

LYON @ BLOW NEWS



Issue No. 5

Fall 2010

News & Views from the Students and Staff of Lyon @ Blow



Principal Iskali, at the microphone and surrounded by her staff, welcomes her students on the first day of school, August 16, 2009. Once again Lyon @ Blow combines elementary and middle students in a Community Education Full Service School serving the Carondelet Neighborhood from the historic SLPS building.



STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Even before students returned to school, the administration and staff at Lyon @ Blow were busy in the building preparing for the new school year. Mr. Craig Smith, the head custodian was busy with his staff preparing the building. Principal Iskali, Mr. Bush, the school counselor, and Ms. Trapp, the Teaching and Learning Facilitator were hard at work getting ready to greet the staff. Staff did return on Monday, August 9, 2010 and participated in a full



Stand and Deliver. Ms. Trapp, our Teaching and Learning Facilitator helped train teachers over several days in the building prior to the return of students on August 16th.

week of staff development both in the building and at other District sites. Part of the time was also spent by teachers preparing their home rooms for the first day of school, the following week. Although a few of our veteran staff had retired over the summer and some took positions at other St. Louis Public

Schools, nearly the entire staff that served last year, returned. Three new teachers were added to the teaching staff. They included Ms. Sims, the 7th and 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher, Ms. Martin, one of the building's two 5th Grade teachers, and Mr. Keane, the school's new Physical Education Teacher.

The staff and students were all excited to be back and improve upon the gains they made in academic performance on last year's state performance assessment test (MAP.)



School Counselor, Mr. Bush; School Secretary, Ms. Berry, and School Principal, Ms. Iskali review paperwork on the first day of class.



Kindergarten Teacher, Mrs. Price, greets her students.



Ms. Iskali and Mr. Bush review reports on day one.



Mrs. Williams' 1st Grade students at work on day one!



Mrs. Deleon, the School Art Teacher and head of the Related Arts Team, reviews the Related Arts Class Schedules with the administration before the start of class.



Veteran teacher, Ms. Whitfield and her class of new 2nd Grade students.



Starting Out Small. Ms. Harringa's 3rd Grade class started with a dozen or so students. Within several weeks the class had grown to over 30, so the teachers and administration created two 3rd Grade classrooms to allow for smaller class size.



Veteran elementary teacher, Ms. McCord organizes her 4th Grade students on day one. They quickly begin working on assignments to learn new concepts and skills. Ms. McCord spent the summer helping tend the Lyon @ Blow Garden.



Ms. Martin joins the Lyon @ Blow staff this year as a 5th Grade teacher seen here on day one.



Anderson and DaTresze represent Mr. Reinstein's 5th Grade class at a school-wide assembly in early September.



Ms. So's 6th Grade Class on Day One. When the third grade class swelled to over thirty students and it became necessary to create an additional 3rd Grade class room, Ms. So volunteered for the challenge. You can see in this picture what a wonderful job she had done over the summer preparing her room for her incoming 6th Graders. When her move to 3rd grade made it necessary to move upstairs on the elementary floor to a new room, she took her own personal time to set up her new classroom to make it every bit as organized and inviting for her new 3rd Grade students. Way to go, Ms. So!



Mr. Haas goes out of his way preparing for his 6 graders. The fact that Mr. Haas also helps with the Lyon @ Blow Garden and that he teaches about plants and living things in Science lends itself to a room right out of the Missouri Botanical Gardens!



Mr. Haas engages his students in hands-on, problem-solving activities on day one.



Mr. Haas also puts an emphasis on cooperation as his students learn to work with one another in collaborative groups.



New 7th Graders meet Mr. Stewart, the Lyon @ Blow Math teacher for the middle school 7th and 8th graders.

Lyon @ Blow News didn't make it to EVERY classroom on day one, but look in future issues for Ms. Luckett who teaches 6th Grade Communication Arts, Mr. Gilmore who teaches 7th and 8th Grade Communication Arts, and Mr. Ginter, Lyon @ Blow's 7th and 8th Grade Science teacher.



Mrs. Andrews' room.



Ms. Bryant's 7th grade home room. Ms. Bryant is Lyon @ Blow's middle school Spanish teacher.



Students at computers in Ms. Housewright's room.



Ms. Sims is the middle school Social Studies teacher.



Jocelyn looks up from her computer screen. Jocelyn also works on computers in her related arts computer literacy class.

LYON @ BLOW PTO



Lyon @ Blow Angels. School PTO Committee members stand in for a picture with Parent School Community Specialist Mrs. Sarah Burdette in the CEFSS Office. Pictured from the left are Ms. Girtman, Ms. Shelton, Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. Burdette.



Mrs. Tisdale, Parent Volunteer at the front desk.

Lyon @ Blow is a Community Education Full Service School

CEFSS implements a philosophy of life-long learning that engages schools, families and stakeholders in a process designed to establish and meet community and educational goals by partnering/collaborating with district and community service providers to respond to the academic, health, social and cultural development needs of SLPS students, their families and community.

Mr. Pierre Blaine is Lyon @ Blow's Community Collaborative Specialist. He provided information about the Community Education Full Service School to staff during a professional development inservice last August. He can be contacted at 314-353-1599 with questions about CEFSS programming.



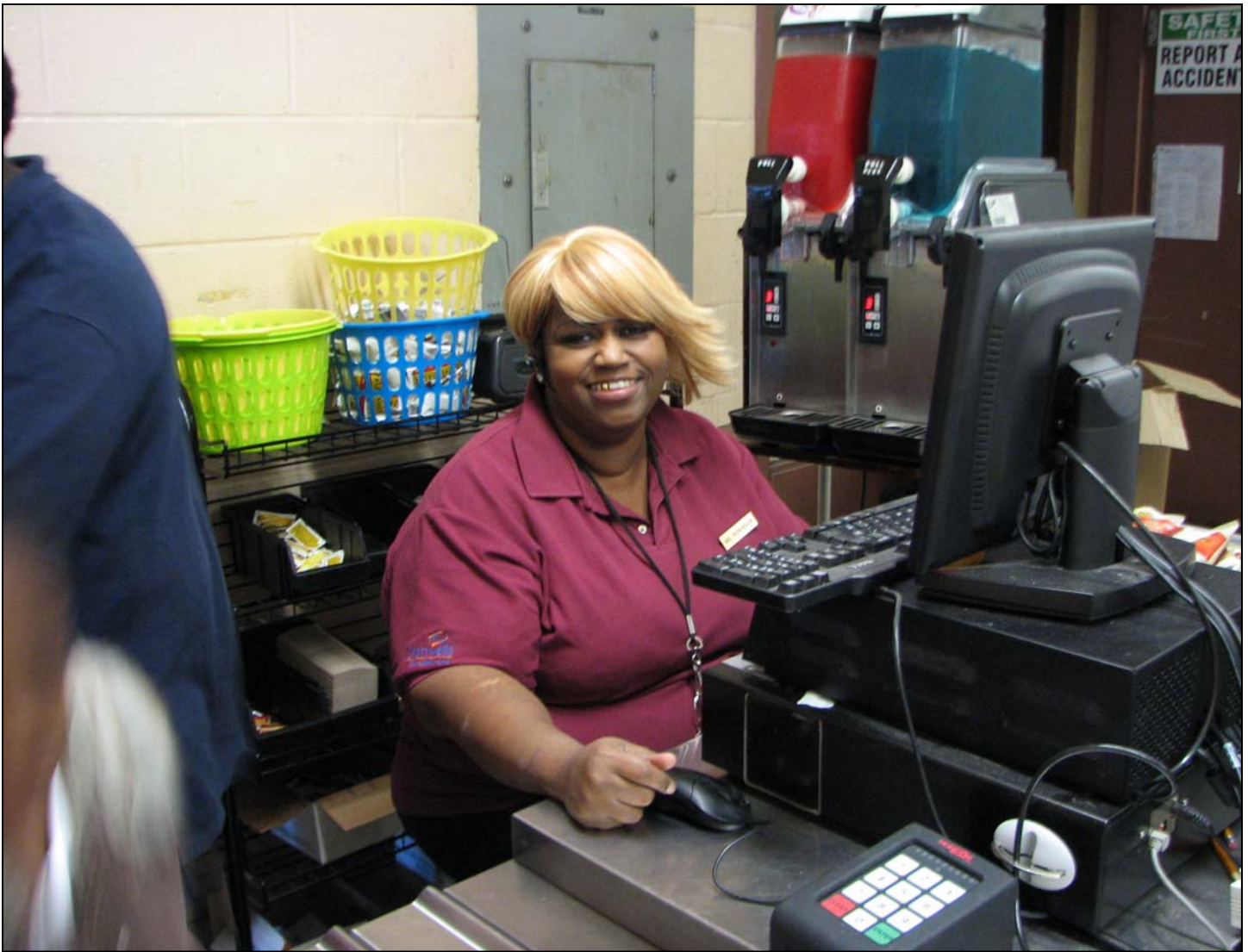
Trinity stops in for this photo with Lyon @ Blow's School Nurse. Mrs. Patricia McGhee is our full-time Registered Nurse and already knows many of our students. Staff and students are fortunate to have Nurse McGhee on board. Welcome to Lyon @ Blow!



While we are on the subject of health and safety, no one can overlook Lyon @ Blow's School Safety Officer Strong.



Mr. Craig Smith is the head custodian of Lyon @ Blow. He and his staff work to keep the building clean, lighted, cool in the heat and warm when the weather turns cold. In this picture, Mr. Smith takes a moment to stand at a window in Room 118 on the first floor, preparing it for the upcoming week.

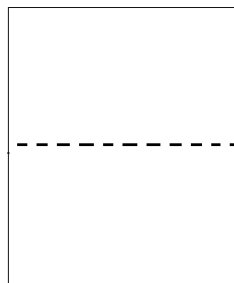


Students pass through the lunch line in a blur on Thursday, October 15, but Mrs. Robinson finds time to smile for the newsletter. Head of Lyon @ Blow's Food Services, Mrs. Robinson and her staff feed hungry students every day. (And a few grown-ups too!)

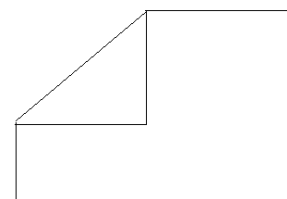
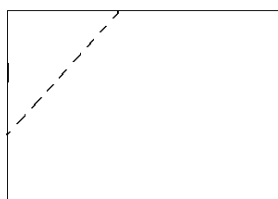


Meet Mrs. Doss, Lyon @ Blow's school librarian. The school library has a world of resources for students. Teachers arrange with Mrs. Doss to bring their students to the library to conduct research, take part in literacy programs and to check out books. Both the Elementary and Middle School are placing a special emphasis on reading and one of the best places to begin is in the library.

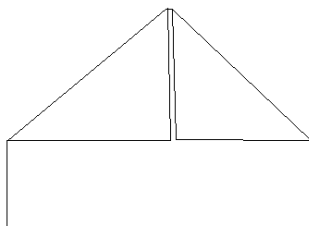
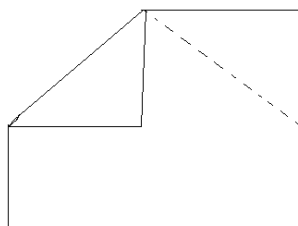
Paper Hat Analysis. Have you ever folded a paper hat? Pretty simple, right? Have you ever tried explaining to someone how to fold one? Not as simple as it sounds! 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Computer Literacy students had a lesson in breaking down complex tasks into simple steps. 8th Grader Andre Pearson breaks it down in the following illustrations he created using Microsoft Paint, a computer graphics program.



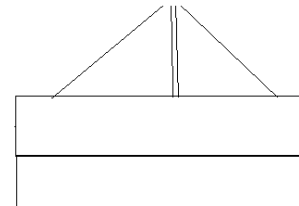
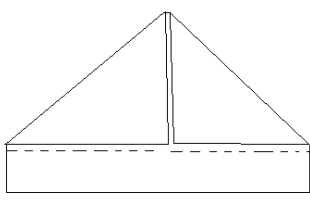
Step1 fold the paper in half.



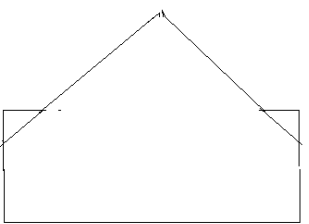
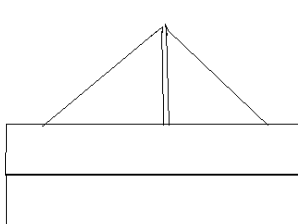
Step2. Fold one corner down to the center center line



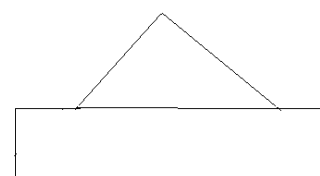
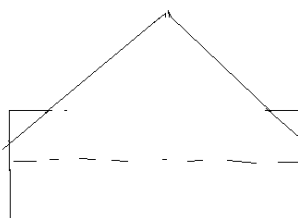
Step3.fold the other corner to the center line.



Step4.Fold the bottom half up.



Step5.Flip it over.



Step6.Flip the other strip up.

COOPERATION



Adults work together to help a young student find the right bus. Sponge-Bob Square Pants seems to enjoy all the attention.



3rd Grade teacher, Ms. Harringa, reviews the program with Principal Iskali prior to the start of the Character Education Assembly on September, 3, 2010.



Students anxiously await the very first school-wide assembly of 2010-2011. The Character Education Assembly was the first of several held throughout the year.



Like the lord of a medieval castle, Mr. Ginter calls out from the battlements. Meanwhile, outside the fortified walls, Lyon @ Blow's modern-day knight, Officer Strong, patrols the bus line.



Ms. So and Ms. Bryant pull Caught' Ya's from the blue bowl. Here they look into the crowd for the lucky student whose name was drawn to receive a prize.

LYON @ BLOW STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR OCTOBER 2010



Lillian Boyer — Kindergarten



LaVonce Tisdale — Grade 1



Melena Moen — Grade 3



Maleek Dickens — Grade 3



Lathan Frazier — Grade 4



Nikolas Ransom — Grade 5



Jordan Smith — Grade 6



Evan Carnes — Grade 7



Michael Sapp — Grade 7

RESPECT

The School's second school-wide Character Education assembly of the year was held to celebrate "Respect," and the students who exemplify the character trait for October. The teachers put on a skit about respect. Ms. So created a video presentation on the subject. Students of the Month were named for October. Teachers named Mr. Keane, the Lyon @ Blow Teacher of the Month. Mr. Ginter's home room 8th grade class, 8B, was named Classroom of the Month.

Caught Ya'! Sometimes people do the right thing with no hope of reward. When a student is "caught in the act" of doing a good turn, a teacher may give that student a "Caught Ya'!" At the Character Education assembly, the Caught Ya's were put in a bowl and drawn at random. Many students whose names were drawn got to come up to the stage a collect prizes.



Mr. Keane is the school's new Physical Education Teacher. He is shown here at a faculty meeting soon after he started at Lyon @ Blow. He was surprised at the Character Education Assembly when the teachers named him the Lyon @ Blow Teacher of the Month for October 2010.

Another highlight of the assembly took place when 8th Graders DaPharoah Ross and Andre Pearson took to the stage and performed their original rap, "Respect."

Mr. Keane took time to recognize some of his outstanding P.E. Students. They included:

Andrew Pepper, Kindergarten;
Santino Sampa, 1st Grade;
Sylvia Medina, 2nd Grade;
Selmir Esmerovic, 3rd Grade (3A);
Jazmin Anthony 3rd Grade (3B);
Ashley Ransom, 4th Grade;
Shannon Hanks, 5th Grade (5A);
Quenten Moen, 5th Grade (5B);
Evan Carnes, 7th Grade (7A);
Khalil Harbin, 8th Grade (8A)



Joseph Mosley — Grade 8 Student of the Month

CHACTER EDUCATION RESPECT ASSEMBLY — 10-6-10

School assembly's provide a great opportunity for students to write about a shared experience. Students from Mr. Reinstein's 5th grade homeroom took time in their Computer Literacy class to practice their keyboarding skills and format text using a word processing program. The students each wrote about the assembly and prepared their writing for the Lyon @ Blow Newsletter. Here are several:

THE ASSEMBLY

By Melissa Penezich

The assembly was about respect. I liked the assembly. I really liked the skit, "Mr. White and the Seven Dwarves." It was funny and I liked the rap by DaPharaoh and Andre. The whole thing was good. There was a lot of stuff. Kids won the student of the month award. I didn't. Boo hoo! Well, all was well. I didn't win anything, but at least I came and tried. I was happy with nothing, but I have the advantages to win other things. Ms. So made a video about RESPECT and what it means. It was good. Well a lot happened this morning but all of it was good.

THE ASSEMBLY

By Anderson Lowe

The assembly was very educational and fun with a little excitement especially when the teachers acted like disrespectful kids. The students laughed a lot at the assembly. My best friend made a rap and everybody was laughing and clapping. The kid's names were DaPharaoh and Andre. It was hilarious. I wish I could see it again and again when I'm sad because it would cheer me up. I wish I got a prize from student of the month and Caught Ya's. Overall the assembly was very fun and exciting to see the teachers act like the students.

THE ASSEMBLY

By Quinten Moen

The assembly was really cool. It showed about respect and it had a funny play with the teachers. The assembly had a rap for respect and it was great. We watched a video about respect. There were lots of people there. The principal told us about respect. I liked the part where all the teachers were in the play. It was funny. Ms. So I thought was the best, but the other teachers were pretty good too. Everyone thought it was funny. People got prizes. It was good.

THE ASSEMBLY

By James Rodgers

The assembly took place in the gym on 10-6-10 around 8:00 and it was about RESPECT, and the teachers performed a bit about kids being rude. Then they showed a video presentation and on the presentation they showed kids talking about RESPECT. The teachers picked kids from the audience and student of the month to come and pick a prize Ms. Iskali talked about RESPECT and what happened in the cafeteria. The teachers talked to us about improving ourselves in RESPECT. Then two of the Eighth Graders sang a song on RESPECT. After that people got called up to the stage to play human BASKETBALL. If they made the shot they got a prize. As you can see this assembly was very exciting.

THE ASSEMBLY

By Mickayla Anderson

On October 6, 2010 Lyon @ Blow students and teachers had an assembly about respect to help student to be respectful. They had a teacher of the month. It was Mr. Kean. He is our gym teacher. He is a nice teacher. And they had and Caught Ya's. A lot of people were on the stage. Then they had a bunch of teachers on the stage and they had to show us how to respect other people. There were six of them and they had a nice thing that they were doing. They had and rap and it was cool as my brother was rapping. Mr. Phoenix was taking pictures and people got their pictures too. I had a great time.

THE ASSEMBLY

By Jessie Hanks

The assembly took place in the gym on 10-6-10 around 8:00 A.M. In the assembly the teachers did a little skit about trying to improve your self. Then they showed a little movie presentation with teachers and kids talking about the definition of respect. Then they called out kids from the audience for prizes to praise good behavior and work. I was one of the kids from the audience and I was excited about that. I got to play human basket ball to win the prize. After that they called out student of the month awards. My sister Shannon got a student of the month certificate. I was very happy for her. Then the principal of our school, Lyon @ Blow gave a speech about us and our acts and to pick up trash around the gym.



The house goes wild for DaPharoah Ross and Andre Pearson, 8th Graders, who performed their original rap song, "Respect" for the Character Education assembly. Their 8th grade home-room class also took honors for "Classroom of the Month."



The face of Mr. Ginter looms on the gymnasium wall in a video produced by Ms. So on the meaning of respect. The video presentation was one of many elements in the assembly program.



Way to Go Team! Mr. Ginter high-fives his 8th Grade home room students as they win "Best Classroom of the Month" for their outstanding behavior and scholarly attitude at school.



With support from the stage, Mr. Clark leads the school in a round of the Lyon @ Blow School Song.

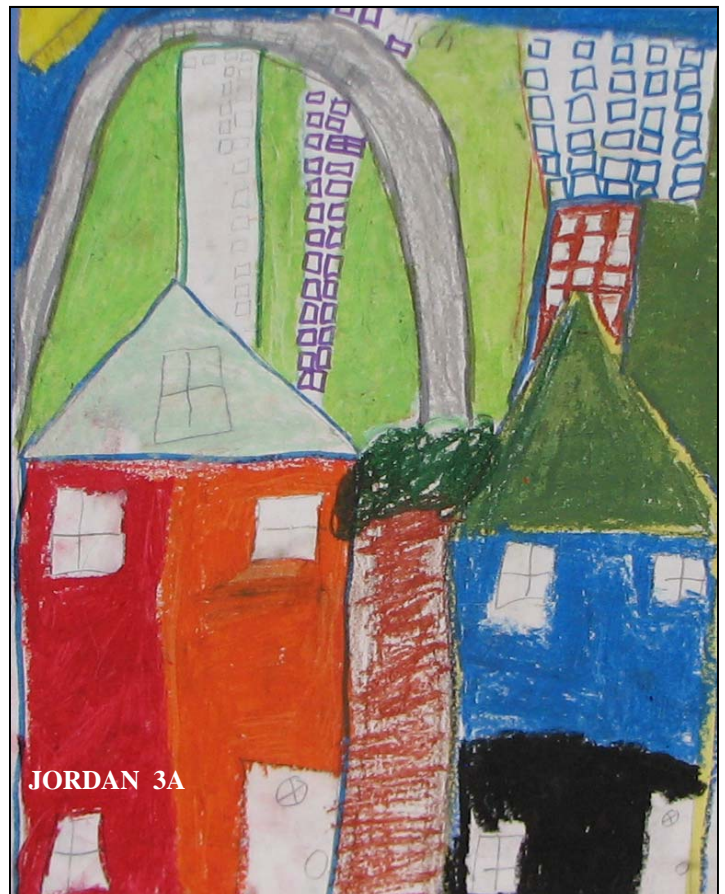


Ms. Iskali addresses her students at the close of the assembly.

"Best Related Arts Team Ever!"



Related Arts Team. Mr. Phoenix, Computer Literacy; Mr. Clark, Music; Mrs. Deleon, Art; and Mr. Keane, Physical Education. The teachers stand in for a photograph taken by 6th Grader, Donald Rodgers. Below and on the following page are pictured some of the student artworks created in Mrs. Deleon's Art Class. Look for even more great works of art in the weeks and months ahead!



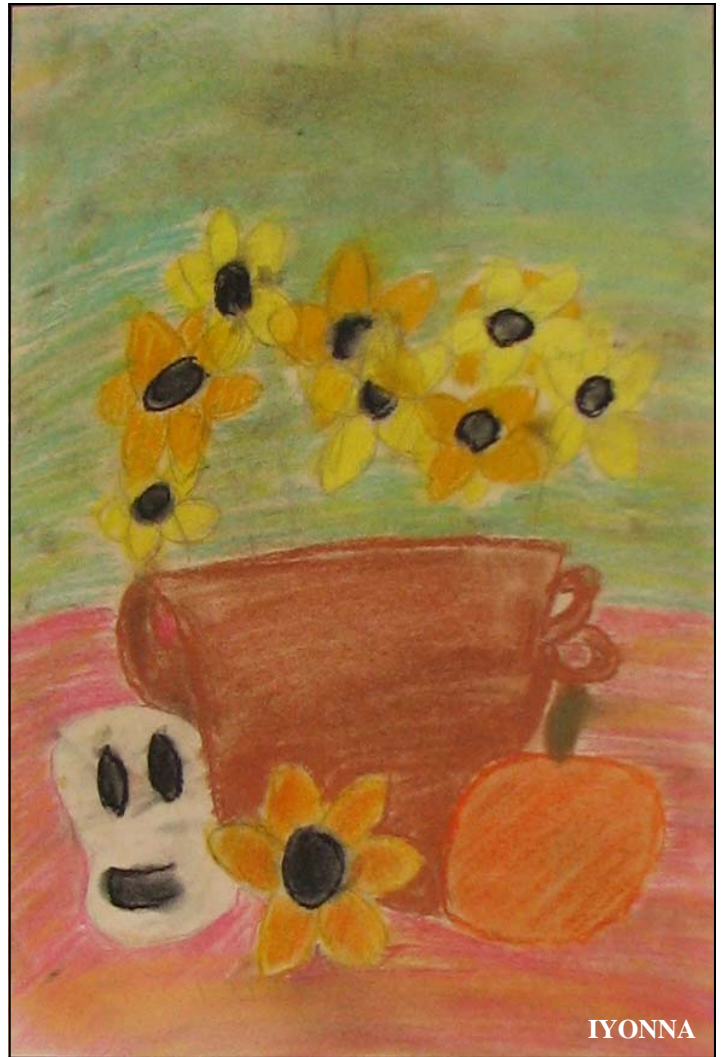


KYLE 3A

If you walk the halls of Lyon @ Blow you may see lots of art created by students in their classrooms and in their Related Arts, Art Class. Mrs. Deleon had the younger students create "City Scapes" based on a scoring guide. Her older students created the still-life artwork pictured below.



KA'LEISHA



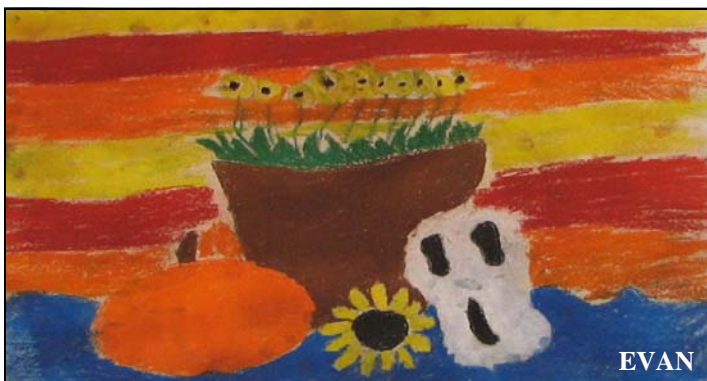
IYONNA



BRANDON



TOMMIE



EVAN

HALLOWEEN STORY WRITING CONTEST

Ms. So's 3rd Grade students have been writing in the classroom. Stories were evaluated by the following criteria:

1. Brainstorm Writing Process
2. Characters & Setting
3. Plot-- Beginning, Middle, End
4. Five Senses

Published below are some of the winning entries in a little classroom contest for Best Halloween Story.

1st Place Winner:

"Dungeon Princess"

by Melena Moen

Once in a far away place were dragons, demons, and mythical creatures. There lived a princess who was impossible to save. She was guarded by two demons. Their names are Demie and David. They are demon twins. They're fast, strong, and impossible to pass. They're five years old and the story begins.

"Aaaahhhhh!"

"What was that?" There were demons standing in front of me in the village, Melena Melena. He opened the door.

"What happened?"

"I don't know."

"Why is your cat dead?"

"It was like that when I came home."

"We have to find out who did this. Come on."

"Okay, I'm coming."

So, the journey begins.

* * *

2nd Place Winner:

"The Scary Night at Home"

by Kris Storey

One night I was home alone but there was noise coming from downstairs. I went down and something ran out the door. I yelled "Please help me!" and ran back upstairs. I looked over and something jumped out the window.

The next day, I went to the park. I heard a voice that sounded like an old man. There he was. He took his eye out. I screamed. Then he became a really scary old man. He started to run and he became a ghost. He would stand over and haunt me at night.

Once, my friends and I went to my house and they stayed the night. That night, there was a fire and we were scared. We thought we would die. I heard someone walk down the steps. It was the ghost again! He tried to come up stairs but there was a zombie. I ran back up the steps and got some stuff. I was really fast and I almost got caught by the zombie. I jumped out the window and jumped on my roof. Then I ran to the park. They chased me and my friends. Then we ran to the store. That was my story.

* * *

3rd Place Winner:

"Dragon War- D War"

By Daniel Lane

In 1128, there was a war. They forgot it was a war, so they brought war in the city. There were cannons on dinosaurs and there were demons. The army was defeated and the bad guy made an eclipse happen. Another man sprouted wings when the eclipse happened and the man defeated the bad guy. The man held the army and fainted. The eclipse was over.

* * *

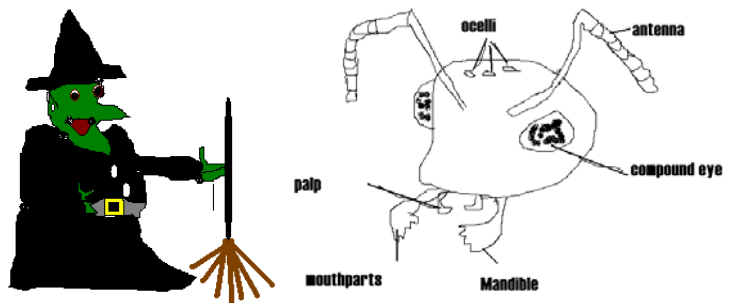
Honorable Mention Winner:

"Monsters Trying to Get Me"

By Serenity Foster

I see nothing. I hear thunder. I smell blood. I hear lightning and dripping on top of the floor. I see dark and I see monsters. I see a mud monster, cotton candy monster, and homework monster, and they are trying to get me. I run as fast as I can to get home and my friends have come to help me. I got home and we lived happily ever after.

* * *



5th Grader Melissa Penezich drew the scary Halloween witch in her computer class. 8th Grader Andre Pearson drew and labeled an equally scary insect, a close-up of a common ant.

6th, 7th, and 8th grade Computer Literacy students were asked to pair up for a writing assignment. Mr. Phoenix gave each team a sheet with 12 specific questions he was asking about the recent mine rescue. The students were to then go online and using Internet resources, answer the questions in Microsoft Word. Next, they were to work together and compose a news story about the mining rescue along with a suitable image. Over fifty news stories were completed as part of the lesson. Here is one from the team of 8th Graders, Nicolle and Leon from Mr. Ginter's home room:



Internet photo © Washington Post

RESCUE 10.13.10

By Nicolle and Leon, Grade 8

There has been a terrible accident in northern Chile. A group of miners have gotten trapped below the surface of the ground. They have been there for more than two months a total of 69 days. There was 33 minors altogether. The miners were in a mine called a copper mine. The rescuers wanted to get the miners out sooner but just couldn't. They managed to get out one minor Avulse. This was really good, but not to the other miners. The miners would communicate to the people above the surface with a tube called the dove. Through the tube they would communicate and send food and drinks. The miners would also send notes to the rescuers above the ground. They were going to try to save the miners with a capsule called the Phoenix. The capsule was called the Phoenix because everyone above the surface thought the minors had died below the ground. The people thought that the miners would come back in a couple of years just like the Phoenix bird. 5 rescuers went down to help the miners that were trapped. The name of the first miner to escape was Avalos. By the 13th of October all the miners were free.

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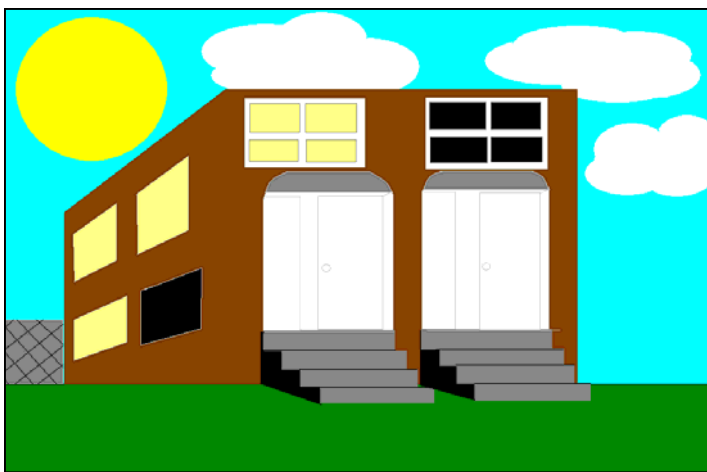
Talk about writing! A classic writing assignment calls for students to recall what they did over their summer vacation. Writing about what we know, our own experience, is often a great place to start. Students in 4th through 8th grade turned in over 150 stories and the upper grade students created original computer graphic drawings or posted images from the Internet to accompany the stories. Published below is a story from 8th Grader Wendy Reyes along with her computer drawing.

WENDY'S SUMMER

By Wendy Reyes

This summer I had a lot of fun. My mom was expecting a baby girl. I waited all summer for my baby sister to be born. I spend almost my whole summer helping my mom around the house. After the baby was born, both my mom and my new baby sister stayed at the hospital for three days. I spent a night with my mom at the hospital. After we were told we could leave the hospital we went home.

I spend a little time with my friends during the summer. We went out to the mall and had a lot of fun. We bought some things and walked around a little. Some of my friends came over to visit me and my baby sister. We played some sports and laughed a lot this summer. While I was mostly at home helping my mom with the baby I talked a lot to my brother in Mexico. We talked a lot about him and his new wife. They will have a baby. I was excited this summer, because I found out I would become an aunt for the first time in February. I didn't do much the rest of the summer.



Wendy is already beginning to master 3-dimensional effects and perspective in her drawing. When starting their unit on computer graphics several students have been known to complain, "This is computers — not art class!" To which we reply, "Computers are simply tools used in many walks of life and by many professions."



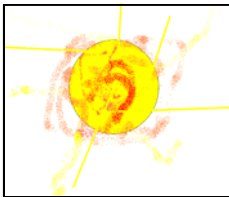
A well rounded Computer Literacy Curriculum would expose students to keyboarding, word processing, computer graphics, publication software for print, multi-media presentation, Internet etiquette and research. In the future a course might also aim to include computer assisted video and music production and web design — and that’s just for starters. We’ll let Eighth Grader Kalil Stone have the last word on his summer. He includes a simple design he created: the sun, emblem of vacation and the “endless summer of youth:”

WHAT I DID THIS SUMMER

By Khalil Ali Stone

My summer was very exciting. First I went to Florida to sit on the beach. Then I went to the park almost every day. That was a lot of football.

I played videogames all day. Playstation 3, X-box 360, and a whole bunch of others. I also went to the gym a lot to work out. After I got home I ate a bunch of pizza, soda, cake and ice cream. I also slept a lot; sometimes I slept till 3 o’clock.



Summer Sun

I had a summer job. I worked at the corner store down the street. It was very boring, but most jobs are. I spent a lot of time with my family. We played football, Frisbee, basketball and baseball. But the one sport I played the most was basketball. I play basketball all summer. I played a lot at the Y.M.C.A where I went swimming. Before the last day I went clothes shopping. I also went shoe shopping where I got my new shoes. Then I went out to eat. Also I went out to get ice cream. Finally, I went swimming for the last time before I lost my freedom and returned to school.



Students enjoy the last few sunny days of fall with Ms. Housewright.



From The Principal’s Desk

I believe we had a good start to the new year, but I encourage all my students to continue to work hard in class and at home on homework to build an even more successful school year! I am convinced we will again improve upon our test scores and academic achievement!



When students had to write descriptive paragraphs (and 5 paragraph essays in 7th and 8th grade) fully describing the parts and appearance of a common pencil, Brian Harvey created this computer drawing. Recall the yellow, #2 pencil? It used to be a symbol of school work!



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