AASP / JOM Newsletter

Winter Issue 2019

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JANUARY

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White - All Schools
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It is hard to believe the first quarter is already over and the 2nd quarter is underway!! Lots of things have been happening at the middle school. Students have already participated in their 1st I-Ready incentive. The Boo Bash was held on Halloween and consisted of many different activities for the students to do. There was dodgeball, coding, nature walk, knitting, and taping Mr. Miklas to the wall with duct tape!! The students had a blast.

The second incentive was held at the Cattaraugus Community Center. This incentive was held to encourage students to do a random act of kindness. The entire school was eligible and it was nice to see the thoughtfulness throughout the school. There were many activities for them to do such as ice skating, swimming, dodgeball, and crafts.

With the New Year fast approaching and the 2nd quarter ending in January, it is important that students continue to seek extra help if needed. Students are always welcome to stay after school in the JOM classroom for homework help. We stay after school Monday-Thursday. The learning center is another option. This is located in the middle school library and students are responsible for signing up.

Just a reminder that the school day starts at 7:18am. Students must be in their Check-n-Connect homerooms by this time or they are marked tardy. If your child will be attending Mid-Winter Ceremonies, please send a note to the main office stating so. This will be considered an excused absence.

Upcoming important dates:
• December 21-January 2 (Winter Recess)
• January 21 (No school-Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
• January 25 (End of 2nd quarter)
We are half way through the 2nd Quarter and the year is really flying by! Seniors are completing their college applications and making plans for life after graduation. Juniors are beginning to prep for the SAT and look into options for college or trade schools. Sophomores and freshmen should be working on improving grades from the first quarter or maintaining the grades they are happy with. After winter break the school year really starts to fly by and it will be spring before we know it! Students need to be putting in the extra effort like studying at home or staying after school with a teacher. Little things can make a huge difference!

**Joseph Bruchac Visits Lake Shore**

Author Joseph Bruchac and his son, Jesse, spent a couple of days at Lake Shore visiting each school building and also participating in a community wide Literacy Night. Mr. Bruchac and his son told stories, sang and played instruments, and he also spoke about his life as an author. At the high school several students who read one or more of his books were able to have lunch with him and speak to him personally.

**College Visits**

This fall we welcomed visitors from Cornell, Syracuse, and Buffalo State. Students listened to short presentations about the colleges and then were able to ask any questions they had about college. They also learned tips for completing their applications.

**Ace Club**

Members of Ace Club have been hard at work making ornaments for the Elders’ Lunch at AOA. This year we were able to complete 50 ornaments to be handed out!

Below are some of the ornaments for AOA
JTW Article 2018

September means back to school! Our students enjoyed their summer, but came back excited to learn. We had our back to school bash, which was a huge success! Several students from JTW participated in the SNI Education departments float and they helped us win second place! Along with our Back to School Bash, we also had our Elementary Youth Summit. 15 students from JTW were selected to attend the Youth Summit. They were bussed to the ECLC where they had a day of fun and learning! The main topics were; healthy eating, anti-bullying via a magic show, and meditation and creativity through the telling of the Seneca version of why the leaves fall off the trees as winter approaches. Lunch was provided and a good time was had by all.

November is Native American Heritage month. I had the honor of setting up the JTW display case, to enhance awareness of Native American Heritage month. We also had famed Native American children’s author Joseph Bruchac, come and discuss his books at our district. This kicked off the schools literacy night, were hundreds of free books were given away to our students.

We also had the Newtown singers come and host a social dance here at the school. It was a great opportunity for the students to learn the meanings behind the dances and to even participate! Even the teachers got involved in the dancing!

The fourth graders held a “walking” history museum, for their parents, grandparents and guardians. This was the culmination of weeks and weeks of research on a historical event, which they in turn created a graphic novel on. This included an interview proposal for their graphic novel, a storyboard, rough draft and final copies. The adults came in and viewed their projects in a museum style fashion. It was a huge success.

We can’t wait to see what the spring has in store for us. Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year!
Lakeshore Middle School has been pretty busy this school year already. In November we had Joseph Bruchac and his son speak to the school as well as provide us with a meet and greet in the evening. Children were able to receive free books from the author as well as hear him tell his stories. Shortly following this event, our first marking period closed. We honored our students that made merit and honor roll with special breakfasts before school started. Lastly, we closed off the first part of the school year with a secret Santa exchange of gifts to keep us in the spirit of the holiday season. This year has been so rewarding already, I cannot wait to see what 2019 brings!

Jordan Cooke shares scary stories with the 7th grade class and lets them exchange stories in front of everyone.

Joseph Bruchac came to LSMS and told us stories, some scary and some thought provoking. He educated us on the efforts it takes to become a story writer as well as holding true to important traditions.

During each grades lunches we had them do their secret Santa exchange. Each student had 3 tries to guess who their secret Santa was! It was such a fun time, lots of gum and candy was exchanged!
Our Merit Roll Honorees of the First Quarter listed L to R: (6th) Jordan Cooke, Shilo Pierce, Laelle Jimerson, Stevieana Seneca, Shaun Serio, (7th) Aiden Button, Benson-Cobain Quinn, Mileah Pinelli, Mannot Jamieson

Our Honor Roll Honorees listed L to R: (8th) Alex Kennedy, Tianna Thuman (7th) Ava Tallchief, Jacella Nephew, Arwin Lyle, Macay Jimerson

(6th) Maston Waterman, Marcellus Plain, Aquinnah Maybee, Kiowa Haynes
We have had a great beginning of the school year here at Silver Creek CSD. The year started out well with students getting right back into routine. Students greeted friends and teachers, old and new, received their new lockers and IPADs, and jumped right into the school routine. September was a whirlwind of new faces and classes. Students had afterschool clubs, sports practice, and homework, all while trying to find time to hang out with friends and spend time outside in the beautiful weather.

On October 5th, 19 Middle school students participated in a Corn Husking Field Trip with the Seneca Language Teacher, Anne Tahamont. Students were taken to local fields to help pick corn and then husk the corn. The Seneca Nation Presidents office provided a lunch of Chiavetta's chicken barbeque. Students learned about traditional foods and traditional ways of storing for the winter. Students were able to take a lot away from this fantastic day. It helped that the weather was great!

New this year, the Behavioral Health Unit (BHU) has started grade level prevention groups focusing on positive life choices and drug abuse awareness. Under the coordination of Heather Ward, students meet with one of the behavior health specialists. The new specialist, Lydia Bushman, meets with one grade level each week. Each grade level will meet about once a month. I look forward to hearing more of the topics that each group will cover over the course of the year.

As October rolled on, students prepared for Halloween. Many students chose to dress up on Halloween and participated in a fun day at school. Then many went out trick or treating, of course!

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As students were coming down from their sugar high’s, 22 students loaded on the bus and attended the annual Youth Summit, on November 1st, sponsored by the Seneca Nation Education Department. Students participated in 3 different workshops. One focused on traditional foods compared to processed food choices, another focused on the journey of Handsome Lake paired with a painting activity, and the last was a financial literacy presentation. Students had a great lunch of chicken noodle soup and Subway wraps. After lunch students were able to participate in social dancing. This was a wonderful experience for all the students that participated.

On November 9th the Silver Creek Middle School put on their first Musical in a long time. Students performed Aladdin Jr! There were several Native American Students that participated in the musical in supporting roles and in the chorus. All the students in the chorus department did a fantastic job!

As November comes to an end students have been participating in various activities for Native American Heritage Month. We kicked off the month with Rock Your Mocs where the whole school community is encouraged to wear their moccasins to recognize Native American Culture. The cafeteria became involved with “Indian Tacos” and strawberry juice for lunch. On Monday the 19th, members of the Seneca Nation Language Department, helped the students highlight many social dances. To top off the month Perry Ground did a presentation for both the Middle and High School. An amazing story teller, Mr. Ground is a born performer who enchanted the whole auditorium with his stories. Though his time with the high school and middle school was short, Mr. Ground spent the rest of the day delighting the elementary school with stories, history and culture.

Congratulations to the following students for their fine grades and being on the Merit and Honor roll!

**Honor Roll:**

**6th Grade:**
Godaodiyo Black
Aubrey Domres
Ciara Jamison
Trenton Logan
Gabriella Seneca
Makayla Smith

**7th Grade:**
Laney Olson
Timothy Williams

**8th Grade:**
Tory Cook
Kayla Johns
Jakeb Millar
Jackson Williams

**Credit Roll:**

**7th Grade:**
Raymond Cortes
Saige Holden
Lucille Jimerson
Jacob Jimerson- Kenjockety
Mason Maybee

**8th Grade:**
Skilynn Halftown
The 2018-2019 school year at Silver Creek Elementary is in full swing and the students have been involved in many new and exciting activities. In the JOM room, the morning Homework Help students have been involved in a group project. I created a leafless tree in the classroom in which the students have been making a leaf to add to the tree each time they complete their homework. It has been beautiful to see the tree come to life with all of their hard work! In October, the 5th graders took a field trip to the Seneca Nation Agricultural Farm. The students learned about white corn and then took part in corn harvesting and braiding. In November, the students took part in traditional cultural activities. They joined the Seneca Singers and joined their classmates in a social dancing demonstration. Many students dressed in traditional clothing and helped lead the dances. Martin Jimerson III did an impressive Smoke Dance for the school to see. On November 27th, Perry Ground spent the day with the students, teaching them traditional crafts and storytelling. On November 19th, the students took part in the first ever Turkey Trot outside on the school track. It was a little chilly outside, but the students, faculty and parents truly enjoyed the event. It was so much fun to see the kids run and cheer each other on!

As the holiday season approaches and the year comes to an end, I reflect on the great things that I have in my life. Each day that I come to school, I am reminded of the many things that I am grateful for. I love working with my students and being part of their lives. I hope that your holiday season is filled with joy and many great memories.
The fall season has been busy at Silver Creek High School. Students and staff worked diligently to plan our events for November, and they were a great success. We invited Perry Ground for storytelling in the auditorium, handed out strawberry juice and Fry bread Tacos in the Lunchroom, and also hosted a Social for all the high school students. Teachers and students both participated, and our events were tied into Silver Creek’s November character trait of Social Intelligence, which encompasses an appreciation and interest in other cultures.

Additionally, we were proud to recognize Morningstar Halftown and Nia Nephew, both juniors who were inducted into the National Honor Society. To be inducted into the National Honor Society, or NHS, students must have good grades, but that isn't all. To be accepted, students must meet the four National Honor Society pillars: scholarship, leadership, character and service. This is a prestigious honor that is well deserved...Congratulations Morningstar and Nia.