

December 14, 2012 –Staunton City Schools Tip Sheet

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GENESIS STUDENT PAINTS MURAL OF SCHOOL MASCOT

Working hard in class and making good choices, Jeff Armentrout reached the honor level at Genesis Alternative School. As a reward, he was given the opportunity to paint several murals on the walls in the hallway and office as a project for his Art 2 class. Jeff chose to paint The Griffin, the school's mascot, to help promote school spirit. The griffin, depicted in Greek mythology as a creature with the head and wings of an eagle and a body like a lion, was thought to be an especially powerful and majestic creature known for guarding treasure and priceless possessions.



Jeffrey Armentrout stands beside the mural he painted of the Genesis mascot, The Griffin.

MCSWAIN STUDENTS STUDY ANIMAL HABITATS

Students in Ms. Miller's and Mrs. Love's second grade classes at McSwain recently studied the many different animal habitats. The students learned that an animal's habitat must include adequate food, water, shelter, and space in order for the animal to survive. The students read about and had class discussions regarding the different habitats that can be found around the world. Using what they learned from their reading, the students created habitats using pizza boxes and wrote about their creations. Parents were invited to come see the habitat projects and hear more about what the students had learned.



McSwain 2nd grader, Gabrielle Grubb, shows off her ocean habitat project.

LEE STUDENTS HEAR PRESENTATION ABOUT USS INDIANAPOLIS

On Friday, December 7, the anniversary of the Japanese Attack on Pearl Harbor, students in Lee High School's history and government classes observed a very special presentation from Mr. Jim Belcher, who shared his mother's and father's stories with the students. Mr. Belcher's father was 18 years old in 1945 and was on board the USS Indianapolis when it was hit by Japanese torpedoes. Three hundred men went down with the ship and many others died from exposure, dehydration, and shark attacks. Jim Belcher's father was one of the 66 who were rescued. Mr. Belcher's mother, who is Japanese and was living in Japan at the time, had a father and brother who were both fighting for the Imperial Army, thus giving her an interesting perspective on the bombs that fell on her native land in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The students also enjoyed seeing a number of artifacts that Mr. Belcher brought with him, such as uniforms, books, pictures, hats, weapons, and even a jeep.



Lee history and government students enjoy a presentation by Mr. Jim Belcher.

BESSIE WELLER WATCH D.O.G.S. RING THE SALVATION ARMY BELL

On Saturday, December 1, several of Bessie Weller's Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads Of Great Students) gathered throughout the day at a local business, volunteering to ring the bell as part of the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign. Different Watch D.O.G.S. and their children took turns ringing the bell from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Bessie Weller third grader, Bradley Shaw, says, "It's a lot of fun." Bradley and his dad, Duane Shaw, have participated together in the Red Kettle Campaign for three years.



Bessie Weller WATCH D.O.G.S, Duane Shaw with his son Bradley, and Johnny Simonetti with his daughter Shellie, work the Salvation Army Red Kettle.



Bessie Weller Principal, Chris Bryant, and his son, Colin, ring the bell for the Salvation Army.



Bessie Weller WATCH D.O.G.S. member, Pat Stapleton and his children, Samantha and Ben pause for a photo while working the Salvation Army Red Kettle.

SHELBURNE STUDENTS CREATE BOOK TRAILERS

“Smile!” Flash! The camera was flashing as paparazzi grabbed shots of the hottest new movie directors at Shelburne Middle School. The applause resounded as the audience watched the premiers of 20 book trailers created by sixth grade students. Earlier this semester, the students in Mrs. Kitta’s language arts classes read the novel by Marissa Meyer, Cinder. Last week, students paired up to create book trailers for the title. On Friday, December 7, the students gathered in the Shelburne library, also known as the POWERhouse, to screen the trailers and celebrate their creativity. Book trailers, created like movie trailers, are mini-movies designed to generate interest in a novel. The students combined images and short word phrases to ‘tease’ the audience with the plot of the book. For many students, this was the best way to share their excitement about the book with others. “It was fun getting to see all my friends’ reactions,” said Garrett Lawler, winner of the Most Creative Book Trailer in Block 4. “I want to do more!” said Lucie Oeschlin, Lawler’s co-director.



Shelburne students Molly Zinn and Kaia Kristensen pose in a book-trailer.

WARE HOSTS FAMILY FITNESS NIGHT

Ware Elementary School’s Health and Wellness Committee recently hosted a Family Fitness Night. Students and their families enjoyed a variety of activities such as walking, bowling, corn hole, basketball, and dance routines from “Dancing with the Stars.”



Ware student, Brady Fernez, enjoys Family Fitness Night with his mom in the gym.



Dylan Botkin enjoys playing basketball at Ware’s Family Fitness Night.



William Ruiz and Josh Troxell play corn hole as others in the background are seen enjoying dancing at Ware’s Family Fitness Night.