

PATRIOT PRESS

February 2024

Issue 3

FROM THE DESK OF MRS. SIMPSON, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL:

At the start of February, students at our school were treated to an engaging and exciting assembly that left everyone buzzing with excitement. The assembly kicked off with a series of Valentine-themed games that had everyone participating and enjoying the festive spirit. From heart-shaped relay races to Cup stacking games, there was no shortage of fun activities to get students involved. Adding to the excitement, Gus the Patriot made a special appearance, thrilling students with his energetic presence and spreading school spirit throughout the crowd.

In addition to the Valentine's Day festivities, the assembly also served as a platform to celebrate the achievements of our Winter Sports teams. Students cheered as highlights from recent games and competitions were shared, showcasing the dedication and talent of our athletes. Furthermore, the assembly introduced a new club to the school community: E-sports. With the growing popularity of online gaming, this addition promises to provide students with yet another avenue for camaraderie and competition. Overall, the assembly provided a perfect blend of entertainment, celebration, and community-building, leaving everyone looking forward to future events with eager anticipation.

From start to finish, the assembly was a resounding success, leaving students and staff alike with fond memories of the experience. Whether it was the spirited games, the inspiring sports recaps, or the introduction of the exciting new E-sports club, there was something for everyone to enjoy. As Patriots, we came together to celebrate our school spirit and achievements, fostering a sense of unity and pride among all who attended. With such positive energy and enthusiasm, it's clear that our school community is truly awesome, and events like these only serve to reinforce that fact.

MEET MRS. SCHUSSLER

1. Why did you choose Grissom to be your place of work?

“I chose Grissom because everyone here really cares. We are surrounded by good people.”

2. What are some things you want Grissom Middle School to know about you?

“I love being a Grissom Patriot.” Science and Social Studies are equally my favorites. One day I hope to be a contestant on the Wheel of Fortune.”

3. What do you say to sixth graders coming into seventh grade?

“Seventh grade is a great place to be. The expectations are high but you are fully prepared. Learn all that you can and continue to create good habits this year to be ready for next year.”

4. What is your favorite thing about Grissom?

“THE PEOPLE”

5. Do you have any hobbies?

“Yes, anything and everything that is outside. Especially if there’s a boat, lake or trees involved. I love to read! And, I love drinking coffee.”

“Easy” World Records

We've heard about crazy World Records like Longest Time Planking, Tallest Person, Largest gathering of people dressed as Albert Einstein, and other world records we don't have the chance to break. But what about records we can do at home? Here are examples of achievements you can try to keep yourself busy.

- Most Socks Put On One Foot In 30 Seconds

This record was set by Pavol Durdik with 28 socks on October 10 2017! The only rule is you have to put one sock on at a time. How hard can it be?

- Fastest time to put on 5 t-shirts

The fastest time to put on 5 t-shirts (Under 16s) is 10.86 seconds, and was achieved by Ryoma Arakawa in Nagoya, Aichi, Japan, on 10 August 2023. Ryoma's previous record was broken so he came back to win back the title.

- Fastest Time To Unravel Toilet Paper With One Hand

If you beat 9.80 seconds you'll earn a world record previously set by Dalibor Jablanovic (Serbia), in Stubica, Serbia, on 5 November 2013.

- Fastest time to make a bed

Try to beat 1 min 09 sec, achieved by Chow Ka Fai (Hong Kong), for the fastest time to make your bed. Definitely a lot tidier than Dalibor's record.

- Most marshmallows eaten in one minute

The current record is 25 standard-sized marshmallows by Anthony Falzon. If that isn't tough enough try eating 20 marshmallows with no hands; a record set by Leah Shutkever in the UK on October, 21, 2020.

- Most sticky note on the face in 30 seconds

The most sticky notes stuck on the face in 30 seconds is 38 and was achieved by Silvio Sabba (Italy) in Rodano, Milan, Italy, on 18 April 2018. Silvio Sabba not only achieved this record but over 200 other records are also to his name.

CULTURAL CURIOSITY: HOW AND WHY ARE STANLEY WATER BOTTLES SO POPULAR?

BY: ROXANNE M

A key part to the Stanley cup's success was because of social media. Instagram and TikTok influencers showed off their Stanley cups, and many people followed the trend. Many consumers purchase a lot of Stanley cups for collection. This gives people a sense of joy and encourages them to enjoy the little things in life. Stanley water bottles or "Stanley cups" may be popular because of the variety of colors they come in or the convenience of the handle and straw. This might be true, but Stanley cups have an interesting history, and their rise to popularity is surprising for many people.

The Stanley company has been around for 110 years, but it hasn't become popular until a few years ago. In 1913, William Stanley created the steel vacuum-sealed bottle. These water bottles were mostly used for work, road trips, and adventuring in the great outdoors. Back then, the company's target consumers were men who participated in camping and hiking outdoors.

Everything changed when three women who own an internet shopping blog discovered the Stanley Quencher. Originally, the Stanley company started selling the Quenchers, but the targeted consumers (workmen and outdoorsmen) were not purchasing them. The three women who found out about the Stanley Quencher encouraged their followers to buy the Stanley Quenchers before they got discontinued. The Stanley company ended up continuing the product, and the three women started selling the cups on their online shopping blog. The Stanley cups sold out, and they were surprised about this.

A new leader stepped into place in the Stanley company, and he supported the idea of women selling to women. Eventually, the Stanley company created more colors for their products, and the water bottles became more than just a cup. It became an everyday accessory for many women and girls.

Even if people don't own a Stanley cup, there is an important message to the company's story. It shows that sometimes success comes from unexpected places. This message is vital for both business companies and people around the world.

Ashlee LeSuer, Founder of The Buy Guide and one of the three women who helped this idea succeed said, "Any brand on the planet that isn't marketing to the 25 to 50 year old woman is really missing the mark."

Interesting Fun Fact:

The symbol on the Stanley cups is a bear with a crown and wings. The crown is a symbolism of the inventor of the Stanley cup, William Stanley, Jr. The mythical bear became the logo because many campers with Stanley bottles randomly see bears in the woods or campsite. According to the Stanley company website, the mythical bear's name is Stan.



IN OUR SCHOOLS

INTERVIEWED BREAKTHROUGH
STUDENT: ANONYMOUS

DID YOU ENJOY BREAKTHROUGH LAST YEAR?
WHY OR WHY NOT?

YEAH. BECAUSE MY GROUP WAS GOOD.

WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT
BREAKTHROUGH LAST YEAR?

MY GROUP.

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THAT PEOPLE
ATTEND BREAKTHROUGH IN THE FUTURE?

YES, IF THEY HAVE FRIENDS TO DO IT WITH.

HAVE SOME RESPECT, PLEASE

Grissom is a great place really. But we have a problem... It's a problem of teacher disrespect. Every day there is probably some student being rude to a teacher. That's not ok. So if you see your teacher get disrespected, say something or tell the person being rude to stop!!

Like I said before though, if you get bullied or are being bullied. There's help out there specifically our principals or Mrs. Labudzik & Ms. Fahy. Use your resources and help stop bullying!

TEACHER INTERVIEW: WHO WENT HERE?

Mrs. Sinderson attended Grissom in the years 1997-2000 (That was the Class of the New Millennium!). The building had Mobile Trailers (As talked about in Edition I). The Enrichments were Applied Tech, Music, Home Economics/Life Skills, Strength and conditioning, Health/PE, Art, and Foreign language. One thing surprising about her is that she attended the original Kirby School (That school is the reason the district was called "Kirby School District 140".) The school ended up closing in the 2000's. Mrs Sinderson did not have any teachers who are working in the district today. But A 6th Grade Teacher "Mrs. O'Keeffe" was a Math teacher when she was in 7th grade. ELA was two different classes: Language Arts and Reading.



MRS. DECARLO'S ROOM UPDATE

FEBRUARY WILL BE A VERY BUSY MONTH FOR OUR FRIENDS FROM MRS. DECARLO'S CLASS. HERE IS WHAT IS GOING ON:

- THE "COINS FOR A CAUSE" EVENT WAS HELD FROM MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH, TO MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH. MONEY WAS COLLECTED DURING LUNCH TIME EVERY DAY FOR A WEEK. THE ADVISORY WITH THE MOST DONATED WILL RECEIVE A SPECIAL TREAT. ALL THE MONEY WILL BE DONATED TO KIRBY 140'S POLAR PLUNGE ACCOUNT TO BENEFIT SPECIAL OLYMPICS ILLINOIS.
- ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH THEY WILL BE MAILING LETTERS TO FAMILY MEMBERS FOR VALENTINE'S DAY AND THEN GOING TO BREAKFAST. SKILLS THEY WILL BE WORKING ON ARE THEIR WRITING SKILLS, LEARNING HOW TO ADDRESS AN ENVELOPE, AND GENERALIZING READING AND MATH SKILLS AS THEY WILL BE ORDERING AND PAYING FOR THEIR OWN MEAL.
- ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH, THEY WILL BE HEADING TO PILCHER PARK IN NEW LENOX TO LEARN HOW MAPLE SYRUP IS MADE AND THEN ENJOYING A PANCAKE BREAKFAST.
- ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH, THEY WILL BE TAKING THEIR MONTHLY TRIP TO ALDI TO PURCHASE NEEDED COOKING SUPPLIES FOR THE MONTH
- THEY WILL BE CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN FEBRUARY AND ALSO LEARNING ABOUT BUILDING A NEW COUNTRY.
- ON THE WEEK OF JANUARY 30TH, THEY ARE MAKING BALLOT BROCCOLI AS WE LEARNED ABOUT MISTY COPELAND, A FAMOUS AFRICAN AMERICAN BALLERINA.
- ON THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 5TH, THEY WILL MAKE FOOTBALL BROWNIES TO CELEBRATE THE SUPER BOWL.
- THEN AS THEY LEARN ABOUT AMERICA AND THE LAWS, WE WILL BE MAKING AN AMERICAN APPLE PIE.

TASTY TREATS

By: Ryan M.



DUNCAN HINES CAKE MIX COOKIES

Ingredients:

- Cake Mix
- Chocolate Chips
- Oil or Butter
- Eggs

Steps:

1. Line the baking sheet with parchment paper or a grease pan (rub a small amount of oil/butter or pan spray).
2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
3. In a large mixing bowl, combine cake mix, oil OR melted and 2 eggs.
4. Mix with a hand beater until dough forms.
5. Add 1 cup (or more if desired) white chocolate chips.
6. Hand mix in white chocolate chips.
7. Using a cookie scoop, scoop 8 to 12 cookies on to tray. Depending on tray size, leave enough room for cookies to expand.
8. Bake for 12-14 minutes.
9. Let cookies cool for 10-15 minutes before removing them from cookie sheet

M + M COOKIES

Ingredients:

- ½ cup butter, softened
- ½ cup sugar
- ½ cup brown sugar, packed
- 2 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 cups flour
- 1 3.4-ounce package of instant vanilla pudding mix (like Jell-O)
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¾ cup white chocolate chips
- 1 cup Valentine's Day M&M's (divided)

Steps:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line baking sheets with silicone baking mats or parchment paper, set aside
2. In a large bowl, cream together butter and sugars with a handheld mixer until fluffy, about 2 minutes. Beat in eggs and vanilla. Add in the pudding mix, flour, baking soda, and salt, and mix until combined. Fold in white chocolate chips and ¾ cups of M&M's.
3. Using a cookie scoop, measure out equal balls of dough and place them on a baking sheet. Flatten slightly while pressing in remaining M&M's on top of the cookies. Bake for 10-12 minutes or until light golden brown. Cool on a wire baking rack.

Notes:

Make-ahead tip: this dough freezes great. Roll into balls and freeze in an airtight container for up to 2 months. When ready to bake, just place cookie balls on a cookie sheet, no thawing is needed. You may need to add another minute or two to the cooking time.



FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS

CLUBS

- Mathletes (8th Grade): February 13th
- Student Council (All Members): February 13th
- Declamation: February 13th
- eSports: February 14th
- Declamation: February 14th
- Mathletes (7th Grade): February 15th
- Declamation: February 15th
- Mathletes (8th Grade): February 20th
- Board Games & Chess Club: February 20th
- Declamation: February 20th
- eSports: February 21st
- Declamation: February 21st
- Mathletes (7th Grade): February 22nd
- Declamation: February 22nd
- Patriot Press: February 26th
- Mathletes (8th Grade): February 27th
- Declamation: February 27th
- eSports: February 28th
- Mathletes (7th Grade): February 29th
- Declamation: February 29th

SOCCER INTRAMURALS

- February 13
- February 15
- February 20
- February 22
- February 27
- February 29

REMINDERS

- February 19 - No School (President's Day)

CHORUS & BAND

- February 15
- February 22
- February 26
- February 29

SPORTS

- Girls Volleyball vs Tinley: February 13th
- Boys Basketball vs Tinley: February 13th
- Girls Volleyball vs Orland: February 15th
- Boys Basketball vs Orland: February 15th
- Girls Volleyball vs Century: February 20th
- Boys Basketball vs Century: February 20th
- Girls Volleyball vs Prarie View: February 22nd
- Boys Basketball vs Prarie View: February 22nd
- Girls Volleyball vs Jerling: February 26th
- Boys Basketball vs Jerling: February 26th

eSPORTS

- February 14
- February 21
- February 28

HOT LUNCH

- February 13th: Skillet House and Sam's Club
- February 20th: Culvers
- February 23rd: Nick's BBQ and Sam's Club
- February 27th: Panda Express

PUZZLED

7th Grade/Enrichment Teachers

C	H	I	C	V	A	R	A	R	F	I	O	R	E
I	H	R	I	Z	Z	O	U	U	F	V	X	I	S
U	A	K	N	D	Y	E	L	M	H	O	O	F	C
U	R	E	E	G	N	E	R	B	T	D	X	L	H
H	R	M	O	T	T	O	S	A	Q	T	G	R	U
A	I	B	N	A	B	L	A	U	L	Q	J	C	S
L	S	E	E	R	L	Y	H	G	I	P	O	R	S
B	H	R	I	N	N	M	B	H	O	N	H	Y	L
A	Q	M	L	T	G	S	A	M	M	O	N	A	E
U	C	A	Z	Y	D	K	P	G	K	K	S	N	R
E	X	N	M	I	M	I	X	X	U	K	O	U	F
R	B	U	D	R	I	C	K	I	I	E	N	A	U
P	Z	P	U	J	Z	S	M	B	I	K	R	W	M
G	R	M	G	A	R	R	I	T	Y	E	Q	J	Y

ALMAGUER
RUMBAUGH
GARRITY
BERMAN
SAMMON
HARRIS
BUDRICK
SCHUSSLER
ONEIL
EGNER
BIK
RYAN
HALBAUER
CHICVARA
JOHNSON

NO FOOD?

By: Aaliyah E

