

# Panther Press

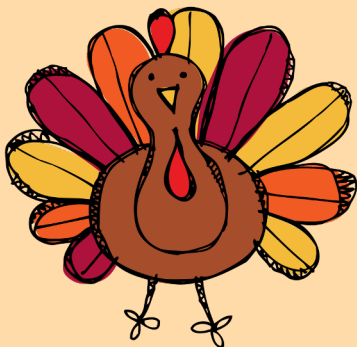
Woodlawn Middle School's Monthly Newsletter

November 2019

Volume 2, Issue 3

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 1~** Picture Day
- Nov. 5~** 8th Grade BRCC Trip
- Nov. 7~** Community Based Field Trip
- Nov. 8~** Pennies for Patients Ends, PTSA Balloon Pop, Jeans Day, Beta Jersey, LIGO FT
- Nov. 11~** Veterans Day Program
- Nov. 12~** PTSA Mtg 6 PM
- Nov. 13~** AR Field Trip
- Nov. 14~** Community Based Field Trip
- Nov. 15~** Jeans Day, Gifted/Great Scholars 3.5 Activity
- Nov. 18~** Strings Winter Concert 6:30 PM
- Nov. 19~** Club Day
- Nov. 21~** Community Based Field Trip; Beta Club Induction
- Nov. 22~** Jeans Day
- Nov 25-29~** Thanksgiving Break



## HISTORY OF THANKSGIVING

The first Thanksgiving started in the year 1621, but was officially pronounced a national holiday in the mid-1800s. After this happened, Benjamin Franklin thought of a turkey as a great bird, symbolizing the giving of thanks, so he thought that a turkey should have been the national bird instead of a bald eagle. One of the main reasons for Thanksgiving was for the New England colonists to thank God for blessings like a military victory or the end of a drought.

*~Evan Miller*

## BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS

For anybody who didn't know what the Breakfast of Champions was, it's essentially taking a few minutes off of class for the school to recognize everyone who has all A's and B's or all A's on your 1st Nine Weeks Report Card. There was donuts and juice there for students (as well as parents or anyone who wanted some). You should have received an invitation if you had all A's or all A's and B's for the 1st Nine Weeks. The Breakfast of Champions itself took place on **October 18th**, and happened during **2nd Block**; all students invited were called to the cafeteria, and the students there received a pin, certificate, and other rewards for their hard work.

*- Shashank Nanjundiah*

## WHAT I LEARNED AT FINANCE PARK

For those who don't know, the Finance Park field trip was an educational trip for the 8th graders to learn about what taxes are like. It was very helpful - here's the rundown. First, when arriving to the building, the class will go to the third floor. Second, they move you to a table with three to four other students, and one adult who is there to help you with any questions you may have. Third, they hand out tablets and we begin. On the tablet, there is the simulation app. When you begin, there's a survey that determines the job you will be assigned. I was a translator (someone who converts a foreign language), had a spouse, and one child. You then find out your annual salary, then learn about the things you'll have to pay for. After a lunch break, you create a budget. A budget determines how much money you want to use in each category. Then, you start spending. You might go over your budget, but it's okay, it's only a simulation. One category is called That's Life; this is just you paying for something unexpected. I paid \$50 when my budget was \$80. It was fun to suffer together. At the end of the trip, they gave us cards to write what we learned. I can't quite remember what mine was, but I remember my friends cards. One was "I need to give my Mom a hug." My favorite was "I learned that taxes are hard and I'm going to have my spouse do them."

*~Ava Jones*

## SPIRIT DANCE

The Spirit Dance took place on **Friday Oct. 25th**. This is one of the first after school dances of the school year at WMS. This dance includes candy, drinks, and pizza all sold for a dollar! So you get to enter the dance paying 3 dollars for a ticket and use the rest of your money on food and drinks. This dance occurs in the gym and is usually DJ'd by Mr. Davis. It is fun, so 6th and 7th graders if you didn't go this year there is always a next year to go!

*~Arilyn Marshall*

## 9 WEEKS INTERVIEW

The first nine weeks has come to a conclusion and I'm hoping that everyone is passing and succeeding so far. In the beginning of the nine weeks I went to **Skylar Matthews** for an interview. Now, I returned to him to see how he was doing. This is how the interview went.

***Q: How do you feel about the first nine weeks?***

A: It was mostly a review from 5th grade

***Q: Did you try joining any clubs?***

A: I did but I turned my paper in late

***Q: What tips did you learn during this nine weeks academically?***

A: I learned how to provide evidence in essays and not to do run on sentences

***Q: Does Woodlawn fit your image?***

A: I was excited but It wasn't how I expected it

***Q: Are you satisfied with Woodlawn?***

A: I really like Woodlawn, I really do.

*~Cameron Turner*

## SPIRIT WEEK

Spirit Week took place **October 21** through **October 25**. We wanted to thank every student that participated and showed school spirit. We have some pictures of different students showing their panther pride, they are shown below.

The schedule went as follows:

Monday **October 21** - Neon Shirt Day



Tuesday **October 22** - Dress Like a Teacher or Administrator Day



Wednesday **October 23** - Team Jersey or Shirt Day



Thursday **October 24** - Crazy Sock, Tie, and Hat Day



Friday **October 25** - School Color Day and the Spirit Dance



*~Janie Foreman*

## WWII MUSEUM FIELD TRIP

Recently, the gifted and great scholars students went on a field trip to the WWII museum. It was an educational field trip about the history of WWII. While the students were there they had to answer some questions about a few of the exhibits. You can watch the latest episode of the Woodlawn Word to hear **Rian Baralt's** opinion on the field trip and exhibits. If you like history and/or museums then I highly recommend going to the WWII in New Orleans. - **Ainsley Eskind**

## PENNIES FOR PATIENTS

Pennies for Patients is a fundraiser to collect as much money from the school as possible to support the fight against leukemia and lymphoma. The BETA club is leading this fundraiser, and club members stay after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays to count the pennies collected. Students in each homeroom will accumulate pennies from the day it starts to the day it ends. The pennies from each homeroom will be counted, and the winner(s) will receive a reward for their support.

Pennies for Patients takes place from **October 21st** to **November 8th**.

- **Shashank Nanjundiah**

## TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

The teacher we chose to spotlight this month is **Ms. Addison!** She teaches ELA and is in the C hall. We have asked her the following questions:

### Who was your inspiration growing up?

My parents, but I mainly looked up to my father who is a professor and the smartest person that I know. This inspired me to be a part of the education community.

### Why did you want to start teaching?

Because I always has loved kids, because of my three little sisters who always would need help with homework. I would also have to be the academic leader for my four sisters to look up to.

### What is your favorite color?

My favorite color is red because I am drawn to the bright, boldness of the color.

### Who is your favorite music artist?

Among all the artists that I listen to I could not only choose one. So my top three are Beyonce, Mariah Carey, and Whitney Houston, and people of that nature.

~**Arilyn Marshall and Lee Frake**



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Here at Panther Press, we asked a student from each grade a series of questions and here are their responses!

**James Skiles**- James is an 8th grade Great Scholar. He plays soccer, baseball, and has two cats.

**Ava Bullion**- Ava is a 7th grade Gifted student. She plays softball, volleyball, she swims, and she plays violin.

**Olivia Bryant**- Olivia is a 6th grade Gifted student. She likes shopping, arts and crafts, competitive cheer, swimming, and robotics.

*~Rian Baralt*

### 6TH

**What do you think about WMS?**

I like WMS.

**What can WMS improve on?**

They need to work on making sure students get along better with each other.

**What do you do outside of school?**

Outside of school I do competitive All Star Cheer.

### 7TH

**What are you most excited for this year?**

Softball tryouts and field trips.

**What are you doing outside of school?**

I do softball, volleyball, and I play the violin.

**How are you going to improve from last year?**

I am going to do better in math.

### 8TH

**What are you looking forward to this year?**

I'm looking forward to Field Day.

**What are your goals academically?**

My goal is to pass all my classes.

**What are your goals socially?**

My goal is to maintain all of my friendships.

## FOOTBALL

We will not let one loss against Park Forest get us down. We play Southeast and CSAL. All we need is one win to get into the playoffs. We played hard against Park Forest, passing and running as much as we could, but Park Forest was ready for us. With a sad, short ending to the football season, of 3-3. We will keep our heads up. There is nothing that we can do to go back and play the game again. It was a great season, but Park Forest, Southeast, and CSAL all worked harder than we did. Congratulations to CSAL, and the best of luck to them in the playoffs. Good luck to the Panthers next year.

~*Evan Miller*



## BASKETBALL

Boys Basketball tryouts took place on **Thursday, October 24!** We had a lot of talented players try out and show off their offensive and defensive skills. Due to the recent retirement of our former coach, Coach Price, his successor (and just as talented) Coach Hanes has taken over along with Coach Plauche. The second tryouts decided the final players who would be on the team and Woodlawn looks to have a great season on the basketball side of things and is looking forward to a spot in the playoffs and even some championships. No matter what happens, or who's put on the team, we'll be in full support of them!

~ *Godly Ogunyinka*

## BASKETBALL INTERVIEWS

### Dylan Morris

Q. ***"Being on the team last year and the quality of players here this year, do you think Woodlawn has a shot at winning a championship?"***

A. Yea, we have to work hard to win.

Q. ***"Who do you think the best players on the team are?"***

A. There are a lot of good players.

### Hezekiah Dantzler

Q. ***"What do you think about Coach Prices' sudden retirement and Coach Hanes succession?"***

A. We have just as much chance of winning.

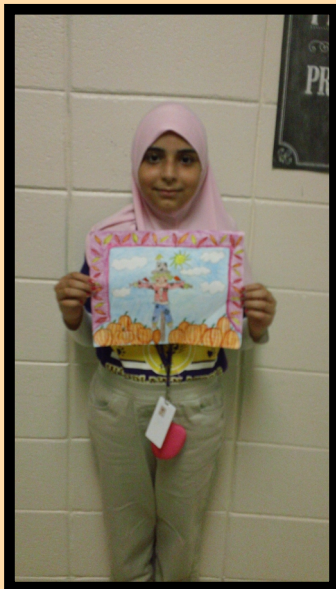
Q. ***"What do you predict Woodlawn's record to be this year?"***

A. A lot of wins, a few losses.

~ Godly Ogunyinka

## ART CONTEST

The winner for last month's art contest is **Nada Alashmaly**, she is a 6th grader in Ms. Knight's homeroom. She will be receiving a king sized candy bar of her choice.



This month's theme will be **Winter Holidays**, the artwork can be in any medium you want as long as it stays school appropriate. For your artwork to be in the December edition you will need to have your teacher turn it in to Ms. Haffner by **November 15th**.

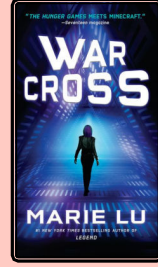
~Janie Foreman

## BOOK TALK

### Warcross, Marie Lu

Futuristic

16 points, 5.6 AL



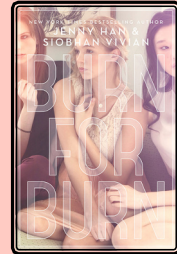
In the future, one invention changed the lives of almost every person on Earth. This invention is virtual reality glasses, so you can live in the world of the Internet, and all of the VR glasses come with a game called Warcross, which took the world by storm. But not everyone in Warcross is good - a hacker is trying to steal data during the world-wide Warcross competition. So Hideo, the creator, has named this hacker Zero, and hired a master hacker, Emika, to find and catch him. Will Emika find out his plans, and stop Zero before he causes any more damage? To find out read Warcross!

~**Janie Foreman**

### Burn for Burn, Jenny Han

Genre: Young Adult Paranormal Contemporary

10 points, 4.1 AL



Jar Island, a place where people vacation during the summer and then leave during the winter forgetting all about the people there. But if you're an islander, then you're on Jar Island all year long and have to deal with all of its dramas. When Kat, Lilla, and Mary meet one night by accident they all realized they've had enough of Jar Island's wrongdoings. They're tired of being hurt and now they're ready to get even. In this first book of the trilogy, Kat- the girl with a bad reputation, Lilla- the rich and perfect princess, and Mary- the weird and damaged girl are getting what they want most on their island ...REVENGE!

~**Madeline Bryant**

### The Giver, Louis Lowry

Genre: Young Adult, Science Fiction, Utopian, and Dystopian

7.0 points, 5.7 AL



Jonas lives in a society with no feelings, or choices, no emotions, or colors. When he turns twelve him and his friends are assigned a job, however his is different. He was selected to receive memories from the past from the giver. He is meant to use these memories to make decisions for the people, yet all the sadness and pain overwhelm him and he discovers a way to give the memories to everyone in the society, but will it work, and will everyone be able to handle all of the memories and emotions after a life of blandness, or will it overwhelm them?

Find out by reading Lois Lowry's The Giver.

~**Carson Jenkins**

## CLASS SPOTLIGHT

### MR. DIAZ

***What is your best class academically?***

3A

***How do you teach this class (by a textbook, mostly projects, hands-on activities, etc.)?***

Google Classroom and a variety of materials for reading and writing.

***What learning experiences might students like in your class?***

learning history; stories of the past

***Why do you think this is your best class?***

Student engagement

***What activities do you do in this class?***

Compiling and sharing information for essay writing

***What is the curriculum you are teaching right now?***

Studying U.S. Constitution

***What are your issues with the class (people acting out, accessibility to needs, etc.)***

Meeting the needs of all students

***How long have you been teaching this class?***

15 years

~Wyatt Ritter

### MRS. PHILIPPE

***What is your best class academically?***

5A

***How do you teach this class (by a textbook, mostly projects, hands-on activities, etc.)?***

A little bit of everything

***What learning experiences might students like in your class?***

We do real world projects which they love

***Why do you think this is your best class?***

They're very motivated and love to work collaboratively

***What activities do you do in this class?***

Poster projects, cookie recipes, scale models/drawings

***What is the curriculum you are teaching right now?***

Eureka Math, Grade 7

***What are your issues with the class (people acting out, accessibility to needs, etc.)***

Nothing major just a little chatty at times

***How long have you been teaching this class?***

8 years

~Wyatt Ritter

## LSU OCEAN COMMOTION

The LSU Ocean Commotion is an event that showcases Louisiana's aquatic, coastal and marine resources. Students visit a lot of exhibits and interact different animals, people, activities. etc. Only 7th Grade Magnet students will participate in this, and they went on **Thursday, Oct. 24.**

~ *Shashank Nanjundiah*



## 6TH GRADE INTERVIEWS

Interviews with  
**Michael Bailey** and **Cayden Borruano**

***How do you like your new school and the first nine weeks?***

Cayden: "I like that it is big and that I can go on band field trips and that it's a new school for me. I also like that we can bring our phones and learn new things with great teachers."

Michael: "The school is okay, I like that the schools big and a lot of my friends are here and the teachers help out a lot."

***What are your goals for the new nine weeks?***

Cayden: "Reaching my AR goal and trying to get all A's and B's."

Michael: "Getting on the honor roll and getting into the Magnet program."

***What is your favorite subject and why?***

Michael: "My favorite subject is math because my teacher Mrs. Brown is very nice and she explains things very well."

Cayden: " My favorite subject is math because I like solving problems and challenging myself and I also like my teacher."

~*Cameron Marshall*

## INSIDE THE PANTHER PRESS

Here at the Panther Press, it is our job to inform you on current and upcoming events at Woodlawn Middle School. We interview the student body and teachers to find out opinions and answer your questions. None of this could be possible without the wonderful ♥MRS. HAFFNER♥. She dictates our workspace and makes sure that we are on topic and get work done. She is the one who finalizes and publishes the amazing work of the Panther Press.

*~Lee Frake*

## THE WOODLAWN WORD

The other thing our homeroom produces, is the Woodlawn Word, which you can find along with the Panther Press in the Student Body Google Classroom. You can find the latest one at this link

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VS4bfdmawgM2t67yp\\_rws6wHOYyaL7IJ/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VS4bfdmawgM2t67yp_rws6wHOYyaL7IJ/view)

To create such well directed and edited works of art, we have an elite team of students working constantly to get it out to our student body. We have **Michael Papanikolaou** on the camera, **Arilyn Marshall** on the microphone, **Rian Baralt** on the teleprompter, and **Ben Small** on editing the videos into the masterpieces that you see. Our esteemed reporters, **Janie Foreman** and **Madeline Bryant**, write the script as well. Aren't they such lively actors!

And if they ever need a model or somebody to demonstrate something, then **Lee Frake** will be there as the model for the Woodlawn Word. The creation process is simple. 1. Janie Foreman writes the script 2. The team sets up the green-screen and table for recording 3. The people on camera and mic get them ready 4. Record the Woodlawn Word 5. Input the footage onto the computer 6. Finally, Ben Small edits the footage to perfection, and it is submitted to the Student Body Google Classroom.



*~Lee Frake*