

# Chula Accelerated School

October 2013

## Preschool News

Happy Fall, y'all! The preschool has many faces this year! We have 17 students with only 6 of them being return preschoolers from last year. Our class is made up of 10 four-year-olds and 7 three-year-olds; 7 boys and 10 girls. We started September talking about different occupations and what the people who perform those jobs actually do.

When we left the work force, we moved into the orchard and discussed all different kinds of apples. Apple tasting and making apple dough with apple sauce and cinnamon were some of the highlights of our apple week. The class determined the favorites were pink ladies, divines and red delicious. Granny smith and gingergolds weren't as popular.

Leaving apples behind, we moved onto looking at shapes all around us. The basic shapes (circle, triangle, square, and rectangle) occupied most of our discussion, but we also learned about crescents, octagons, pentagons, diamonds, ovals, hearts, and stars. We started a Shape Monster book but it will take a little longer to finish it as we are trying to use different mediums for each shape to introduce textures as well.

Since Fall began on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, our next topic was, of course, Fall. Ms. Mindy, our classroom aide, who is working on her practicum, took us on a "leaf hunt" and turned our findings into artful creations. The children are watching for more color to start gracing the trees around our school.

Our month ended with a Leo Lionni story about Fredrick who was an artful mouse in a group that lived in a stone wall. The mice were thinking about preparing for the season to come, just like we are now. Talking about one group of mice led us to discover other groups

of mice and, of course, the occasional cat that seems to always be not too far away.

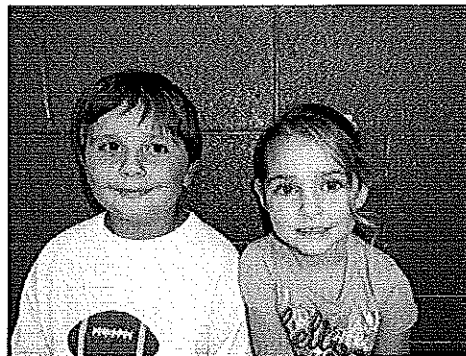
Our plans for next month will be just as, if not even more, exciting! Thanks for sharing with us!

Ms. Claire & Ms. Mindy

## Kindergarten News

We are off to a fantastic start in kindergarten! Our theme for August was "back to school" and for September it was "fire safety." We learned many interesting things about what a firefighter does and what it is like for the firefighters at the fire station.

Each month we will be doing an author study. We will be learning about and reading books written by an author. Our author study for August was Beatrix Potter, who wrote the *Peter Rabbit* books. Our author study for September was Judy Schachner, who wrote the very popular *Skippyjon Jones* books. *Skippyjon* was a wild hit in our class!



In math we have learned that there are 2D and 3D shapes. We have had so much fun learning the names of both types of shapes. The highlight of the shape lessons was going on a "shape hunt" in our school. We were able to find many different shapes that we see every day.

We are excited for October. We are looking forward to the cooler weather and all the fun things we will learn!

Mrs. Cypert

## 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade News

We're off to a great start in first and second grade. We have ten first graders and four second graders, including two new students, Ray and Hannah. We've been busy getting into our routine and learning how to follow the rules. There are so many things to learn at the beginning of the year. Our first graders are working hard at learning how to read and all the skills that go with being a good reader. Second graders are reviewing what they know about reading and working on becoming good writers.

We are so excited to go on our first field trip on September 27 to Old Time Harvest Days. It's always so much fun to see all the demonstrations and taste some delicious treats. Of course, the hayrides are always a favorite.

Even though it's still a month away, Halloween is on our minds. Here's what we think we'll be for Halloween:

**Emily** – Cinderella  
**Jackson** – Indian  
**Ray** – army guy  
**Torri** – Bride of Darkness  
**Katie** – not sure yet  
**Rachael** – a vampire queen  
**Aiden** – yellow ninja  
**Noah** – It's a secret  
**Rhyan** – Batman or a vampire  
**Hannah** – Queen from Epic  
**Mady** – a pig or a bunny rabbit  
**Maci** – Snow Princess  
**Remington** – werewolf  
**Kamdyn** – Skull

Miss Stone

### 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade News

It is good to be back to school after a fun and dry summer! We are busy each day learning new and exciting concepts. Our Daily 5 routine is up and running and the students are well on their way to becoming terrific readers and writers. We are also laying a good foundation for Math that we can build on this year. We have tackled place value, rounding, and we are now working very hard on Mental Math skills.

Our Lewis and Clark adventure began with making journals and spyglasses. We went on a hike around the perimeter of school. We used our spy glasses and wrote in our journal like Lewis and Clark did. We also made origami boats and sent them down the Missouri River. We are learning about the animals that Lewis and Clark encountered as they traveled. We will also learn about the Native Americans the Expedition came into contact with. The Missouri Conservation Department loaned us some interesting items that we are using to help bring the trip to life for the kids. We had the privilege of holding a replica of the Peace Medal in our hands. We also enjoyed passing around a badger and raccoon pelt. We have big plans to make our own ink out of berries and use quills to write with as we learn more about history.

During our read aloud time we just finished reading *Little House in the Big Woods*. We are now about halfway through *Little House on the Prairie*. We recreated a covered wagon so that we could better understand how they traveled during that time period. Our field trip to the Steam and Gas Show will bring some of this book to life for us. It is so much different than what we are familiar with in our culture.

Mrs. Moore

### 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade News

The 5th and 6th graders are off to a running start! We have learned a lot and are already being able to use what we have learned to do some small projects this year.

In Science, we have learned about pollination and fertilization so we had

a blast dissecting different flowers to look for their parts. In Social Studies, we are learning about the states, their locations, capitols, and abbreviations.

The class has enjoyed using all the hands-on study helpers we have in the room like individual map whiteboards. Math has been really interesting for them this year as well. Because the country is trending toward preparing students to be more career ready, we have been doing some neat real-life math. For example, the kids had to fill out an invoice for a doctor that included all the meds and equipment needed to cure a hospital full of patients. Later, they got to play parents by being part of a group volunteering to compare bids to resod the football field. Those were neat activities.

We hope to see you at the ballgames. The class has been working hard to help out the 7th and 8th graders with their season.

Mrs. Pauley

### 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade News

Welcome to a new school year. Mrs. Warner and I have five 7<sup>th</sup> graders and twelve 8<sup>th</sup> graders this year. We have little room to walk around with seventeen students in a small classroom!

The book *Bystander* has been our focus in reading. It is about a new student and the issues he faces as he is befriended by a bully. How should he handle the situation? Everyone is enjoying the book.

In English, we are ready to begin the first essay of the year. It is a 300-400 word essay on the topic "What Patriotism Means to Me." We have been working hard in English learning to write good sentences and paragraphs. Now, it is time to put the work we have done to the test in essay format.

In math, we have covered many topics which include: greatest common factors, reducing fractions, prime factors, distributive property, solving equations with a missing variable, etc.

Science class finds the 7<sup>th</sup> graders studying matter and energy, while the

Eighth graders are learning about the changing earth.

Basketball practice is in full swing. A schedule of games can be found on the newsletter calendar. Come out and support the Bobcats!

Mrs. Kerr

### Library News

MORENet is a valuable subscription service for our students to obtain appropriate information at their levels. Go to [search.more.net](http://search.more.net). The username/login is "morenetliving" and the password is "bobcats." A list of resources is provided for your use. I will be instructing students on the uses and locations during library schedule. The types of resources include dictionaries, encyclopedia, magazines, newspapers, maps, and databases of educational needs.

To obtain access to the Chula School Library card catalog, go to [library.chulaschool.org](http://library.chulaschool.org). There is no login necessary. This website allows students to see what is available in the school library.

Our e-book collections are accessed at these sites and the login info is provided.

#### **PreK-4<sup>th</sup> grades:**

Tumblebooks:  
[www.tumblebooks.com](http://www.tumblebooks.com)  
username: chulaschool  
password: login

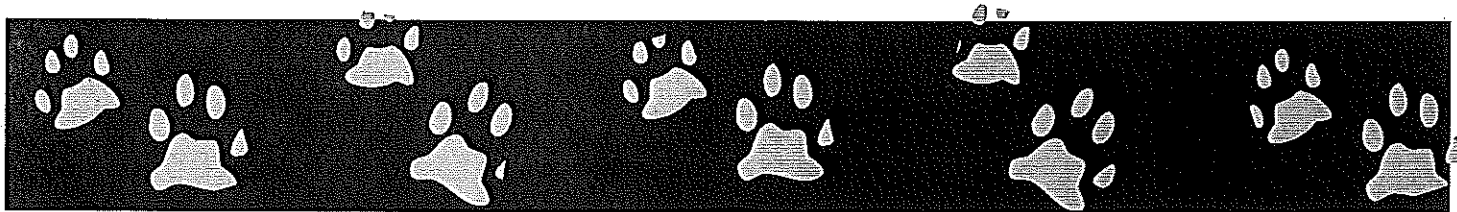
#### **4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades:**

[www.tbcjr.com](http://www.tbcjr.com)  
username: chulaschool  
login: login

If you have questions about any of these resources, please contact me or Ms. Cheryl at 639-3135.

Betty Sue Radcliff  
Librarian





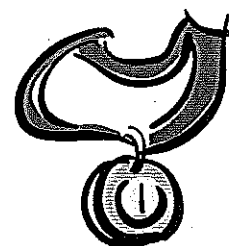
## From the Principal's Desk...



### MAP Masters Honored

On September 23rd, thirty-four of our students were recognized for their outstanding performance on the Spring 2013 MAP grade-level assessments. Each student received a medal and certificates were awarded for each area of excellent performance. The areas for which students were recognized were earning either a "Proficient" or "Advanced" in Communication Arts, Mathematics, or Science or improving their achievement level over the previous year in Communication Arts and Mathematics.

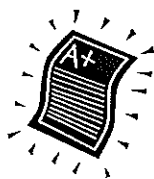
CONGRATULATIONS to all our MAP Masters!



The following students were recognized as MAP Masters: Bailey Elrod, Michael Holtzclaw, Joshua Meservey, Mathew Meservey, Jessie Case, Kara Lager, Samuel Pauley, Colton Searcy, Dezeray Crawford, Kristopher Holtzclaw, Audrey Meservey, Samuel Meservey, Emma Shipp, Madeline Criner, Haley Graves, Keyten Holtzclaw, Bailey Pithan, Isaiah Boon, Elena Boon, Nathan Brooks, Austin Case, Skye Cashatt, Bailey Castillo, Tiffany Gillespie, Tyler Jimenez, Taylor Lambert, Douglas Lawson, Jackson Pauley, Jessica Shipp, Megan Stover, Jaime Criner, Conner Cruse, Kristina Hamilton, Reagin Klein

### End of 1st Quarter

Believe it or not, the end of 1st Quarter is nearly here! The last day of the quarter will be October 18th. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, October 24th. Information about signing up for conferences will be coming soon from the classroom teachers. Help us reach our goal of 100% parent participation!



### Reaching for the STARS with Good Character

Each month we focus on a new character word during Morning Rally. The teachers teach mini character lessons each morning to highlight ways students can put these character words into action at school and at home. Teachers also reinforce these words throughout each day in their classrooms. You can help out at home by asking your child about that month's character word. At the end of each month, one student from each classroom will be chosen as Student of the Month based on that month's character word. During August and September we focused on "RESPECT". We discussed concepts related to using good manners and following the Golden Rule; being tolerant and considerate of others; not hurting others physically, emotionally, or verbally; dealing with insults and conflicts peacefully, and dealing with anger.

### 7th & 8th Grade Basketball Season

7th & 8th Grade basketball season is upon us! Participation in basketball and cheerleading is a great opportunity for our students to learn about teamwork and the meaning of sportsmanship. This applies to basketball players, cheerleaders, and students who are there just watching the games. As parents and community members, you play a key role in this learning process when you demonstrate good sportsmanship and citizenship while attending basketball games. Thank you in advance for being good role-models for our students.

The season's first game is away against Bishop Hogan on October 10th. The girls' game will begin at 6:00, followed by the boys' game. The full schedule for October is on the October calendar in this newsletter. I hope everyone gets a chance to come out and support our teams during the season. GO BOBCATS!!

