UNION R-XI

Paw Prints

FALL ISSUE 2008

HOME OF THE UNION WILDCATS

Employees Of The Year

Sue Eads

Head Cook at Central Elementary

2008 Support Staff Employee of the Year

Christy Baker

High School Teacher

2008 Emerson Electric Teacher of the Year

Gene Door

Grass Cutter/Maintenance

2008 Support Staff Employee of the Year

CHECK THESE LOCAL RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS FOR SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS

KLPW 101.7 FM
KLPW 1220 AM
WIL 92.3 FM/WRTH 1430 AM
KSLQ 104.5 FM
KMOX 1120 AM
KTVI Channel 2 (FOX)
KSDK Channel 5
KRCG Channel 13
KMOV Channel 4

DON'T FORGET SCHOOL REACH WILL ALSO BE UTILIZED
PLEASE KEEP YOUR PHONE NUMBERS UPDATED!

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Union, MO
Permit No. 8
ECRWSS

Postal Patron

Union R-XI School District Mission

The mission of the Union R-XI School District is to create a safe, drug-free, student-centered system with parental involvement, responsive to community and family needs; where all students are personally responsible, challenged and motivated, given time to imagine and create, and offered a global, current curriculum with educational, technical, economic, and health skills necessary to function successfully in society; where all faculty and staff are excellent, well-rewarded, and work successfully, individually and in teams, for the benefit of students and themselves; and where leadership and management of the system is influenced by those who participate.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Union R-XI School District is to provide an excellent education to all of our students by setting high standards in achievement, providing excellent faculty and staff, promoting community support, and providing appropriate technology.

Vision

The Vision of the Union R-XI School District includes safe and secure facilities conducive for learning and appropriate to house quality programs and necessary services for learners from pre-kindergarten to graduation. The district will provide an environment that meets the diverse learning needs of all learners. The district will operate in an appropriately disciplined atmosphere, free of violence, drugs and alcohol, and the district will strive to promote an atmosphere of mutual respect between the learner and teacher. Learners will receive a strong foundation in the "basics" needed currently and for the future. Well-trained teachers will use innovative teaching practices with proven instructional methodology and assessment. All learners will have access to relevant technological tools and resources to support learning. Life-long learning will be fostered as students learn to apply their knowledge and demonstrate effective skills in communication and problem solving in order to succeed as productive citizens in an ever-changing world.

Union R-XI Board of Education

Mr. Tom Stahlman	President
Ms. Valorie Steinbeck	Vice-President
Ms. Traci Canby	Board Member
Ms. Teresa Connelly	Board Member
Ms. Pam Janssen	Board Member
Dr. Ron Sohn	Board Member
Mr. Dan Hall	Board Member

Union R-XI Administration

Dr. VeAnn Tilson	Superintendent
Dr. Jennifer Hope	Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Shirley Dintelman	Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Jeff Van Zee	Director of Facilities
Mr. Dennis Lottmann	High School Principal
Mr. Chris Arand	High School Assistant Principal/Activities Director
Ms. Amy Carlson	High School Assistant Principal
Mr. Gary Menke	Middle School Principal
Mr. Nathan Bailey	Assistant Middle School Principal
Mr. Aaron Jones	Clark-Vitt Elementary Principal
Ms. Jenny Davis	Clark-Vitt Elementary Assistant Principal/Curriculum
Ms. Meg Vogel	Beaufort Elementary Principal
Dr. Deborah Stephens	Central Elementary Principal
Ms. Monica Assareh	Central Elementary Assistant Principal
Ms. Julie Price	Secretary to the Superintendent/Board
Ms. Lisa Delmain	Secretary to the Superintendent
Ms. Lauren Brake	Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Susan Timlin	Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Tameron Voss	Secretary to the Director of Facilities
Ms. Connie Rinne	Bookkeeper
Ms. Michelle Fink	Bookkeeper
Ms. Rita Greenwood	Assistant Bookkeeper
Ms. Rhonda Witte	Benefits Secretary
Ms. Jennifer Meyer	Process Coordinator

Phone Numbers

Superintendent's Office	636.583.8626
Union High School	636.583.2513
Union Middle School	636.583-5855
Clark-Vitt Elementary	636.583.6997
Beaufort Elementary	573.484.3221/636.583.7744
Central Elementary	636.583.3152
Bus Garage	636.584.7171
Food Service Dept.	636.583.5840
Maintenance Dept.	636.583.2432
Custodial Dept.	636-583-5855
Resource Center	636.584.0157
Technology Department	636.583.4440

A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Patrons,

Too frequently we pick up the newspaper, turn on the TV or radio only to hear bad news. We hear that our economy is in trouble, our public schools are failing, and crime is on the rise. It really can be overwhelming.

I don't feel qualified to speak on the economy or about crime, but I can tell you that public education in Union, Missouri, is far from failing. We have the best students, outstanding teachers/staff, and a supportive community. That combination has all the ingredients for an excellent educational system.

I would like to share with you just a few stories to illustrate this statement.

World Famous Beaufort Spaghetti Dinner and Carnival

Did you know that the world famous Mrs. Shirley Bauer, head cook at Beaufort, has made spaghetti for the big event since 1974? She reports that we used 120 pounds of ground beef, 83 pounds of spaghetti, 176 quarts of spaghetti sauce, 32 gallons of green beans, 85 pounds of lettuce, 62 loaves of bread for toast, 30 pounds of margarine for toast, and 10 pounds of parmesan cheese for this famous meal! All this was prepared in our Beaufort kitchen with a lot of help from PTO, parents, staff, and people in the community! Mrs. Shirley Bauer has blessed Beaufort for the past 40 years! This year over 700 meals were served, which set a new world record here at Beaufort! Thank you, Mrs. Bauer, for being with Beaufort for the past 40 years. Happy 40th Anniversary and without a doubt your legacy of making the world famous spaghetti will live on in the Beaufort community!

What a wonderful and dedicated employee!

Students from Beaufort who belong to K-Kids, a service organization, delivered survival kits to teachers to help them with the long hours for parent teacher conferences which took place October 22 and 23. The students filled goodie bags and included a memo "Teacher Survival Kit". Twenty-five students enjoyed sneaking into the classrooms and delivering the goodies! The students also had fun discussing the value of service work and experienced what it is like to give and serve others.

One pretty outstanding story about one of our first grade girls.... she found a $100 bill on the playground and came and turned it in to our office. Later that day another first grade girl turned in a second $100 bill to her teacher for a project they were doing in class. She told her teacher she had TWO that morning (and now couldn't find the second) and had taken them out of her mom's jewelry box. Her teacher checked with the office - and sure enough... the $100 had been turned in by our first grade good citizen earlier that morning.

We like to think that our kids will make the right decisions and be honest - but it was confirmed to us this week and we were very proud of this little girl. We have been talking about honesty and being a good citizen in our character ed discussion. The owner of the money- mom- shared that this was her birthday money she had put away in her jewelry box and her daughter had just decided to "donate it to a good cause."

Mr. Gary Menke, Middle School Principal, entered Mr. Rob Roger's room last month to present him with his first paycheck as a teacher. When he entered he asked the kids to listen as he said a few words about their teacher. He ended the discussion with "Congratulations, Mr. Rogers, for earning your first paycheck as a teacher!" At that the kids started to applaud their new teacher!

I could write several more paragraphs (or pages!) on the great things that are happening at Union R-XI.

So … the next time you hear a negative story about schools or kids, just think about these positive stories.

What great kids!

Sincerely,

Dr. VeAnn Tilson
Superintendent of Schools

Professional Development Committee University

During the 2004-2005 school year Tina Brueggemann, Middle School Social Studies teacher, approached Union R-XI's District Professional Development Committee with an idea. She wanted to offer professional development opportunities to teachers over the summer, here in Union. This would help get teachers geared up for the start of the school year and not require them to travel great distances to get it or spend a lot of money doing it. Mrs. Brueggemann was given the go ahead and a modest budget. She rounded up some help and in July 2005, Union held its first PDCU (Professional Development Committee University). It was widely attended by both Union teachers and teachers from surrounding districts.

Since July 2005, teachers have planned their summer activities around PDCU. Every July, teachers have returned to Union for PDCU. PDCU has provided professional development opportunities on a variety of topics such as Cooperative Learning, Balanced Literacy, co-teaching, Differentiated Instruction, effective teaching strategies, brain research, mentoring, Bully Free Classrooms, graphic organizers, Project Citizen, Professional Learning Communities, and a wide variety of technology topics, just to mention a few. In addition to offering the summer topics, Mrs. Brueggemann often had presenters return throughout the school year for refreshers.

The work of Mrs. Brueggemann and her PDCU team has touched many teachers over the last 4 years and, as a result, affected the lives of many more students. It is with great sadness that we announce that Mrs. Brueggemann has stepped down from chairing PDCU.

Thanks Tina for all the hard work and countless hours that you have dedicated to enriching the lives of your fellow teachers. You have made Union proud.

PDCU will do its best to continue. The District Professional Development Committee is currently searching for someone to chair PDCU for summer 2009.

home of the union wildcats

Parents As Teachers

The pictures are from a group meeting where we painted bubble wrap. The first picture is Ruthie Harman. The second picture is Josie Wilka, her mom Angie, and Isabelle Zagarri. The third picture is Dylan McDuffie. The fourth photo is Amber Glastetter on the rink at Skaterz. The fifth picture is at Skaterz -- we are singing a song. The sixth picture is the McFerrin family (Will, Ashley, Mikayla, & Michael) enjoying the craft activity at Skaterz.

Freedom Grant Awarded

The Union R-XI School District has been awarded a grant from the Missouri Foundation for Health to address asthma and asthma-related illnesses in our students within our school community.

The program is voluntary and parents are encouraged to call for more information. Services that can be provided include educating, monitoring and providing case management to our students that are experiencing challenges regarding academics, attendance and require assistance with asthma-related materials to assist in working toward the student's success in the school environment.

Our Freedom Team is available to assist students, who have received a medical diagnosis of asthma or asthma-related illnesses and their families. The team will coordinate services and provide materials to help the students be more successful in both home and school.

To receive information or to participate in the program, (after January 1, 2009), please contact Ronda at 636-583-5355, ext. 1522. Information packets are available detailing the program and resources that are available.

Carol Generally, RN-Coordinator
Danielle Adams-LPN-nurse
Tina Hatley-LPN-nurse
Cheryl C. Savage, LCSW, Social Worker
Ronda Daehnke-office manager

Freedom Grant Forum

The Freedom Team wants parents and schools to work cooperatively to benefit each child to be successful. In that light, we would like to notify you of the upcoming changes in asthma care.

Research from the American Lung Association recommends that parents follow 7 simple steps for kids in school.

Parents should be reminded that manufacturers are phasing out the albuterol inhaler as of 12/31/08, and they are to be replaced by an HFA inhaler. Please contact your physician prior to 12/31/08. Your child's doctor will have to write a new prescription.

7 simple steps to help your child with his/her asthma:

1. Keep up with doctor's appointments to ensure that your child's asthma stays well managed. Also evaluate your child's current medications and physical activity restrictions. If physical restrictions exist these must be physician ordered and given to building nurses.

2. Confirm that medications are up to date. Make sure that your child's prescription has sufficient refills and have not expired.

3. There are prescription assistance services. You can contact the Freedom Grant office for information.

4. All students should have a written asthma action plan that details information about the child's symptoms, current medications and any physical limitations. Please provide specific instructions about what to do if an asthma attack does not improve even with prescribed medications.

5. Visit with your child's school nurse and teacher, updating as needed any changes in your child's condition or changes in medications.

6. Make sure that the school has current emergency contact numbers. Also, speak with school personnel regarding the policies and procedures in the event of an asthma attack.

A great resource is www.lungusa.org or 1-800-lung-usa. The Freedom Asthma Team is more than happy to help so contact us at 636-583-5855, ext. 1255.

The Union R-XI Parents as Teachers Annual Report

As you may or may not know, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is our soul means of financial support – our entire budget is based on a quota of services they set for us. Each new year's quota is based on services provided the previous year. If we exceed our quota, it goes up the following year; if we do not meet the quota, the next year's quota is the number of services we did provide. The following is a summary of the report we filed with both DESE and Parents as Teachers National Center detailing the services we provided last year.

	Quota	Actual Services Provided
Parent Education – 0 to 3 (Home Visits & Group Meetings)	1059	1102
Parent Education – 3 to Kindergarten (Home Visits & Group Meetings)	765	602
High Needs (Additional visits after basic services)	152	211
Screenings – 6 months to 3 years	151	186
Screenings – 3 years to Kindergarten	302	338

- 202 families were newly enrolled during the 2007/2008 school year
- 177 families were considered "high needs" and received additional visits
- 31 total group meetings/play groups were offered
- 141 families attended at least one play group or group meeting
- 524 children received developmental screening
- 122 children were identified with possible developmental and/or health problems
- 56 of the children identified with possible developmental or health problems were referred for further evaluation
- 25 of them received follow-up services
- 56 families were linked to other community services
- 54 families left the program – 30 because their children became too old, 12 moved out of the district, and the rest left for unknown reasons
- 38% of our families received full service (5 visits for children ages 0 to 3 or 3 visits for children ages 3 to Kindergarten)

News From DECA...

As DECA takes on another year of building up successful students to take on the business world, they also take on the very important roll of giving back to the community. This year DECA has adopted the Franklin County Humane Society as their organization to support this year. The Franklin County Humane Society is a nonprofit organization that does not receive any government help or tax dollars. The Humane Society takes in about 4,000 animals each year, to care for and make sure they have a safe and loving home. With the cost of supplies and upkeep for the building, it costs the Humane Society about $1,300 each day just to keep the doors open. To help support the Humane Society, DECA has organized many events and fundraisers that will help keep their doors open to the community. Throughout the year, DECA will also be working alongside other local businesses, putting together activities to raise funds for the Humane Society. Some of these activities include a bowling night, a DECA dog fashion show, a bike-a-thon, and raffles that will take place for the students at the high school. Money made from these activities will go to benefit the Humane Society.

Although giving money is great, and we will work hard to raise as much as we can. DECA believes that the donation of ourselves and our time is just as important. This year students that are involved in DECA, have agreed to put in their time where needed and give back to the community. Throughout the year, DECA students will be helping with clean-up days at the Humane Society, doing anything from cleaning out kennels to mopping and dusting to bathing and walking the animals.

Leadership Conference

Selected DECA students were chosen to take part in the Leadership Conference that was held at The Lake of The Ozarks on October 12 and 13. Along with meeting new people and expanding their networks, most of the students attended leadership seminars to gain a better understanding of being a leader in DECA, while others were involved in interviewing candidates running for a position on the Missouri State Action Team. Sara McGuire, Jacob Smith, Faith Horner, Kayla Zeiser, Mitchell Helton, Samantha Campbell, Hannah Virkler, and Airicka Krauss were the students selected to attend the conference from Union High School.

UHS Athletics Calendar

In an effort to keep students, parents and fans informed of what is going on in our athletic department, we have an athletics calendar on our Web page. You can get to this page by going to www.union.k12.mo.us and going to the right side of the page where it says calendars. Once you are there, click on the drop-down and select UHS Athletic Calendar. When you enter this calendar, you can sign up to receive e-mails from the athletic department with up-to-date cancellations, time changes, schedules of tournaments, and driving directions when available. Once you sign up for these e-mails, you will receive messages any time we have any current information to get out to the public. The calendar will, of course, have all of our athletic events for the high school and middle school. If you should have any questions, please call Chris Arand, Activities Director, at 636-583-2513, x1707.

Winter Sports

Cooler weather is upon us and the fall sports seasons are coming to a close. The winter sport season is quickly approaching. Wrestling practice starts November 3 and boys and girls basketball will kick-off their practices this year on November 10.

Anyone interested in going out for a winter sport must have a physical on file in the Athletic Director's office before they can begin practice. There can be no exceptions to this rule. If you are already playing another sport, you do not have to have another physical. Physical forms may be picked up in the school office or from a member of our coaching staff.

It should be an exciting season with this being the first full year in our new gym. If you have not been out to see an event at our beautiful facility, come out this winter and see one of our wrestling or basketball teams and enjoy the nicest facility in our area.

We have two new coaches this year, Paul Brake (Wrestling), and John Barnes (Boys Basketball). Jolene Smith returns as the veteran coach entering her fourth year as head coach of the Lady Cats basketball team. Our entire winter coaching staff is listed below.

Our cheerleaders, coached by Bobbie Wilson, are heading to the Gator Bowl over the Holiday Season for a competition, and our dance team, coached by Robin Randolph, have been preparing to entertain our crowds and for competition later in the year.

These coaches and athletes have been preparing all summer and fall to get ready for the upcoming year. It should be an exciting winter sports season with these young coaches providing a lot of energy and enthusiasm. Come on out this winter and cheer on the Wildcats!

Boys Basketball

Head Coach:	John Barnes
Asst. Coach:	Matt Rogers
Freshmen:	Gary Vogel
Freshmen:	Colin Flynn
8th Grade:	Bill Meyer
7th Grade:	Brad Julius

Girls Basketball

Head Coach:	Jolene Smith
Asst. Coach:	Matt Fennessey
Asst. Coach:	Lynn Lottmann

Wrestling

Head Coach:	Paul Brake
Asst. Coach:	Mark Slemp

Cheerleading

Wrestling:	Chris Kelley
Basketball:	Bobbie Wilson
Assistant:	Cathy Nowak

Dance Team

Head Coach:	Robin Randolph

Wrestling Team Looks Forward to Upcoming Season

Long-time Union High School Wrestling Coach Rex Grimes retired this past season after a prosperous career with the wrestling program. Coach Grimes was a very positive and influential individual that will be missed in the wrestling room by student athletes and coaching staff.

Now, Coach Paul Brake and his wrestling staff are anxious to see what the '08-'09 wrestling season has in store. Members of the team have attended camps and participated in weight training over the summer and have attended "open mats" to improve and prepare for the season. The wrestling Wildcats will be a combination of first-year wrestlers and experienced wrestlers this season. Returning state qualifiers Bobby Bridges, Jimmy Barnhart and Billy Bradley will lead the way for the team with their all-state experience. Coach Brake will hold high expectations and positive results from seniors Steven Sachs, Josh Bridgman and Drew Bromet. Junior Bryn Sitzes and sophomore Mike Yenzer look to make a statement in the '08-'09 wrestling season as well. The remaining weight classes will be filled with first-year wrestlers. These wrestlers will use their short season experience to contribute to the team in the district tournament in February.

The Union Wrestling Wildcats begin practice November 3 and open their season at home with a dual meet against Hillsboro December 2. The Union High School Wrestling Team would like to extend a sincere invitation to the community to come and support the wrestling team at home meets throughout the season.

UHS Football Team

The varsity football team is 8-0 and ranked No. 2 in the state in Class 4. They have defeated two other ranked teams this year. The Wildcats beat Helias 48-3 and Sullivan the next week 32-13. If they win our district, Union will host the first-round state playoff game!

Bourbeuse River Stream Team

The Union Middle School NJHS participated in the Bourbeuse River Stream Team on Saturday, August 23, by picking up trash at the Union Access. They will be assisting at the Union Middle School Craft Fair Nov. 8 and 9. NJHS will be sponsoring a Schwan's fundraiser during the Craft Fair. The Schwan's truck will be parked at the middle school on Saturday and Sunday of the craft fair and a percentage of the profits will be given to NJHS to fund future events. We appreciate any purchases made.

NJHS members who participated in the stream team event. Back row: KateLyn Riechers, Historian; Abbie Brack, vice-president; and Karlee Krey, Web page. Front row: Taylor Bond, secretary; Jillian Johnston, president; and Emmy Kaiser, treasurer.

Union Middle School - September Wildcat Reward Winners Funded by UMS PTO

These happy Union Middle School Students were chosen by their teachers for the Wildcat of the Week selections during the month of September. Seventh-grader Paige Schleuter (right of stuffed animal prize) and eighth-grader Kenny Voss (left of stuffed animal prize) were the UMS Students of the Month for September. The UMS PTO provides funds for monthly positive rewards for UMS students.

2nd Quarter Tutoring Schedule For UMS Students

Please note: This help is available to all students even if they do not have classes with these teachers.

Teacher	Rm #	7:20-7:50 a.m.	3:05-4:15 p.m.
Social Studies			
Mr. Anders	8	Tues, Wed, Thurs	
Comm. Arts (English)			
Mrs. Bruns	17		Wed.
Mrs. Kelchen	3	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri	Tues, Thurs.
Math			
Mrs. Wagner	7	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri	
Mrs. Hunter	32	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thur
Science			
Mrs. Johnston	19	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri	
Exploratory/Elective			
Mrs. Wurdack/Mr. Meyer	Gym	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs	
General			
Mrs. Storie	30	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri	Thurs.
Mrs. Melton	35		Wed and Thurs
Mrs. Traffas	SSRC2		Mon,Tues,Wed,Thurs
Mrs. Butterfield	10		Mon,Tues,Wed,Thurs

Please contact the UMS Office at 636-583-5855 if you need assistance.

UMS Girls Basketball

The Middle School Wildcats, under the supervision of Coach Flynn and Coach Rogers, have enjoyed some early success on the basketball court. The eighth-grade team recently earned the second-place plaque at the Washington Middle School Invitational Tournament. Congratulations to the UMS Lady 'Cats!

UMS Cross-Country

Coach Steve Neier has three middle-schoolers, Karlee Krey, Christa Lenau, and Abby Vie, who are participating in the cross-country program this fall. All three of our runners are girls and each young lady has represented UMS with great pride!

Boys Basketball Try-Outs

Coach Meyer and Coach Julius have announced the try-out schedule for any boys interested in the middle school basketball program. The first try-out date begins on November 3 at 6:30 am. Boys that want to participate must have a completed physical form before they can be involved in any practice drills or scrimmages.

Grade Recovery Opportunity Program

UMS teachers have implemented a weekly homework reward/recovery program know as GRO (Grade Recovery Opportunity.) GRO allows students who have incomplete assignments an opportunity to recover their grades in a supervised classroom, while also recognizing those who have completed all their work on time with reward time each Friday morning.

As part of the GRO Program, students who completed their homework on time and did not have any discipline referrals during the entire first-quarter were eligible to enjoy "A Movie with the Principal." The Great 8 Cinema hosted the students and Mr. Menke on Wednesday, Oct. 22.

home of the union wildcats

Thank You 4-H!!!!!!!

Thank you 4-H, for your help to improve the outdoors at Beaufort. Many families helped work on the fields, mulched trails, painted picnic tables, planted and pulled weeds. THANK YOU!

Wildcats of the Caribbean

Smooth Sailing for Beaufort Elementary. Students created "Wildcats of the Caribbean." All of their hard work and dedication earned them a tie for first place!

Stay Fit with Exercise

In October, fourth-grade students and Mrs. Baer presented "The Beaufort F.I.T. Kids Coalition" with the message being to stay fit with exercise and healthy choices for ourselves. A big thank you to classroom teachers, special class teachers and fourth-grade parents for their support.

Upcoming performances for the '08-'09 school year that coincide with PTO meetings at Beaufort beginning at 7:00 p.m.:

- November 11-2nd grade-"Being Grateful"
- December 9-3rd grade-Santa Goes Green
- January 13-5th grade - D.A.R.E.
- February 10-Kindergarten-P.E. demonstration
- March 10-1st grade-"Singing, Playing & Dancing"
- April 14-CHOIR
- May-TBA-Kindergarten Celebration
- May-TBA-6th-grade promotion

A big thank you goes out to the Beaufort PTO for all the support of our elementary school. The Beaufort Spaghetti Dinner and Carnival is a big endeavor and we thank the organization and community for its support in October. We have an attitude of gratitude for all our supporters!

Responsibility

Each month at Beaufort, we emphasize a different character trait. We hold an assembly at the beginning of the month to introduce the new character trait and recognize students who demonstrate good character from the previous month. In the pictures, you see students who were recognized for being "responsible". We thank our Mother's Circle for donations of rewards.

Self Control

Our assembly this month was presented by Family Martial Arts. A good lesson and demonstration of "self-control" was presented by Mr. Leeker and friends using Tae Kwon Do.

News from Central Elementary

Central Elementary has been a very busy place during our first quarter of the 2008 school year!! Students are deep into new learning for their new grade level – and we have had several FUN activities for all of our students.

Students have taken their first district common assessment tests and we are waiting to analyze those results. Based on results, teachers will know which of the state GLEs students have mastered and those that are still progressing. This is an important process at all grade levels, and especially for our third-graders who are preparing for MAP testing in the spring. Common assessments are given throughout the school year to help teachers assess progress.

Central students have also taken the Gates Reading Test – which provides a reading grade equivalent for each child. This helps teachers know which students need additional support in the area of reading and/or language arts. First-grade students are also given the OLSAT test each year. This test provides a general ability level - helping us understand the needs of our early learners. The data provided from these exams helps teachers plan and provide appropriate curriculum and learning strategies for each Central student.

On the FUN side, we are working with a local conservation agent to investigate options in developing an outdoor classroom. Several of our classroom teachers and staff are excited about this possibility. Math, science, communication arts, and MANY grade level GLEs could be met and addressed in the outdoor setting. We will be sharing more about this idea as the school year progresses.

Central Elementary participates in PBS – Positive Behavior Support, which is a program supported by DESE and the University of MO. This year our theme revolves around superheroes and we have SUPER KIDS at Central!! Our theme is enforced by "Wonder Cat" who appears from time to time to support the kids with good behavior tips, etc.

Parents received information about PBS at the beginning of the school year. Every six weeks, PBS will provide rewards for students who have had no more than two unexcused absences, no more than two tardies, and no behavior referrals to the office. Our first reward for students meeting the criteria was an outdoor celebration which provided mini camps in football, soccer and cheerleading. Union High School teams and coaches formed a partnership with us, providing the camps on October 2 and 9.

Our kids were "over the moon" excited about this reward. Every six weeks, all students will have the opportunity to earn an invitation to the next PBS celebration. We have several photos included in this issue of our celebration and partnership with our high school.

On October 6, Central Elementary participated in "Sonic Night." Thanks to all the kids and parents who came out to support Central!!! Central also participated in the Mr. Z's fundraiser, sponsored by our PTO.

As we look toward our second quarter, we want to remind parents of the importance of good attendance and arriving to school before 8:00 a.m. each day. Students arriving after 8:00 a.m. must have a parent/guardian sign in with our front office before reporting to class. Thanks so much for your efforts! It is so important that our students are present for all instruction each day!!

Doing Something Right

Here is a picture of two Clark Vitt students, who were caught doing something right, Joseph Lenau and Tristen Amburgy, both in the sixth grade. During the homecoming football game, they found a wallet on the ground, and immediately turned it into Officer Rod Tappe. He was able to locate the owner, and it was returned, with nothing missing. They were rewarded with a certificate "Cops Catching Kids Doing Something Right". They also received a $5 gift card to McDonald's.

Update on Technology in the Classroom at Clark-Vitt!

Using the money we received from PTO and the Mr.Z's fundraiser the last two years, we were able to add five more Smart Boards to student classrooms. We are currently working to get this technology in the art room, music room and the library. This was a project started when Mr. VanZee was the principal at Clark-Vitt. To set up a room it costs approximately $3,000.00 dollars. (But ask the teachers and the students –it is worth it!)

Thank you for continuing to support the different fundraisers.

Parent teacher conferences were held October 22 and 23. Clark-Vitt had an outstanding turnout of parents. Thank you for attending and showing your support for your student and his/her teachers.

We had our second skating party at Skaterz Tuesday, Oct. 21. We always have a great showing of students at these fun events. Skaterz really works with our school to make it a fun and safe environment for all of the students. It is also a great way to get out and get some exercise!

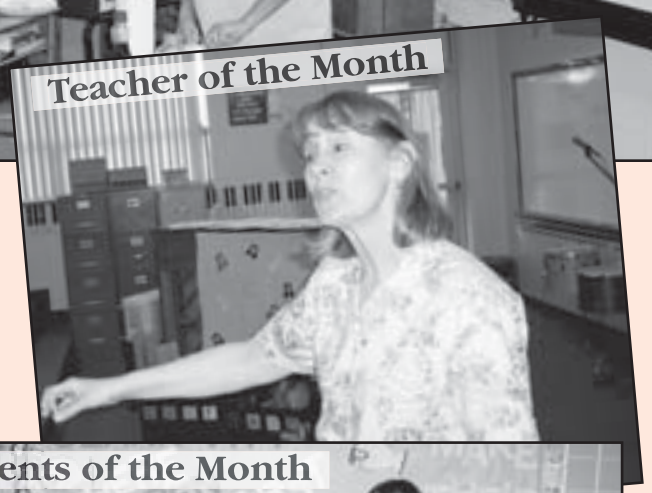
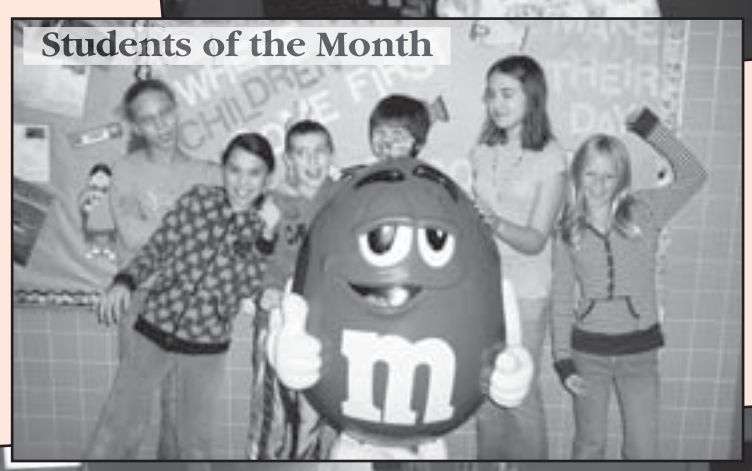
AmerenUE brought Boomerang Jack to Clark-Vitt and taught the students about safety and responsibility when dealing with electricity. The students had a great time learning about renewable energy and green energy decisions that make the world a better place for everyone.

We held a Red Cross Blood Drive at C.V. on October 28. It was our best turnout in years; maybe it was because it was right before Halloween!

(We came and got your BLOOD!)

The fourth-grade students held their annual Missouri Week celebration from October 13 through 17. They took a trip to Daniel Boone's home, square danced, made Johnny cakes and participated in many other fun activities while learning about our great state of Missouri.

Students of the Month for August/ September were:
Mackenzie Kiewitt 4th grade
Brandon Akers 4th grade
Sara Steinmann 5th grade
Ryanne Grawe 5th grade
Morgan Millheiser 6th grade
Samuel Sanders 6th grade

The Teacher of the Month for August/September was:
Mrs. Jan Brune!

THANKS!
Mr. Jones
Principal, Clark-Vitt Elementary