



CARDINAL NEWSLETTER



NEW BREMEN LOCAL SCHOOLS

Volume XLVI - Issue 4

February / March 2015

NEW BREMEN FACILITY UPDATE

Since the bond levy defeat in 2013 to construct a new K-6 elementary and to add additional classrooms to the high school, the board and administration have been discussing future facility plans for the district. The concerns and repairs needed at the current K-8 building are still there and increasing in cost each year. The board has concluded that something has to be done, with an extensive renovation of the current building or building a new facility.

At the March board meeting, the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) will have a presentation for the board to inform them about the assessment process used in determining if they will co-fund a building project. The OFCC will hire an independent architecture firm to do a complete facility assessment to figure the total cost of a renovation. They will also assess student enrollment projections used to determine the amount of square footage the OFCC will co-fund. We welcome community members to attend the March board meeting to listen to the OFCC's presentation of the assessment process and to ask any questions you may have.

When the OFCC assessments are completed in 2016, the board and administration will share this data with the community. They will use community input to assist the board in making the best long-term facility plan district members will support. Once a facility plan is decided on, the board and administration will work with the OFCC to prepare a Program of Requirements (POR) to determine the final scope of the project. The intention of the board is to place another bond levy on the ballot for either a renovation or new building once the High School building is paid off.

New Bremen Local School District is currently a Lapsed District and ranked at position 319 on the Ohio Department of Education's equity list giving us a local share of 53% and state share of 47%. As a Lapsed District we have the responsibility of securing the local share first before the state controlling board will set aside state funds.

Mr. Howard Overman
Superintendent

SPRING TAX RENEWAL

On May 5, 2015, the New Bremen Schools will ask voters of the district to renew the one mill Replacement Fund tax for a period of five years. This levy is currently set to expire on December 31, 2015.

Over the last forty-five years, these dollars have been used to maintain the buildings, grounds, and equipment necessary to run the schools. Specifically, over the last five years, the district has repaired roofs, replaced windows and lighting, replaced the boilers and hot water heater at the elementary/middle school, repaired both parking lots and playground areas, and made repairs to the HVAC system. We have added security systems to both buildings, expanded wireless capabilities, and upgraded both the network switches and servers. Additionally, we have purchased a new phone system at the elementary/middle school and purchased a new lawn tractor. The renewal is not asking for any new taxes, it simply continues what we have currently.

We have a proud tradition in this district of supporting our students and schools. We are an excellent district because of the entire community. We truly appreciate your continued support.

Mrs. Deb Meyer, Treasurer

BOARD OF EDUCATIONS ELECTIONS

This coming November community members will be voting on two seats for the New Bremen Board of Education. Kami Fox has served on the Board for the past eight years and has decided not to run for re-election creating one open seat. We encourage members from the New Bremen School District to contact the Board of Elections for the information needed to become a candidate. Become a voice for New Bremen Schools, become a Board Member!



**NEW BREMEN
EDUCATION FOUNDATION
CONTINUES TO ASSIST
STUDENTS
WITH ACADEMIC
SCHOLARSHIPS**

The New Bremen Education Foundation is pleased to announce the opening of its 2015 fund-raising campaign to generate scholarship money for graduates of New Bremen High School. In the first year of operation, the foundation awarded seven academic scholarships. In 2014, the foundation awarded eighty scholarships totaling approximately \$80,700.00. The Education Foundation Trustees invite individuals, businesses, and organizations to consider a contribution to this worthy cause. The amount of each donation may remain confidential; however the names of all donors will be released during the scholarship presentation at graduation unless requested otherwise.

There are two different types of donations. The first is an annual contribution, all of which is distributed as scholarship monies to this year's recipients. Secondly, donors of large sums of cash, stocks, or bonds may specify their gift as a Perpetual Donation. These donations are invested with only the interest being distributed each year. The names of individuals or groups who make perpetual donations are included on the donor list every year following the donation.

Any group or individual interested in making a contribution should contact Mr. Jeff McCollum, the Foundation Treasurer, at First National Bank (629-2761) by April 15. All contributions are tax deductible.

Mr. Howard Overman

**NEW ASSESSMENTS
BRING ON NEW CHALLENGES**

Students from New Bremen and across the State will begin taking the new Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and End of Course (EOC) exams this semester. Parents and community members need to be aware they have increased the rigor of these tests that could drive down student scores and widen the achievement gaps. Our teachers have worked hard with the students to learn and understand the new learning standards. Hopefully their efforts throughout the school year have prepared them for the testing challenges. Like anything else, when changes are made there are kinks to be worked out to reach future success; these new assessments will be no different.

Mr. Howard Overman



**KROGER
COMMUNITY
REWARDS**

New Bremen Schools has now enrolled in the Kroger Community Rewards Program. Through this program, Kroger contributes dollars to eligible Non-Profit Organizations based upon eligible purchases. Eligible purchases are those made at any Cincinnati Division Kroger Food Store by an eligible participant (Kroger Plus cardholder) who presents their Kroger Plus Card at the time of purchase.

Any Kroger Plus Cardholder can designate New Bremen Local Schools as their Community Reward recipient. Simply login to your Kroger Plus account, and click on "Enroll" beneath the Community Rewards section. Kroger Plus cardholders enrolling in Community Rewards will continue to receive all the benefits of their card (i.e. fuel points, etc.), but will also help New Bremen Schools to earn dollars donated to our school.

As a reminder, New Bremen Schools and the Cardinal Pride Parent Organization also participate in Box Tops for Education, Campbell Soup Labels for Education, IGA Hometown Label Saver, and Coke Rewards. It is through the generosity of these programs that our school is able to purchase additional items such as playground equipment, technology items to enhance student learning (i.e. video cameras), as well as other activities like Family Reading Night that provide extended educational value to our children. Box Tops, Campbells and IGA labels, as well as Coke Reward bottle caps can be turned in to school where we collect them and submit to the sponsoring company in exchange for these donated dollars.

With the addition of the Kroger Community Rewards, this will be the first program where no items need to be collected. Once you enroll in the Community Rewards Program with your Kroger Plus Account, all the work is done! Simply present your Kroger Plus Card at the time of purchase.

A big "Thank You" to all members of our community who support our school with these activities!

Mrs. Becky Eyink
Elementary Secretary



K-4 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Students in grades kindergarten through four again took the STAR benchmarking assessments in reading and math in January. This online assessment partners with our Accelerated Reader program. The STAR reading assessment assists in determining reading levels for each individual student. The reading level then provides a range of books for students to read at their recommended reading level. This also assists teachers in creating Accelerated Reader point goals for each nine weeks as well as determining which students need intervention or enrichment. Students are doing a great job reaching their goals!
- Our third and fourth grade teachers have been busy preparing our students for the “Next Generation of Assessments”. This spring, all students in third grade will again be taking the Ohio Reading Achievement Assessment (OAA) similar to previous years. Third and fourth grade students will be taking the new assessments created by PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career) in the areas of math for third grade and English language arts and math for fourth grade students. Fourth grade students will also be administered a State assessment in social studies. These new assessments will be paper-pencil assessments replacing the traditional Ohio Achievement Assessments. The testing schedule for third and fourth grade students is listed below:

Third Grade

February 26 – Math
 April 22 – Reading OAA
 April 24 - Math

Fourth Grade

February 18 – English
 Language Arts
 February 19 – English
 Language Arts
 February 20 – Math
 March 3 – Social Studies
 April 21 – English
 Language Arts
 April 23 – Math
 May 6 – Social Studies

- Our kindergarten, first, second, and third grade students will be completing State Diagnostic Testing in May. Students in kindergarten, first, and second grades will complete diagnostic tests in math and writing. The third grade will take a diagnostic assessment in only writing. The tests are designed to help us identify students who may need additional intervention and to assist teachers in making instructional decisions. The teachers will send home information regarding the specific dates of the tests for each grade level.
- Kindergarten Screening for the 2015-2016 school year will be held March 24, 25, and 26. We currently have 51 students registered for screening. Children need to be five years old by August 1, 2015 to be kindergarten eligible. If you have any questions about screening or need to register your child please call the elementary office at 419-629-3244.

Mrs. Diane Kramer
K-4 Principal

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

It is hard to believe we are well into the second half of the year. Our focus continues to be on Character Education. Students have been participating in Word of the Month based lessons weekly, facilitated by Mr. Chad Wells, Mrs. Shelley This, and myself. A student from each grade (K-4) who exemplifies the Word of the Month has been recognized and awarded with a pizza party.



Students participating in Respect and Responsibility Venn Diagrams.



Students participating in an activity to build Teamwork.

The Words of the Month for the second half of the year are as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| January | <i>Honesty</i> |
| February | <i>Citizenship</i> |
| March | <i>Perseverance</i> |
| April | <i>Motivation</i> |
| May | <i>Accomplishment</i> |


Our seventh and eighth grade students have also been focusing on Character Development. In November, the students participated in an Interest Inventory as well as an abbreviated version of the Myers-Briggs, a personality inventory. These results will be kept on file for each student as they continue to grow and contemplate career paths. Results will also be used to identify students with specific career interests. Speakers

ELEMENTARY GUIDANCE NEWS (Continued)

from the community will then be brought in during lunch for a Career Café in which the identified students will be invited to attend and learn more about their careers of interest.

On the testing front, state-wide assessments for grades 3-8 are set to begin February 16. Testing is completed to gauge student achievement throughout the year. Results from each assessment are used by teachers to target areas of deficit and monitor growth. Letters have been sent home with students outlining dates assessments are scheduled. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school.

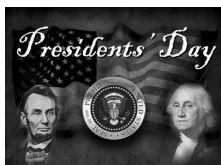
Mrs. Lauren Link
School Psychologist



The poster features a central illustration of a schoolhouse with a steeple, a sign that says 'WELCOME!', and a sun in the sky. To the right of the illustration, the text reads 'New Bremen Local Schools Open House'. Below this, the event details are listed: 'When: Monday, March 9, 2015', 'Where: NB Elementary, NB Middle School, NB High School', and 'Time: 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.'. At the bottom, a bold statement says 'PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND PLAN TO ATTEND!'. The entire poster is enclosed in a decorative black and white checkered border.

FIRST GRADE NEWS

First grade has been very busy in 2015! We are now doing AR tests each week. It has been a fun process reading at our individual levels and having goals to work toward. Learning about Martin Luther King Jr. was a lot of fun! We read books about how brave he was and all the changes he brought about for the African American people. We learned all about integration and treating everyone equally. In February we will be studying two special Presidents, Abraham Lincoln and George Washington. Plus, we will have a Valentine's Day party. The students love opening up and reading their valentine messages from each other. We are busy working on all kinds of neat projects to have up for Open House in March. We can't wait to show off our hard work, so make sure you stop in and check it out!



Mrs. Melinda Clark
Mrs. Judy Heitkamp
Ms. Barb Sims

THIRD GRADE NEWS

The third grade classes are working hard to master their basic math facts. The students have made great progress on their addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts. Many can do 100 problems in less than three minutes. We have been working hard to meet individual Accelerated Reader goals. We are tracking these goals and have seen big improvements.

The classes are still working towards the Ohio Reading Achievement Assessment and PARCC Math test, which will be given in spring. The students are reviewing and learning new skills daily that will help them to be successful on these important tests.

Flat Stanleys are still arriving from family and friends around the world. So far, Stanley has been spotted in almost fourteen states as well as in Australia, England, Afghanistan, and many other places. The students learn a lot from the letters and pictures that come back from Stanley as he continues his adventures.

In science classes, the students have learned about plant and animal life cycles. In social studies, we are working on map reading skills and, before Christmas, we learned a lot about other cultures and their holiday traditions.

We are working our way through the reading series. The classes have read eleven stories from many different genres, including historical and realistic fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. We are excited to continue through this series and have some guest speakers that can share their life experiences with the students.

There are many things to look forward to for the rest of the year. Our field trip to Carillon Park in Dayton will be in early May. We will also be doing our New Bremen history unit, including our walk around town.

Thank you for all of the help you give your children!

Mrs. Christy Bertke
Mrs. Molly Rush
Mrs. Jenny Perryman
Mrs. Kelly Wilker



K-6 TECHNOLOGY NEWS

The computer lab has been a very busy and productive place to visit this year. The students have been working on many skills and projects throughout the K-6 levels from Star Reading / Math assessments, the use of programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher, 365 Email, One Drive, and PowerPoint along with the use of various websites such as ABCya.com, FunBrain.com, typing-lessons.org, typingtest.com, and StarFall.com. Character Education has also been covered during our collaboration time for grades K-4.

In the past weeks, the kindergarten classes have begun working on reading skills on the Star Fall website along with counting, matching, sorting, patterns, and mouse skills on the ABCya and Fun Brain websites. First grade classes have been working on identifying electronic devices, working with numbers, patterns, and shapes on the website ABCya. Second grade classes have been working on their "All About Me" PowerPoint where they learned about adding clip art. We also covered how to research and find pictures using the Google search engine and copy/paste those pictures in a Microsoft Word document. They also completed a project of labeling the parts of an Ant with text boxes in Microsoft Word, along with working on mouse skills, addition, subtraction, grouping, maps, shapes, and counting money on the ABCya website. Third grade classes have been working with a paint program to create pictures that were included in their PowerPoint presentations, typing skills, and creating charts using basic information in the program Microsoft Excel. Fourth grade classes have been working on creating animations that were included in their PowerPoint presentations, advertisements for their Chocolate Covered Pretzel Rods project with the Microsoft Publisher program, and typing skills on the typing-lessons website. Fifth and sixth grade classes have been working on learning to use their school email on Microsoft 365 as well as One Drive to share documents and information within the New Bremen Local Schools' network. They have also learned to develop short term and long term goals and the best practices for achieving those goals. Typing skills have been practiced on the typing-skills website as well. The fifth grade classes have also learned to label items with text boxes in Microsoft Word. The sixth grade classes have also been working on internet research, essay writing, PowerPoint presentation, and oral presentation skills were taught and executed during the Celebrity Role Model project.

In the upcoming weeks, the kindergarten classes will continue to work on navigating the internet to various websites, learning basic keyboarding skills, and continue to further develop mouse skills. First grade classes will be introduced to basic keyboarding skills, using Microsoft Word, and developing a basic understanding of navigating the internet. Second grade classes will be introduced to Microsoft Excel and Publisher programs along with basic keyboarding skills. Third and fourth grade classes will be working on projects involving Microsoft Excel, Word, and Publisher along with continuing to work keyboarding skills. Fifth and sixth grade classes will be working on projects involving Microsoft Excel, Word, Publisher, and PowerPoint while incorporating email and One Drive along with keyboarding skills.

The focus on keyboarding skills is a direct result of the possibility that future state assessments / testing could be going strictly on-line. Our students need the skills to type their extended response answers in a timely manner with little frustration. With an increase in our students' keyboarding skills, the focus can be on providing the proper information for the response and not on the process in which it is being provided.

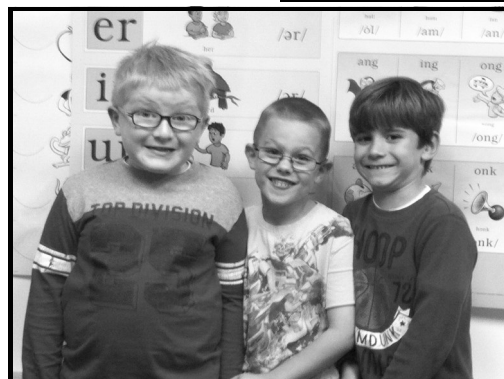
Mr. Chad Wells

TITLE ONE READING

This year I have had the opportunity to work with kindergarten through second grade students on reading and spelling skills. I have been using the multisensory language program called Foundations. It is research-based and provides students with skills to help them become fluent, independent readers. The program teaches students the structure of words in a systematic and cumulative manner. Following this system helps students to trust that they can learn English within the system, and ultimately, deal with the irregularities of the language. The program begins in kindergarten and builds as the students increase in grade level.

I am very pleased with the program and feel the students are benefiting from its regular use and cumulative structure. I see small groups of students (Monday-Friday) for 30 minutes. I look forward to continuing the program with each of my groups. Seeing their excitement and enthusiasm for reading has been very rewarding!

Mrs. Alycia Niemeyer





K-5 ELEMENTARY MUSIC NEWS

Two words stand out as I reflect about the elementary music lessons and events the students from kindergarten through fifth grade have participated in during the first half of this school year: pride and community. The students have come to learn that I will never expect or require them to attain “perfection” because it does not exist. It took me a lifetime to understand that the saying “practice makes perfect” is false, but naturally practice can make us better at any skill we would like to attain and the number of goals we may create is limitless. The music classroom is a place where everyone is bound to make mistakes, both little and BIG, and my goal has been to create a safe learning environment because each lesson involves a variety of singing, chanting, playing instruments, moving/dancing, and reading/writing. For many students, being free to make a mistake was challenging to overcome because they did not want to mess up or be embarrassed. However, it is those big mistakes that (a) often lead to much laughter from *everyone* and that (b) present an opportunity to work toward figuring out what that person needs to change in order to reach his/her goal. Several weeks ago, I noticed that every student had the same look in their eye at the end of music class – it was pride ... self-satisfaction in knowing that they fulfilled their teacher’s expectations and the realization that they are progressing as musicians. There is a strong sense of community that is naturally embedded within our students. For example, helping a classmate solve a music-based problem, reminding each other to focus, or sacrificing one’s own turn so somebody else can be the leader for that day. This characteristic is a necessary aspect for performing in a music ensemble/group, because it enables each student to work together as a team. I was sincerely impressed to observe the giant steps of improvement made by everyone while preparing for the Veteran’s Day assembly, the second grade musical, and the Christmas assembly.

In November, the third graders performed *Thank a Vet* for the Veteran’s Day assembly, and the fourth graders attended a performance by the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra at the Schuster Center in Dayton, Ohio. The second graders performed *Follow the North Star Home: A Winter Musical for Orff Instruments* by Alice Olsen and Elizabeth Peach on December 11, 2014. Each homeroom rotated to play the instruments (bass/alto/soprano xylophones, bass/alto/soprano metallophones, alto/soprano glockenspiels, conga, bongos, triangles, finger cymbals, sleigh bells, wood block, and tambourine) and to sing in the chorus. At the Christmas assembly on December 19, 2014, kindergarteners performed *Jingle Bells* and *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* (while keeping the steady beat on percussion instruments), first graders performed *Deck the Halls* (while performing an ostinato pattern on percussion instruments) and *All I Want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth*, second graders performed *Santa Claus is Comin’ to Town* and *Have a Holly Jolly Christmas*, third graders performed *Jingle Bell Rock* and *Presents*, fourth graders performed *Let it Snow* and *Circle the*

Earth with Peace (with a rhythm section accompaniment), fifth graders performed *Rockin’ Around the Christmas Tree* and *The Best Gift of All*, and sixth graders performed *Where Do the Stars Go?* and *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*.

The second half of this school year will focus on continuing to develop musicianship skills and knowledge via new repertoire, including playing the recorder for grades 3-5, and fourth graders will be working on their spring musical *Why Mosquitos Buzz in People’s Ears* which is scheduled for March 19, 2015.

Ms. Holly Smith



Spring Book Fair will be here March 9 - 13. Family Night will be Monday, March 9 from 6 – 8 P.M.

(Note that Open House is from 6:30 – 8 P.M. on the same night). Come and explore an ocean of books!

A big thank you to the community for your support of our book fair! The Fall Book Fair total sales were \$4,898.01! We were able to purchase \$2, 449.01 in Scholastic merchandise. Students are so excited about the new books we are receiving as a result of your generous support! We were also able to raise almost \$400.00.

Mrs. Shelley This, Librarian

RIGHT TO READ WEEK

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Right to Read Week declared a smashing success! Total minutes read K-8 was 66,014! Congratulations to all of our students for a job well done! Students were rewarded with an assembly and dance party where the Top Readers overall were crowned King and Queen Read - a - Lot. Patrick Berhbold (4th grade) with 700 minutes and Gabi Heckman (5th grade) with 1334 led the party. We also had a participation raffle, guessing game, and trivia winners throughout the week. Learning about castles, medieval times, and fantastical creatures was had by all. It was great fun to see so many students dress up for the week - princesses, peasants, dragons, soldiers, and knights walked the halls and roamed the playground!

Sir Read - a - Lot and His Subjects
(Right to Read Week Committee)



MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



On December 4, the sixth grade class was honored during a DARE Graduation ceremony. The program is sponsored by the Auglaize County Sherriff's Department and focuses on abstaining from drug use and making wise choices.

Junior High Speed and Strength Program

Boys and girls in sixth grade were able to participate in their first session of the speed and strength training program held on January 7 in the middle school weight room. The addition of the middle school weight room has allowed the program to be held after school three days a week. We have 90 students in grades 6, 7, and 8 signed up to participate.

Washington, D.C. Fundraiser for 2015-2016 Fall Trip

The seventh grade class will be conducting a fundraiser for their fall Washington, D.C. field trip during the month of February. The first parent meeting for the trip was held on January 22. This is the first class to go on the field trip in the fall of the year. The trip is scheduled for October 19 through October 23.

Thank You New Bremen Dairy Queen

New Bremen Middle School would like to thank Dairy Queen for sponsoring the Character Award winners. Dairy Queen provides lunch to eight students in grades 5-8 who are nominated by teachers for displaying positive character qualities.

Junior High Winter Sports Participants

We have several students participating in winter sports this season. Members of the seventh grade girls' basketball team are: Cassie Stachler, Jessica Fledderjohann, Jordan Paul, Macy Puthoff, Alana Speelman, Taylor Paul, Kira Bertke, Sarah Parker, Ashton Heitkamp, and Hannah Kramer. The team is coached by Mr. Chad Wells. Members of the eighth grade team are: Marissa Topp, Jillian Anderson, Abbi Thieman, Hanna Tenkman, Kelly Naylor, Jackie Schemmel, Erin Smith, Molly Smith, Andrea Heitkamp, Kayla Bergman, and Lauren Cordonnier. The team is coached by Mr. Tom Howell. Managers for the seventh and eighth grade team include: Madison Cordonnier, Katie Howell, Josie Reinhart, Alayna Thieman, and Callie Wells.

Girls participating in seventh and eighth grade cheerleading are: Brooke Dicke, Lauren Miller, Sydney Paul, Miranda Scheib, Riley Scheib, Allison Wilker, Madeline Burtch, and Bethany Paul. The team is coached by Mrs. Stephanie Scheib.

The seventh grade boys' basketball team members are: Devon Thieman, Griffen Roetgerman, Brennan Tinnerman, Ryan Paul, Logan Suchland, Patrick Wells, Ian Frey, Nolan Bornhorst, and Spencer Alig. The team is coached by Mr. Greg Elking. The eighth grade boys' team members are: Cole Hemmelgarn, Griffin Davis, Spencer Elking, Zach Schwieterman, Bryce Blickle, Ryan Bertke, Andrew Bowers, Justin Tenkman, Grant Selby, Nick Wells, Ben Kuck, Jacob Rindler, and Brandon Heitkamp. The team is coached by Mr. Bartt Suchland. The seventh and eighth grade assistant coach is Mr. Jon Sailer. The team managers are: Carter Elking, Gavin Schrader, Ben Sailer, Sam Sailer, Eli Schmitmeyer, and Jarod Keller.

Mr. Jason Schrader
Gr. 5-8 Principal

FIFTH GRADE NEWS

Another quarter has flown by and 2015 has arrived! The fifth graders were very busy during second quarter with Right-to-Read Week, the "Big Nate" musical, their Christmas band and music concerts, and preparing for the upcoming PARCC testing.

In Mrs. Moeller's math class during second quarter, the students learned how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions using manipulatives, drawing models, and applying in a real-world situation by mixing cookie batter in class. The cookies were not only a Christmas treat for the students, but also were donated to the New Bremen Fire and Police Departments, as well as Elmwood Assisted Living Center, and the Cardinal Pride bake sale. A huge thank you goes out to the fifth grade parents, as this cookie project could not have been possible without parent volunteers who sent in supplies, baked at home, and assisted in the classroom. Thank you also to the Middle School Student Leaders who helped fund the project.

In Miss Berning's reading and language arts class, the students learned more about story elements, figurative language, poetry, and the editing step in the writing process. Student-led reading groups continue to be an enjoyable part of language arts class as students are working on various projects related to the novel they are reading. Students enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies while participating in a read-in before winter break. Also, before winter break, students were able to try out for the spelling bee. Eleven students from the fifth grade qualified for the spelling bee!

Mrs. Steinke's science classes focused mainly on life science standards by doing various hands on activities and experiments. The students looked at vascular versus non-vascular plants by dissecting various plants including celery, mums, and daisies. They also dissected various types of seeds and looked at the differences between monocots and dicots. We had fun learning about the various adaptations that allow plants and animals to survive in their habitats. Students have researched and created a brochure to share some of these strange and unique adaptations with their classmates. We have also been using more of the gizmos on the explorelearning.com website to manipulate different variables in an online and individualized learning setting. During the third quarter, students will focus more on social studies and the various regions of the United States.



We hope you enjoyed your holiday break and are looking forward to a great 2015!

Mrs. Tracy Steinke
Mrs. Tess Moeller
Ms. Kate Berning

Susan Krieg, also known as, "The Pie Shell Lady" was a special guest for a class of fifth grade math students. Susan emphasized the importance of fractions in her baking occupation and assisted the students in mixing cookie batter during their Christmas cookie fraction project.

JH / HS PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Hello again. I hope a fun-filled Christmas break was had by all. This is a fun, yet sad time as classes change in the junior high and high school so while some kids will be moving on, a new batch is coming in. I look forward to working with the new students on various aspects of mental, social, and physical health. The fifth and sixth grade students are doing a great job in their physical education classes and I know that will continue over their final two rotations. A reminder that acceptable dress for physical education are sweatpants or what the students call basketball shorts. Our first unit in the junior high is a weight lifting unit while the fifth and sixth graders will be moving onto basketball and indoor soccer in their next rotation. The high school students are beginning with the different parts of health and a rotation of different activities in physical education. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at josh.bowersock@newbremenschools.org.

Mr. Josh Bowersock

EIGHTH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS

It's difficult to believe we're already halfway through the school year! With this in mind, we have hit the ground running in the third quarter of eighth grade language arts. In reading, we began the quarter by finishing up a historical novel, *My Brother Sam Is Dead*. Set during the Revolutionary War, the book reinforced content the students learned in American History, as well as encouraging them to consider the complexity of reality and the seriousness of war. Continuing with this idea, we have recently begun the dramatic adaption of *Anne Frank: the Diary of a Young Girl*. As a part of this study, we will be watching the movie adaptation of the play as well as reading excerpts of the diary itself. In so doing, students will analyze the way medium affects meaning.



On the English side of things, our focus this quarter will be research. Students will develop skills in proper research practice, including—but not limited to—evaluating sources to determine credibility, asking research questions, taking notes, and forming citations. These skills will be integral to the students' success in both high school and college. To practice, students will be completing a mini-research project. Our research study will culminate to the construction of a class website, which will provide information on the sites the students will visit in Washington, D.C. Each student will research a site or a monument and craft an article using his or her findings. Students will then publish their articles on the website and present their pages to the class.

I am excited about the content coming up this quarter and am eager to see the ways in which students will grow as they interact with and develop these new skills.

Ms. Lindsay Burkard



JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL ART NEWS

The junior high and high school art classes have creatively designed our way to our second semester and a brand new year. We will be focusing on our upcoming Open House which will be on Monday, March 9 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. The junior high art students will have artwork located in the small gym and throughout the building. The high school will have artwork centralized in the high school commons showcasing senior portfolios and Art I, II, III, and IV works of art! We will also have student workers exhibiting the art processes while working on art projects during Open House as well.

Also, the month of March is recognized as Ohio Youth Arts Month. Several art students will be participating in Ohio's Regional Competition in Ada, Ohio on Saturday, March 7th. The following Saturday will be the State semi finals judging.

Included are some photos of the Art III and Art IV semester exam shoe themed sculptures!

Mrs. Heather Moeller

ART III & ART IV — SHOE SCULPTURES



What's Happening in Seventh and Eighth Grade Science?

You may have heard your students talking about using Gizmos in science class. So, what are they? Gizmos are interactive online simulations that are fun, easy to use, and help students develop a deep understanding of the challenging concepts through inquiry and exploration. They provide a research-based, flexible tool that is used by teachers across all 50 states in a wide variety of ways. Gizmos are ideal for small group work, individual exploration, and whole class instruction using our LCD projectors or interactive whiteboards.

We are using Gizmos to supplement the existing curriculum because they are correlated to state curriculum standards making them easy to integrate into our seventh and eighth grade science classroom. The best way to get a feel for the Gizmo experience is to use them. If parents are interested in experiencing what Gizmos are all about, simply go to explorelarning.com and ask your students for their user name and password.

The eighth grade science OAA will be here before we know it and we are continuing to thoroughly cover all of the state standards that students are required to master. In both seventh and eighth grade Science, the first quarter was spent investigating Life Science and in the second quarter we explored Earth Science. Areas of Physical Science are currently being introduced in both grades and will continue throughout the third quarter. The fourth nine weeks will be focused on OAA review for the eighth grade and seventh graders will complete their STEM projects. Needless to say, there is a lot going on in Junior High Science and students are looking to finish strong!

Mr. Jason McGarahan

FOOD DRIVE FOR AGAPE MINISTRIES

During the first two week of December, the seventh and eighth grade student leaders ran a food drive to collect food items for Agape Ministries in St Marys. Students in grades 5-8 participated in the food drive. As a middle school, we collected over 1,500 food items. Then, on Friday December 19, the student leaders took the food items to Agape and helped unload the donation. It was a wonderful experience to see the students giving and the ladies at Agape really appreciated what they had done.



Thank you to all who donated and supported this great cause.

Ms. Jan Beyke
Mrs. Loresa Burden
Student Leader
Advisors



THANK YOU!



HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

“Ohio Means Jobs,” is a website which Mrs. Wendel has a link to on the NBHS Guidance Department Webpage. Please view this site for career information you and your son or daughter may find useful. As students progress throughout their high school years they have a multitude of opportunities to explore career options and work on developing their strengths leading to a good fit in their future career choice. This website is one more way to explore that information and other career-related information can be found on the guidance website as well. We are also giving students the StrengthsQuest self-assessment developed by Gallup which informs students of their top five strengths as related to the four domains of leadership strength which are broken down into executing, influencing, relationship building, and strategic thinking. Students will further utilize this information when developing their career and life plan.

Informational Text of a complex nature is an area of focus for all of our students and our staff has been receiving professional development related to this. Students ability to respond after quickly reading an article to decipher meaning, fit it into prior knowledge, and decide if it provides credible evidence in order to support a valid written argument are real-world and assessed skills that will be paramount to their future success. When you read something interesting, ask your child to do the same and question them about their understanding of the information. All teachers in all content areas will be supporting this same venture at school and your help would be appreciated as we delve more deeply into this task.

The legislative Lame Duck Session this December has left us with several changes proposed by this recent legislation. Freshman graduation requirements and new assessments to be taken this Spring will be a continued area of focus and continued progress based upon this recent legislation. As this information is very recent as of this writing, it is not yet completely understood what all the future implications will be but we are working towards figuring out those affects and implementing them in an effort to ensure students here continue to receive the same great education they always have.



Mr. Brian Pohl

GRADUATION 2016

This is to inform the 2016 Graduating Seniors and their parents that graduation ceremonies will be held **Sunday, May 22, 2016**. The past several years graduation has been held over the Memorial Day weekend. With the 2015-2016 school calendar working out as it did, graduation was able to be moved up a week earlier.

HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES

During the first semester, the students in American Government classes have studied the Foundations of American Government (Constitution) and the organization, powers of Congress, and how the Congress operates. In the second semester, the government classes will be studying the Executive and Judicial branches of our federal government. The students will also take a critical look at how they can participate through political parties, interest groups, and the impact of the media on our democracy and government. The students will also take part in a financial literacy program in which they will establish budgets, understand the importance of insurance, the different types of taxes, and the importance of taxes to our local, state, and federal governments.

In our American History classes, the students will be studying major events of the late 19th and 20th centuries and complete some historical projects on World War I, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War Era, the 1960's, and on issues of today.

In March, the students in American Government and American History will be participating in the new performance-based assessment that Ohio plans on implementing. We wish the students well in this endeavor and the students will be taking the assessment on computers at school. The students will also be taking end of course assessments in early May as well.

Mr. Craig Griesdorn

HIGH SCHOOL INTERVENTION

The second nine weeks went by so fast that it is hard to believe Christmas is over. All of the students have been busy the last few weeks preparing for semester exams. They have spent countless hours in study and preparation in order to get ready for exam week. After exams, the first semester came to an end and every student got some much needed time off.

As we begin the third nine weeks, the students are faced with new classes and challenges to meet. Many upper classmen are preparing to take the ACT and finalizing plans for college. The sophomores are making one last dash before the Ohio Graduation Test. The freshman class has a few short months before taking the PARCC Assessment. Students can start to see the light at the end of the tunnel, but there is a lot of hard work to be done before the end of the year!

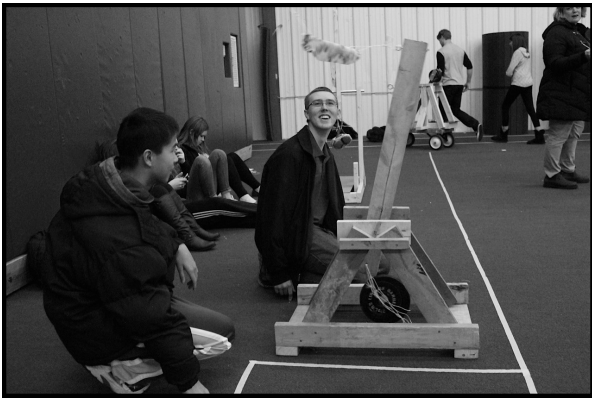
Mr. Joe Huwer

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Wow, I can't believe how fast this year is going. This year has been a GREAT year with students that are excited to learn and enjoy what they are learning.

Physics students have worked on motion and determining velocity and acceleration, not only in one dimension but in two dimensions. As a capstone project of this past semester, students in Physics designed and engineered trebuchets. Students had to research and draw templates of their trebuchets. Once built, they had to test and modify their trebuchets until they were firing tennis balls consistently a distance of 50 feet. Students then brought their trebuchets in and fired them to determine velocity, maximum height, and range. The trebuchets were then used to launch tennis balls at targets in a competition. The winning group was Troy Wendel, Kaylie Squires, and Hayden Richter. Below you will find a few pictures of groups in various stages of firing their trebuchets.

Mrs. Jenny Sniegowski



Students circle up to open Christmas crackers.



Students scramble for candy that fell piñata-style onto the floor.



Seniors modeling the tissue paper crowns they received.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWS

Seniors have been busy using their words to give gifts over the Christmas break.

As part of the Gift of Words project, seniors exchanged names and made traditional Christmas crackers. They are called crackers since they make a cracking sound (if they're made correctly) when they are opened.

Traditionally Christmas crackers contain tissue paper crowns, corny jokes, small trinkets, and candies. Students also included a gift of words in the form of a limerick with good wishes for 2015.

Mrs. Theresa Newbright
Mrs. Jodi Schumm
Mrs. Jenny Luebke

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY
AND
INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Again this year, Project Lead the Way (PLTW) and the Industrial Technology Department have teamed up with several area schools and 10/80 STEM initiative to produce Eldora Day in conjunction with the US Air Force. Students are to develop, design, and test RC cars to make them handle and run faster. On May 12, seven area schools will go to Eldora and race their cars against one another in two different races (a drag race and a road course). It is fun for all that participate. The US Air Force will be a the event with their gaming division to highlight the use of gaming in warfighter readiness programs.

Another interesting project going on in the Engineering area, is the design and development of a remote control search and rescue vehicle with on board video capabilities. It will be using FPV (first person viewing) technology to control and monitor its surroundings. There are also two students designing an automatic animal feeder using Little Bit Home Kits giving students the ability to design an interactive feeding system. Looks like it's going to be another interesting and educational second half of the year here in the Industrial Ed. Department.

Mr. Mike Heuker

**Get Your Little Caesars
Pizza Pizza!**

With 2015 beginning, it brings about our freshman class fundraiser. This year, the freshmen class will be selling Pizza Kits from Little Caesars Pizza. We will kick-off the pizza sales on February 12 and the sale will run through February 24, so please mark your calendars. As in the past, we thank the entire community for your support in all of the fundraising efforts at New Bremen High School. The products are pizza kits that include everything you need to make your own Little Caesars Pizza. Each kit has 3 - 14" pizzas included and sell from \$15.00 to \$20.00 per kit. We are planning to have all food products delivered to our customers by March 15. If you would like to order any pizza kit(s) and are not asked by a New Bremen freshman during the dates mentioned above, please contact the school and we will make sure we get back to you for your order. You can also email Chad Williams, chad.williams@newbremenschools.org to order. Again, thank you all in advance for your support in this year's freshman class Little Caesars Pizza Kits fundraising efforts.



Mr. Chad Williams
Freshman Class
Advisor



**NB COMMUNITY
GARAGE SALES**

It is once again that time of the year to clean your attics and closets in preparation for the 23rd annual **New Bremen Community Garage Sales**, which will be held on **Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18, 2015**. All community members interested in participating with a garage sale should send **\$7.00** per family (make checks payable to the Cardinal Pride Association), a short list of items to be sold, and the address of the sale to Chris Bowers, P. O. Box 258, New Bremen by April 1. The fee will cover the cost of advertising in a number of newspapers. All proceeds from the paid listings will be donated to the New Bremen School's Cardinal Pride Association. Please note that due to Health Department Regulations, the sale of food items such as meat, sandwiches, hot dogs, cream pies, meringue pies, etc. is not allowed without a license. The sale of baked goods such as cookies, cakes, fruit, brownies, etc. is acceptable. For additional information regarding the food items, please contact the Auglaize County Health Department at (419) 738-3410. Any questions related to the listings may be forwarded to ctbowers@frontier.com or call 419-733-1286.

Mrs. Chris Bowers
Chairman

 **STUDENT ATHLETES:**

Activity free week
for the summer of 2015
will be June 28 to July 4

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

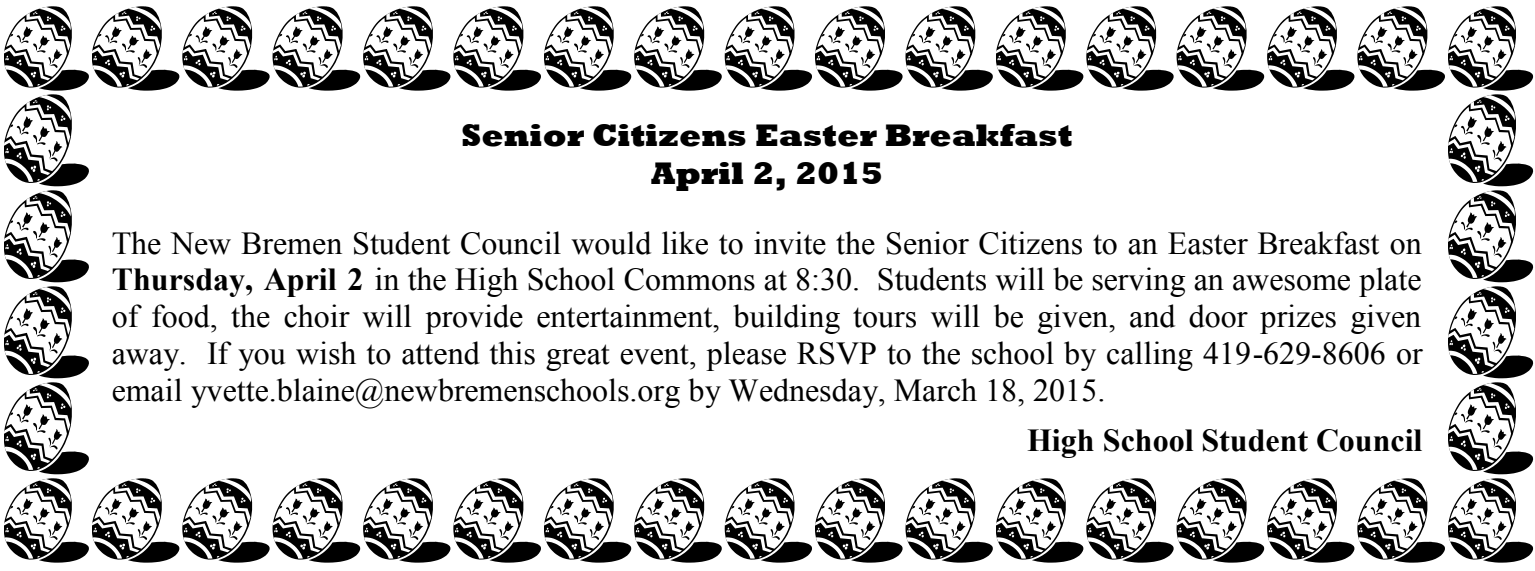


SCHOOL FACILITIES
OPEN TO WALKERS

For those individuals who enjoy walking throughout the winter months, the New Bremen High School is available for indoor walking in the hallways from 6:00 - 7:00 a.m. and from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Monday through Friday when school is in session. The hours at the Elementary/Middle School are 6:00 - 7:00 a.m. and from 5:00 - 8:30 p.m. Monday through Friday when school is in session.

Calendar for February

Calendar for March



**Senior Citizens Easter Breakfast
April 2, 2015**

The New Bremen Student Council would like to invite the Senior Citizens to an Easter Breakfast on **Thursday, April 2** in the High School Commons at 8:30. Students will be serving an awesome plate of food, the choir will provide entertainment, building tours will be given, and door prizes given away. If you wish to attend this great event, please RSVP to the school by calling 419-629-8606 or email yvette.blaine@newbremenschools.org by Wednesday, March 18, 2015.

High School Student Council

KINDERGARTEN CLINIC SCREENING

The annual Kindergarten Clinic Screening will be held in the elementary library on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, March 24, 25, and 26. Children eligible for admission to kindergarten next fall are required to attend. Children must be five years of age on or before August 1, 2015, in order to enter.

Children and parents attending the screening clinic will be met by a number of people, all of whom are taking part in the Kindergarten Assessment Program. We remind everyone that parents and children will be spending at least 1 1/2 hours with us at the clinic. If at all possible, it is best if younger and/or other children do not accompany the preschooler and his/her parents to the clinic.

In order to provide an efficient clinic, appointment times will be set up at intervals. Being on time is very important if we are to keep the clinic running smoothly. Parents of children registered for kindergarten will receive a letter indicating their appointment date and time. Appointment letters will be mailed out sometime in January.

Parents are reminded to bring their child's Birth Certificate, Social Security Card, Immunization Record and Custody Papers (if divorced) when attending the clinic. In accordance with state law, all children must have the following immunizations before entering school:

- DTP - 4 or more doses-Booster after age 4
- POLIO - Injectable and oral combination - 4 or more doses
 - All oral doses or all injectable - 3 or more doses.
 - One dose must be given after 4 years of age.
- MMR - 2 doses after 1 year of age and at least 28 days apart
- HEPATITIS B - 3 doses with 3rd on or after 24 weeks of age (Recommended for all 0-18 years olds.)
- VARICELLA - 2 doses after 1 year of age unless child has had disease (chicken pox)

Parking for the clinic will be available on Plum Street. Please use the elementary entrance. Thank you for your cooperation.



Mrs. Lisa Steinke
School Nurse
Mrs. Diane Kramer
K-4 Principal

KINDERGARTEN SCREENING FORM
NEW BREMEN LOCAL SCHOOLS

It is important that we have names of children who are eligible to attend kindergarten next fall (those who will be 5 on or before August 1, 2015). **PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE ELEMENTARY OFFICE.** We are also interested in knowing the number of children who will be attending New Bremen Local School through the next five years. Complete this form if you have a child eligible for kindergarten and have not registered, or have a preschool-age child (age 0-5) and have not registered. Share this with a relative, neighbor, or friend.

KINDERGARTEN 2015-2016

CHILDREN'S INFORMATION:

First Name	Middle	Last	Birthdate	Male/Female
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____



Father's Name _____ **Address** _____ **Home Phone** _____ **Cell #** _____

Mother's Name _____ **Address** _____ **Home Phone** _____ **Cell #** _____

Email Address: _____

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO:

NEW BREMEN SCHOOL
ATTENTION: BECKY EYINK
202-210 SOUTH WALNUT STREET
NEW BREMEN, OH 45869

Or you can e-mail the information to: becky.eyink@newbremenschools.org

New Bremen Local School
901 East Monroe Street
New Bremen, OH 45869

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
New Bremen, OH
Permit No. 42

ECRWSS
Postal Patron
New Bremen, OH 45869



Help Us By
Donating



Your Used Cell Phones and
Empty Laser and Inkjet
Printer Cartridges



The New Bremen Local Schools will benefit from your old used cell phones and empty printer ink cartridges. It's easy! Just bring these items to one of our school offices and we'll take it from there. We will recycle the cartridges and cell phones through FundingFactory to earn technology equipment, playground equipment, sports equipment, or cash.

FundingFactory also sponsors a business support program, where employers can help our school without spending a cent. For more information visit their website at www.FundingFactory.com or call toll-free at 1-888-883-8237.



*TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE OUR
FUND-RAISER A SUCCESS!*

NEW BREMEN



Check out our website at:
www.newbremenschools.org

CARDINALS