

Middle school Robotics advance to world competition

by Kylee Wolfe

Three Crestview teams recently competed at the Ohio VEX Middle School Robotics State Championship. One team - The Dunkaroos - qualified for the world competition. The Dunkaroos are made up of 7th graders Brody Pancake, Owen Lindsay, Abby MacKay, and Henry Long. They received the “Excellence Award,” which is the top award VEX gives out to the team who shows that they are the best overall regardless of the final standings. Other Crestview teams excelling at the state competition were the CR Tech Titans, consisting of Carson Weber, Daniel Novak, Aiden Deem, and Landon Hildreth; and The Quadrasteers, made up of Isaac Hively, Robert Birchler, Zack Hoprich, and Jonathon Wollet.

The Excellence Award earned The Dunkaroos a spot at the World Competition in Dallas, Texas in May. This team had the best engineering notebook and team interview, as well as consistent high scores in the qualification matches and the driver control and autonomous skills matches.

Steven Weber, the Robotics coach, stated, “Each student has a role to play, and, at this point in the season, they are a well-oiled machine.”

The students are great at working together and showcasing their strengths to solve problems and achieve their goals. To be competitive at Worlds, they are planning to modify their robotics to score and drive quicker and more efficiently and use all the time during the match.

The best highlight of the competition was the team’s ability to overcome obstacles and adversity throughout the entire competition. They started off the competition with mechanical

failures and unfortunate mistakes during driving that led them to receive a lower score. All three teams worked through their problems and made a comeback over the two-day event.

Overall, they all did amazing with building their robots and getting through their problems. The Dunkaroos made it to state, and we wish them luck. They have worked very hard to make the robots work. They have done very well to improve their logic, academic, and collaborative skills.

Weber encourages more people to consider Robotics.

“I would say to future Robotics students to be very focused, diligent and ready to overcome adversity,” Weber states.



Members of The Dunkaroos: Coach Steven Weber, Henry Long, Brody Pancake, Owen Lindsay, and Abby MacKay.

Crestview prepares for state testing **by Kylee Wolfe**

State testing is an important part of the whole academic process. It affects classroom experience, and the results help teachers plan instruction. Once the results come back, teachers will delve into the data to dissect and see where the students do well and where the students did poorly; it's really what the teachers do with the results that impact the academic learning experience. This year at Crestview, high school testing will begin April 9th and middle school testing April 8th.

According to middle school principal Tim Pancake, if the school would change one thing about testing they would limit the amount of tests that the students get in the time allotment that they give the students because what happens is when we start getting to the end of the year, sometimes when teachers are teaching their curriculum they are not even through all of their standardized teaching before state tests are put into place.

To prepare the students for the tests there is a readiness assessment here in Ohio, so it allows any teacher and any tested subject to login and create a mock test for the students to create or participate in, like Edulastic tests and other practice that the students can use to prepare for the state tests at the end of the year.

Pancake's believes our new school building will help test more efficiently: "I am super excited about the future of state testing and our brand new school because I think we are going to be able to utilize our facility in ways we have never done before. The makeup of the building is going to allow us to pull even more small groups, and we are going to have more staff because we are going to be K-12."

For the students who struggle with anxiety or have special needs, there are IEPs and 504 plans that enable them to test in small groups or receive extended time for state tests. It helps these students improve and be able to do well academically.

Technology has really changed the landscape of state testing, especially within the last year with AI. State testing used to be paper/pencil, but now it is usually online. Assessment companies have to make sure that their website is secure and students aren't able to switch tabs and find answers to questions on the state tests.

Overall, state testing has a good way of boosting the students' academic performance and experience. With the new landscape and the difficulties of the teachers trying to fit all content into their lesson plans, state testing is important to the community to expand the students' level of experience and knowledge. State testing is important for the academic performance and knowledge of students in our community so every student has a chance to succeed and accomplish their academic goals.



Middle school principal Tim Pancake recently weighed in on state testing.

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Theatre program to put on “School of Rock” by Maci Price

This year’s High School Musical is “School of Rock: The Musical.” The musical is about a wannabe rock star with big dreams. His name is Dewey Finn and he is played by Shane Bacon. He is living with his best friend (Ned Schneebly, played by Brayden Ensell) and his bossy girlfriend (played by Blake McCowin). The school is run by the very strict principal Rosalie Mullins played by Jayden Scheller. Dewey figures out that the students can play music. So he puts together a student band to win the huge competition “The Battle of the Bands.” The band consists of the two guitar players - Katie played by Rylynn Whitacre and Billy played by Kamron Beltempo. Then there is the bass player Freddie played by Wyatt Holmes. The drummer, Zack, is played by Ezra Olsen. The pianist is Florence, played by Kaia Griffith. The two backup singers are Marcy and Shonelle played by Taryrnn McCowin and Saphirra Hayes. The band manager is Summer played by Maci Price. Then lastly the lead singer is Tomika, who is played by Emmalee Owens.

The directors/producers of this show are Eric Bable, Marcia Bable, Gretchen Olsen, Andrew Crawford, and accompanist Alyssa Titi.

One of the reasons why the musical department is a very welcoming environment is they all work together very well. The theater department is a helpful place, as it brings people out of their comfort zone by trying new things

According to Owens, “It (theater) helps people become more social and everyone is enjoying the same thing.”

This year, the theater department allowed the middle schoolers to join the cast. They are very

hard-working and they have been quickly adapting to the schedule.

According to Bacon, “They are adapting quickly and we are on a good pace.”

Then according to Bable, “I think it’s going really well. I think things are going to go really, really quickly.”

The dates for this show are March 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. Presale tickets are \$12 per ticket. Presale tickets may be purchased on the Crestview Music Department website. For students and senior citizens, tickets are \$10. All tickets purchased at the door are \$15 per ticket. Presale ticket sales end at 11:59 PM on Thursday, March 20th.

Attention all audience members: there will be some photosensitive moments during this show.

Heart Chase raises money for AHA by Dominic Dillon

This year’s Heart Chase was a success, raising \$548 for people with heart disease. Rachel Lattanzio, the middle school Student Council adviser, states that it’s for a good cause, and she wanted people to sign up. During Heart Chase, you play fun games and get in costume with your group of 4-5 people. At the end of the day, there was a costume contest, and one group won that contest. Though not many signed up, they still had fun when they participated. Some of the prizes included a stress ball, water bottle, t-shirt, charging pad, and a karaoke microphone.

The Heart Chase is a fun way to raise a lot of money for the American Heart Association. So next year, Lattanzio recommends signing up for fun games, dressing up in costumes, and competing in friendly competitions to raise money for people who struggle with heart disease.

Lattanzio states, “Please sign up for Heart Chase. It’s for a great cause.”

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NHS inducts 19 new members by Karoline McGrath

This year, Crestview inducted nineteen new members into the National Honor Society. This program offers students opportunities for academic excellence, leadership development opportunities, service experience, and access to exclusive scholarships and career resources.

National Honor Society adviser Veronica Kotel says, "I help them plan fundraisers that they might want to do. Their fundraisers help to pay for their induction ceremony. We also plan service projects because National Honor Society is primarily a service organization, which means we do things to try and help the community."

NHS is a major responsibility when it comes to time management, promoting excellence, developing leadership, and serving the community.

NHS members are expected to demonstrate scholarship, service, leadership, and character. They are students with a remarkable academic record and a dedication to serving their community. NHS is a demonstration of your ability to be a good human towards everyone around you, while also maintaining your academic duties.

National Honors Society is an excellent advantage for students that want to make a good impression of themselves.

Kotel states, "It's going to help you when you want to apply for colleges or scholarships. When you say you were in the National Honor Society, it's a national organization that everybody, everywhere knows what it is. It's prestigious to be affiliated with that group of people."

This year's inductees are a particularly special group of NHS members; they are students

that teachers and advisers have worked with for almost four years now. The group consists of seniors Amelia Blower, Kiersten Burton, Alli Howell, Luke Julian, Hayden Patrone, and Marissa Smith; juniors Alaina Auer, Blasey Biser, Kaylie Blakeman, Laney Boano, Bridget Borchardt, Ava Bucey, Adrianna Hodge, Nathan Hoprich, Addison Rhodes, Sophia Stewart, and Grace Weaver; and honorary members Mia Berndt and Victoria Jaudard. Kotel says they are a group of dedicated and hard working kids that are getting recognition for their hard work and academic achievements.

National Honor Society is an amazing opportunity for students who want to excel in college. However, it is a sometimes tedious process that requires dedication, time, upholding principles of morality, and maintaining responsibility for you and those around you. Because of these challenges, it is a tremendous accomplishment to be selected for NHS!



NHS members at their induction ceremony.

Crestview offers summer school

Summer School at Crestview will be the first two weeks in August. It will be offered to students entering Kindergarten-8th grade in the fall. More information will be sent out in April. If you have any questions, email Monica McDonough at mmcdonough@crestviewlocal.k12.oh.us.

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8th graders prepare for annual trip by Maryssa Feezle

Crestview 8th graders will be going on a class trip to Washington D.C. and Gettysburg on May 7th-9th. The first two days they will tour monuments and capitals, and the third day they will go to Gettysburg.

“This is a good opportunity for the kids to make memories and have fun,” said Corey Hill, the trip adviser.

The total cost of the trip is \$518 and the final payment is due March 28th. Payments include cash, checks, or money orders. The final parent meeting will be held April 30.

If any students or parents have any questions, they should email or call Mr. Hill.

Student Council holds middle school dance by Isabelle Buckley

The Crestview Middle School Student Council planned a Valentine’s Day dance for 7th and 8th graders. The dance was held in the Middle School Cafeteria on Friday, February 28. Tickets costed \$8. Rachel Lattanzio, the Middle School Student Council adviser, states she enjoyed planning the dance because they also plan it with the high school. Student Council members Tori Griffith and Cassidee Buckley said the same.

Lattanzio said that all the students who went seemed to enjoy it. She also stated that over \$850 was raised; that means over 100 tickets were sold! Next year, Lattanzio noted to not sell hot dogs, as barely any were sold.

Most students who went all stated the dance was better than expected, and their favorite thing was the line dancing, which some had learned in gym class.

“The students were able to use some of those skills that they learned in class. It was also really cool to see more than half the kids doing the dances,” Lattanzio said.

The Valentine’s Dance was a smashing success. All students enjoyed getting dressed up and hanging out with their friends and dancing to great music. Current 6th and 7th graders can look forward to the same style of music, as the same DJ will most likely be hired again. Next year will be even better.

Digital Media class creates announcements by Dominic Dillon

Crestview Middle School has updated the way they do announcements. They now do video announcements created by students in the 8th grade Digital Media elective, taught by Toby Bacon.

Creating these announcements is an interesting process. First, scripts need to be written. They have the scripts written by 8th grader, Isabelle Buckley.

Buckley says, “Writing the script is really fun, and it is a great work environment.”

Next the script gets sent over to the Digital Media class, when Hunter Panezott and Tobias Field start to film, and other students come to help like Isabelle Buckley, Maci Price, Nicole Kernich and Dominic Dillon. After all the recordings are done, they get sent to the editing software and start to get editing.

Editing has been a challenge for the class.

Field said, “The hardest part of making the announcements is editing and timing the videos together.”

After all the editing is done they send it to Bacon, who exports it to his computer and uploads it up to YouTube.

Bacon says, “It was really hard at first and then after a couple of weeks it got a lot easier.”

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Executive committee tours Phantom Fireworks by Maci Price

This year for the 8th grade PBL project, students will partner with Phantom Fireworks. Students will design a marketing campaign for a firework. An executive committee was chosen to lead the project. There are several people from eighth grade that were chosen: Haley Boano, Cassidee Buckley, Addison Finch, Victoria Griffith, Isaac Hively, and Jonathon Wollet. To be eligible for selection, they each sent in resumes and interviewed for the position. Interviews were conducted by teachers Corey Hill, Mathew Evans, and Aaron Blatch.

Students were chosen through a thorough analysis, factoring in reliability, attendance, creativity, the ability to work with peers and adults, and teacher recommendations.

Evans stated, "Whoever we choose is going to be a direct representation of Crestview."

The committee took a field trip to Phantom Fireworks in Youngstown. They met with marketing professionals. The committee learned about what the company does with social media, marketing, and billboards. They also got to take a tour, and they got to see their offices then the creative area that departments use, as well as the different types of computer and printers they use.

Committee members got to speak with Phantom Fireworks employees about what makes a marketing campaign successful.

According to eighth grader Cassidee Buckley, "The marketing department told us that their best sellers were the ones that are more patriotic and themed, and that it would be a huge seller if they did a patriotic theme."

Honors Band prepares for performance by Kylee Wolfe

Honors Band, a group of the top band students in Columbiana County, will hold a concert March 22nd at 2:00 pm. To be selected, students audition and are selected. This year, Crestview is represented by Blasey Biser, Evan Neff, and Braden Devine.

Honors Band consists of committed people from around our county and is led by a collegiate band director. In just two days, Honors Band will put together a performance that might take a school band weeks to months to organize.

Eric Bable states, "Probably the one that everyone likes most is that students get to miss a day of school to go and work on their music." Bable also states that, "I think it's just another place for students to go and learn new things and learn from other people and grow as both human beings and musicians."

Students gain something from learning from different people, so they might learn different concepts that they can then bring back to our Crestview band.

For a positive and supportive atmosphere, members of Honors Band always try to come into rehearsals and performances with a smile. They also try to encourage others when they might be struggling with something in their music. Music brings people together; whether they are playing music or listening, music connects people and makes our community stronger.

There are no competitions in Honors Band - the competition side of it is simply getting in - but they do put on a concert.

Good luck to Blasey, Evan, and Braden in their performance!

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Ensell receives percussion honor by Jamie Melott

Brayden Ensell - a senior at Crestview High School - plays Ned Sneebley in the "School of Rock" musical, has been a percussionist for 3 years, is the principal chair in percussion, and is the president of the Theatre Department. Ensell's hard work recently paid off when he received a scholarship to attend the Percussive Arts Society International Conference (PASIC) in Indianapolis.

"It's an international group of the world's best percussionists," Ensell explained.

As Ensell explained, PASIC is a group of the best percussionists - mainly college students - from all over the world. Their ages range from 18 - 28.

"I was surprised to get it!" Ensell exclaimed.

It is a great honor for Ensell to be accepted into this organization, and it will be a great opportunity for him.

Ensell plans to major in music education at Kent State University after high school. He plans to get his four year bachelor's degree, and get a job at a high school as a music teacher.



Senior Brayden Ensell recently received a PASIC scholarship.

Crestview prepares for cheer tryouts by Maryssa Feezle

Crestview's annual cheer tryouts are being held March 15th, following a three-day cheer clinic. The days of clinics will be Wednesday, March 12th; Thursday, March 13th; and Friday, March 14th. Middle schools clinics are in the middle school gymnasium and high schools are in the high school gymnasium. Tryouts will be held from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the high school gymnasium.

Kendall Hancox, the high school cheerleading coach, states that she is excited for the upcoming cheerleading season.

"I am excited for all of the new girls trying out this year and all of the new opportunities it will bring," Hancox said.

To make this season better, Hancox mentions that it is important to have good sportsmanship and collaboration with each other.



High school cheerleaders perform at a football game this season.

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CMS students rewarded for good behavior by Isabelle Buckley

Crestview Middle School recently took the students who have exhibited positive behavior so far this school year on a reward trip to a Youngstown Phantoms Hockey Game. The students who were rewarded with the trip had to meet the following requirements: no grades below a D, no discipline issues, and no detentions. The majority of the students who went on the trip seemed to enjoy it, and matched the other schools' energy, as there were other schools there because it was the Phantoms' "School Game."

Emmalee Owens, a student who went on the trip, said she enjoyed the game, and preferred it more than other school trips she's been on. Owens stated her favorite part about the trip was spending time with her friends outside of school and class. She states that the other's schools' energy was quite fun and easy to handle.

Addison Finch, another student who went on the trip, also states that the game was fun. Finch says her favorite part of the game was just the game in general, as she enjoys hockey. She says she also preferred the hockey game over any other school trip she's been on.

"This trip was way more fun, because of the other schools," Finch states.

Rachel Lattanzio, a teacher who went on the trip, says the majority of the students loved it, as did she. She states that the students reacted well to the trip. Lattanzio stated that the other schools' energy made the trip a lot more enjoyable for everyone there. Lattanzio states that Crestview was very well behaved, and didn't leave any mess compared to the other schools. She says that the most memorable part of the trip was seeing some students come out of their shell.

"It was fun to see some of the kids who are more quiet type students get excited and jump around," Lattanzio said.

Timothy Pancake, the Middle School principal who planned the trip, says there are many teachers who serve on the Positive Behavior Intervention Support Team (PBIS), and they all collectively chose to take the trip to reward deserving students. Pancake says the only challenge was not knowing the exact dates, and the fact that trip was for the second nine weeks reward, but the game was in the third nine weeks. He states that coordinating tickets wasn't challenging because the Phantoms did not give out printed tickets, but instead gave them to the teachers as a souvenir. Pancake says he would recommend this trip in the future.

"Coordinating tickets was actually pretty easy. You went online to their Phantom Hockey website, and at that point they were able to advertise their school day game. So, as the building principal, I went on their website, got to their 'School Day' game, then clicked a link. And all I did was fill out a Google Form that said, 'Hey this is how many kids we're bringing from Crestview Local Schools, and this is how many tickets we'll need,'" Pancake stated.

The hockey game was very enjoyable for those who went. For those who couldn't go, Pancake recommends to try harder, so next year, you'll be able to go to the event, whatever it may be.



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Work ethic leads to Rhodes' success **by Karoline McGrath**

Addison Rhodes has built her legacy in just three years. She has made an impact on herself and others by constantly pushing her mentality and pushing her teammates to be the best versions of themselves as athletes. Rhodes has led her team to winning three MVAC championships in a row.

Rhodes is a walking legend in the making, an icon for basketball. Coach Aaron Blatch says, "Addison is a talented kid. Before I got to know her well, I think it was pretty well-known around the area how talented she was and that she had a tremendous feel for the game. When you get to see her every day and work with her, you'll get to see her work ethic is unbelievable; she's a very self-motivated, driven person. Addison is someone who wants to be held to a high standard. She leads herself, she leads her teammates, and she sets everyone to a high standard."

That sums Rhodes up not only as an athlete but also as the type of person that she truly is.

"One reason why she stands out, and also why I think she is going to excel at the next level in college as well, is because a lot of times a lot of high school kids are not vocal or confident enough; however, she can communicate every possession, whether that's calling out screens or talking on offense. She's just on an incredible level of communicating."

Rhodes also agrees in terms of communication; she's a very vocal player when it comes to getting the team to work together.

Rhodes has been playing since first grade and got serious about basketball in fifth grade. Rhodes says, "I just loved it a lot, it was something I always wanted to do."

Rhodes says she deals with self-doubt quite a bit; however, she says she knows when she needs to keep pushing herself no matter what.

She adds, "You're gonna make mistakes no matter what but you always gotta keep pushing through."

A mindset Rhodes has set for herself on the court is to give it your all every day, to continue to grow as a player, and to learn from your mistakes. She also mentions that Kobe Bryant inspires her mindset.

There are many strengths for Rhodes, but the way she can score points and lead her team to victory is what makes her stand out as a player. As far as weaknesses there aren't many; however, she feels she could be more physical towards her opponents.

Addison Rhodes is more than a player: she is an icon for Crestview Basketball holding multiple high school records only being a junior, while appearing in the state record book as well. And she will only continue to thrive and become known for her athleticism and versatility.



Addison Rhodes knocks down a jump shot.

Photo credit: Joel Hively

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Lady Rebels complete another strong season by Karoline McGrath

After another incredible season for the Crestview Lady Rebels basketball team, they had a heartbreaking loss against Canton South in the district, coming up short in overtime by four points. Besides this devastating loss, the girls had a phenomenal season growing as players and thriving off the feeling of success and triumph. The Lady Rebels finished the season with a 21-4 record.

Against Canton South, Addison Rhodes led the first four quarters of the game with 21 points and Luvrain Gaskins followed with 10. However, Canton South shot a three-pointer forcing the game into overtime, where they ultimately beat the Rebels.

Head Coach Aaron Blatch says, "It's been really nice to see the growth within our team, I think the girls have done a great job, we've tested ourselves against a challenging schedule, we had some good wins and a few tough losses as well. I think that sometimes when you face a little adversity, it shows what you truly need to work on and our girls have done a nice job of making some improvements throughout the year."

This year may have been one of the best Crestview has ever had. Multiple records were broken, over 20 games were won, and the team won the MVAC championship for the third time in a row. The Lady Rebels will miss a strong senior class of Gaskins, Myer Miller, and Lexi Blower, but they return a great core of underclassmen excited for next season.

Varsity boys end regular season with winning streak by Dominic Dillon

The high school boys basketball team closed the regular season on a winning streak. On February 5th, they beat a LaBrae team that was undefeated in the MVAC 66-62 with a big comeback in the fourth quarter. On February 11th, the Rebels beat Liberty 73-36, and they followed that up with a 67-46 win at Southeast February 14th, bringing their record to 9-13.

Senior Evan Neff says, "LaBrae was one of our greatest accomplishments."

The season wrapped up February 22nd with a tough tournament loss at South Range. First-year coach Lou Mateo was proud of his team's effort at practice getting ready for the tournament.

Mateo says, "The hardest part of the season is it coming to an end. I'm going to miss our seniors."



**Evan Neff contests a shot.
Photo credit: Joel Hively**

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Middle school girls wrap up undefeated season by Aliviana Valingo

The Crestview 7th and 8th grade girls basketball team went undefeated and to finish out the season they won their MVAC championship this year. A lot of good spirit and teamwork was what kept the girls going. 7th grade was 14-0 and the 8th grade was 15-0.

According to 8th grader Jewlnetta Bradley, their basketball season was good and she was so thankful she got to play with her friends.

7th grader Madi Kyser attributes her team's success to teamwork.

"It was a really good season because we all had a nice connection because we all played together before," Kyser said.

Players and coaches both agree that one of the many reasons this year's basketball season was successful was that the girls had a team-first mentality. According to 7th grade coach David MacKay and 8th grade coach Kory Whitacre, the girls communicated nicely with each other on and off of the court. The Lady Rebels had an amazing season!



The student section celebrates during the middle school championship game.

Middle schoolers selected for art show by Jamie Melott

Four Crestview Middle School students - 5th grader Chloe Burkett, 6th grader Charlie Louk, 7th grader Callie Harvey, and 8th grader Zoe Morris - were chosen to put their work into the County Art Show on February 27. The event took place at the Columbiana County Career and Technical Center.

Morris' work earned "Best of Show," while Louk received "Reserve Best of Show" and Burkett received "Honorable Mention."

All four of the students were chosen because they had good technical skills, or their work was visually, aesthetically pleasing.

"I don't use, like a rubric or anything... what I think has good technical skills and effort put into it," the middle school art teacher Jamie Perna explained.

The four students each put one piece of art into the show. Burkett created a landscape painting that had a silhouette of an animal in it. Louk designed a GIF of an animal. Harvey created a neo-graphic. Finally, Morris created a self portrait on a piece of plastic. Every piece of art is just as creative as the next.

"I think that it's a great opportunity for our district to show off the talents of our students," Perna said. The County Art Show is a great opportunity for these young artists. All four students said that they were very happy that they were chosen to have their work in the show.

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**Winter in the STEM classroom
by The Fourth Grade Rebel Writers**

Winter came alive in Mrs. Beebout's STEM classroom! During January and February, students had the exciting challenge of building a snowball launcher and creating their own skiers. These fun projects helped students learn important science concepts like force, motion, gravity, kinetic and potential energy.

The students also had to think about specific criteria and constraints as they worked. The materials they could use were limited, and they had to complete the challenges within a certain amount of time.

In January, students finished their snowball launchers and tested how far their "snowballs" (soft marshmallows) could fly down the hallway. It was a blast! All students managed to complete the challenge, with the longest launch coming in at an impressive 35 feet. After measuring their results and converting feet to inches, the students celebrated with a mini snowball fight in the classroom. It was amazing to see how much fun everyone had!

In February, students shifted gears to focus on skiing and slopes. Using materials like tin foil, tape, and popsicle sticks, they created skiers and raced them around different "slopes" set up in the classroom. Through this activity, students discovered how factors like weight, angles, friction, balance, and even wind resistance can affect how well a skier performs!

It was a great winter of learning, fun, and hands-on experiments in the STEM classroom!

**St. Patrick's Day fun
by the Fourth Grade Rebel Writers**

On Friday, March 14th, the kindergarten classrooms were buzzing with excitement! The fifth grade students came down to help the kindergarteners create St. Patrick's Day traps, using their cool 3D-printed leprechauns.

Before Friday, the kindergarten teachers had already started teaching their students about the engineering design process. The kindergartners identified the problem (how to catch a leprechaun), asked questions, and began planning their ideas on paper. Their creativity and problem-solving skills were amazing!

When the fifth graders arrived, they worked with the kindergarteners to help them build their traps. The kindergarteners explained their ideas, and the fifth graders helped gather materials and help make their designs come to life. After building the traps, everyone tested them to see if they could catch the 3D-printed leprechauns. Although no real leprechauns were caught, the collaboration between the two groups was fantastic, and the fifth graders were wonderful role models.

Everyone had so much fun, and now the kindergarteners and fifth grade students can't wait to do it again!

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The kindergarten playground project by Paisley Harvey, Mikaylah Haynie, and Claire Smith

The kindergarten students at Crestview Elementary School teamed up with Hammond Construction to celebrate the 100th day of school. They learned all about how a new school is built while designing their own favorite parts of a school playground!

The kindergarten students in Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Biondi, and Mrs. Sebastiani's classes took part in this fun project. Mrs. Sebastiani said everyone had a blast and would love to do something like this again!

On January 27th, the kindergartners wrote down and drew out their ideas and made plans for their playground equipment. Then, on January 28th, they built the equipment based on their ideas. Students used basic every day materials like straws, popsicle sticks, clay, tape, string and whatever else they think they needed!

This project was a great way for the students to work on hands-on activities and stretch their creativity. They had so much fun building and learning together!



Hearts Across America by Jagger Bogerd and Ryker Jones

Throughout February, Mrs. Adams' kindergarten class received valentines from all across the country!

The class kicked off the project by reaching out to different states with the goal of collecting one valentine from each of the 50 states. By the end of the month, they had received valentines from every state in the U.S. Mrs. Adams started the project in 2024 as a fun way to teach social studies, and it was such a hit that it continued this year.

Whenever a new valentine arrived, Mrs. Adams would place a heart on a map to show the students where it came from, helping them see just how big the United States is. The class even received valentines from France and England!

The students loved this project because it made learning social studies exciting. They were always eager for Officer Rob to bring in the mail each day!



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Special Person's Day by Tenley Menning and Piper Wiery

Every student, from Pre-K to 4th grade, got to bring some special people to celebrate them!

Special Person's Day started on March 17, 2025, for 4th grade, and continued with 3rd grade on the 18th, 2nd grade on the 19th, 1st grade on the 20th, kindergarten on the 21st, and preschool on the 24th.

The event took place in the elementary gym, cafeteria, and maybe even outside! Students and their special people could enjoy lots of fun activities together, like hands-on STEM projects, games in the gym, climbing the rock wall, or playing board games. If the weather was nice, they could also play on the playground!

To make sure there was enough room for everyone, each student could bring up to three special people. The food served included cookies, yogurt parfaits, and drinks like water, tea, or lemonade, all made by the CES cafeteria staff!

Special Person's Day is important because it celebrates the people who are important in a student's life, like parents, grandparents, or other special adults. It helps students feel more connected to both home and school, teaches them to be thankful, and strengthens their relationships with the people they care about.



Kindness spreads around CES by Jaxon Guy and Brooklyn Birnesser

Kindness Week at CES was a time for students to focus on being kind to one another for the entire week. The goal was to help everyone understand how to show kindness and why it's so important.

On Tuesday, February 11th, students hunted for kindness cards hidden around the building. Each card had a challenge for kids to complete, and it was awesome to see everyone being so kind to each other!

During lunch and indoor recess, students also had the chance to write kind notes on colorful scraps of paper to give to anyone they could think of.

Mrs. Adams, a kindergarten teacher, really enjoyed Kindness Week. When asked what she thought about it, she said, "I love Kindness Week!"

Overall, Kindness Week was a wonderful opportunity to make new friends and spread kindness throughout the school.

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**Everybody at CES reads for a cause!
by Madelyn Neff and Cazlyn Spalding**

During Read Across America Week, every student at CES had the chance to read and earn prizes!

The Read-A-Thon at CES started on March 3rd, 2025, and ended on March 14th. The event encourages students to develop a love for reading while raising money for the Principal's Fund. This fund helps pay for books, activities, field trips, and special events. For example, each student received a mustache to wear on Lorax Day! On Friday, March 14th, the Realm of the Reptile visited Crestview, and thanks to the Principal's Fund and Read-A-Thon donations, this event was free for students!

One of the best parts of the Read-A-Thon is that both students and teachers get involved. Teachers encourage students to read, and kids can read at school or at home. They track their reading time on paper and turn it in to their teachers, or parents can enter it on the Read-A-Thon website.

Students who read up to 2,000 minutes or donate \$250 get to pie a teacher with shaving cream! Plus, students who read or donate enough can win cool prizes like ice cream, Dairy Queen gift cards, or a snack coupon for Crestview.

In total, more than \$12,000 has been raised, all of which goes directly to support the students at CES!

**Trades career day
by Jude Holmes and Carter Oates**

On Friday, February 28th, third grade students at CES had an exciting Career Day! The gym was filled with professionals from local trades and careers, many of which were very hands-on and allowed students to see what it's like to work in different fields.

A total of eight trades and careers were represented, and each one was unique and fun to learn about. Some of the exciting trades included an ironworker, auto shop, and an 811 "call before you dig" representative. The 811 team even brought their mobile unit for students to explore! FordCom Wireless showed off special gear used to climb towers, and students got to try on the heavy harnesses that keep climbers safe. Humtown made a special appearance with mini RC forklifts, and each student got to drive one!

Mr. Adams from Ryan Adams Excavating also brought in a real excavator, giving the kids a chance to see the machinery up close. A tech school was also there to share opportunities in tech careers, and there was even a carpenter who showed how they use impact guns to build and set tiles for bathroom models.

Fun fact: Mr. Louk's favorite part of Career Day was the carpenter station because it was so hands-on. The students loved learning how carpenters use tools to build and fix things!

Career Day was a fantastic opportunity for students to explore different jobs and get a real feel for what these trades are all about.

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2nd grade medical career day by Stella Dickey and Allie Newton

The second graders at CES had an awesome career day, where they got to learn all about different medical careers! Six amazing careers were featured: Physical Therapist, Doctor, Sports Medicine Specialist, Dental Hygienist, Respiratory Therapist, and Occupational Therapist.

Some students shared their favorites. Alexa Joy and Henry Gladman thought the Physical Therapist station was the best, while Emma Morell and Harper Gustafson loved learning about what doctors do. CES wanted to help second graders explore different jobs and think about what they might want to be when they grow up. They even visited different classrooms to dive into medical careers and wrote about their own dreams for the future.

This event took place on January 16, 2025. The students learned that medical careers are all about helping people feel better, keeping bodies healthy, and knowing how to care for themselves when they're sick. Everyone had a blast, learned a lot, and had fun exploring these exciting jobs all day!



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