

Hatchet Highlights

Issue 3, December 1, 2018



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From the Principal's Desk:

I recently had the opportunity to attend a presentation by Tim Kight. Tim is the founder and president of Focus 3, a company that helps organizations build a positive, results driven culture through aligning behavior with goals. You're probably thinking the same thing I was, that this sounds like another motivational speaker that claims to have it all figured out. I was wrong, Mr. Kight's message was profound, at least it was for me. He spoke on a number of topics, but the one that resonated most with me is when he spoke about the difference between a disciplined versus default self. The default self being one that produces an unfiltered and impulsive response to a situation...I'm sure you can imagine an example. The disciplined self is one that responds to a situation in a much more thoughtful and focused manner. Mr. Kight uses a formula $E+R=O$ or Event + Response = Outcome. The goal in using this equation successfully is to realize the outcome you desire and formulate your response in a way that produces it. The moral of his message is that we can never control the events that happen in our daily lives, but we can control how we respond to them. When we want better outcomes we need to look inward, because how we respond is directly related to the outcome of the situation. I chose to share this message because I incorporate this lesson in my conversations with students. My effort is to ensure students understand the importance of being less impulsive and more disciplined in their response to challenging events in life. Young people typically know the outcome they desire, achieving that outcome...well, that takes some self-discipline. Thank you for taking the time to read this month's newsletter. If you would like to explore Tim Kight's message further, please explore the Focus 3 website at <https://www.focus3.com/>.

The Middle Years:

Please follow the link below to view this month's Middle Years Publication:

December Issue: [Middle Years December](#)

Counselor's Corner:



Project Rest

Project Rest, started by the Center for Suicide Awareness, reaches out to all with the powerful visual "rest" symbol in music. In music, the REST symbol is a place where the musician pauses in the middle of the song to breathe, refocus, and refresh before they continue.

In life, there are ups and downs, twists and turns, and we can easily become stressed and overwhelmed. With the barrage of life issues we face daily, take a moment and simply rest. PROJECT REST serves to encourage and remind us to take a moment just to pause, breathe, refocus, and refresh. In music as in life, the song continues as so must we.



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The Literacy Tool Shed:

In this month's Tool Shed, we are going to include several beginning strategies you can stress at home. In addition, I will include very short video links for each strategy you may find helpful. Finally, I'd like to include some local literacy information. When I start working with a student, I begin with the basics and build upward. If the student understands the basic concept I'm presenting I can quickly check it off and move on. With my Toolbox lessons, I will do the same. Through this year we will build from the ground up. Believe it or not, students at any grade level may struggle with vowel sounds - especially the short ones. Here is a simple lesson you can work on with your child. You may need to repeat it periodically to get it to stick. Click on the link below.

[Short Vowel Lesson Link](#)

Have you ever been reading something and all of a sudden you realize you were daydreaming or thinking of something else and you have no clue what you just read? This next strategy will help you with that and will help your child become more mentally aware of what they are reading. A simple reading comprehension strategy you can use at home is to think of the period at the end of sentences as a stop sign. You can use this at the end of sentences or at the end of paragraphs. Have them get to that period and tell you in a few words the main idea in that sentence. As that gets easier, you can take a paragraph at a time.

[Stop Sign Strategy Link](#)

In my Did You Know section, I attached two great links from our own Tomahawk Public Library. The first is informational about our library and upcoming events, I encourage you to check it out. Did you know that they have adult literacy/learning class offered through Nicolet College that meets during the day?

[Tomahawk Library Link](#)

I strongly support this next one as research proves reading 15 to 20 minutes a day outside of school can increase a student's reading level by two grade levels a year. Read Aloud 15 MINUTES is a non-profit organization that is bringing together partners nationwide to make 15 minutes of daily reading aloud the new parenting standard. When every child is read aloud to for 15 minutes every day from birth, more children will be ready to learn when they enter kindergarten, more children will have the literacy skills needed to succeed in school, and more children will become lifelong readers. Reading aloud, starting at birth, is the single most important thing a parent or caregiver can do to improve a child's readiness to learn. By making 15 minutes of daily reading aloud the new parenting standard, we will change the face of education in this country

[Read Aloud Link](#)

Math Tips of the Month:

Greg Tang Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HnecUrHgTk8>

CPM Homework Help: <https://cpm.org/cc2-additional-resources>

Parent Guide: <https://cpm.org/parent-support/>

Parent Tip 1:

By this time in the school year, your child may have taken a team test at some point before taking an individual test. Team tests provide students an opportunity to check their depth of understanding through collaborative problem solving. They also help teachers identify general areas of concern that need to be addressed prior to the individual test. Students who take notes during the team test process, who ask follow-up questions during class discussions, and who correct their test often experience dramatic improvements on individual tests.

Parent Tip 2:

There will be some topics that your student understands quickly and some concepts that may take longer to master. The big ideas of the course take time to learn. This means that students are not necessarily expected to master a concept when it is first introduced. When a topic is first introduced in the textbook, there will be several practice problems to do. Succeeding lessons and homework assignments will continue to practice the concept or skill over weeks and months so that mastery will develop over time and long-term learning will occur.

If your student still needs extra practice on some topics, either current or previously learned, make sure that you go to the cpm.org website and look for Parent Guides with Extra Practice. You can select the current or past course and look at the table of contents to find the topics you need. You will also find the checkpoint problems there. They are also for review and practice of concepts.

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TMS BAND:

7th and 8th Grade Bands

We are busy preparing for our Winter Concert on Monday, Dec. 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the fieldhouse. After our concert our next event is preparing for Solo and Ensemble Festival which will be held on Sat. Feb. 23rd at Tomahawk. Solo and Ensemble Festival is an event where students can perform individually or in small groups and be critiqued by a judge.

6th Grade Band

The 6th grade band had an excellent first concert in November. We are now expanding our note ranges and repertoire in addition to letting students try different instruments.

Washington D.C. Trip

The Washington D.C. students have finished their first two assignments and will be choosing roommates in the next few weeks. Their next payment of \$250 is due on or before Jan. 4th.

Physical Education:

[Physical Education Newsletter](#)

The 7th & 8th graders have just completed a rock climbing unit where they were able to either climb the rock wall in the multi-purpose room, belay the climbers in their group, or back-up belay. They learned belay techniques, how to work together as a team, climbing safety, and the challenge by choice concept.

The 6th graders have been actively participating in floor hockey and spikeball. These units taught them terminology and rules about both games, teamwork, and skills related to each activity.

The 6th and 7th graders will participate in a winter rec unit after Christmas where they will be able to cross country ski and snowshoe around the school grounds. They will need to have appropriate outdoor wear, including boots, hat, mittens, a winter jacket and snowpants. Please remind them to bring that as their "PE uniform" for those three weeks.

The 8th graders will be participating in an archery and badminton unit, two very fun lifetime activities. In archery, they will learn about the steps to proper shooting, the parts of a bow and arrow, how to score, and the safety associated with shooting. In badminton they will learn about the basic skills and shots used, how to score, what the rules are, how to set up the court and how to play a game, both singles and doubles.

As we all recover from the busy Thanksgiving holiday and head towards a busier Christmas holiday, we want to encourage you to take the time with your son or daughter to stay active, even as the temperatures outside turn colder. Below is a link to an article that provides many ideas of ways you can stay active with your child, even during the winter months.

Fit Fact #1218:

50 Outdoor Things to Do with Your Kids in Winter

BY DYAN ROBSON, [AND NEXT COMES L](#)

JAN 3, 2018

<https://www.cbc.ca/parents/play/view/50-outdoor-things-to-do-with-your-kids-in-winter>

Student Recognition:

Students of the Month:

7th Grade:

Logan Seymour

-Logan is very reliable. He is willing to work hard and share his ideas with the class. He takes ownership and responsibility for his work. He doesn't miss a beat, even when he is absent he makes sure to complete his work on time.

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Marcus Patterson

-Marcus is always ready to learn. He comes into class and starts reading right away. He works hard and uses his time wisely in class.

Ethan Hoffman

-Ethan is always willing to open a door, help a neighbor, say good morning or make you smile. Ethan exemplifies the kindness and positive attitude that all kids can benefit from.

Keagyn Schoone

-Keagyn is always smiling and says good morning. He has had a positive attitude this year and is working hard in the classroom too.

8th Grade:

Clyde Kangas

-Clyde is an outstanding scientist. Clyde consistently is prepared for science and always gets right to work before class even begins. He always strives for his absolute best work. He works to find answers no matter how much effort he has to put in. He goes above and beyond in and outside of class and has a great attitude and works well in groups.

Harley Daniels

-Harley is the math student of the month. She is a great team member and works well with others. She makes everyone around her better. Harley problem solves well and pays attention to detail. She is a great student and takes responsibility for her learning and strives to do her best daily. Congratulations and keep it up!

Mackenzie Scholz

-Mackenzie is the social studies student of the month. Mackenzie has worked very hard this quarter and went above and beyond expectations in our colony research and answered every question to earn maximum extra credit. She is always friendly and positive during group work. Keep up the great effort.

Caisson Mc Pherson

-Caisson is the ELA student of the month for November. Caisson has demonstrated good leadership skills in small group discussion work, and excellent written work on his

narrative essay. He is making a better effort to challenge himself as a reader with his book choices. He is respectful, considerate of others, and kind. He has a wonderful work ethic, manages class work time well, and maintains a positive “can-do” attitude. Keep up the good work Casey!

Special Olympics:

-Maria Smith placed 3rd in the Special Olympics State Bowling Tournament on November 11.

TMS Calendar

DEC 3, 2018 -

Video Five: Conducting an Experiment - ALL Teams Present during Team Time

DEC. 5, 2018

Early Release 1 pm, Teacher Inservice

DEC. 10, 2018

7-12 Band Concert – Fieldhouse

DEC. 11, 2018

BOB; Team time-TMS library

Dec. 11, 2018

Ecybermission - Video Six: Drawing Conclusion - ALL Teams Present during Team Time

DEC. 17, 2018

6-12 Choir Concert – Auditorium

DEC.18, 2018

Ecybermission - Video Seven: Benefit to the Community - ALL Teams Present during Team Time

DEC. 19, 2018

Elem. Holiday Concert

DEC. 24-Jan 1

Christmas Break, no school

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Health Reminder: We are seeing an increase in students drinking “Energy” drinks during the day. We currently do not have a policy forbidding these types of drinks during lunch, however students are not permitted to consume, or possess them outside of the cafeteria during any other time of the day (with the exception of having them in their lunchbox). While not forbidden, we do discourage the consumption of these types of drinks for a variety of reasons. Numerous studies outline the potential for hazardous health effects on youth who consume an abundance of caffeine and sugar, especially when consumed in combination with other medications. Please talk to your student about this and feel free to contact the TMS office if you have additional questions or concerns at 715-453-5371.