



Feeling the Wrath of Writing

In Mrs. Bush's Sixth Grade English class students practiced constructed responses for PARCC testing on laptops last week by reading an article from Scope magazine. Since February is Black History Month, students read an article and watched a video on the struggles Booker T. Washington faced on his journey to gain an education.

Students then wrote a literary analysis piece exploring how the author used facts in the video and article to share information with the reader about the hardships Booker T. Washington faced. Later in the week, students worked on writing a narrative piece from the perspective of Booker T. Washington. Students learned how to incorporate information from the text and the video into their narratives.

Some students were resistant to the change of increased writing time; however, students felt accomplished after they saw success in their own writing.

"Writing is such an important skill for all students, but many students have difficulty finding the motivation to write effectively. When students see they can be successful in writing, they are less resistant to learning effective ways to communicate through their writing," Sixth Grade English teacher, Mrs. Bush says.

An additional note from Mrs. Bush for the parents of sixth grade students: "Students will be doing a lot of writing in the coming weeks, so please emphasize to students what an important skill effective writing is. I have seen some really great writing from the sixth graders thus far, and I am confident they will continue to do amazing writing in the classroom!"

—Laenie Swardenski

Tumbling Tikes



This week the Elementary School P.E. students are currently finishing up their Gymnastics Unit. Over the past couple of weeks P.E. teacher Manning Bricker has been working with the students by teaching and having students practice different skills such as individual balancing, partner balancing, point and patches, and rolling motions to help improve their techniques. The task for this unit is for each student to create

his or her own routine and show it to the class. Mr. Bricker records each routine and creates DVDs for the students to have once the unit is over.

"The kids enjoy working in groups on the project, and I like how the kids are able to be creative," says Mr. Bricker.

Following the conclusion of the Gymnastics Unit, the students will begin basketball and March Madness. Around April, the Easter Bunny Boot Camp

starts, which is a fun little obstacle course in which the students participate. The year will conclude with fitness testing and track.

If the weather cooperates at the end of the year, the Elementary P.E. will hold their first ever Fourth and Fifth Grade track meet.

—Alexa Hoadley

Parachutes and More

This past week the Bright Futures students explored the world of parachutes. This activity is meant to teach students to follow simple directions and work together in groups.

Students placed small toy animals on the parachute and played "popcorn." The children then practiced making the parachute go fast or slow and up or

down.

Ms. Meyer states, "It was a nice indoor Gross Motor activity for the students to participate in since the weather outside is so cold!"

Ms. Meyer would also like to inform parents of the following: "March Family Night – "Pete the Cat" Night will be held on March 26th from 6-7 p.m. in

the IBES Commons Area. We hope all of our families can enjoy our special event. Preschool Screenings--If you have a child that needs to be screened for our preschool class for the Fall of 2015, please call the Bright Futures' Main Office at 686-8590 to schedule an appointment."

—Emma Overton



Final Answer: What is Jeopardy?

Last week marked the beginning of the Jeopardy Power-Point in Nichole Zimmerman's Computer Orientation class. Students had to create layouts for their games as well as think up unique themes. This was the accumulation of all the Power-Point skills they have learned thus far.

The creation of the classic television game show took many "triggers" and "action buttons." Now I know those of us who haven't taken Computer Orientation within the last few years may be scratching our heads. Triggers? Action buttons?

These two applications allow

for the movement of objects so that animations happen when they are needed. Mrs. Zimmerman's students have spent the last several weeks perfecting this art.

To make their game meets standards, students will need to go over their work and test it constantly, Mrs. Zimmerman claims. This will ensure they create something that truly reflects their skill levels.

If they do what they should and follow their instructions, they will have just that: phenomenal games worthy to be on Jeopardy itself.

—Jeston Rademaker

Uncovered Mysteries

Last week in Mr. Brown's AP History class students started a project investigating different mysterious historical events; students will be working on this project until early May.

Students will spend the next two months investigating, gathering evidence, and constructing a conclusion to the mystery. The conclusion of the project is an online presentation of the mystery each student investi-

gates.

The most important lesson learned from this assignment is time management. Mr. Brown states, "Project management is highly important. Students will need to develop a timeline for finishing the project with specific deliverables in order to succeed. Learning to manage a large project is a great life lesson that can be gained through historical inquiry."

Mr. Brown also brings to attention that the AP Exam is in early May. There are a variety of test-prep materials accessible on his website. Mr. Brown can also provide insight on resources the students can order.

—Jaimie Randle

Tech Savvy

In 4th grade with Ms. Jarrett, the kids discovered the PARCC test on the new Chrome books this past week. In writing, they also worked with Google Classroom and Drive to make graphic organizers to layout their future essays over comparing and contrasting text structures.

Ms. Jarrett would like the parents of the students to know: The kids are working on double-digit multiplication. The method may not be what others are learning, so try to stay positive and encourage students. Due to this new method, they will develop a deeper understanding of the concept.

—Abbi Schafer

Chili X 2

In Ms. Jackson's Foods 1 class students are practicing their skills to change the yield of a recipe. With this skill students can change recipes by simply using math. The students will be doubling a chili recipe and cutting a corn bread recipe in half. This skill puts them well on their way for a delicious result (with twice the chili!)

Ms. Jackson believes this skill is practical for our everyday use of fractions. She knows math frustrates and confuses students quite often, but since the math is being put into a hands-on activity that her students enjoy, it makes the math seem less difficult.

—Julie Hemp

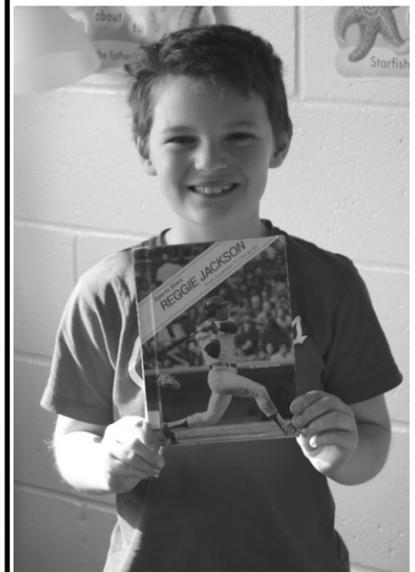
Dr. Seuss Day

Monday, March 2nd was Dr. Seuss's birthday. The Kindergarten class had parents and other guests read Dr. Seuss's books to celebrate. Their classes were engaged in many activities inspired from many of the Dr. Seuss books throughout week. Some of the activities that they partook in included making cats in hats, writing about thing one and thing two, and trying green eggs and ham.

—Maddie Gruber



Pictured Below (From last week's article "Third Grade Reads Biographies" Chris Drake reads [Reggie Jackson: From Superstar to Candy Bar](#) by George Vass.



Bragging Rights has been moved to March 12th.

Student Council Blossoms

From now until April 15th, IBHS Student Council will be selling flowers to raise funds. The money raised will help pay for members to attend the Student Council State Convention, which students from councils across the state attend to share ideas.

There is a plethora of flowers to choose from. Flowers can be purchased in groups of 4 or 6 and different standards of vines and herbs can also be purchased as well. Hanging baskets of var-

ious plants are for sale and \$25 gift cards are available for those who are unsure of what to purchase.

The flowers will arrive on May 2nd and can be picked up at the IBHS Greenhouse. There will be extra flowers available for purchase while supplies last.

The order form is available at ibstuco.weebly.com or you can obtain one from an IBHS Student Council member.

—Lucas Sondgeroth

Tune In!

Get ready parents, because the Solo and Ensemble Contest is coming up fast; it's only ONE week away! Mr. Seymour's band members have been working their heads off practicing for the competition.

They are taking the time to really perfect and polish their tunes, and it definitely shows in their work.

"Success depends mostly on the time and effort you put toward something," said Mr. Seymour, referencing the most im-

portant lesson he'll teach this week.

Parents should make sure to keep an eye out for the permission slips and schedules of the performances that are being sent home with the students.

Make sure you cheer on your friends and/or family as they compete in the Solo and Ensemble Contest on March 7th at PORTA High School in Petersburg, Illinois!

—Veronica Lee