

# MINERAL POINT MIDDLE SCHOOL

# Scoop

April 2016 🐾 Education... That's the Point.

## Google Expeditions

On Friday, April 8th, the 6th grade class was able to participate in a “Google Expeditions” program at the elementary school. Through the program students were able to swim with sharks, walk the Great Wall of China, and explore the Grand Canyon! This 3D experience was possible through the use of a phone and some glasses. Students were able to virtually attend new locations to learn about the world. The “Google Expeditions” is currently just a pilot, but hopefully in the future will be open to everyone. 5th grade teacher, Lifka Bennett, submitted a request for Google to come to Mineral Point and was selected. This was such a fun, learning experience that allowed students to view concepts taught by being taken to different locations. Hopefully, in the future students can attend more locations they are learning about through the use of this valuable resource! 🐾

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday, April 18 – Friday, April 22**

M.S. students and staff to hold various activities for “Earth Week”.

**Wednesday, April 20**

M.S. Progress reports to be mailed.

**Wednesday, April 20:** Early Release

**Thursday, April 21**

M.S. Track meet @ Dodgeville, 4:00 p.m.

**Friday, April 22**

M.S. students and staff to wear “green” for Earth week.

**Tuesday, April 26**

M.S. Track meet @ Cuba City, 4:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 27:** Early Release

**Thursday, April 28**

M.S. Track meet @ Dodgeville, 4:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 3**

M.S. Track meet @ Darlington, 4:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 3**

M.S./H.S. Spring Choir concert, 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, May 4:** Early Release

**Thursday, May 5**

M.S./H.S. Spring Band concert, 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday, May 7**

M.S. Band to perform at Grayslake Middle School in the a.m. and will spend the remainder of the day at Six Flags Great America.

**Wednesday, May 11:** Early Release

**Wednesday, May 11**

M.S. Progress reports to be mailed.

**Thursday, May 12**

M.S. Track @ Lancaster Invitational, 4:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 17**

M.S. Track @ Darlington Invitational, 4:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, May 18**

Early Release

**Wednesday, May 25:** Early Release

**Monday, May 30**

M.S. Band to march in Memorial Day parade.

**Tuesday, May 31**

M.S. Awards program, large gym, 1:00 p.m., followed by Grade 8 Graduation.

**Wednesday, June 1**

M.S. fieldtrips:

Grade 6 - Black Hawk Lake

Grade 7 - Governor Dodge Park

Grade 8 - Mount Olympus @ Wisconsin Dells

**Wednesday, June 1:** Last day of school

# From the Desk of Ms. Dahl, Middle School Principal

Spring has finally arrived! With the arrival of spring it is time to once again plan for the end of the school year reward activities. The following field trips will take place on June 1st:

The sixth graders will travel to Blackhawk Lake.

Seventh graders will travel to Governor Dodge State Park.

The eighth graders will spend the day at Mount Olympus in Wisconsin Dells.

Information on field trips will be mailed out to parents the first week of May.

There is criteria set in order to participate in the end of the year field trips. Students meeting the following requirements will be eligible for the end of the 4th quarter field trip:

1. Assignment completion according to classroom policy.
2. Absences (maximum of 4 days for any reason except unexcused absences). If students have a doctor or dentist appointment during the school day, please bring an excuse from the doctor or dentist office to the Middle School office.
3. Tardiness (maximum of 4 unexcused tardies).
4. Citizenship:
  - A. Is respectful to all staff members (does not have any discipline referrals).
  - B. Is respectful to peers.
  - C. Is prepared for class (has all required materials).
  - D. Follows classroom rules and procedures.

***\*All assigned homework clubs must be completed or made up to be eligible for the field trip. 🐾***

## Hello Down There!!!! Sixth Grade Pen Pals from Texas

As part of the sixth grade Language Arts curriculum, students have been using technology to correspond with a penpal located in Texas. Students first began communicating with their penpal through email. Recently, students had the opportunity to “chat” with their penpal in a realtime setting using google docs. Students enjoyed chatting to find out information about their penpal, which they then used to write a biography. Once real time chatting began, you could feel and see the excitement in the classroom! Be sure to ask your child what interesting information they learned about their penpal! 🐾



### Just for fun:

**Q: Why did the banana go to the hospital?**

**A: Because he was not peeling well!**

### Worth quoting:

**“Try to be a rainbow in someone’s cloud.”**

*Maya Angelou*

## Something’s fishy in Life Science

Life science students are in the process of completing their individual fish research projects using Google Slides. Each student is becoming an “expert” on their particular fish. We will have examples from all three classes of fish including jawless, cartilaginous, and bony. In class, we are doing various activities to study and compare each of these classes. The culmination of the fish unit will be the annual perch dissection. Students will not only get to handle real specimens but they will also perfect their surgical skills while applying what they have learned in class. So far this year, we have many good “surgeons,” while some are excellent! Doing dissections are a great way to mesh visual, auditory, and physical skills in a scientific setting. Students really get hooked into the fish unit!

Mr. Van Galen 🐾

## Middle School Math Team Results

On Wednesday, March 9, Mineral Point Middle School traveled to Darlington for the annual SWAL Lath Team Contest. Each school was allowed to bring ten participants with at least four of them being seventh graders. The schools participating this year were Boscobel, Cuba City, Darlington, Fennimore, Iowa Grant, Mineral Point, Riverdale, and Southwestern.

Each participant worked individually and had to complete several challenging problems covering a variety of math concepts. Each problem was assigned a point value based on the level of difficulty. Students earned points by answering the problems correctly. These problems were divided into four sections. Each section had to be completed in 15 minutes.

Two eighth graders, Nick DuBois and Lily Wong, along with seventh grader, Will Straka, all tied for 5th place out of 80 participants; Owen Stephenson, Morgan Vondra, Wes Berget, Grant Bossert, and seventh grader, Cameron Wiegman, brought home gold also.

Earning silver medals at the contest were seventh graders Rita Wilson and Brayden Dailey.

Students deserving recognition, but not participating, were alternates Cody Pierce (8th grade) and Ian Keyes (7th grade).

The team was coached by Middle School math teachers Mike Chambers and Deb Soper. 🐾



Middle School Math Team: (front row, left to right) Cody Pierce (alternate), Cameron Wiegman, Grant Bossert, Nick DuBois, and Rita Wilson. Back: Owen Stephenson, Brayden Dailey, Wes Berget, Will Straka, Lily Wong, and Morgan Vondra. Missing: Ian Keyes (alternate) and coaches Mrs. Soper and Mr. Chambers.



## Meteorologist Visit

What does a meteorologist do? To answer that question, students in the 6th grade were recently surprised when Haddie McLean (from Channel 3, out of Madison) stopped by to tell them exactly what her job entails. Students are currently studying weather in science, so Haddie came at the perfect time! She educated students on what weather means and what causes it. The students were also amazed by a few experiments Haddie showed them, which further proved her facts on weather. The students were shown, through pictures, what the Channel 3 studio looks like and how Haddie records her weather segment, tools she uses to make forecasts, and other jobs and responsibilities she has as a meteorologist. There was a bit of humor thrown into the mix, when Haddie showed the students some hilarious bloopers that happened to her while live on TV! It was a great experience for all students and staff involved. We might even have a few aspiring meteorologists in the class now! 🐾



## Accelerated Reader Goals Reached

Congrats to the following students who met their third quarter Accelerated Reader goals in both comprehension and points! As a group, our middle school students have read an impressive 118,913,980 words since the beginning of the school year. Keep up the good work and continue to explore the world through books! In the words of George R. R. Martin, "A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies... the man who never reads lives only one." Mrs. McCoy

### 6th Grade

Bryce Acherman  
Colbi Carey  
Eloise Chambers  
Tanner Goninen  
Estelle Janetka x3  
Haylee Kearns  
Mallory Lindsey  
Ollie Mitchell  
Trapper Nafzger  
Callie Pierce x2  
Blake Radtke  
Chloe Thomas  
Rylee Thompson x9  
Kelsie Wilson x2  
Lane Edge  
Payton Hamilton  
Ross Lindsey  
Cory Luedtke x6  
Haydn Marr x3  
Brett Roberts  
Alyssa Roelli x4  
Delaney Ross  
Kennedy Smith  
Jadyn Thompson x3  
Kelsie Toay x5  
Treven Trace  
Jared Wedig  
Hope Wilson  
Keigan Yager  
Hayden Bakken  
Grace Engels x3  
Bo Hanson  
Drew Hottenstein x7  
Miles Houtakker  
Lexi Kinch  
Faith Pilling  
Emma Steffes  
Malachi Strompolis-Salama x4  
Jayda Sudmeier  
John Toay x5  
Kaylee Weber  
Caleb Wersal

### 7th Grade

Donavin Botsford x2  
Rylee Calvert  
Emily Cody  
Henry Dailey  
Jerra Federman  
Gunnar Gorgan  
Emma Hanson  
Ian Keyes  
Ivy Lawinger  
Skylar Martin  
Daniel Nordstrom  
Tatum Novak x4  
Sadie Owens  
Jacob Perez  
Cloe Rule  
Taylor Schmidt  
Nolan Springer  
Cecilia Stanton  
Carson Thomas  
Megan Toay  
Cameron Wiegman  
Chandler Workman  
Macy Aschliman  
Alexis Berget  
Bryann Cody x5  
Brayden Dailey  
Natalie Finley x4  
Mason Hughes  
Sira James  
Grant Lee  
Haily Murphy  
Matthew Nordstrom  
Chloe Oberhauser  
Emma Olson  
Bode Schmitz  
Keira Schrank x2  
Gabriel Sporle  
Will Straka  
Rita Wilson x2

### 8th Grade

Justin Baehler  
Ben Basting x6  
Wes Berget  
McKenna Bowers  
Nick Dubois x2  
Ryver Galle  
Sara Heisner  
Payton Lawinger  
Simon Mitchell  
Dalton Schrank x2  
Owen Stephenson  
Kylie Sullivan  
Morgan Vondra  
Blaise Watters  
Annie Wilbanks  
Lily Wong  
Natalie Chitwood x6  
Wyatt Evans  
Laney Finkelmeyer  
Tessa Hanson  
Cody Lindholm  
Isaac Lindsey  
Cody Pierce  
Larry Steffes  
Flo Torres x7  
Blake Wendhausen  
Madeline Williams

*(number)X = how many times a student exceeded their goal*