



CAMERON CHRONICLE

2010-2011

From the Principal's Desk

June is finally upon us and we have lots of special programs about to take place. The first is our **Family Fun Day which will be on June 2nd from 5:00-7:00 pm.** We really would love a huge turnout. Mr. Fauth is overseeing this marvelous two hours of fun with the help of other teachers and parents. Please try and come back to the school. We are hoping for good weather since some of the activities will be in the backyard and some will be inside using the gym and cafeteria. The more people, the better it will be. Mark your calendars and come have fun. This is a fund raiser but more importantly it is an opportunity for the entire Cameron community to come together and have an end-of-the-year party. Students have worked hard this year and it will be a grand time.

Other events this month are especially prevalent for the eighth grade students. They will be having their dinner dance on June 16 at the Hampton Inn in Natick and the next day they will have their all day 8th grade trip at Suburban here in town. There will be sports, board games, food, entertainment, tie dying and much more. The teachers have come up with a multitude of fun activities that the 8th graders will enjoy. The following week on June 20 the Awards ceremony for 8th grade students will be held at 1:00 in the auditorium and our Promotion ceremony is on June 21 at 5:00pm in the gymnasium with a reception afterwards in the cafeteria.

The last day of school is a half day on June 22 and dismissal will be at 11:25 am. Remember that all students, including 8th graders moving up to the HS, have summer reading that they need to do. The summer reading list will be on our web site and distributed to students in the near future.

Before the end of the year the seventh grade students will be taking their canoe trips on the Sudbury River and be having a field day the last week of school. All the grades are planning some events for June and students will be informed as the time approaches. We are finishing up on our reading blocks and our last Students of the Month are announced in this newsletter.

I want to wish all our Cameron families a safe and happy summer vacation. Thank you for your support and for your help in educating the 500 students of Cameron Middle School!

Students of the Month

Maggie McKeown – Grade 8
Mary Myers– Grade 8
Gabriel Araujo– Grade 7
Kira Porter– Grade 7
Spencer Lynch– Grade 6
Abby Murphy – Grade 6
Kenny Butterfield– Grade 6

TEAM NEWS

6th grade ELA – Mr. Hepp

Students in Mr. Hepp's class are working on poetry journals. These wonderful journals contain ten original poems that students have written, including haiku, theme poems, special place poems and personification poems. The journals also include a selection of poems they like, with an explanation of what the poem means and why they like it. In addition to poetry journals, students are going to read and perform plays in class.

The 6th Grade Green Yellow Team

Mr. Greeley's science classes have gone to the moon and back. We have begun students' favorite unit - Astronomy. Students have been exploring how the Earth moves around the Sun, why there are different seasons across the globe as well as the phases of the moon and the moon's impact on tides. Students really enjoyed our guest speaker who discussed the history of rockets from early Chinese fireworks to the current space station and space shuttle program. We even had the opportunity to view the penultimate space shuttle launch in class.

Mr. Greeley's social studies classes will be spending the final weeks of the school year in Africa. Having traveled through North Africa, we will continue to study African geography as well as learn about the unique histories of Africa's different regions. Students will study the colonial impacts on African nations, life in and around the Sahara Desert, and the legacy of Apartheid in South Africa.

Ms. Speicher's Math classes are finishing up a unit on coordinate graphing and algebraic expressions. The students have been writing rules for input/output tables using variables. For the remainder of the year, the students will be working on two projects. They will head back to fractions and work on multiplying and dividing. Each of the classes will be making Fraction Design Projects as well as a Math Game Projects. They will spend part

of the time reviewing different concepts that they have worked on throughout the year.

In Social studies, Ms. Speicher's students have made travel brochures for a country in Asia. To wrap up this unit, the students will have a short writing assignment comparing their country with the United States. They will look through each other's brochures to learn about a country that they did not research on their own.

Ms. Sack's ELA classes recently completed a big poetry unit and every student created a lengthy collection of a variety of poems. We are now working on our final reading unit which consists of Newbery Medal winning books. After reading his/her book, each student will complete a book report project in class.

In social studies, Ms. Sack's students are studying Mesopotamia and three civilizations that began there: Sumer, Babylonia, and Assyria. Students are creating a travel brochure for one of those ancient places. We will soon begin studying the civilization of ancient Egypt where students will complete a number of hands-on projects from designing a tomb, writing in hieroglyphics, and even making their very own mummies!

7th Grade Green Team

ELA – Ms. Piantedosi

Mrs. Piantedosi's language arts class has just finished its poetry unit, culminating with a portfolio of student work over the past month. Students were exposed to a variety of poetic forms. They honed their analyzing skills and also created many of their own original poems. We are now reading Lois Lowry's *The Giver*, a novel that raises the question whether a utopian society can ever truly exist? Overall, the students have worked very hard all year and are prepared for 8th grade. It has been a great year and all students should be proud of their hard work.

Mrs. Callanan- Science

EcoMUVE is complete and whether your student participated in the virtual world or the comparison unit, students learned a great deal about ecosystems and causality. Thank you to all for participating, Harvard collected a huge amount of data from Cameron.

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. The canoe trip will take place over several days during the first week in May 31-June 3.

Currently, students are developing a general understanding about the human body. Specifically, an understanding that the human body has organs, each of which has a specific function of its own, and that these organs together create systems that interact with each other to maintain life.

Have a happy and safe summer!

Math – Mr. Linet

Students finished the probability unit and worked very diligently for MCAS preparation. A standards based computer program, www.assistments.org, developed by Worcester Polytechnical Institute, funded by a National Science Foundation grant, (students had been using most of the year) was used intensively to provide review and additional practice.

For the balance of the year, students will be using the skills and concepts studied during the year to complete various projects. Projects will include studying and using the mathematics involved in Roller Coasters. Games will also be created by students that demonstrate their mastery of topics learned.

During the summer, students can access their assistments.org accounts to review, and learn further.

It has been an excellent year, and I enjoyed the students very much. Furthermore, I wish them a fun, safe summer, and success in the 8th grade.

Mr. Manning-Social Studies

We will be studying the history of Rome and the legacies left to us by this great empire.

8 Yellow & Green Teams

Physical Science: Mrs. Vora

Students learned a lot of Physical Science this year while conducting many experiments and watching several demonstrations. MIT graduate students showed them many interesting demonstrations during their visit to Cameron. Students have been working diligently on their Rube Goldberg machines to apply all the knowledge of physical science that they have gained this year. I thoroughly 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 – Mrs. Vora

Students have been learning about history of cultures around the world. We finished discussing about Islam and crusades. The term project was about Islam and students presented beautiful posters, models, and power points that reflected their understanding of the topic. Students are now learning about ancient civilization of India. Students are encouraged to read non-fiction picture books that will help them visualize historical events. They will also learn about modern history of India as they watch the movie “Gandhi”. I have really enjoyed working with these students this year and I wish you all a healthy and happy summer!

Social Studies – Mr. Neveu & Mrs. Falzone

As the school year winds down, students in Mr. Neveu and Mrs. Falzone’s World History classes are moving into Feudalism, The Early Middle Ages and The Crusades. In these units, the students will

be studying the establishment of Feudalism, and the religious and political implications of the Crusades. During the remainder of the trimester, students will learn how The Black Death impacted Europe's social, political, and economic landscapes as well as how the Italian Renaissance and European Reformation brought Europe back from the brink of extinction. Both Mr. Neveu and Mrs. Falzone have enjoyed working with their students and wish them the very best next year in high school.

ELA – Mr. Neveu

Between MCAS testing, the focus of Mr. Neveu's ELA class has been on introducing the Holocaust through many historical, literary, and first person perspectives. The 8th grade was very fortunate to have a Holocaust survivor, Mrs. Rena Finder, visit and share her courageous story with the students. The students have been using Rena's words along with classroom discussions to prepare mentally and historically for the memoir *Night* by Elie Wiesel. *Night* takes place in Eastern Europe during The Holocaust, and is Wiesel's personal account of his loss of identity and freedom as well as his struggle for survival. It is a very heavy, yet important subject, which the students have been approaching with the utmost interest and respect. Mr. Neveu wants to encourage his students to stay focused and continue working hard. He knows that they can see the light at the end of the middle school tunnel, but emphasizes that they are not there yet and they need to finish up the year on a strong note!

Ms. Rensko and Ms. Greaney

All students, in both grade 8 math and algebra will be taking their final on June 10. This final counts as 20% of their trimester three grade. We will be review in class the weeks before the final

Grade 8 Math

Students will be creating a survey about a topic of their choice. They will have other students take it and then they will analysis the results. They will present their results in a poster with graphs and an essay along with a presentation to the class.

Algebra

Algebra students continue to work hard as we come to the end of the school year. We finished studying the rules of exponents and how to apply them to different types of equations. For the rest of the year we are learning about factoring binomial and trinomials and working with Quadratic equations. Ask your algebra students to sing you the quadratic formula song!

We have enjoyed working with all the students this year and we hope everyone enjoys their summer vacation! Good luck in high school!

Ms. Williamson's science

On the 8th grade yellow team, students will be finishing the year with the element T-shirt project. Students will be choosing elements to study during the last few weeks of school and will be designing a T-shirt about their element. All students will be wearing their T-shirts on June 16th and will do a presentation about their element on that day. In addition students will complete an information sheet about their element that they will turn in on June 15th. The science final is scheduled to take place during classes on June 13th; the test will count for 20% of their final grade.

TEC Class – Mrs. Faletra

During May, the TEC class went to see the play "Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp" at the Wheelock Family Theater in Boston. This was the conclusion to a literature unit. This also included a day at Cameron with people from the theater who brought costumes and props for the students try out to better understand the story.

As this is the final newsletter, we would like to thank all of the Cameron students who have been a friend to students in our classroom over the past one, two, and even three years. The Cameron Community is truly amazing, and we all learn from each other every day. Thank you for your openness, enthusiasm, compassion, and fun!

Congratulations to all the eighth graders who will be leaving Cameron who we have had the opportunity to know during your three years here at

Cameron, including our two TEC students who are being promoted: **Caroline Curley and Amiel Macapagal!**

Art Update

It has been a very successful year in art class. Students have had their work exhibited throughout Framingham and at the Worcester Art Museum. Students have also been recognized at the Scholastic Art Awards. Thanks for all the hard work this year!

A group of eighth grade students have teamed up with students from the TEC collaborative classroom on a literacy and art interdisciplinary project. The eighth graders have written an art analysis paper comparing and contrasting prints from the Danforth Art Museums Biennial Printmaking Show. The students went to the museum to see the show and had the chance to interview and talk with docents from the museum. After writing the papers, students created a piece of artwork that was inspired by the prints they were studying. The most exciting part of this collaboration is that the student's artwork and papers will be on exhibit at the Danforth in June.

From the Nurse's desk

To all parents/guardians of Cameron students,
After your student has an appointment for an examination with his/her medical provider, please provide your school nurse with a copy of your child's most recent physical or medical forms as soon as possible. The nurse's fax # is 508-788-0481.

If you do not have a primary care provider for your child please contact your school nurse who can refer you to a local provide. The nurse's phone # is 508-782-7832.
Thank you.

Dear Cameron Parents/Guardians of 6th graders,

Massachusetts State Law requires that each child in public school be examined by a primary care provider every three or four years. Framingham Public Schools requires documentation of a physical before or during kindergarten and grades 4, 7 and 10.

Public school students who will be entering 7th grade in the fall of 2011 **MUST** also have two varicella vaccinations or medical note stating the child had varicella (chicken pox). Entering 7th grade students **MUST** also have a booster immunization of Tdap prior to starting school. Tdap is a booster vaccine against tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis. Both varicella and Tdap are **required by law** for entry into 7th grade. Any entering 7th grade student without Tdap and varicella vaccination will not be able to start school until vaccinations are obtained.

Your child's primary care provider can best determine his/her health status and can update any required immunizations during a physical examination. If you have not already done so, please schedule an appointment for an examination for your child and provide your school nurse with a copy of your child's most recent physical as soon as possible. The school nurse's direct fax # is 508-788-0481.

If you do not have a primary care provider for your child please contact your school nurse who can refer you to a local provider. The school nurse's phone # is 508-782-7832.

June

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1	2 Breakfast w/Principal for SOM Family Fun Day 5-7pm	3	4
5	6 Staff Mtg. 2:30pm	7 HS performs a play at Cameron	8 Potter Rd. 5 th grade visit	9 Band outing w/Mrs. Dupuis	10	11
12	13 Team Leader Mtg. 2:30pm	14 Woodrow Wilson 5 th grade visit	15 Stapleton 5 th grade visit	16 8 th grade Dinner Dance 6-9pm	17 8 th grade trip to Suburban	18
19	20 Promtional Rehearsal in AM, Awards Ceremony 1pm	21 Promotion Ceremony and reception 5pm	22 Last day of school all students dismissed at 11:25AM	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		