

MIDDLE OF THE KNIGHTS

Northeastern Middle School: Where Every Student Is Inspired to Learn and Empowered to Excel

Pep Assembly

By: Maddie Cohee and Maggie Dayton

On Friday, September 22nd, NMS and NHS had a combined assembly to get the Northeastern students excited about the homecoming game. It started with Mr. Wisner introducing the NHS boys football team.

To get the crowd excited and into the assembly, the sophomores and junior classes selected six boys from their class to play in a volleyball game to 25 points. The boys started off with the first serve being from Chad Leavell. The sophomores took the win with a hard kill that dropped right in front of the juniors.

To make it even more interactive, the teachers also played a game which only lasted until 15 points. The middle school staff took a devastating loss. That didn't affect Ms.



McKinley's thoughts on the game. Ms. McKinley stated, "It was one of the best trust building activities we've done as a staff." It also brought the students together as they cheered on their teachers! The Knights had a fun time and were excited about the football game later that night.

NMS cheerleader Grace Todd said that she thought everyone really enjoyed the pep assembly. She also thought the overall excitement from the crowd created a positive environment for both students and staff. Grace really enjoys cheerleading, and also enjoyed the competitiveness between the middle and high school staff.

The Knights had a great time at the pep assembly. The volleyball games and the overall experience got the Knights really excited for the homecoming game, however, the game did not go so well for the NHS Knights, with a loss to Centerville of 0-14.

Nine Weeks Recap

By: Angel Dargie

The first nine weeks of school has come to an end. Many students and teachers are now adjusted into the new school year.

Mrs. Sonsini, the middle school principal, says that her favorite part was homecoming week because she "loved how we combined with the high school." She feels that we are off to a great start to the school year, and loves all the energy in the building. Students are excited to be back and socialize with each other for the new school year. Teachers are planning engaging lessons and creating a fun atmosphere for school.

Maddie Cohee, an 8th grade student, says, "The first nine weeks was great, but it was hard at first getting used to school again and it's easier now that I've gotten used to it." Most students feel that now that they are more used to the environment of the school; they feel like communicating with teachers and students is much easier.

During the past 9 weeks, the 8th grade students enjoyed the field trip for leadership and 7th grade went on a field trip to the Richmond Symphony. They listened to a professional orchestra play many different, famous songs like *Star Wars*. Also the 6th grade seemed to enjoy Ms. Williams' creative clothing, dressing up as Mae Tuck, from *Tuck Everlasting*.

Break the Bullying

By: Owen Dumford and McKaelyn Cummins

Bullying is a widespread issue that affects many people all over the world. To inform people about what exactly bullying is, Miss Frame, our School Guidance Counselor, has been talking to middle school classes.

To get perspective about bullying through a student's eyes, Katelyn Bishop, an 8th grade student, was interviewed. When asked how she thought bullying could affect someone's mood, she said, "What some people say could bring you down." By this she meant that when someone says something hurtful to you, it can make that person feel bad about themselves. Katelyn Bishop was also asked what she thought the problem with bullying was. Her response was, "there is too much of it around." Bullying is not only an issue seen by adults, but also by students.

Miss Frame played a video that really touched on perspective. In the video it showed how there could be things going on in other people's lives that someone else may not know about, which is why you should treat everyone with kindness. Bullying is something that everyone should be informed and educated about, so that if they come across that situation they are prepared.

Finally, students were asked to participate in a survey. One of the questions students were asked was, where do most of the bullying situations happen at school? 38.6 percent of students said in the hallway, and 31.8 percent of students said in the cafeteria. This is most likely because there is less supervision than in a classroom setting. Students were also asked if they were bullied, who were they most likely to tell; almost half of students said a parent, but 37.5 percent said no one. It is important to tell someone you trust if you are bullied so that a stop can be put to it.

When asked why she thinks it is important for students to come to her, Ms. McKinley, the 8th grade English teacher said, "As teachers, we want students to report any and all bullying to us. We want to help resolve conflict and support students in all ways, socially and academically." However, on a more positive note, over half of students, when they were asked what they would do if they saw someone being bullied, said they would interrupt the bullying to stand up for someone.

Friendship

By: Tessa West, Brooklyn Fisher, and Alexis Caldwell

Friendship is something that everyone needs to think about. Everyone needs to be involved in friendship. Last month's value of the month was friendship, and students learned about it every Tuesday in their More than Words classes in SRT.

Everyone has a friend, but usually people don't realize how appreciative they should be of their best friends. Zoe Cline and Alaina Hurd, two best friends, agreed that, "Good qualities of friendship are being loyal and always being supportive of your friends."

Miss Frame, the school counselor, said, "You can show friendship by sitting by people that are sitting alone." She also said, "We are all created to be a friend... you don't just have to have a best friend, you can be friends with many, many people."

Friendship is not just a word, it's an action. If someone feels like they don't have a friend, there is always someone feeling the same way. Anyone can be a friend: any gender, any age, or any culture.

Two 7th grade friends, Chloe Cook and Kamryn McFarland, gave us information about their friendship. Chloe Cook said, "A friend is a person who you can talk to and trust, and someone who will keep your secrets private." Kamryn McFarland said, "Friends aren't people who just message you, they love to be near you and go to your games and other fun events."

Most of the 7th grade SRTs watched videos about friendship during Tuesday's More than Words lessons. Ms. McKinley's SRT wrote postcards to their friends. Mrs. Moreland's SRT wrote nice post-it notes and put them on the lockers. Mrs. Kircher-Taylor's SRT made friendship bracelets.

"Friendship is not something you learn in school. But if you haven't learned the meaning of friendship, you really haven't learned anything." -Muhammad Ali

5th and 6th Grade Football

By: Ian Wilson

Football is a great sport to play during the school year because it builds teamwork and the ability to work with others. Wesley Hunt, a 6th grade football player, says, “It [football] helps with team building.” Football is also a great way for students to get active and get involved in their school. Another thing football can teach is cooperation, because everything that happens behind the linemen can be either really simple or extremely complicated. For example, in order to execute the play called Criss-Cross, there are several handoffs that need precise timing.

Every player gets their playing time because there is a guaranteed playing time of one quarter. With all the players getting to play, it gives the coaches a chance to know who is the best. Even though it takes a lot of teamwork to be on a football team, every player has to do their individual job. If one person messes up, it can mess up the whole play. Wesley says, “I like to be on a team sport and work together with people.”

When the 5th and 6th grade have practice, they start with stretches for about 15 to 30 minutes. After stretches, they have a quick jog to warm up their legs. Then, after the jog they split into offense and defense groups to do plays and defense drills. They are practicing hard for their next game. They played Centerville at Cambridge on Saturday, October 7th.

They work very hard to get ready for each game and strive to win. They are very competitive and hard working. The Knights are currently 3-2 shortly into their season, so wish them luck in the rest of their season.

College Go Week

By: Treydon York and Grant Luebbe

Last week, NMS dedicated a whole week to educating students on college education and experiences. Raedhyn Foust, an 8th grade student, said, “College Go Week is when students learn about colleges and they also get more involved in things that have to do with college.”

Miss Frame, the NMS Guidance Counselor, said, “College was such a great experience for me because I love to learn, I love to read, and I also love to write. Another part of college that I loved was meeting people from not only around the country, but around the world.”

Kaila Arthur, a 7th grade student at NMS, said, “College Go Week is a week when students get to interact and learn more about about our future in college.”

During College Go week, everyday during lunch, NMS had trivia activities about colleges. Some of the questions included “What was the first private college in Indiana?” and “What are the official colors of Notre Dame?”

NMS also had 10 students come up during lunch and flashed them logos of colleges, and the first out of two people to guess the logo correctly won a Jolly Rancher.

Karsen Scarrette said, “I’m looking forward to getting good grades, to get a degree, for good jobs to be available to me.”

Treyton Burdsall said, “What I look forward to in college is keeping great grades and meeting people from around the world.”

Although college education is extremely encouraged, there are other options out there and students should do what they think is best for them. Some other choices include, joining the military, start a business, getting into sales, and volunteering. To be successful, students don’t always have to go to college. For example, Bill Gates, one of the richest men in the world, never attended college. Students should follow the career path that they feel is best for their future.



Farm Science Review

By: Hannah Kiracofe

On September 21st, FFA students went to the Farm Science Review in London, Ohio. It was a reward for the first 30 high school and middle school students to pay their membership fee for FFA. The Farm Science Review is a festival that lasted from September 19th - 21st. There were many booths students could go to, including an antique farming equipment booth, a 4-H booth, a John Deere booth, and a turfgrass stand.

Also, there were many choices for food and many activities students could do, like riding a bike to power light bulbs and playing jeopardy to win a meter stick. The activity where they had to power light bulbs with a bike is an activity, where students could light up 12 light bulbs by pedaling a bike quickly and efficiently. The prize for students who participated was a canvas bag, and possibly a better prize for a person who powered all the lightbulbs.

One of the students who went on the trip was 8th grade student, Claire Coddington. She said, "My favorite part was that I got to learn more about agriculture." She also said, "My least favorite part was the rain."

A 7th grade student who went on the trip, Hannah Kiracofe, said, "It was really fun and it was a unique experience that you can't experience on an everyday basis." She also said, "My least favorite part that we had to walk through the rain, even though it was fun to trudge through the water."

Lainy Moore, a 6th grade student, said, "My favorite part was the Beck's booth and 4-H booth because at the Beck's booth, we learned pretty much everything about Ag, and at the 4-H booth we did a lot of fun activities."

Students learned many things about Ag during the all day trip. They made bouncy balls out of borax and flour and made objects out of special plastic. They learned about tractors, farming, and about 4-H. We hope that the students had fun on their trip, while learning many new things.

Digging into Brains

By: Kamryn McFarland and Alaina Hurd

Mrs. Mitchell's class is slicing into brains. Last week, the Medical Detectives looked into a sheep's brain.

The students do this as a fun activity after they have been taught the specifics about the senses, which are linked to the brain. The students started this by working, learning, and experimenting with the senses. After this was completed, they went into talking about the brain. They talked about what the different parts were called, what they did, and how they were linked with the senses. To wrap up this section, the class dissected a sheep's brain. This showed Mrs. Mitchell that they learned and comprehended the material they were taught in a fun way.

This class is under the category of "Project Lead the Way." These type of classes allow students to see themselves in the roles of biomedical science professionals, as they solve real-world challenges, such as preventing, diagnosing, and treating disease and investigating the death of a fictional person.

Tessa West, a student in Medical Detectives said, she was nervous and excited walking into this project. "I felt nervous because I didn't know what to expect, but I also felt kind of excited because I've never done anything like this before."

Mrs. Mitchell said that Medical Detectives is where students get to dissect a sheep's brain and usually the kids will react really excited or grossed out. "When they get to cut up a sheep's brain, most of the time they get excited because they get to do something that they probably won't get to do until high school." Mrs. Mitchell said that the part she liked most about Medical Detectives is that they do real life hands on activities. "I think where we get to do the dissection of the brain is the most fun."