

#3

December 2015

GOLD STAR

**Kudos****2**

Our students have tremendous talents – read about some of their accomplishments.

Music**3**

Music education is important for many reasons.

Art**4**

Art education is more than pretty pictures.

505 Now: Discussion & Action

The Board reviewed and/or took action on the following items at the Dec 14, 2015 meeting:

- discussed increase in drivers' education fees
- reviewed 2016-17 calendar recommendation with action to be taken in January
- voted to continue Early Childhood (PK) program using option 2 of the Greenbush proposal
- approved the use of e-Funds for School as a payment option for student fees
- approved the use of the Kansas Setoff Program for uncollected and outstanding fees
- approved 29,000 of remaining donations and up to \$30,000 of district capital outlay funds for lights at SP baseball field
- accepted grants: SP FFA from Frontier Farm Credit, Chetopa SpEd from Knights of Columbus

Go Math! FIX

There are many great resources out there for helping our students with Math. It's just the time it takes to find them. Follow this link and you will locate some terrific GoMath Resources to help you and your child with math concepts in a fun, engaging way!

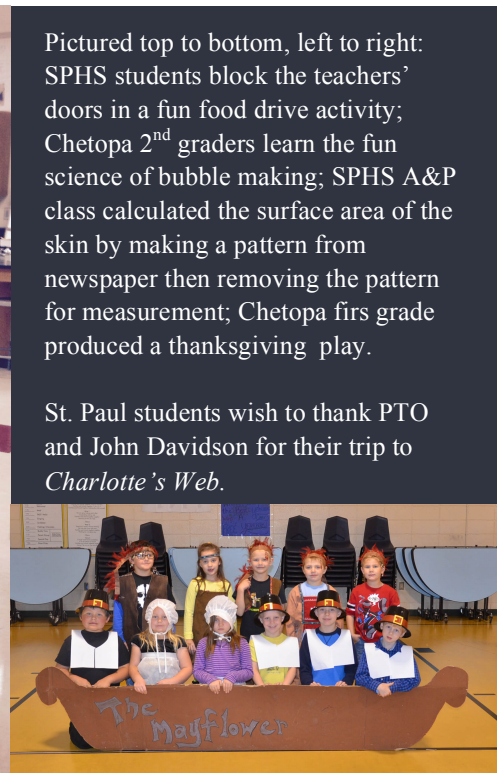
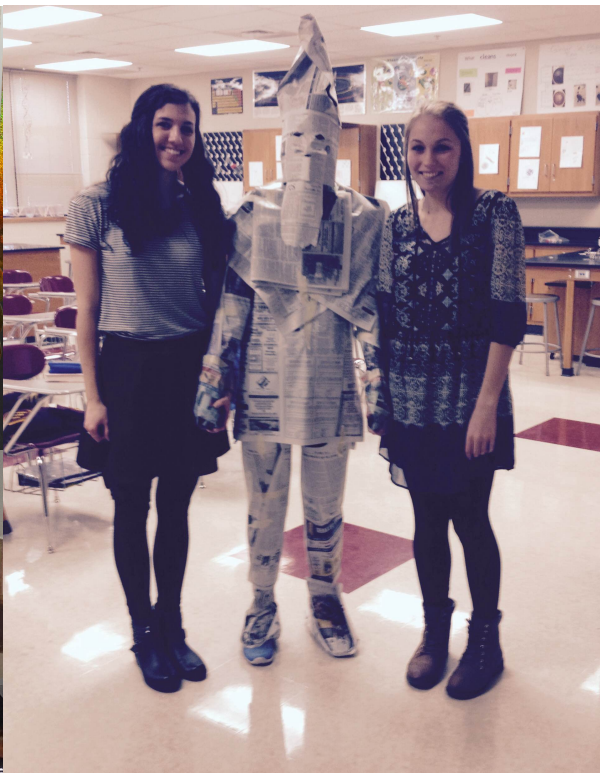
The link is: www.ebps.net/Page/2289

It takes you to an Online Technology Curriculum for GoMath. The link goes to Student Life and along the left side of the screen are the GoMath Grades 3-6. You can link to the grade you need for GoMath Resources.

The site includes the following options to assist you in your quest for great math knowledge:

- ✓ Student Edition Book- Shows you the actual book page-by-page that your student is/has studied in their classroom.
- ✓ Student Interaction Book- An on-line visual that you and your child can manipulate and learn interactively.
- ✓ Mega Math- Fun on-line games that help your child with the concepts needed to master the objectives at their grade level.
- ✓ iTools/manipulatives- virtual graphs, counters, blocks etc... that the student can manipulate to help them solve problems. These tools are excellent practice for on-line assessments and helping students with hand-eye coordination when moving items on the computer screen.

Stocking "stuffer" ideas: flashcards, buttons for counting, a deck of cards, a baggy of change to practice counting, a watch with analog hands, colored cereal for sorting or making strings of tens. Remember, math is all around us and we can make it easier when we make real-world connections that children can understand!



Pictured top to bottom, left to right: SPHS students block the teachers' doors in a fun food drive activity; Chetopa 2nd graders learn the fun science of bubble making; SPHS A&P class calculated the surface area of the skin by making a pattern from newspaper then removing the pattern for measurement; Chetopa first grade produced a thanksgiving play.

St. Paul students wish to thank PTO and John Davidson for their trip to *Charlotte's Web*.



BUZZ & BEAT



SP 1st Grade: Students participated in a Greenbush IDL lab last week about snowflakes - integrating math and science and creating snowflakes from paper pattern block pieces.

Hornets for Hope: CHS students and staff have a Relay for Life team in support of the American Cancer Society. The group is currently holding a raffle for a handmade hope chest.

SP Raise a Brazilian: SPHS students are raising a fund through GoFundMe to help their foreign exchange student stay in St. Paul second semester.

Chetopa 4th Grade: Students are studying the make up of a bully, the bystander, the target and the up-stander. As a culminating activity students will participate in the Anti-Bullying Billboard Contest through the Luke Nugent Memorial.

Chetopa 5th Grade: "Equipment" by Edgar A. Guest is now a favorite poem in the 5th grade reading/writing lab class. The students have enjoyed a collection of quotes and readings that promote good character, critical thinking skills, and vocabulary development. Students learned that attitude and good choices are equipment that we all share. The month of December can be a reminder of the importance of integrity, compassion, and the gift of kindness. Literature provides opportunities for projects and discussions to enhance learning and motivate students to do well. Our future lessons will include; the classic story, *The Gift of Magi*-by O.Henry and *Silver Packages*-by Cynthia Rylant.

SPHS Music: Choir and Band performed for shoppers at Meadowbrook Mall.

See page 4 for more student recognition.

SP College Visits: St. Paul 8th Grade visited Labette Community College to tour campus programs and discuss what the need to do in high school to prepare for college. Students in grade 10 participated in PSU Sophomore Success Day, which included tours, scholarship awareness, and college life talks.



St. Paul FFA Treasurer Raquel Rice was awarded Mater of Ritual Treasurer Intermediate Group at the PSU Leadership School held in late November.



505 Live Highlight:

Music

Mr. Harris leads St. Paul elementary students in song.

Insert: Jayla Whetsone, Chetopa, was selected for District Honor Band.

Taught by
Jim Harris (St. Paul) & Alan Paxson (Chetopa)



Music is physics, mathematics, literature... fine motor skills... foreign language... history... and culture. All of these are worthy reasons to promote music in the school setting, yet they all pale in comparison with the real reason. Music is basic to all humankind because we use it to express thoughts and emotions, which would otherwise not be communicated. Music, as an art, reaches the soul.

Mr. Harris

Imagine classical voice training and discussions of vibrato followed 30 minutes later by a simple lesson on clapping to the beat of the music. Mr. Harris and Mr. Paxson have this daunting task everyday in USD 505

because they are responsible for teaching all district students in grades PK-12. Yet, every person you speak to about the USD 505 music performances express their appreciation for the quality performances, in no small part to the tireless dedication of the instructors.

However, the instructors give credit to their students who “buy into” the program and have ownership in it, so much so that many high school students participate even when their schedules don’t allow for enrollment into a scheduled class.

Students have opportunities to participate in competitions and honors groups through the music programs.

Neuroscientists have proven that just listening to music engages practically every area of the brain; however, playing music heightens the brain activity and also engages fine motor skills. Research shows that students who study music in school improve their reading, spelling, and math skill; further, they perform higher on ACT/SAT exams and are more likely to go on to and be successful in college

Art Education Builds Confidence and Appreciation

Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time.

Thomas Merton

By Marti Tuck, art instructor

The St. Paul High School art room is a busy place. I began last year with half-time High School Art/Half Time Counselor, and had around 45 students taking a high school art class. We started with the Elements of Art (Line, Shape, Form, Color, Value, Space and Texture) and tried out a lot of different mediums. This year we are working on Element of Art & Principles of Design as we begin to look at a century of Modern Art. We will cover Impressionism, Fauvism, Cubism, Surrealism, Expressionism, Abstract Expressionism, and Pop Art, and do projects in each art style along the way. In addition, we will choose a focus artist. This year, we looked at the work of Christo & Jean-Claude, a husband and wife team who transforms their environment through temporary large-scale installations. Art II tried their hand at creating an Installation of their own to make people at school see their surroundings in a new way.

In honor of October being Bullying Prevention Month, our focus was on promoting good character and emphasizing Kindness. Students from PK-12 were encouraged to design and decorate a heart for a school-wide collaboration. It is on display in the hallway as a reminder to treat others with kindness and respect. A bigger display showcasing a variety of projects completed throughout the year

is planned for the end of the school year.

There is no substitute for an education in the arts. It develops problem-solving and critical thinking skills, and allows students the opportunity to communicate and express themselves

in unique ways. I hope students learn a lot about art, but more importantly, I hope they learn a lot about themselves. Perseverance, confidence, willingness to try new things, and just perhaps, a lifelong appreciation of the arts along the way.

Students Earn Area Recognition

Area honors have been announced for music and fall sports with Chetopa-St. Paul receiving honors.

St. Paul Music: SE KMEA recognized St. Paul students in grades 6-8. Junior high honor choir honors go to Amber Leistikow, Taylor Wiatrak, Annabella Beachner, Fiona Bartelli, and Irelyn Foley. Recognized for JH honors ban were Taylor O'Brien, Keonna Moore, Wilson Smith, and Rebecca Daugherty. Sixth grade choir honors went to Dylan Petty, Gage Gannaway, Haleigh O'Brien, and Brooklyn Tinker. The students will participate in a concert on January 16.

Chetopa Music: Jayla Whetsone has been recognized by the Southeast Kansas Music Educators Association (SE KMEA) and played in the honor band in early December. Elementary choir students recognized by the same organization are Nikki Adams, Andie Johnson, Mackaylie Moor, Colby Riddle, Gracie Shertz, Damon Wilkerson, and alternate Gabe Harveill.

St. Paul Volleyball League Honors: Josie Albertini was awarded first team honors; Katelin O'Brien and Holly Hutcherson earned second team and Ashley Carlson was selected honorable mention.

Chetopa Volleyball League Honors: Cambri Conard earned second team honor and Brianna Riddle was selected honorable mention.

St. Paul Football League Honors: Colton Johnon – first team DL and honorable mention center; Brent Vitt – first team special teams punter; Alex VanLeeuwen – unanimous first team RB; Patrick O'Brien – first team LB and honorable mention TE; Chandler Struthers – first team receiver; Noah Winter – honorable mention QB; Jace McCracken – honorable mention DL; Anthony Albertini – first team OL. Special congratulations to Coach Wiatrak who has been nominated for District Coach of the Year!

Chetopa Football League Honors: Trenton Scott – first team LB, honorable mention QB, and honorable mention punter; Alex Carter – honorable mention RB.

District & State Honors: Football: Trenton Scott (CH) - honorable mention LB (Topeka Capital & Wichita Eagle); Alex VanLeeuwen (SP) honorable mention DB (Wichita Eagle) and RB (Topeka Capital). Volleyball: Josie Albertini – All-State honorable mention.