

WHAT'S THE WORD

GENTRY MIDDLE SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2008

OCTOBER CALENDAR

October 1	FBLA members to attend District 1 ML FBLA Conference at U of A Ft. Smith
October 7	Booster Club Meeting 3:30 in GMS library
October 17	End of First Quarter
October 27	Report Cards
October 31	Picture Re-takes

Thank you to those parents who brought food for the Parent Teacher Conference on September 22. We had an overwhelming response!!

2008-2009

Booster Club Officers

President	Cheryl Sykes
Vice President	Dani Cypert
Secretary	open
Treasurer	Mary Bailey
Reporter	Kim Holt
6 th Grade Rep.	Pat Barnes
7 th Grade Rep.	Sage Evans Dawn Smith
8 th Grade Rep.	Jacqueline Gardisser
BAND NEWS	MICHELLE SLAYTON

Practice cards are due each and every Friday for Beginning Band and Middle School Band students.

October 2 Jr. High Game

October 10 Homecoming; All band students are invited to sit in the band section during the game

October 23 Jr. High Game

If you have any questions, please e-mail Michelle Slayton, Band Director, at mshayton@gentrypioneers.com. Also, all schedule information in on the Gentry Pioneer website under the Fine Arts link.



KEYBOARDING

Parents, have your children show you what they are learning in keyboarding. 7th grade students are learning to type using the alpha-numeric touch-method and should be encouraged to continue practicing the correct keyboarding skills and techniques at home.

Darla Wilson

6th Grade

SOCIAL STUDIES BOBBY HOGAN

The 6th grade Social Studies students have begun their journey in entrepreneurial training. As we learn the required material concerning economics, we have an opportunity to participate in a program sponsored by John Brown University's Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE). This group is hosting the World Trade Expo (WTE), a business competition between all middle schools in Northwest Arkansas. The students must develop a product or service and create a business plan for operating the business. After submitting a sample product and business plan to the SIFE team, 35 of the top plans will be selected to participate in the WTE this year. As winners of this phase of the competition, the 35 teams will attend a seminar at JBU where area business leaders will present programs on such topics as marketing, accounting, financial management, etc. These teams will then have an opportunity to make corrections/improvements to their business plans. The day of the WTE, the teams will set up a booth at the Northwest Arkansas Mall in Fayetteville and sell their products to the public. In addition, they will resubmit their business plans for a final review. The judges of the event will interview the participants as a portion of the "grading". All proceeds from the sale of the products are kept by the team where all start-up loans must be repaid. Any profit after the repayment of the loans is shared by the team members, just like a real

business. The judging team will select the top three teams in each portion of the competition. Trophies are awarded for best business plan, best product, and most environmentally friendly business.

Last year, GlamorZ, a sixth grade team from Gentry Middle School, won third place in the business plan division. This was quite an accomplishment when you consider (a) no GMS team had ever placed before, and (b) those 6th graders were competing against teams of 7th and 8th graders that had prior experience with the competition. We are hoping for a repeat as that team as 7th graders are competing again this year.

Good luck to all the contestants!

LANGUAGE ARTS MARCY STAVE

Celebrate! Friday, September 19th and Tuesday, September 23rd were set aside as days to celebrate Language Arts! We have finished the first final publication of the year. 68% of all sixth graders handed their work in on time, so that is the number to beat for our next publication. Many positive remarks were sounded by the sixth graders as the sharing periods ended. Some are already anticipating our next major sharing time by picking their writing topics judged on what they think their audience will be interested in and what they feel they can write best about! Our authors' writings should be available to check out soon and there will be comment space available for feedback. There will be many topics to choose from. Students as well as parents are encouraged to read these. Parents, remember to keep up with the weekly student written parent letters. They really give an insight into what happens here at GMS!

READING

REINE MOORE

Welcome to sixth grade reading. I thought it would be helpful to know the goals that we plan to accomplish this year in Reading. I look forward to teaching your children and hope to meet you in person if I haven't already done so.

Goal 1: Read at least 25 young adult novels.

Goal 2: Become a better reader by using reading strategies.

Goal 3: Read silently for at least one hour each day.

Goal 4: Respond to what you read.

Goal 5: Earn at least 20 AR points each quarter.

Goal 6: Apply your knowledge of reading to all subject areas.

Goal 7: Read a variety of genres.

Goal 8: Have conversations with classmates and teachers about what you read.

Goal 9: Recommend books you have read to others.

Goal 10: Become familiar with authors that you like.



FROM NURSE MARY:

Highlights from District medication policy:

Medications should be given at school only when they cannot be accommodated at home.

Example:

*An antibiotic given 3 times should be before coming to school, when student arrives home, just before student goes to bed. This spreads it out over the 24-hour period and would not need to be given at school.

Prescription medication must be in the pharmacy labeled bottle with student's name, name of medication, dosage, directions for administration, and physician name.

*If medication must be given at school, ask the pharmacy to label a second bottle for you so you can have one at home and one at school.

*Inhalers should have a label on the inhaler and the box.

Parent permission must be signed and accompany **ALL** medication. These are available in the nurse's office or in your school office.

*A doctor's order for all medication given at school including over-the-counter medication

Students are not allowed to carry medication unless there is a physician statement that student needs medication for "health safety". Parent medication permission form still needs to be on file where medication is dispensed in the school.

*Inhalers may only be carried by the student if I have a signed prescription from the doctor saying it is medically necessary for your child to have it with them at all times.

Medication permission from parents must be signed for **ALL** over-the-counter medication and given through school medication. This includes Tylenol, Ibuprofen, allergy medications, cough syrup, cough drops, etc. These medications must be in their original container (not in a plastic bag) and labeled with the student's name. Aspirin will not be given to any student at school due to the risk of Reye's Syndrome.

Violation of this will result in disciplinary action.

7th Grade News

MATH

KORI WILBER

The school year is underway and we are moving right along here in 7th grade math. This year there will be a greater emphasis on learning mathematical terms and using mathematical terms. It seems this has been one problem with understanding questions on the benchmark tests in the past. Please help your students to remember to study the vocabulary words as we work throughout the year. The students are working hard and progressing each week as we inch along. Remember, everyday of classroom instruction guides them on their benchmark exam in April, so attendance is very important. Thank you for your support and sending your wonderful students to school prepared to learn each day!

LANGUAGE ARTS

APRIL TEAGUE

Now that school is back into full swing, it's nice to see so many students looking relaxed from summer and excited to get back into the school year. I would like to remind everyone that in Language Arts seventh grade students will continue to read 25 self-selected books throughout the year. Students should have taken an AR test on September 23rd and are now working on book four, which is due on October 2nd. I am very pleased to see the students working hard on analyzing characters and plot as we continue to work on story elements. Shortly, students will be applying what they have learned as we begin a unit on Edgar Allen Poe. This is a great group of kids, and I look forward to having a great school year!

SCIENCE

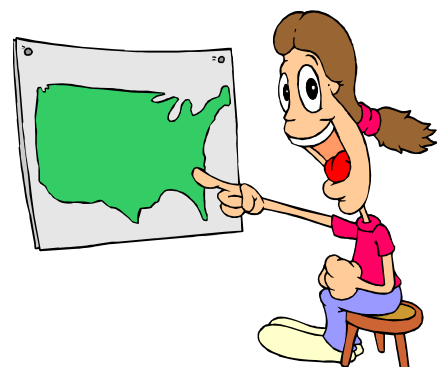
DIANNE BURRUS

Fall is here; I love it! The students are settled into school and, for the most part, are eager to learn. By the time you read this, we will have finished with Elements, Compounds, and Mixtures, and will be studying Newton's Laws of Motion. These laws are interesting but challenging. Be sure to help your student by asking questions and encouraging them to study and give you examples of each law in the real world. I also want to encourage your family to start a recycling program if you have not already. It is easy and good for our environment. I appreciate all of you signing and returning the forms for our UofA research project. We have already begun to do our labs, and the students are enjoying them. Have a great fall!

SOCIAL STUDIES

MAXINE ABERNATHY

In Social Studies, the seventh graders continue studying ancient history. They now know lots about Mesopotamia and Egypt. Next, we will briefly study ancient Israel and then continue on to Greece. Ask your student what things that we use daily were discovered or developed during these time periods. Many things happened in all the years the world was waiting for these kids to be born!



8th Grade News

LANGUAGE ARTS AMY STARKENBERG

Well, we are off to a great start in language arts and reading! It's hard to believe that we are less than a month away from the end of the first quarter...time does fly! I would also like to apologize to any parent that came to parent-teacher conferences this past Monday only to find my room dark and the door closed. I had a family emergency and had to leave early. I do apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you. Please feel free to send me an e-mail or call me with any questions or concerns you may have about your child's progress in language arts and reading. If you call the school, please realize that I won't be able to return your call until my planning period, which is from 10:35-11:17 a.m. If you call after that time, I will return your call just after school releases.

In class, we're currently reading Shakespeare's comedy, "A Midsummer Night's Dream." This is truly one of Shakespeare's finest pieces, and I am excited to be sharing it with your child. Please ask your child to tell you about the play. This will not only impress you, but it will help your child too!

Lastly, I would like to take a minute to remind students that reading logs are due every Monday for the previous week's reading. There is a minimum of 75 pages per week. Many students are forgetting to turn these in, and it is causing their grades to be lower than they should be. Also, your five AR tests and/or written responses will be due on October 15, 2008.

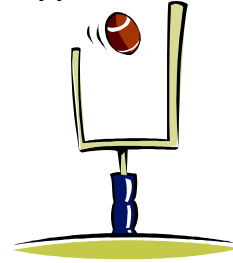
Thanks so much for giving me the opportunity to teach your child!

KUDOS TO VOLUNTEERS

October Parent Volunteers!

We would like to thank the following parents for taking the time to help paint the goal posts and the markings on the field. The field markings have to be painted before every home game. If you are interested in helping, contact any of the high school or junior high football coaches 479-736-2666. We also use parent volunteers to work in the concession stand. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Pam Harwell 479-524-1364 or Joni Wilson 479-736-2666.

Kaye Cripps, Transition Coordinator



Thanks parent volunteers!

Brian & Amy Hudson

Jimmy & Dana Corter

Chad Qualls, 2 Brothers Detail

Little Mr. & Miss Octoberfest Pageant

Date: Saturday, October 11

Location: Gentry Primary School

Applications are on the school website and GMS office. Deadline for applications is October 8th. For more information or questions, contact Kaye Cripps at 736-8585 or kcripps@gentrypioneers.com or Darla Wilson at 736-8919 or dwilson@gentrypioneers.com



Sharing & Caring Of Benton County



Parents: Sharing & Caring of Benton County wants to make sure that every child in the community has a Merry Christmas. They invite families who are in need of assistance during the Holiday Season to come by these locations to fill out an application. Applications will be accepted at the following locations between Monday, October 13 and Friday, October 31.

City/Location	Date	Time
Bentonville First United Methodist Church 201 Northwest 2nd Street	October 13 th -31 st Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: Thursdays:	10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Rogers Frisco Station Mall 100 N. Dixieland Rd.	October 14 th , 21 st , & 28 th Tuesdays	4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Siloam Springs Boys & Girls Club in Siloam Springs 655 Heritage Court (behind Eureka Pizza)	Saturday, October 25 th ONE DAY ONLY	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Applicants must bring the following to apply:

1. Social Security card(s) or school ID number for the children
2. Identification for both Parent/Guardian
3. Proof of family income (**recent** check stub, letter from employer or a copy of unemployment check)
4. Proof of residency (any **utility** bill with applicant's name and address **is required**)
5. 2007 Federal Income Tax Return

For more information you can call Irene Medrano, Sharing & Caring Director, at their office at 479-657-6884.

FCCLA

2008-2009

Congratulations on the new officers for the 2008-2009 school year. We are excited to get our fund-raising, community service, and projects underway. If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact Christie Smith, Gentry Middle School FACS/Careers Teacher, FCCLA Advisor csmith@gentrypioneers.com.

President	<i>Emilia Barrick</i>
Vice-President	<i>Lindsey Holt</i>
Secretary	<i>Audrie Francis</i>
Treasurer	<i>Kendra Speer</i>
8 th Grade Delegate	<i>Bryana Carter</i>
8 th Grade Delegate	<i>Gosheng Her</i>
7 th Grade Delegate	<i>Jarod Cousins</i>
7 th Grade Delegate	<i>Brookelyn Williamson</i>
6 th Grade Delegate	<i>Cortnye Pool</i>
6 th Grade Delegate	<i>Deryn Florer</i>
6 th Grade Delegate	<i>Alex Ellis</i>
6 th Grade Delegate	<i>Stone Faulkenberry</i>

President	<i>Jamie Newlun</i>
Vice-President	<i>Alan Herrera</i>
President-Elect	<i>Brookelyn Williamson</i>
7 th Grd. Vice-Pres.	<i>Mattie Hutcheson</i>
VP Fund-raising	<i>Taylor Enlow</i>
VP Socials	<i>Peter Phakonekham</i>
Secretary	<i>Jacelyn Hundley</i>
Treasurer	<i>Emilia Barrick</i>
Reporter	<i>Brett Foley</i>
7 th Grd. Historian	<i>Hannah Bond</i>
8 th Grd. Historian	<i>Bryana Carter</i>
Student Co. Rep	<i>Rebecca Evans</i>

Sponsors: *Tonya Sweeten & Christie Smith*

FBLA

7th & 8th grade FBLA members attended the District 1 Fall Leadership Conference in Ft. Smith on Wednesday, October 1st. Through FBLA-PBL membership, members learn about the world of business and what is expected of them in the workplace. Participation in FBLA activities and events furthers leadership development. Any 7th or 8th grade student who is still interested in joining one of the middle school vocational clubs, FBLA or FCCLA, may still do so by contacting Mrs. Wilson or Mrs. Smith.



DANCE DANCE DANCE DANCE



There will be a Fall Ball Friday, October 24 from 3:30 to 5:30 in the Gentry Middle School Gym. Admission will be \$4. Sponsored by FBLA/FCCLA

ON SALE NOW

The GMS Booster Club license plates are on sale now for \$2.00. These are the same plates that were sold a couple of years ago for \$5.00. They are white with maroon border and maroon lettering. If you would like to purchase one, please fill out the bottom portion and return it to the school with your payment. Checks are to be made payable to the GMS Booster Club. Your license plates will be sent home with your child. Thank you for your support!

GMS BOOSTER CLUB LICENSE PLATES

NAME: _____

CHILD'S NAME: _____

8TH HOUR TEACHER: _____

NUMBER OF PLATES PURCHASED: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

U.S. POSTAGE
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GENTRY, AR
PERMIT NO. 8