

THE BULLDOG BARK



Principal: Mrs. Chamberlain

Advisor: Mr. Barnes

Northern Lehigh Middle School

Summer 2012

Issue Four

New Team 8 needs to *lead*, not *rule* M.S.

To the 8th graders leaving us this year, all the best. There were a lot of good ones on Team 8 who I got to know last year on the former South-East team. It's a sad shame others had very wrong priorities and useless goals.



Mr. Barnes

I hope someday, when reality strikes, you find pride and a true sense of self – more than the misguided one you supposedly discovered this year.

To the 7th graders returning next year, I have but one wish for you. Next year, please stay on the right track. There is a false notion when entering grade 8 that it is now *your* school, *your* hallways, *your* rules.

Contrary to a few beliefs this year, it's not true. When you return in late August, remember to bring your pride and keep in mind that you do not *rule* this school, but you have every opportunity to *lead* it.

More technology could enter NLMS

In the future, cell phones, iPods, e-readers could enhance or harm class environments

By Meghan Miller-Brown

Team 8

Lately, there has been some talk about allowing students to use technology *during* school. Personally, I am for it...to a certain extent, however.

There are some times when it would be appropriate to use iPods or even cell phones. During lunch is one of those instances. There is no teaching and instruction going on at lunch, so why couldn't we play on our iPods or text on phones?



See Tech, page 2

Now that's getting a haircut!



Find out why Robert McIntyre decided to grow his hair long and shaggy, then cut it off to help others. See page 5.



Increased technology could enhance classroom but would pose risks, too

Tech, from page 1

I don't see any reason why it would be an issue. Another time I think iPods should be allowed is 8th period. However, it would be after teachers finished their remediation time.

If the students have nothing to do, we should be able to play games or listen to music on headphones. We wouldn't be disrupting class. I think it's better because we wouldn't distract others by trying to talk to them or by tapping pencils, etc.

And again, we wouldn't be missing class either.

Another thing to take into consideration is e-books. There are Kindles, Nooks and others, too. We should be allowed to use them if they're our method of getting books. I have a Kindle app on my iPod and would be very happy if I was allowed to use it.

Some people have switched from using paper books to exclusively using e-books. What happens then?

Also, the school should consider this because students could download textbooks on them. The school could save lots of money by allowing the students to use their e-books rather than textbooks. It would be less to carry around too.

Times are changing and tech-

nology is rapidly becoming more and more a part of our lives. It's time the school embraces the change.

A downside to this whole picture is that we would have iPods or whatever all day long. And, of course, during class, some people will go on their iPods and not pay

In conclusion, I think that technology should be allowed for some instances. I think that the use of e-books should most certainly be enabled. Many people are buying their books that way! I also think that iPods have positive and negative aspects to them. This is a very difficult issue to be



attention. Therefore, their grades will go down. It could also be an issue because some things people might play may be inappropriate. For example, there are "gun" apps, "truth or dare" apps, and other things too. There would be no way to tell what the students are using, which can be a problem. This is very vital to take into consideration.

discussed.

There are many plausible arguments for each side. The problem has to be discussed for a long time before anyone makes a decision. Years ago, computers weren't even allowed in the classroom. Imagine what that would look like today.

Olympic Dreams come true at Honor Society's Senior Prom

By Gavin Kemery

Team 8

May 5th was a day to remember for the National Junior Honor Society candidates and senior citizens who attended the Senior Prom.

It took many months of preparation to lead up to such an occasion.

Boat loads of food had to be made to feed the senior citizens, and the amount of decorating is unfathomable, but the Northern Lehigh National Junior Honor Society accomplished it.

The group aimed to remake the elders' prom night and obviously succeeded with flying colors.

After the food was perfected, the tables set, and the music was playing, senior citizens began to flood the school. Each and every face was clueless of what was to come. Soon enough, honor society candidates were serving tables with smiles and taking pictures of the happy couples that were present. Many seniors danced the night away after eating a filling meal.

At the evening's end, the



See Prom, page 4

Olympic Dreams fulfilled at senior prom



Prom, from page 3

guests left with smiles on their faces and hope in their hearts that there are still good kids in the world. Clean-up was next, but the NJHS candidates got it done in a flash, as they did with set-up.

All of the candidates went home happy as well because there was no doubt in their minds that

they made a lot of people's nights.

With the dance being such a success, many people will return but none of this could have been accomplished without the help and support of Mr. Graver, Mr. Eckhart and Mrs. Bowser, along with their countless hours of service.

Mr. Graver, Mrs. Bowser, Mr. Eckhart and I are very proud of

our National Junior Honor Society Candidates this year. They worked so hard from the very first pumpkin roll that came out of the oven to the crowning of our prom King and Queen.

I know our senior citizen guests really appreciated their prom dinner, decorations, and entertainment. It was a great night!

A lot of Robert to go around...

Seventh-grader cuts famous hair for cancer patients



By Robert McIntyre

Team 7

My name is Robert B. McIntyre. Most of you know me because of my hair but some people don't recognize the new 'me.'

I cut my hair for a good cause.

I grew it for cancer patients and somewhere in the future, my hair will be made into a wig for a cancer patient in-need.

Strangers would come up to me and say, "I love your hair."

When I tell them why I grew it, they tell me that I'm doing a

great thing. I started growing my hair in fifth grade.

There are some people that wanted me to cut my hair. I told them why I'm growing it and they say they apologize, so this is why I grew my hair.

NLMS intramurals and Summer Fitness Programs

The following students participated in this year's intramurals: Angela Carlo, Austin Folio, Brandon Dunlap, Breanna Hoffman, Deandra Delora, Hunter Hanzarik, Jacob Brunt, Jamilette Casillas, Jarret Berger, Jordan Moser, Jovani Rodriguez, Matt Romig, Myana Elam, Nicholas Steigerwalt, Tayler Crotsley, Todd Hartranft, Ty Weist, Tyler Peters-Hitchcock, Zach Olson.

Summer of 2012 Fitness Programs for June, July and August

All classes this summer are held at the Vigilant Fire Company on Walnut Street, Slatington, except Aqua Zumba. On Mondays: Adult Stretch from 10 to 11 a.m., Zumba from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and Yoga from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. On Tuesdays: Aqua Zumba from 6 to 7

p.m. (June 19 to July 31) at Northern Lehigh Swimming Pool – Victory Park, Slatington. Zumbatomics from 6 to 6:45 p.m. and Children's Zumba for ages 4-7 and from 7 to 8 p.m. for ages 8-12. On Wednesdays, Zumba Gold from 10 to 11 a.m. and Fridays, Adult Stretch from 10 to 11 a.m., with the 15th anniversary party on Friday, Aug. 3.

Saying 'farewell' to another Bulldog year

By Karlyna Kemery
Team 7

Our school's farewell dance was on Saturday, May 12. Its theme was Olympic Dreams. It was a lot of fun. People danced with their friends and dates.

Some songs were interesting and some I never even heard before.

There were some fun group dances like the Cha Cha Slide, the Cupid Shuffle and the Electric Slide.

There was a lot of delicious snacks that the Student Council members brought, like brownies, cookies, chips and fruit.

It looked like a lot of people liked the snacks because people kept going into the cafeteria to nibble at snacks and sit and talk to friends.

I really hope that people liked the farewell. The Student Council members did a great job decorating and setting up. They put a lot of time and effort into the farewell and they deserve to be thanked for that.

Mr. Eckhart did a fantastic job making the decorations for farewell. The backdrop and decorations on the floor looked great! I want to thank parents and teachers for chaperoning. I also want to thank Mr. Eckhart for making the decorations and the Student Council members for decorating and setting up.

I want to give a big thanks to Miss Zeiser for being in-charge and making this happen this year.



Volunteering comes from the heart

Many local organizations need 'free' help to survive

By **Jose Avila**

Team 8

Volunteering is a great way to give back to the community. Volunteering can help us appreciate who we are, what we have and, most importantly, it can help add

Many of the people running these organizations devote their lives and free time to making a difference either in someone else's life or for a good cause.

Some of the organizations for which I did volunteer work during the school year were: The

ball. This organization helped me appreciate my health and the health of those around me.

A Dream Come True is an organization that helps a dream come true of children with serious, chronic or terminal illness that live in the greater Lehigh Valley area.

I volunteered at the Palmerton Fair to help raise money through the sale of food.

All money raised is used to fulfill a dream of one of the children like a trip to Disney, for example.

Lastly, my experience at the Gress Mountain Ranch to help feed and take care of the animals, Kathryn Gress has devoted her life to taking care of animals like horses, pigs, alpacas, and many others that could have been put to sleep otherwise.

One hour or two of your week can help her continue to take

care of the animals.

These were only a few of the opportunities in the area to which someone's help can make a difference. Volunteering is very satisfying and rewarding. It gives us an opportunity to give back to our community.

a little happiness to someone else's life.

There are many organizations in need of volunteers. Many of these organizations are non-profit, which means they raise money only to benefit the cause for which they are raising the money and most of the employees, if not all, are volunteers.

Miracle League, A Dream Come True and the Gress Mountain Ranch.

The Miracle League is a baseball league for children with disabilities and one hour of your time is the joy of a child with disabilities.

The volunteers help the children with disabilities to play base-



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Forget Bieber — One Direction is here

By Darby Pender

Team 7

In my first newspaper article, I wrote about Bieber Fever. Well, I am here to now tell you that, yet again, another disease is creeping through our lives even worse than Bieber Fever! I know, that may seem shocking, but it is true. And no, I am not talking about Adele, Eminem, or even Fun!

I am here to announce that Direction Infection is sweeping the nation fast!

Yes, the British band “One Direction” is sweeping away the

hearts and souls of many people across the world. The band consists of Niall Horan (18), Zayne Malik (19), Liam Payne (18), Harry Styles (18) and Louis Tomlinson (20).

This heart-throbbing band took their mark in fame during the “X Factor” TV show.

Their debut single, “What Makes You Beautiful,” was released in Sept. 2011 and marked its place #1 in the U.K. and charted in the top 10 in many international markets.

So far, One Direction is doing an amazing job at winning the world’s hearts. “Words will be just

words until you bring them to life” – One Direction.

One Direction has performed in many different areas of the world, such as the United Kingdom and London! If they came to our area, people would be thrilled, such as Jessica Evans who said, “If One Direction came to perform in Slatington, I would be the first one to buy a ticket. I love them!”

One Direction, in my opinion, is an amazing band! I think they will have a great future. Be cautious! Direction Infection is dangerous!

Follow the 3 R's to help save Earth

By Tyler Hoffman

Team 7

As most of us know, Earth Day was April 22. We should all try to save the Earth this year. It is as easy as recycling, too! Just use the three R's! Reduce, reuse and recycle.

Reduce the landfills by separating garbage from recyclable things.

Reuse plastic containers and cups from restaurants and delis.

Recycle all aluminum cans and anything that has the recycling symbol on it. Save the Earth on Earth Day!

When you do all of that, you can help save nature. When you help save nature, the Earth will look happy, healthy and clean. You can reduce the amount of pollution in the air and water and make cleanliness happen.

Maybe it will look like a nature show where everything looks peaceful and clean. It is only what YOU can do. You, me, anybody.

You can make a difference in the environment. Please help Earth to make it look like that picture.



Tattoo opinions go skin-deep on both sides

By Kasey Wayda
& Britni Pristash

Team 8

(Kasey) My personal opinion on tattoos is somewhat neutral. On one hand, I think tattoos look cool over the summer when you go to the beach or the pool. It gives some kind of a summery look, unless it's a sleeve tattoo, which I think is rather unnecessary.

On the other hand, when you go to a wedding or some kind of a fancy event, you don't want to have some huge tattoo on your leg or on your shoulder just hanging out and making your outfit look too casual!

Another thing that I don't like about tattoos is that after you have the tattoo for several years, it starts to fade. Also, depending on where you get the tattoo, your skin can shrink and then the tattoo will get all wrinkly and scrunched, making it look dis-

torted and awkward.

(Britni) What do you need tattoos for? Some are needed and others are not exactly the safest. Getting tattoos could be both ex-

They are a puncture wound made deep into your skin, then filled with ink.

Tattoos could hurt to get done. What they do is stab you



pensive and pay off in the future.

I know there is a rule/law that you need to be 18 or older to get one, but why do you need one? Do you know what tattoos really are?

multiple times and all it turns out into is a big scab.

So if you are thinking of getting one done, go somewhere where you can trust.

Think first, talk next, problems avoidable

By Angel Carlo-Padilla

Team 7

Think before you talk. I'm saying this because I would like people to stop saying things you don't mean. We kids say things that we don't mean all the time because we don't think before we talk to each other.

Also, we talk to teachers like we were their boss because we don't think. If we think before we

talk, there would be less fights, detentions or people writing bad things about others because they said something and by the next minute, they think what they said and apologize to their friends.

I'm also saying this because I had a really true friend when I was in fourth grade. One day we got mad at each other and said really mean stuff about each other until we got out of control and said stuff about each other's fam-

ily. If you need to take a break from your friend or even best friend and not talk to each other for a while until you know what to say, then do that.

Would you like to have a fight with your friend or best friend? Would a teacher give you detention because someone in your class said that they heard you said something about your teacher or someone else? Please think before you talk to someone.

Time for a blockbuster-movie summer

By Tyler Smith

Team 7

Do you like going to the movies with your family? Well, this summer is the best time to go. Here are the top 5 movies to see.

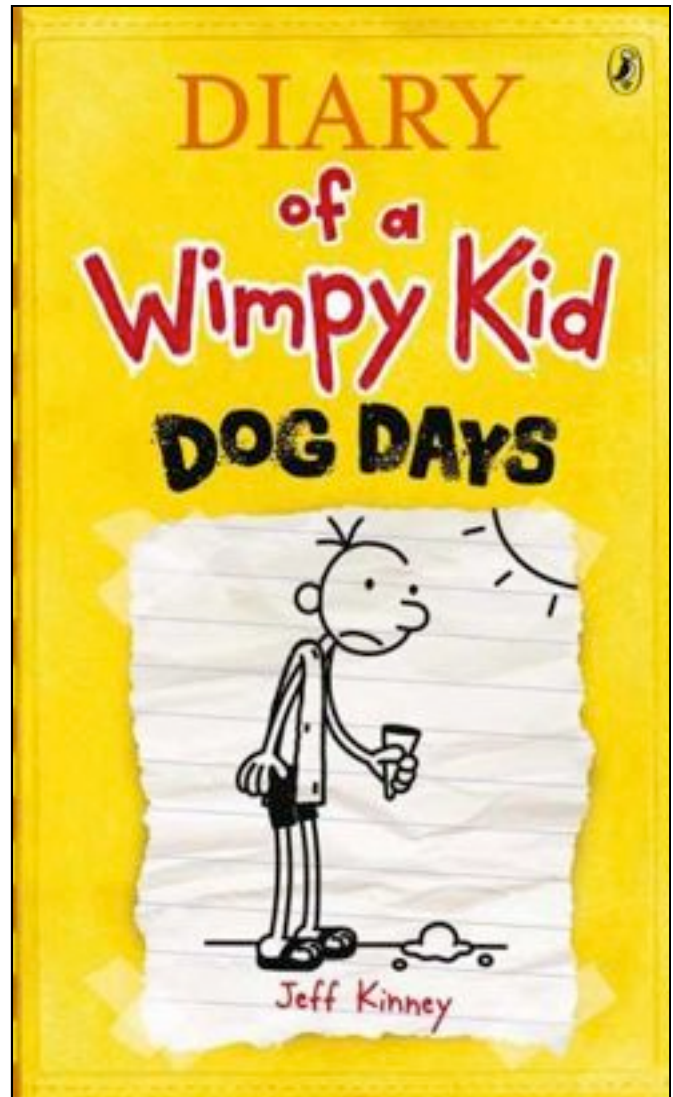
Number 5 is "Ice Age: Continental Drift." This is the fourth movie in the series and I want to say one movie is enough so I would put this as a rating of 6.75 out of 10. Number 4 is "Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted."

This third movie is about how the gang is still trying to get to New York City but land somewhere in Europe and find themselves with a circus. For a rating, I would give it a 7.5 out of 10. "Men in Black" fans, your dream has come true. "MiB3" came out May 25. I

don't know much about the movie but it looks cool. I'll give it an 8 out of 10.

Number 2 is the famous "Avengers," about the famous Avengers: Captain America, Thor, Iron Man, Black Widow, Hawkeye and the Incredible Hulk. They battle to save the world from evil. For a rating, I give it a 9 out of 10. And the moment you have been waiting for. Number 1 is "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days." It is based on the third and fourth books in the series.

It is all about Greg trying to have a really good summer. (If you're familiar with the series, then you know about it). The voting is 9.75 out of 10. I think this will be a great year of summer movies and I hope you think so too.



Vampires vs. Wizards: The Twilight, Harry Debate

By Zaquahn Ingram-Bryant

Team 7

Many people used to think that Harry Potter was just a young orphan boy with no hope and no friends.

Well, if that happened there wouldn't be a story! Harry Potter isn't just some orphan, he is a wizard!

People thought that Harry Potter was boring or dumb. Then in a couple of years, BAM! Wham!

Alacazoo! Harry Potter became an all-time favorite for many people.

Just because Harry Potter is cool and entertaining... How about this romantic blood-sucking love story? Twilight!

Don't pick your side just yet; there is more to my story of Twilight or Harry Potter, the wizard boy, so let's go on, shall we?

Twilight is a love story about a girl named Bella Swan. She is moving to Forks with her dad for the year. Then Bella meets 108-

year-old Edward, but of course, he is not old looking, he is immortal.

Edward Cullen is a vampire! Twilight has four books by Stephanie Meyer and a few movies so far.

So, what side are you cheering for – Twilight with Bella and Edward or Harry Potter with Harry and Ron Weasley, his best friend. Become a wizard or a blood-sucking vampire.

Three little words have a lot of power

By Kiara Rhyne

Team 7

For many years in history, it was common for teens to marry. In ancient Rome, girls were often married around the age of middle school.

In the middle ages, youthful wedding traditions were continued, but today teen love isn't readily accepted.

Statistics show that half who marry in their teens divorce in the

first 15 years.

Girls who marry in their teens have less freedom, less schooling, less independence and less experience in life and work.

Teen brides are also more at-risk for abuse and living at the poverty level.

Studies show that marriages today between teens are more likely to end in divorce than marriages between people who are 25 and older.

But in some cases, teen mar-

riages turn out to be long, happy relationships.

"Teen love is a learning experience, but sometimes you end up marrying your high school love," said Mrs. Bowser. "Teen love is something that might happen to a lot of people or maybe not, it depends on the people."

My final opinion is that teens should think before they throw out words like boyfriend, girlfriend, or the most important and potentially hurtful, "I love you."

Help to keep the rainforest alive

By Tyler Hoffman

Team 7

Unless you have a younger brother or sister in Peters or Slatington, you probably haven't heard about the show, "The Rainforest: Live!"

It was at Peters in the gym on April 24th, 2012. The host, Mike Kohlrieser, showed us all different amazing animals. There were macaws, snakes, parrots, lemurs, monkeys, alligators, crocodiles and kinkogous.

They did tricks, cool things, and fooled around. That was the show.

The meaning of the show was to raise money to help save the amazing animals of the

rainforest. People are destroying rainforests every day. Maybe even as you read this.

The homes of these animals are being taken away and I want it to be stopped.

The rainforest houses more than 2,000 species of plants and animals. Most of them have no other place to live. Stop men from cutting down the rainforest trees and save the rainforest.





OPINION

Ready to finish, prepared for next year

I think all of us can agree. We are ready for this year to be over. This year has changed a lot of people, including myself.

In my opinion, there was more drama, fighting, and all-around problems this year. Yet, we still made it here, one year closer to graduation and freedom.

I'm definitely ready to go to the high school. I'm ready for a new reputation, or at least the chance to make one.

I'm ready for a new year and new friends.

Middle school holds some of the best memories and some of my worst, but I'm ready to say goodbye to it.



Beth Kern

Right now, I know that 7th grade was the best year I've ever had. I don't think the 7th graders realize how good they have it. I hope they all enjoyed it while they could because 8th grade is a lot different.

For me, it was a year of waking up to reality.

Realizing that not everything is sunshine and happiness.

I saw that life can be tough, like it or not.

I discovered who my real friends are and I found the people who were just pretending.

There were a lot of fights and drama this year, more than any other year.

I went through a lot this year and I'm ready to be done. Don't get me wrong, I had some good times in 8th grade. Honor Society was one of the best things I've done, and I'm happy I worked for it.

I have plenty more good memories, but it just wasn't the same as last year. Last year, when we left on the last day, I was almost in tears. There were so many good memories, and I honestly didn't want to leave. I didn't want to start a new year with new teachers.

This year, when I walk out of this building, I'm going to be thrilled! Looking to high school, I'm excited to start a new year. I hope all of the 7th graders have a better year than I did. And lastly, Hello Summer!!

Freedom of speech comes with a hidden price

We have a right that states that you have freedom of expression and speech. But do we really have that? Think about it.

If you were to walk up to someone and say, "Your shirt is so ugly," and a teacher heard this, they would most likely say to you that it's very rude or you shouldn't say that.

Now if you respond and say "freedom of speech," you would most likely get in trouble for talking back or being disrespectful.

How far can you push for free-



Cassie Snyder

dom of speech?

I could think going "too far" with freedom of speech is calling someone an offensive name.

Others may think different. I could also think "not going far enough" is not telling someone 100% what you think when they ask your opinion.

Others may disagree. When someone goes "too far" in speech, they normally get disciplined.

If someone doesn't "go far enough" with speech, they could also suffer in many ways.

If a friend of mine looks bad in his/her clothes, and they ask "Do I look good?" and you lie, they could look bad on a day they want to look good.

But if you say "You look so fat," they could get hurt.

Everybody feels different about freedom of speech. Next time you go to say your opinion on something, think "is this too far?" or "not far enough?"

Do you think speech is free or does it come with a price?



OPINION

Leaving the ups and downs behind

This year had its ups and downs. There were days that were fun, exciting and unstressful.

Then there were days that were plain boring or upsetting and stressful. Next year will hopefully be a good year too.

Eighth grade was not as fun as last year. Attitudes are just unbelievable. And the lack of respect toward everyone is uncalled for.

As far as bullying goes, I think it got way worse.

What's worse than that is the fact that nobody seems to stand up for others.

The saddest thing is the fact that we couldn't be silent for a



Abby Hillegas

couple of minutes at the end of lunch. We had to be separated and silent for a period of time.

There were some positive things that came out of this year, though. Obviously, we are all one year closer to graduating. Aside from that I made a few new friends that are absolutely hilarious.

I, as well, joked around with people more than I did last year. Eighth grade teachers gave us tickets based on things that were handed in, behavior, or teacher's choice.

With the tickets, we placed them in bags to win prizes, such as toys, money, a pizza party, kick-ball games or spending a day with

a friend.

Hopefully high school will be fun and exciting like middle school. Everyone will have the opportunity for a fresh start and I hope some of us take it.

I hear from current high schoolers that we get bigger lockers and have more time between classes. We will get a chance to meet new faces and see our friends who will be in 10th grade.

Most people are happy to have only four classes a day but they don't look forward to having much longer classes.

I don't look forward to the continued drama that I hear goes on over there. Then again, maybe it won't be so bad when some people (hopefully) become mature.

Growin' up here at NLMS

Throughout my two years in middle school, I feel like I have changed in several ways and made a lot of new friends. I have made a big change in my attitude and I feel like now I'm open to trying and doing a lot of new things.

My friends have been a big influence on the way I act and even people that I didn't talk to very much have come to be good friends of mine.

For me, middle school was a



Kasey Wayda

life-changing experience. On the other hand, although I am very much looking forward to high school, I have one main fear: getting lost! People who are currently freshmen say that the high school is mainly a big square so I am hoping for the best. Personally, I think that my nerves are

just working on me and that once we get there and get used to it, it will be much better.

THANKS!

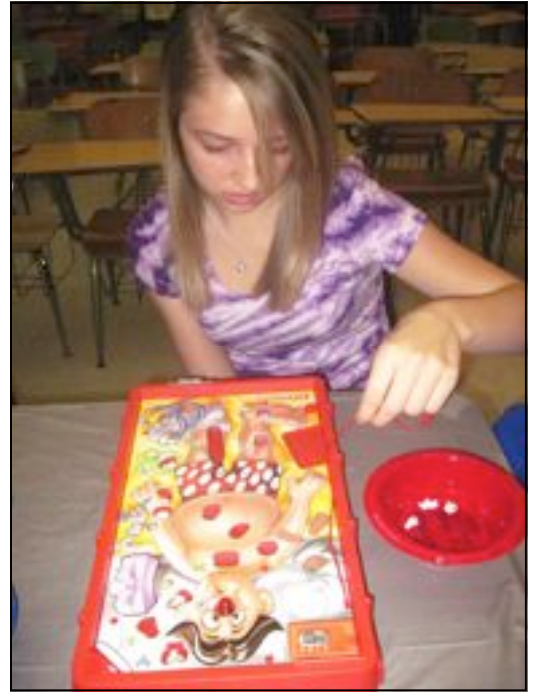
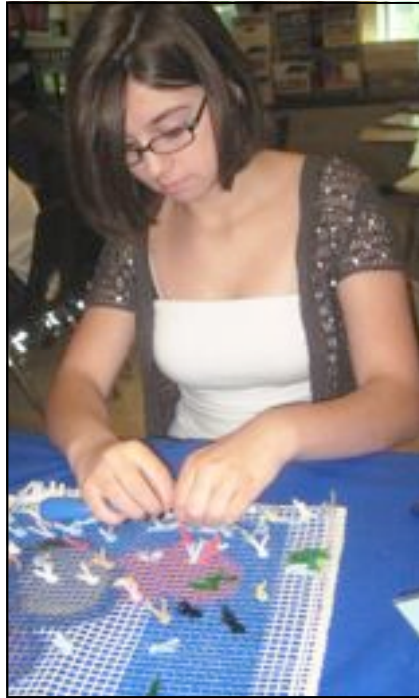
To some of my students in 8th grade who have helped me through the hard times that I had: I want to especially thank Ronnie Green, Kassandra Beller, Taylor Herman, Meghan Miller-Brown, Kasey Wayda and Rebecca Blocker. Those fellow students have helped me out the most. I also want to thank the teachers for understanding and letting me get out of class early. Finally, thank you to Mrs. Tulio for adjusting my brace.

~Britni Pristash

Team 8 heads back to Civil War Days



Team 8 heads back to Civil War Days





Team 7's Courtney Arce loved her school year so much, she is hiding out in her locker instead of welcoming summer vacation. Someone please unlock her in late August.