

## MIDDLE SCHOOL ED

### **STEM Challenge Accepted!**

As we kicked off the second quarter, each classroom participated in a school wide STEM day challenge. Students from each class were given materials including marshmallows, toothpicks, as well as a timer for time limit of 30 minutes. Students had to incorporate elements of planning, design, measuring, problem solving, assembly and engineering to build a strong structure that could stand on its own without additional support. The students worked energetically and diligently on this challenge!

Congratulations to Macin Yarber, Haran Lewis and Kenyon Falldorf for building the tallest freestanding towers in their respective classrooms!! This activity helped students with following directions, critical thinking and problem solving.





# ESC MD @ TVS



In the last few weeks, Mrs. Garringer's classroom spent time learning about the five senses. The students participated in a variety of activities utilizing their five senses. Each student tasted something sweet and sour to demonstrate their sense of taste. They utilized their sense of smell to identify different foods including pumpkin, apples and other fruits. To examine the sense of touch the students had to empty out the inside of a pumpkin using their hands. To utilize their sense of hearing, students listened to different types of music and other sounds.

In addition to learning about the five senses, students have been learning about thankfulness and participating in activities that demonstrate what they are thankful for.



# **ESC MD @ TCN**

Grandparents' Day was celebrated for grades K-4, and Mrs. Jenkins students helped prepare for the event by cleaning the cafeteria each time grandparents were scheduled to visit. Students mopped and swept the floors and took a great deal of pride in the work they were doing.

On November 8th all of the students attended the Veterans Day assembly hosted by TCN, to honor all veterans. The students have shown a great deal of excitement about being able to attend this assembly.





# **COUNSELOR**

The School Counseling office has continued to work through the Muttigrees Curriculum that was started at the beginning of the year. The first section focused on the students understanding themselves and where to find help for improving their own behaviors, as well as their outlook in life. We have now moved into the second section, which focuses on feelings, how to express them appropriately, and how to identify them in others. As with the first section, the material is related to shelter animals, mostly dogs, how they display their feelings and read the feelings of others. Oakley has been used a lot in the office with calming anxious students. This has been a great connection for building trust with students during individual and group sessions.



# **PBIS**

At the Alternative School, we focus on four aspects of student behavior. We work with students to be respectful, be responsible, be safe, and make good choices. These four aspects of behavior are posted in each classroom. Many expectations and learning will fall under these four aspects of student behavior. Our expectations of staff, students, parents and community is they will be "All IN" when it comes to improving behavior. Day in and day out, we see that when these 4 aspects of behavior are demonstrated, grades and behavior are positively impacted. We reward our students in each class with points for demonstrating these behaviors. They can use these points at the end of the week for several different things. We have Fun Friday, where students who earn enough points can buy time in the gym, work in a classroom with hands-on activities or with Chrome books. They can also use points to buy things in our Point Store. Items in this store are limited at this point but we meet weekly to come up with different ideas on what we can include in the store to help motivate our students to do their best!



# Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!