

# Clipper News

*Lois Bowden*  
Principal

*Heather Wilson*  
Dean of Students



## Quarter 2 2017-2018

### ELA with Ms. Cote

In Ms. Cote's 7th grade ELA class, students are learning about poetry and figurative language by looking at different genres of poetry and reading *Buttermilk Hill* by Ruth White, a book about a young poet named Piper. So far, we have practiced writing haiku!

In Ms. Cote's 8th grade ELA class, the focus is also poetry and figurative language. Students have written their own haiku, listened to slam poetry, and will soon read *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse, a book written in poetic verse about the dust bowl years of the Great Depression.



*Pictured right are projects from Mr. Schmidt's math class.*

### Math News from Mr. Schmidt

The last few weeks have been really exciting as we progress into more challenging content. 8th grade Algebra I has covered linear equations, compound inequalities, and graphing linear equations. 8th grade Math has covered scientific notation, probability, and started linear equations. 7th grade finished percents, integer computation, measures of center, and graphing data in different representations. Now that our year is nearly half over, the students are gaining more independence and freedom over their learning. I can't wait to see what the rest of the year will bring!

One of the more exciting projects of the second quarter was the Dream House project with the 7th graders. This project sought to combine a wide range of skills from decimal and percent computation to two dimensional and three dimensional representations. Each student had to design a house that had one computer and one paper representation with both two dimensional and three dimensional components. The end results were awesome with some students using tagboard, Minecraft, or different computer programs. It seemed like the students enjoyed the project quite a bit, but most of all, they gave incredible effort and should be very proud of themselves.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

1/29 Quarter 3 and Semester 2 Begins  
1/29 China @ Palermo, GV/BV, 3:30 p.m.  
1/30 Math Meet, 8:30 CLCC (snow date 1/31)  
1/31 China @ St. Mike's GV, 3:30/ Temple @ China, GJV/BV, 4:00  
2/1 Quarter 2 Report Cards sent home  
2/2 - 2/3 KV Music Festival  
2/5 China @ Chelsea BV/BJV, 3:30/Chelsea @ China GJV/GV,4:15  
2/6 8th gr. visit to Erskine Academy, 9:30 - 11:30  
2/6 PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
2/7 County Spelling Bee @ CMS, 4:00 p.m.  
2/7 School Board Meeting, C.O.7:00 p.m.  
2/8 Beginner Band Concert, 6:30 pm  
2/9 Recognition Assembly, 8:10 a.m.  
2/19 - 2/23 Winter Break  
2/28 Erskine's Open House for 8th grade students, 6:30 p.m.  
3/2 Fuel-Up Night - Circle K 3:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
3/6 Early Release, Noon Dismissal  
3/7 School Board Meeting, C.O.7:00 p.m.  
3/14 & 3/15 P/T Conferences, 3:30 - 7:00  
3/15 - 3/21 8th grade Heritage Tour  
3/16 Inservice Day - No School - Brunswick High School  
3/17 Odyssey of the Mind Competition  
3/19 - 4/13 eMPowerME Assessment Window  
3/22 Drama Production for Parents & Community, 6:30 p.m.  
3/23 Drama Production for students, 8:15 - 9:15 a.m.  
3/23 7th & 8th grade dance, 6:30 p.m.  
3/27 & 3/28 District Budget Workshops, MMS, 6:00 p.m.



## Sixth Grade Science with Mrs. Maroon

How many muscles are there in the human body? How many bones is an infant born with? Why are platelets important to our survival? These are all questions sixth grade students should be able to answer after studying 3 of the of the human body systems! Students will continue to learn interesting facts about the body as the year progresses. Stay tuned!

## P.E. News from Mr. Peterson:

Now that the weather is much colder students are enjoying inside gym activities. The indoor activities are Basketball, Ropes, Volley Kin-Ball, Kin-Ball Four-Square and coming soon ... Floor Hockey. In addition, all Physical Education classes will be doing the second quarter Fitness Testing during the next couple of weeks.

November P.E. Students of the Month:  
Lillian Crommett  
Brady Mayberry

December P.E. Students of the Month:  
Noah Wilson

## Catalyst Corey Comes to CMS

On Friday, January 12, 2018, fifth and sixth grade students experienced an exciting interactive presentation from Mad Science of Maine. The Fire and Ice show had many on the edge of their seats. Thank you to the PTO for funding this wonderful learning experience!



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## News from Mrs. Lyons

Despite the wind and snow, the CMS band and chorus put on a wonderful winter concert! Throughout the evening the groups performed a broad range of music from pop to classical to jazz. Our students overcame many challenges during the first quarter in order to prepare for this concert. Both Ms. Lyons and Mr. Bickford are extremely proud of these amazing, hard-working kids. We are looking forward to learning and performing new music this spring!

The Music Department would also like to give a big “thank you” to the China PTO for their support of our program and our students. We are always grateful when the community is able to contribute. If you would like to donate any used instruments to the China music program, please feel free to contact Ms. Katie Lyons. Thank you!



## Mrs. Salvadori 6th & 7th Grade Math

### *Sixth Grade Math*

Students often ask the question, “When are we ever going to use this in real life?”. Sixth graders are currently studying ratios and proportions and how they apply to real life scenarios. They are taking this new found knowledge to determine the best deal when making purchases and how to calculate things such as miles per gallon.

### *Seventh Grade Math*

7th graders have spent the past couple of weeks delving into the complicated world of Algebra. For the start of Quarter 3, we will be taking a break from this pursuit as we explore the concept of Probability. During this unit, students will have opportunities to learn about the theory of probability and how it actually is applied in real life. They will do so by engaging in a hands-on study of this concept by partaking in some well known games such as Uno, Skunk and Deal or No Deal.

## 7/8 Social Studies

Seventh graders this month have learned about why different countries go to war. To learn this, we focused on the Spanish-American War and the first World War. Activities we completed included an opportunity to practice some "yellow journalism" and participate in a Peace Conference aimed at stopping WWI. Our next unit will focus on the reforms of the early 1900's.

Eighth graders have spent quarter 2 learning about their rights and responsibilities as citizens. Most recently we've focused on how groups can affect the political process. During quarter three students will learn about Maine history and hopefully make a number of local connections.

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## What are “Habits of Mind”?

by Mrs. Duncklee

Students in our CMS math classrooms have been working on more than algorithms and learning steps to solve problems. On a daily basis they are involved in learning about and refining their “Habits of Mind”.

A "Habit of Mind" means having a disposition toward behaving intelligently when confronted with problems, the answers to which are not immediately known. When students experience such problems or come face to face with uncertainty, they must begin to learn patterns of “thinking behavior” in order to work toward success.

These Habits of Mind seldom are performed in isolation; rather, clusters of behaviors are used in various situations. For example, when listening intently, we use the habits of thinking flexibly, thinking about our thinking (metacognition), thinking and communicating with clarity and precision, and perhaps even questioning and posing problems.

Following is a list of the “Habits of Mind” within the RSU 18 Curriculum:

- Δ Cultivating Creativity and Imagination
- Δ Listening With Understanding and Empathy
- Δ Maintaining a Growth Mindset
- Δ Managing Impulsivity
- Δ Meeting Quality Standards
- Δ Persevering
- Δ Responding to Feedback
- Δ Seeking to be Understood
- Δ Setting and Monitoring Goals

## JMG News

On our visit to Kennebec Technology in Augusta we learned that teamwork is critical to the success of the company. Teamwork helps us be better at problem solving and creative thinking.

We know we can apply these skills to any job or career we might have in our future.

Pictured outside (JMG 8th grade students)



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## Mrs. Larrabee's ELA Classes

5th graders are learning about elements of fantasy and reading The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe and doing a great job! They are also completing a book project over informational text and creating a game boards to share their knowledge of the topic they choose. Students are very excited about playing their classmates games, and having others play theirs!

6th and 7th graders are reading My Side of the Mountain and learning the elements of realistic fiction by making connections with the main character, Sam. Students are enjoying the adventure of this young adventurer.

All ELA students have weekly spelling words. Please read this important information to better help your child be successful with their weekly spelling test and better understand how spelling is structured.

"Your child has been using the *Spelling Connections* program this year. Each week, the lesson will focus on a common spelling pattern or rule. The spelling words on the list for that week will illustrate the targeted pattern or rule.

You can help your child succeed by spending time at home each week examining and writing the spelling words together. Make a game of spelling practice.

The **Spelling Study Strategy** is a method for studying any spelling word. Help your child make a habit of using it for spelling practice. Follow these steps:

1. **Look** at the word.
2. **Say** the letters in the word. Think about how each sound is spelled.
3. **Cover** the word with your hand or close your eyes.
4. **See** the word in your mind. Spell the word to yourself.
5. **Write** the word.
6. **Check** your spelling against the spelling in the book.

Your child will also grow as a spelling by writing stories, diaries, signs, and letters at home. Encourage your son or daughter to write frequently while playing and exploring hobbies and during quiet times. Enjoy writing together!"

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## **Spanish News from Mrs. Sanchez**

¡Estoy cansado y tengo hambre!  
¡Me duele la cabeza!

During these cold, dreary winter months, we all like to complain, don't we?

Spanish students in the 7th grade have been learning to show concern for each other by asking their friends "How are you?" and "What's wrong?" as well as various ways of responding to these questions, using adjectives in the proper form. They have all completed and presented a short conversation, using these phrases.

Give your student a surprise, and ask them "¿Cómo estás?" tomorrow morning, and see how they respond!

Spanish students in the 8th grade are also learning to complain, by expressing that a body part hurts. They will be learning how to invite a friend to do something, and then respond that don't want, or aren't able to do the activity because of the pain. Please encourage your students to study their vocabulary a little bit every day, using Quizlet.com!

## **Science News from Mrs. Murphy**

Fifth graders in Mrs. Murphy's science class have been busy this quarter learning about weather. They used interactive notebooks throughout the semester to collect new knowledge and understandings in a creative, cohesive way. Students explored several big topics including the water cycle, predicting weather, types of precipitation, and the sun's role in producing weather.

Science students rounded out the quarter by exploring weathering, erosion, and deposition and how they change the Earth's surface. They were able to show their knowledge of these contrastive and destructive forces through a project of their choice, given 5 different options. These projects were presented to the class and students were evaluated on their presenting skills after having reviewed the traits of effective presenters.

Students will be switching to social studies in the third quarter, where we will be learning about world cultures and cultural diversity. Stay tuned for news on a multicultural event that will be taking place at the end of the quarter!