, settle for low-paying jobs, fight to increase their earning power and to support their families.

If you think illiteracy doesn’t affect you, think again. The plight of low-literacy stretches beyond individual families and impacts us all.

Adults need strong literacy skills...

...to be good employees. The employees most in demand in the U.S. have at least a two-year college degree. Workers must be able to read safety regulations and warnings so they and their co-workers can stay safe on the job. And working in a team means that employees must be able to communicate clearly with one another.

...to keep themselves and their families healthy. Understanding a doctor’s orders, calculating how much medicine to take, reading disease-prevention pamphlets—all are ways adults can keep themselves and their families healthy. But millions of adults lack these essential “health literacy” skills, which adds an estimated \$230 billion a year to the cost of healthcare in the U.S.

...to avoid crime. There is a clear correlation between



CES hosted its annual literacy night on November 4. Many families stopped by the book fair on their way to learning activities, supper, and a drum concert.

adult illiteracy and crime. More than 75 percent in state facilities and 59 percent in federal corrections institutions did not graduate from high

school or can be classified as low-literate.

...to be active in their communities. Political campaigns often stress the need for “informed voters” but how if individuals cannot access written campaign literature or read the newspaper coverage of the issues and candidates? The 2003 National Assessment of Adult Literacy, conducted by the U.S. Department of Education, showed that low literate adults are less likely to vote than strong readers, but become more active in their communities as their reading and writing skills are improved.

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|--|----|
| <h1>November</h1> | | 12 | 13 District FFA Fall Speaking Contest @ Warrensburg | 14 8 Girls BB @ Smithton, Columbia | 15 ES Movie Night 7:00 p.m. in the Gym 7/8 Boys BB vs Versailles 7/8 Girls BB @ Versailles | 16 “A Charlie Brown Christmas” CHS musical 7:00 p.m. in CPAC | |
| 17 “A Charlie Brown Christmas” CHS musical 2:00 p.m. in CPAC | 18 | 19 Greenhand/Chapter Degree Ceremony 6:30 p.m. in CPAC JV/V Girls/Boys BB @ Warrensburg 7/8 Girls BB @ LSE, Boonville 7/8 Boys BB vs LSE | 20 ASVAB Testing ACT Workshop (English/Reading) 5:45 p.m. School Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. in CHS Library | 21 4th Grade Program 7:00 p.m. in CPAC 7/8 Girls BB vs Fulton 7/8 Boys BB @ Fulton | 22 JV/V Boys BB vs Richland | 23 JV Girls BB @ Tipton | |
| 24 | 25 PTO Meeting 6:30 p.m. in CES cafeteria 9/JV/V Girls BB @ Clinton 7/8 Girls/Boys BB @ SoBoCo | 26 JV/V Girls BB vs Centralia 7/8 Girls/Boys BB vs Hallsville | <h2>Thanksgiving Break</h2> | | | 29 | 30 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 ACT Workshop (Math/Science) 5:45 p.m. | 5 9 Girls/Boys BB @ JC High | 6 | 7 HS Math Contest @ CHS All-State Band Auditions @ Hickman HS Band in California Christmas Parade | |
| PTO Food Drive Varsity Boys and Girls Tri-County Basketball Tournament @ Versailles 8th Grade Boys and Girls Basketball Tournament @ Eldon 7th Grade Boys Basketball Tournament @ Lange Middle School | | | | | | | |
| 8 MS and HS Fall Band Concert 2:00 p.m. in CPAC | 9 8th A/B Boys BB @ Knob Noster JV/V Girls BB @ Warrensburg | 10 9/JV/V Boys BB vs SoBoCo 7/8 Girls BB vs Russellville | 11 | 12 | 13 ES Movie Night 7:00 p.m. in the Gym JV/V Boys BB @ Missouri Military Academy | 14 Var Girls/Boys BB River Region Shootout @ JC High | |
| JV Boys Basketball Tournament @ Camdenton 9th Grade Boys and Girls Basketball Tournament @ Osage 8th Grade Boys Basketball Tournament @ Osage Middle School 7th Grade Boys and Girls Basketball Tournament @ California | | | | | | | |

For athletic event times, go to the athletic calendar on www.californiak12.org

Bullying Prevention: Think twice, be nice

By Spencer Messerli

On National Stomp Out Bullying Day, kids wear blue and learn the effects of bullying.

“The issues of bullying and cyberbullying have increased to growing proportions. As a form of violence against children of all ages, these issues have caused a crisis,” said Christiane Goans, a CES counselor.

Bullying can be stopped by just being nice and respecting one another.

“The first Monday of every October is World Day of Bullying Prevention™! On this day students, schools, and communities all over the world go BLUE together against bullying,” Goans said.

All CES students and staff were asked to participate in this day. A colorful flyer went home explaining the purpose of wearing blue so that families and students were informed about World Day of Bullying Prevention.

“We had great participation from students and staff as we wore blue in a united effort to end bullying and spread kindness,” said Tawnya Clause a counselor at CES

Another way that CES tries to help kids learn is most teachers take time out of their class to have lessons about bullying. They try to explain to students the effects of bullying and how to prevent it. They read books and each grade does something different for an activity.

Teaching kids that bullying is not okay doesn't stop at school. Parents can encourage their students to do the right thing. Websites such as stompoutbullying.org and stopbullying.gov are helpful resources.

CES teachers and staff care about their students and want them to be in a safe and friendly environment when they are learning. Therefore, students everywhere should be kind and courteous to everyone.



School counselors Christiane Goans and Tawnya Clause, along with a group of third graders, happily wear blue as they watch movies to educate the students on the effects of bullying.

District hires second school resource officer

By Bryce Menhennet

This year California school district hired an additional school resource officer (SRO). The Moniteau County Sheriff's department has been very kind to answer the district's need for a second SRO.

Last year Officer Scott Harkins was hired to be the school district's first SRO. With his second year, he has only heard “positive feedback from the community and not any negative.”

This year Officer Leanna Brown joins him in providing a safe educational environment for students and staff.



Brown, a former Versailles city police officer and Morgan County sheriff's deputy was hired through the Moniteau County sheriff's department to be the school district's newest SRO. Brown has had four years of experience in law enforcement, graduating from the police academy in 2015.

The need for another resource officer was addressed due to the fact that one officer cannot be in three separate school buildings at once.

Superintendent Dwight Sanders said, the reason “Primarily, we have two distinct campuses with the middle and elementary on one side of town and the high school on the other.”

Now that the district has two SRO's, it is easier to have one at the high school and the other at the middle and elementary school campus at any given time.

At any normal school event patrons can sometimes see an SRO maintaining a safe environment for all to enjoy. Whether it be at a home football game or an academic event, they will be present throughout it all.

Additionally, they are developing programs regarding vaping and mentorship. They want to help students with a decline in academics to have a more successful education.

In my room . . . Jumping for a good cause

By Bryce Menhennet

Every year at California Elementary School students learn about heart health awareness by partaking in the Kid's Heart Challenge.

Mrs. Jill Hampton has been teaching for fifteen years, eight of which have been here in California. Every year since she began teaching at California, American Heart Association's Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser has been an annual school event.

According to Hampton, “Students enjoy collecting money and participating in the Heart Health Challenge as a whole.”

Third graders Rylan Robertson and Sophie Porter expressed excitement to help kids in need of heart surgery. All funds collected go to the American Heart Association to be distributed to children in need of heart operations.

While collecting money for the American Heart Association, students are learning how to stay heart healthy. Every week when students go to P.E., they compete against each

other to see who can jump rope the best for a prize.

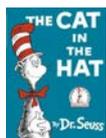
Students also receive prizes for collecting a certain amount of money. Prizes include plush toys, a t-shirt, kick ball, and a set of ear pods for those who collect up to \$1,000 in funds.

This year's goal for the fundraiser is \$6,000 collected from the sum of all the grade levels in the elementary.



Third grade students take instruction from Mrs. Jill Hampton on how to properly jump rope.

California Elementary
PTO Food Drive
December 2-6



Theme for spirit
week: Dr. Seuss

Literacy *cont. from pg 1*

So, how are we going about creating change in our community? On November 5th CES hosted a Literacy night with the purpose of increasing a love for literacy for our students and their families. Everyone was exposed to literacy in its traditional form, books, but also digital literacy used on a daily basis by students and staff. Families were also encouraged to enjoy a meal and a concert. During the spring of

each year, CES students and staff participate in Read Across America with a read-a-thon. Students and families are encouraged to log their reading on a daily basis. Students are rewarded for their reading with a plethora of prizes.

Our goal at CES and throughout our district is to prepare our students to be college and career ready. The most impactful way that we can help is by fostering a love for literacy. What would you like to do to help?

PTO MOVIE NIGHT

Aladdin

Friday, Nov. 15
doors open 6:30 p.m.
movie @ 7:00 p.m.



California Elementary Gym

Fourth Grade Presents:

Rats!
The Story of the Pied Piper



Thursday, Nov. 21
CPAC
7:00 p.m.

Hygiene is important life skill for middle schoolers

By Chris Cassil

Personal hygiene is strongly encouraged and taught in California Middle School. Physical Education teachers Doug Miller and Jennifer Porter are strong influences for this subject.

Adolescence is the period where young teens see changes starting with puberty and early stages of becoming a young adult. It's important for teens to know what these changes mean.

Miller said, "We educate the students about how often you should shower and brush your teeth. We continue to talk about it when it looks like they have not showered."

For P.E. middle schoolers are re-



Physical Education class can create quite a sweat, so good hygiene is an important early lesson.

students so they are not bullied."

"Girls for sure" are harder to deal with than the middle school boys," Porter said.

These teachings help kids develop into young adults. The teachers work hard and can't stress enough how these rules and lessons can really impact a student's future.



Students explore quarter-long classes through "The Wheel"

By Jasmine Kerley

California Middle School provides its students with an opportunity to explore various skills classes each

school year. They call this opportunity "The Wheel."

The Wheel offers four quarter-

long classes chosen by the district. Between the three grade levels the classes include art, general music, maintenance, technology, internet safety, and counseling classes.

The wheel has been around for as long as Matt Abernathy has been the principal at CMS. There have been some things that have replaced or moved around in the wheel since he has been there.

Students express various opinions on the classes

they take. The students in the wheel seem to like taking a different class every quarter because it's something new.

Students who elect to be in band are at a disadvantage. The wheel classes are at the same time as band. Some like taking the same class every day, some don't.

According to Abernathy, band takes a lot of time and dedication. Kids have to learn to read music, play their instrument, play in tempo, then marching and playing all together.

"It's a gradual thing students learn with time," Abernathy said.

If kids aren't happy with their decision, they are allowed to switch out of band or into band from the quarter long classes with parent permission. It is recommended to switch at a grading period.



CMS exploratory classes include (clockwise from top left) guitar, maintenance, art, and technology.



In my room . . . Sixth grade choir excited for fall concert

By Jasmine Kerley

Erika DeMoss's sixth grade Music Connections class of thirty-one students spent October working on music for their annual fall concert Sunday, October 20.

The students sang songs chosen by DeMoss titled "Best Day of My Life" by American Authors, "If I Only Had a Brain" from the Wizard of Oz, "Rockin Robin" by the Jackson 5, and "Here Comes the Sun" by The Beatles.

Music Connections member Preston McMillian loves singing and was excited to perform his favorite of the songs, "If I Only Had a Brain."

DeMoss directs the students and guides their voices with CD recordings and sometimes playing their part on the piano while they stand in their sections. Although the

choir has both boys and girls, vocal ranges are still developing. Therefore, they are limited to only soprano and alto sections.

DeMoss chooses the songs because she likes her students to "have fun and enjoy singing." The kids enjoy the songs and are thrilled to sing and dance together.



Students in the sixth grade choir class prepare for the fall concert by discussing the music and rehearsing with each other.



quired to bring clean clothes to dress into. Kids bring clean clothes every week so that their all-day clothes don't stink. Kids that dress out and participate receive daily points. If they do not follow these rules, they lose points, and if it happens three times, then they are to get written up.

Porter and Miller teach kids to respect other young kids when it isn't as easy for them to practice good hygiene.

Some kids tend to be embarrassed to ask for help when they have questions; therefore, both coaches are there to help.

Miller said, "these lessons are a good idea because good hygiene helps

Best Choice Labels

Deliver to Mrs. Meisenheimer in the middle school library.

Money goes to send aids to the annual book festival in Jefferson City

**Sunday, Dec. 8
2:00 p.m.**

**~Director: Tyler Edwards~
High school & middle school**

**California Performing
Arts Center**



This newsletter is a product of the CHS Mass Media class taught by Mrs. Christy Heimericks.
Contact Information: Mass Media Class, California High School, 1501 W. Buchanan, California, MO 65018 or (573)796-4911
Printed by Central Missouri Newspapers, Inc, Jefferson City, MO
online archives: www.californiak12.org

District purchases van

By Jordan Bondurant

California High School has many activities going on every week including sports, student council, academic team, etc. Sometimes a bus is necessary, but if only a few people attend, a bus is excessive.

Seven years ago, the school made the decision to purchase a Montana van to use when they don't need a bus. It has been put to good use over the years, but now it is beginning to get older.



The "FFA van" is used for small group activities that take place off of school campus.

The van is primarily used by

FFA, so it is kept down by the FFA building. The two main users of the van are the FFA advisors/ag teachers, Adam Bieri and Lee Longan.

According to Bieri, the old van was having transmission issues, and it was time for a new one. Longan said the Montana van was getting old and showing normal wear and tear. For these reasons the school decided to purchase a new van.

The new van is a Ford Transit. It can hold up to ten passengers and has much more space than the old one, which could only hold eight. The district still has the old one, but it is only used when it's a last resort.

"We went with a ten passenger van because if you get anything more than that you must have a bus license," said Bieri. "It was a good upgrade because we went from a van with 220k miles to the new one with only 30k."

Longan said, "it is a great asset to the school."

He likes the van because of the space that it provides and the amount of passengers it can hold. He also said the students enjoy riding in it because of the comfort inside.

The van is considered the FFA van, but anyone involved with the school that is in a group is allowed to use it. The driver would be the leader of the group such as a coach, teacher, or sponsor.

More education means new teaching opportunities

By Chris Cassil

Mrs. Tabatha Silvey, a math teacher at California High School, recently got her master's degree. With that degree, she is able to teach dual credit classes, which provides high school and college credit simultaneously.

"Being able to teach dual credit classes is a huge advantage for our school," Sean Kirksey, high school principal, said. "Students can be taught dual credit college courses by our teachers who are trained to work with high school students and understand their needs better."

Silvey has been teaching for five years and loves her job here at CHS. She is currently teaching the highest math classes available to take at the high school level. She says her favorite class to teach is calculus.

To get where she is today took her four years

Zoe Zimmerman and Caden Kirksey work through their math assignment in Tabatha Silvey's introduction to college algebra class. In the spring they may enroll in one of six dual credit math courses taught by Silvey at CHS.



as an undergraduate and three years as a master's student. She earned both of these from Central Methodist University.

In order for her to teach dual credit classes, she had to pass a MEGA test in her content area as well as have a master's. With this new degree, Silvey is also able to teach online college classes. She recently started teaching students who attend CMU.

Silvey said, "I've always liked helping people understand things they don't get."

Futbol Friday Night



Hispanic Heritage month runs September 15 through October 15. As a district, Moniteau County R-1's Hispanic population has increased from 6% in 2000 to 13.4% in 2019.

To support this portion of the student body, a soccer game was organized Friday, October 18. Many Hispanic students and their classmates joined on the football field in the spirit of fun and comraderie.

In my room . . . Cali Cafe institutes early business skills in youth

By: Jacob McCracken

The Cali Cafe is a brand new program bringing classes together and selling sweets. The program is used as

"This school year the schedule seemed to fit the dream," Potter said.

A student from one class is paired with a student from the other to either make refreshments or deliver orders, with both roles switching periodically.

"We hope that both classes learn something that will help them in their future," Gatlin said.

The class/program provides all students with real-world experience. This included coming up with products to sell, meeting customers, and creating products.

"We have filled out job applications, made resumes, made advertisements and created role and responsibilities," Potter said.

The products are sold for cheap profits, but the program's profit was not the main motivation. According

to the teachers, the hope is for enough money to be raised for a small field trip at the end of the year.

Katie Wetzig and Angelica Lemus abound with enthusiasm as they prepare fresh tea for their customers.



a small fundraiser that brings a cooperative project to the school.

On October 1st of this year, Kristy Gatlin of Life Skills Communications and Julia Potter of Marketing II, merged classes with each other temporarily to run what is called Cali Cafe, a student-led business in which teachers order sweets, tea, coffee, hot chocolate, and other snacks.

Gatlin and Potter had been dreaming of doing a project together for some time.



Carson Ash and Jack Warren make a successful delivery to Mrs. Jamie Johnston who placed her order online through a Google Form.

A Charlie Brown Christmas

A High School Musical

Saturday, Nov. 16 @ 7:00 p.m. & Sunday, Nov. 17 @ 2:00 p.m.



Admission: \$5 (K-Adult) Pre-k kids free!

CPAC