

**October 11, 2012** –Staunton City Schools Tip Sheet

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### **SHELBURNE STUDENTS INSPIRED BY ART**

How can art inspire you? That is the question 54 Shelburne students will be answering over the next few weeks. They are participating in the annual Writer's Eye competition hosted by The Fralin Museum of Art at University of Virginia. Students traveled to the museum in Charlottesville to view selected art pieces and choose one piece that they felt inspired by, connected to, or found interesting. Each student will compose an original piece of writing, in the form of a short story or poem, to submit to the Writer's Eye competition. These compositions will be judged by a panel of teachers and writers, with prizes awarded to the top selections. For sixth-grader Jacy Knapp, this was an exciting day. "I have never been to a museum before! It's amazing!" she told her teacher.

Susan Gutshall, art teacher and Melissa Cooper, history teacher started taking Shelburne students to the museum three years ago. Last year, all three elementary schools also took students to the museum. As a result of these educational field experiences and their subsequent participation in the competition last year, Staunton City School students won two awards – Lucie Oechslin won a 3<sup>rd</sup> place award in the Grades 3-5 Poetry division, and Ginna Kilbourne won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Grades 6-8 Poetry division.



Shelburne students view paintings and listen to the tour docent at The Fralin Museum of Art at UVA.

### **MCSWAIN STUDENTS FINISH T-SHIRT FACTORY**

The third grade students at McSwain Elementary School have finished their “T-Shirt Factory” unit. The unit focuses on students learning about place value, computation, and economics. During class time the students worked with mock factories that produced t-shirts, which needed to be sorted and packaged different ways. At the end of the unit, each student tie-dyed two shirts – one to take home and the other to sell at the upcoming PTA Family Fun Night, “S’Mores Roast N’ Toast,” on Friday, October 19, 2012. Proceeds from t-shirt sales will be used to purchase supplies for the project to continue again next year.



McSwain students Eliana Brown, Peyton Moore, and Ryan Bosserman are creating their t-shirts.



David Schroeder is finishing making his colorful shirt as part of McSwain’s third grade T-Shirt Factory unit.

### **GENESIS STUDENTS USE GPS ON TREASURE HUNT**

On Friday, Sept. 21, the middle school students from Genesis went on a geocaching field trip to Montgomery Hall Park. Geocaching is a world-wide treasure hunting game in which the participants use a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver or mobile device and other navigational techniques to hide and seek containers, called "geocaches" or "caches", anywhere in the world. Using a GPS device, students tracked and found three hidden geocaches located throughout the park. The students were excited to learn how to use a GPS receiver and compass. Students worked on skills such as team building, using technology in life situations, and cooperative learning. The students finished the day with a mile-long hike through the woods.