

Milestone Messenger



November 2015



On November 3 the students went to the Horsham Outdoor School. The students challenged themselves, worked as a team and had a wonderful time!



Bob Gold brings Milestone students the joy of percussion instruments.

Greetings and Welcome to the first edition of MileStone Messenger ~ the occasional newsletter of our new school. We are off to a wonderful start! The students are doing very well, the faculty is dedicated and working hard, and word is spreading...we will have two students starting after Thanksgiving. Thank you to everyone who is contributing to the growth and success of MileStone!

We all have much to be grateful for, as we enter this early wintertime. The birth of our school is a gift to all of us who care about educating students who learn differently. I often reflect on the meaning of the path life takes us. There are few things more meaningful than helping to provide a quality education to students who need some extra time, attention or accommodation to succeed. We are glad and grateful to be part of this much needed and promising high school.

It is a pleasure to see student work on exhibit that reflects their work in and out of the classroom. Some "co-curricular" highlights this year have been the toy drive to benefit needy children, our day trip to the Outdoor School in Horsham, and the addition of our inspiring and very cool music program. All of these activities help build our sense of community and connection. It is important that our school feels like family, as that sense of belonging is what builds our students' confidence and ability to envision their own success.

Partnering with other schools and organizations to the benefit of both groups is a great way to build awareness of our school in the local community. We have started a tech partnership with Manor College; their students are assisting us with social media marketing and internal data management. In turn, the Manor students get experience in the real world, as they learn what is necessary to create a tech plan for the school and what it will take to deliver it. It is truly a win-win.

Thank you for being part of the Milestone family. Wishing you a truly warm and comforting Thanksgiving holiday,

Ruth Joray, Dean

Todd DuPell, Head of School



Milestone Messenger

Page 2

“Music can change the world because it changes people”

Bono

“Do not judge me by my successes, judge me by how many times I fell down and got up again.”

Nelson Mandela 1918-2013



Literacy I

by Judi Banco

All the students have been focusing on writing. Jared has been learning how to take notes about a character in a novel and write a character sketch. He has been using a graphic organizer to help him organize his information. Imani has been working on answering comprehension questions using supporting details and using a quality homework checklist. Daniel and Jordan are learning the differences between various types of comprehension questions and how to write quality answers. Katie and Zhameer are analyzing and responding to events that they are reading about. They also are learning about comparing and contrasting characters. Writing is a process and I am very pleased with the progress the students are making.

Biology

by Levi Natkins

In Biology, students are currently learning about DNA and chromosomes. We have just finished learning about the two types of cell division (Mitosis and Meiosis), and we are now exploring DNA. Students are learning how DNA creates proteins, which in turn become the building blocks for all of life. Students are also learning how different genes code for specific traits in living things

Geometry by Levi Natkins

In Geometry, students are working on solving for angles on lines and in triangles and quadrilaterals. Students are using their knowledge about the properties of these shapes to help them solve for unknown angles. Once students have mastered those shapes, we will move on to learning about the properties of circles, and solving for problems related to circles.

Students participate in Music every other Wednesday

History



Reminder:

Monday is Pizza Day,
Wednesday -Pretzels
and Pretzel Dogs Friday
Student Choice

***Students must fill out
a lunch slip from the
office and bring in their
money a day in advance**

We love choices.

by John Ryan

In all three History classes, the students worked on a project where they created their own country. All of the projects are hanging on the bulletin board outside of the Social Studies classroom.

In African American History and U.S. History, students are learning about colonization and the reasons behind the slave trade.

In Civics class, students are learning about the Executive branch of government after learning about how the legislative process works.

Math Concepts

by Maria Rowe

The students are building up their basic math skills. Right now they are reviewing writing numbers into words, rounding and comparing numbers. Next, we will review adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals.

Literacy II

by Kate Monaghan and Lauren Stone

In Literacy II, we are focusing on Figurative Language. The students listened to songs while following along with the lyrics using Youtube to find similes and metaphors in songs they enjoy listening to. To assist with learning personification, the students read various poems to find examples of how poets give inanimate objects human characteristics. The students will be learning about hyperbole and imagery as well in the next coming days. Before Thanksgiving, the students will play a Jeopardy game to reinforce figurative language terms. Once students return from break, students will utilize the figurative language terms to create poems

How does Milestone Academy Meet Your Needs?

Jared: "I get individualized attention from my teachers and support when I need it."

Imani: "It adapts to the way I learn."

Daniel: "It helps me work hard"

Katie: "It gives me confidence to believe in myself."

Jordan: "Extra time and graphic organizers help me."

Zhameer: "It helps me to stay on track to achieve my goals."



Computer Technology

by Maria Rowe

The students are learning how to analyze data. They have been analyzing data from the NFL, Yahoo Finance, and the US Census Bureau. They are also learning how to create data spreadsheets for their own personal use such as class schedules and "To Do" lists

