



CAMERON CHRONICLE

2009-2010

From the Principal's Desk

This is the last month of the academic year. That is hard to believe. The time really does fly by each year. June is always the busiest month, too. Since we had no "snow days" we still get out on June 17 and this is a half-day. The day starts at the same time and the buses are coming at 10:50. It really is a short last day of school for us. When June begins MCAS testing will be behind us. We actually might be getting the results of the English test sometime in June. The math and grade 8 science and technology test results will not be available until the fall. In June we will be administering some district assessments and some final examinations in particular classes. There is a schedule that has been printed and sent out but primarily grade 8 will have the most final exams.

Speaking of grade 8 we have some wonderful days ahead for this class. The awards assembly will be on June 11 at 1:30 in our auditorium. Then on Monday night, June 14 the 8th graders, who have passing grades and proper behavior, will be treated to a dinner and dance at the Natick Crowne Plaza on Route 9. This runs from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. More information and details has already been sent home to parents. On Tuesday, June 15, students who have met the same criteria will be on an all-day boat cruise in Boston Harbor and on Wednesday night, June 16, at 5:00 we will hold the Promotion Ceremony in our gymnasium. A brief reception will follow in the cafeteria. The ceremony takes about one hour.

Other events taking place this month are Cultural Pride Day on June 1st, the sixth grade field day on June 11, 7th grade field day on June 16, the band trip on June 14 run by Mrs. Dupuis and is a huge hit each year, and canoe trips with the seventh grade students, to name just a few events. In late May we had our Pops concert and the 8th grade essay writing event. There are many special programs at this time of year!

Students will have summer reading books and the list will be sent to the public library, sent home, be on the web page and in local book stores. Thank you for a great school year. It has been a pleasure being the Principal of Cameron Middle School. We are very proud of the students who attend. Our teachers are dedicated to helping students and preparing them for high school. We often follow our students' successes through high school and college.

Have a great summer and stay well and have some relaxing and enjoyable summer days!

Students of the Month

Samantha Ramos – Grade 8
Xivanna Millin – Grade 8
Chris Babbitt – Grade 7
Ahmed Mansour – Grade 7
Colleen Myers – Grade 6
Shannan Aurelio – Grade 6

TEAM NEWS

6th Grade ELA – Mr. Hepp

Students in Mr. Hepp's language arts classes are finishing the year with a variety of assignments. Each student is creating a poetry journal containing a number of original poems they wrote. Students also included poems they read and enjoyed, with an explanation of why these poems appealed to the student. In addition to the poetry journals, students are working on their last independent book project, a three-dimensional story cube that includes information about characters, setting, plot, favorite scene and the student's recommendation. Finally, students will be writing an end of year essay the last week of school.

Mathematics for the Green and Yellow Team

Did you know that the "average American" eats 24 quarts of ice cream and 68 quarts of popcorn every year? Did you ever wonder how people come up with numbers like these? In some reports a single number is often used to describe what is typical. Usually, this number is found by calculating the average value from a large set of data. In math class we explore three ways of measuring what is typical - the mean, median, and mode. During class students collect values for height in centimeters and number of pets. They jump rope to collect a set of data for each class.

In order to analyze data it is important to have an organized way to display data. Students use stem-and-leaf plots to display height and number of consecutive jumps for each class. They use line plots to display number of family pets. Graphs make it easier to recognize patterns and the distribution of data. The students explore what is typical for their class by calculating mean, median, and mode.

6th Grade Science

We have just begun studying astronomy, our final unit for the year. Students have worked diligently in groups to create themed posters for each planet in

our solar system. The groups created posters for the four inner planets, and once done with that began work on the four outer planets. Along with studying planets, we've also distinguished the differences between asteroids, comets, meteors, meteoroids, and meteorites.

Our last assignment of the year is our annual ABC Book of Science. Students will create a children's book using different vocabulary used throughout the school year. It's a fun project and an excellent way to wrap up an enjoyable year.

6th Grade Social Studies – Mr. Davis

We have had a wonderful year in Social Studies. From Africa to Asia we have covered many cultures and lands. The school year as gone by so quickly and with the remaining days we will be studying the Kingdom of the Kush. Their brief control over the Ancient Egyptians is what we will focus on. Although in power for around one hundred years they did control the Nile River Valley and what was left of the Egyptian Empire.

6th Grade ELA – Mrs. Wynn

Mrs. Wynn's ELA classes, have just finished up the novel *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick. The story is about a middle school boy named Steven who finds out his younger brother has leukemia. It details how his family pulls together to deal with this family crisis. The novel's unique topic provided lots of discussions in class the students could relate to in their lives. On Friday, April 30th, students visited Framingham State College to meet their epals. The weather was perfect, as was the entire day. Students were treated to a cookout with games. In this final month of school, students will be creating poetry journals to show their knowledge of poetry and figurative language.

7th Grade

Science –Mrs. Callanan

Although, time at home was very much enjoyed welcoming baby Sean into our family, it is very nice being back at Cameron. Thank you to all for the congratulations and warm wishes.

The 7 Green Team has finished studying the human body with group presentations. They were fabulous! Up next is our Ecology unit. Students will study various topics that relate to living organisms and their environment. As part of our unit, students will participate in the annual Sudbury River Canoe Trip in partnership with the Audubon Society. Our floating classroom is not only fun and safe but it is a phenomenal way for the students to experience real world science and learn about invaluable ecological concepts in their own community. Mass Audubon will be coming to Cameron on May 27th and 28th to co-teach ecology lessons in science class. The canoe trip will take place over several days during the first week in June 1-4.

Social Studies – Mrs. Callanan

Social studies classes continue to explore Ancient Greece. We are studying the government of Ancient Athens and its role in the beginning of democracy. Next, we will be comparing and contrasting two very important and different city-states in Ancient Greece, Athens and Sparta. Our investigations regarding Sparta and Athens, nicely leads us to our next section, which will be about the Persian wars and Peloponnesian wars. Students have just completed a series of in-class projects. The first project was called ‘Sell your City-state’, where students were hired by an Ancient Greek advertising company, they had to come up with a creative poster to advertise their city-state so others would want to come and live there.

Social Studies: Mr. Linet

Students continue to study Europe, political and physical maps, along with country specific

vocabulary such as "loch". Toward the end of this month students will embark on a journey of study involving Oceania, Australia, New Zealand. Different characteristics of their culture will be explored including their unique slang language. Students will be required to construct a story utilizing as many of the words as possible. Their creativity will be flowing. Aborigines, dingos, and boomerangs will be new areas where students learn about this distant culture.

Mrs. Micozzi- ELA

Mrs. Micozzi's students are reading *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. In a webquest, they studied the concepts of utopia and dystopia and learned about experiences that inspired the author to write the novel. The community in *The Giver* values control, obedience, and “sameness.” In contrast to those ideals, students are writing about what makes them unique individuals. They will also do a research project on modern-day utopias in conjunction with the novel. For grammar, students have been working on clauses, types of sentences, and conjunctions (F.A.N.B.O.Y.S.). Students will continue to work on sentence fluency strategies to make their writing smoother and more sophisticated. We look forward to a productive and fun end to the academic year!

Mr. Hamm- Life Science

Life science classes will finish out the year with hands-on activities and discussions on the environment and how living things interact within the various ecosystems. During this unit, students will take the opportunity to take part in our annual Floating Classroom Program down the Sudbury River. This program, by design, has the ability to involve everyone at the 7th grade level in a project that not only encompasses the classroom and state curriculum, but one that is also environmentally conscious and intellectually stimulating. The ability to take an application that may seem very abstract in the classroom and apply it to the world around our students is an experience that they will not soon forget. The current 8th grade was extremely excited and impressed by how a simple activity like taking

a canoe ride down the Sudbury River could make issues of the environment and ecology so tangible. At this age level we are constantly trying to find new ways to differentiate the curriculum so that we can reach all types of multiple intelligences in our classroom. The Sudbury River Floating Classroom Program gives us this differentiation. We are able to bring in qualified Ecologists, from the Massachusetts Audubon Society at Broadmoar Wildlife Sanctuary in Natick, who can speak to our students in the classroom, reinforce our lesson plans, and combine them with a overall sensory accompaniment that brings the students up close and personal to nature and its surrounding community.

As part of the program, we have given students and staff the opportunity to evaluate the program soon after the experience is over. Through the evaluative process, we have been able to gather both positive and negative criticism in an effort to make this program worthwhile. We have used this feedback to make the program the best it can be. Below you will find some of the testimonials we have received from students:

Student 1: "I had a great time! It was awesome; I want to do it again. I will never forget it; it was the best fieldtrip ever! The instructors were great and they helped a lot."

Student 2: "I will remember how to canoe and that The Sudbury River should be cleaner so that beavers and other animals can have a better environment."

Student 3: I had no idea what a watershed was until the instructors shared it with me in class."

Student 4: "I think it was a great trip! Nothing should be changed."

Student 5: "The instructors did a good job telling us how to row different ways and helping us get out of the bushes. They did a very good job in telling us where the beaver dams were and all the organisms in the water were located."

Student 6: "I thought the nature information was very good because it told us everything we needed to know about the nature around us."

Student 7: "The instructors were very helpful and easy to understand. The canoe help was great,

nature information was fascinating, and very interesting."

Student: "It was interesting and I have never done anything like that before. I learned things that I did not know."

Student 8: "It was very fun, I hope to do it again!"

Student 9: "I learned what a watershed was, how to make proper strokes in a canoe, and how many organisms live in the Sudbury River. It was very fun, you should keep doing it."

Student 10: "I will remember most that teamwork makes a difference. When you work as a team, things go much smoother."

Student 11: "I will remember most the canoe trip, because this trip on the river was the first time that I had ever been on water in a boat."

Cameron's students and staff make it a great place to learn! Have a fun but safe summer!

Mr. Hamm - Social Studies

Recently students have been learning about the similarities and differences between two of Greece's most famous city-states: Athens and Sparta. Students did a wonderful job writing and performing two-voice poems about these two unique city-states. Our investigations about Sparta and Athens, nicely lead us to our next sections, which include the cause and course of both the Persian and Peloponnesian Wars as well as Alexander the Great and his influences on Greek culture. Sadly, it is time to say goodbye to these students. Good luck!

Please remember that all homework can be found on-line at www.yourhomework.com, so check it out!

Mrs. Maguire- Math

The yellow team math students will end the year with a few projects. First, the students will create their Math Big Book. This is the culminating project to a school year's worth of big book pages. The students should save the Math Big Book as it will help them as they enter eighth grade. The other project the students will work on is a cartoon project. This project focuses on scale factor,

proportions and ratios – all major seventh grade standards.

Mrs. Falzone and Mrs. Micozzi- Ancient Rome

Mrs. Falzone and Mrs. Micozzi's social studies classes have been analyzing the factors that made Ancient Rome a powerful and fast-growing civilization from its founding. We are focusing on its leadership, military power, social structure, engineering, religion, and cultural aspects. Students will be learning about Ancient Rome's transition from a republic to an empire, including its expansion through the Punic Wars. They will study the two different types of government and make connections to our own government here in the U.S. These topics have sparked classroom debates about the effectiveness of the Roman army's tactics and their impact on the people of conquered regions.

Mrs. Falzone – ELA

Students in Mrs. Falzone's ELA class will read *The Miracle Worker*, by William Gibson, during trimester three. *The Miracle Worker* is a three-act play about teacher Annie Sullivan and her struggles and accomplishments as she takes on the difficult task of helping a blind and deaf six-year old, named Helen Keller, acquire language. As this work is a drama, students will read and perform the majority of the text in class. Students will have their next independent reading project due in early June.

8 Yellow & Green Teams

Ms. Greaney/Ms. Rensko

All students did an excellent job preparing for and taking the math MCAS last month. We would like to remind you that math finals will take place on June 9th and 10th. We have enjoyed working with this year's 8th grade students, and we wish them the best as they move onto high school.

Ms. Rensko/Ms. Greaney –Grade 8 Math

During the last month of school, students in grade 8 math will be working on some projects to reinforce the math concepts learned this year. One of the projects that they will complete is a survey on a topic of their choosing. They will survey 20 fellow Cameron students and analyze the data using graphs and in words. We will also spend a few days reviewing for the final exam.

Algebra – Ms. Greaney and Ms. Rensko

The algebra students will be completing the last unit of the year on quadratic functions and equations. We will then spend several days reviewing for the final exam, which will cover topics from chapters 6 to 10.

Physical Science: Mrs. Vora

Students learned a lot of Physical Science this year while conducting many experiments and watching several demonstrations. I enjoyed teaching this class and I hope they enjoyed learning science. I wish all of them good luck for their years in high school and beyond! Have a great summer!

Social Studies – Mr. Fauth & Mr. Manning

Well, the end is here! The 8th Grade Social Studies classes are just finishing up the unit on the European Renaissance and Reformation. However, **Wednesday, June 2** is the most important date to remember. The Social Studies Final Exam will be administered that day. It is a 100 question, multiple-choice cumulative test.

However, once the Final Exam is over, the students will be learning about the Aztecs and Inca, as they relate to European Colonialism. This will also be the first unit that the students will learn/review when at FHS next year.

8 yellow science – Mrs. Williamson

Just because the school year is winding down does not mean that science class is. During the last couple of weeks students will be continuing to do

projects, tests and labs, right up until June 16th. Students will be taking their science final on Monday, June 7th. Once the final is over we will be doing a lab on the reaction between Coke and Mentos, looking at how mixtures can be used to dye tie-dye t-shirts, and studying the periodic table with our culminating science project, the Element T-shirt project, which will be due June 16th. No late assignments can possibly be accepted for this project as the next day is the last day of school.

ELA – Ms. McCullen & Mrs. Piantedosi

It's hard to believe the school year is coming to an end. What a great year it has been! The students were able to complete three wonderful novels that were all enjoyed to the fullest. All of the novels connected to this year's theme – man's inhumanity to man. The students have a better understanding about how important it is to be aware and appreciative of other people and any differences they may have. Their writing and reading skills have greatly improved since the beginning of the year. They should be proud of themselves and all of the hard work they accomplished this year.

Spanish - Miss Santana

As the end of the school year approaches the Spanish students have been busy reviewing past concepts and wrapping up the final units. Activities include the 6th grade 'children's storybook' project, in which they will be creating their very own Spanish language books to include grammar concepts and vocabulary from their curriculum; the 8th grade 'workbook' assignment in preparation of the final exam; the 7th grade 'unique animal' project which reinforced the body parts vocabulary, as students created their own animals taking body parts from each; the advanced 8th graders completed a 'storyboard' for a chapter on *La Casa en Mango Street* and will be creating their own Spanish language 'memory' posters. I look forward to these fun activities with my students as we conclude the year together and build memories.

Art Update

It has been a great year for art at Cameron Middle School. We had many students win awards and have their work displayed all over the town and the state. The mural of "The Great Wave of Kangawa" is finishing up with plans for an unveiling party at the end of the school year. Thanks to all the kids who worked hard on it!

In other news, Ms. Brennan and myself are working with a group of sixth grade girls to create an anti-bullying stained glass window. Once finished, the window will be hung in the cafeteria for all to see.

Classes are finishing up their last projects. Sixth graders will be taking home some great animal sculptures. Seventh grade are putting final touches on the clay vases and 8th grade have made beautiful charcoal self-portraits. Thanks everyone for a great year in art class!

Mrs. Faletra's/Mr. Carrignant's Class **TEC Collaborative Classroom**

The end of the year is always exciting, and this year has been no exception. The students attended a TEC-wide "Oscars" Awards ceremony and received the "Best Set Design and Instrumentation" awards for their work on their April performance of "Kokomo" performed here at Cameron in the auditorium. Curriculum-based field trips included the Natick Organic Farm and the Franklin Park Zoo to conclude a unit on animals. We began a unit on science experiments for an upcoming science fair. The end of May also included an evening cookout at Hale Reservation in Westwood with the students from our class, 2 other TEC classes, and all the students' brothers and sisters. Games, campfire, cookout, music, and s'mores made for a fun time for all! All the TEC students continue to work hard in the classroom and in art class with Ms. Cummins. We would also like to congratulate Ms. Cummins once again on her well-deserved award from the Goldin Foundation for Excellence in Education!

Memo from the Nurse

Parents of sixth grade students please remember to send in your child's immunization records if you have not already done so.

This is a reminder to all parents of students with medication in school. Please pick up your child's medication before the close of school on Thursday June 17. All medications remaining at the close of school Thursday June 17 will be discarded.

Medication cannot be stored in the school over the summer. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call me at 508-879-7257.

Have a safe and happy summer.

Thank you

Linda Renault RN

Physical Education Update from Mrs. Dauer

The FITNESSGRAM has been our focus for the last PE unit. Students take part in challenging themselves to score in the healthy zones for a series of fitness assessments. Each student's results are entered into our computer fitness program, result in a personalized FITNESSGRAM printed report, and will be sent home with the final report card. When you talk with your student about his/her report look at his/her strengths and weaknesses. Please see that your child reviews the report. The FITNESSGRAM notes the results of push-ups, curl-ups (sit-ups), the pacer test (running), as well as flexibility and others info. Please use this info as a guide to help motivate your child and family towards being active throughout the summer.

If the report encourages more upper body strength, then try to have your child make a plan for more push-ups - whether straight body or bent-knee push-ups - throughout the summer. Engaging in 45-60 minutes of physical activity is easier to in the summer months. Mr. Kelberman and I encourage families to get out and play and move as a family-activity leads to better health for all.

Congrats to **Kevin Costa** who ran 100 laps on the Pacer Test. He set a new school record for all.

Congrats to **Olivia Bernas** who ran 78 laps on the Pacer Test. She set a new school record for the girls.

Cameron Yearbook Order Form

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Homeroom: _____

Amount paid: _____

cash _____

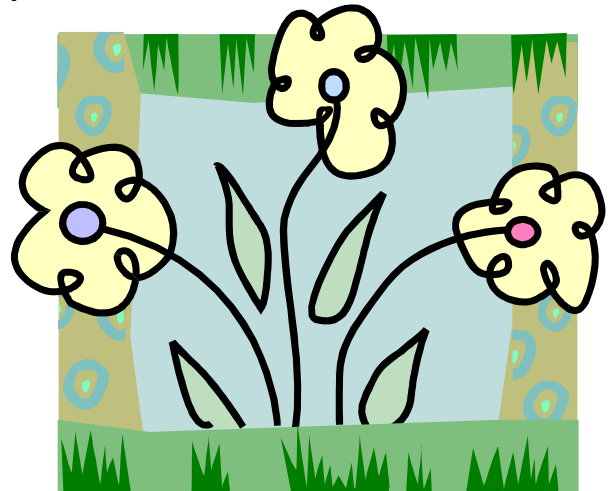
check _____

Yearbooks cost \$15.00

All checks can be made payable to the Cameron PTO

This form and any questions can be directed to Ms. Sack in room 127.

Please tear off this form and send in with your child with money to order their yearbook.



June

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1 Cultural Day in the library Staff mtg. AM	2 SS Final	3 Foreign language Final	4 Foreign language Final and final food drive collection	5
6	7 Science Final	8 ELA Final	9 Math Final	10 Math Final	11 6 th grade Field Day; Awards Ceremony – 1:30pm	12
13	14 Staff mtg. AM Band trip all day 8 th grade Crowne Plaza dance 6-9PM	15 8 th grade boat cruise 11-1PM	16 Promotion rehearsal 10:37; Promotion Ceremony 5-6PM 7 th grade Field Day	17 Last day of school 9-10:50 for students	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			