



#cmsridernation

Volume 2 Issue 3
November 2015

Center Middle School 302 Kennedy Street Center, Texas 75935

Save the Date:

- November 23–27—Thanksgiving Break
- Monday, November 30, girls basketball vs Carthage @ CHS gym 4:30pm; Boys basketball @ Carthage 4:30 pm
- December 7 through 11—CMS Book Fair
- December 8—CMS Christmas Band Concert
- Monday, December 14—Boys basketball vs. Rusk @ CHS gym 4:30; Girls Basketball @ Rusk 4:30
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Happy Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is the time of year we all reflect on our many blessings. Although life is filled with many challenges, this is the time of year we are grateful for the kind people in our lives who love and support us so that our students believe, achieve, and succeed.

Have a safe Thanksgiving break and we will see you on November 30 as classes resume.



Career Ready

Eighth grade students have been looking ahead to high school and completing four year plans with Mrs. Tillery, CMS Counselor. Students in Career Exploration classes have been researching a career of interest and choosing a high school endorsement that will begin preparing them for their future career.



From Mrs. Andrews' Journalism Class:

We had too many news items from CMS to include in one newsletter. We will be sending out another one very soon with more classroom pictures!

From the Counselor

CMS Students and Staff:

Thank you to all students participated in Drug Free Week. Special thanks to several teachers that took the time to decorate classroom doors when they were so very busy. Also my gratitude to Ms. Daniels, our CMS Art teacher, and her students that made our sidewalks come alive with drug free slogans. Winner of the "Keep Your Eyes Out for Drugs" eyeball estimation was Abby Sneed with a guess of 140. Actual count was 138.

Congratulations to Stephanie Ruan, CMS faculty and staff choice of the best drug free slogan, with this original poem:

"I don't need drugs to get high...I have a swing.
I don't need drugs to get away...I have dreams.
I don't need drugs to laugh...I have friends.
I don't need drugs to have fun...I have bubble wrap.
I don't need drugs. I'm above that, and so are you."

Thank you again to all that participated!
You are the best!

-Mrs. Tillery



Note from the Principal

Hello CMS,

I can't believe how fast our year is flying by. We are just a few days away from our first big holiday and have completed our 2nd six weeks. It has been a busy fall with our students involved in so many activities. Throughout these first few months of school our students have achieved, competed, and performed in many different activities. It is a fun time to be at CMS and we are extremely proud of all our students and the hard work you put in. Now we transition into a new six weeks and the Holiday season. This transition is sometimes a difficult time for students because we are here some and off for weeks at a time. Students will sometimes get complacent with their grades and let them slip because they focus more on the time we are about to have off instead of the work at hand. Remember that grades still matter. If you are competing in basketball, UIL, or plan on going on trips such as the BETA Convention your grades can affect you being allowed to participate. Not to mention that if you let your work habits slip a little during this last six weeks before semester it can really affect your semester average and your overall grade at the end of the year. So please continue to focus on your grades and behavior in your classes.

I want to talk about one other topic at this point in the year. CMS is our school and our home away from home. It is not the newest school in the district but it ours and we should be proud of the way it looks. One of the easiest ways we can keep our campus looking nice is by simply throwing away our own trash. It saddens me a great deal to walk around campus and see it littered with trash. I am proud of our school and proud of our students. I want for nothing more than for our community to think the very best of our school and our students. But when visitors come on campus and they see trash everywhere or they use our restrooms and they are a mess it leaves a bad impression of our school. So please do your part. Throw your trash in a trash can and take care of our facilities.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving break. See you when we return on November 30.

Thank you,

Mr. Henson

Mr. Henson stopped by for a visit with the Yearbook Staff during a short break from working on the newsletter.



Meet Our Staff



Donna Shannon is an 8th grade science teacher and the Girls Athletics coach. She attended college at SFA. She's been teaching for 20 years: 13 in Lufkin and 7 in Center. Her mother lives in Nacogdoches and her niece lives in Georgia. She was in band growing up. She played the drums. Her favorite quote is, "Be the change you want to see in the world." - Mohandas Gandhi. Her one word to describe CMS: awesome. It's a good time to be a Rider!!

Sommer Herndon is a 7th grade math and 6th grade advanced math teacher. She attended college at SFA for undergrad. She also attended Lamar for graduate degree in school counseling. She has been teaching for 16 years. She is married to Ward Herndon. She has one son, Tyler in 8th grade, and one daughter, Hollie in 3rd grade. Mrs. Herndon has a talent for playing piano.



La-

Herndon's favorite quote is, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." Her one word to describe CMS: awesome.

Erinn Moseley is a coach and 6th grade social studies teacher. She attended college at SFASU. She has been teaching for 2 years. She is very close to her family. Her mom teaches Pre-K, her dad is an accountant and her younger brother is going to college to study sport broadcasting. Her favorite quote is,



"Every child deserves a champion- an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be." Moseley shared that she lived in Australia for 4 years. Her one word to describe CMS: awesome.

Kerry Bryan is a teacher and coach. He attended East Texas Baptist University. He taught English



at Sias International University in China for 3 years, taught in Lamesa, Texas for 1 year before coming to Center. He married his wife Laurie in 2011. She teaches 2nd grade in Center Elementary School and loves it. Currently, they have a little girl who is 2, and they had a little boy but he's no longer with them. His favorite quote is, "If all you ever do is what you've always done, you'll always get what you always got." One interesting thing about Bryan is that he met his wife in China. His one word to describe CMS: exciting.

Drug Free Theme Days



Thanks to all our CMS students and Staff who participated in Drug Free Week Theme Days! Thanks to teachers who sent pics!



Drug Free Contest Winners



Stephanie Ruan

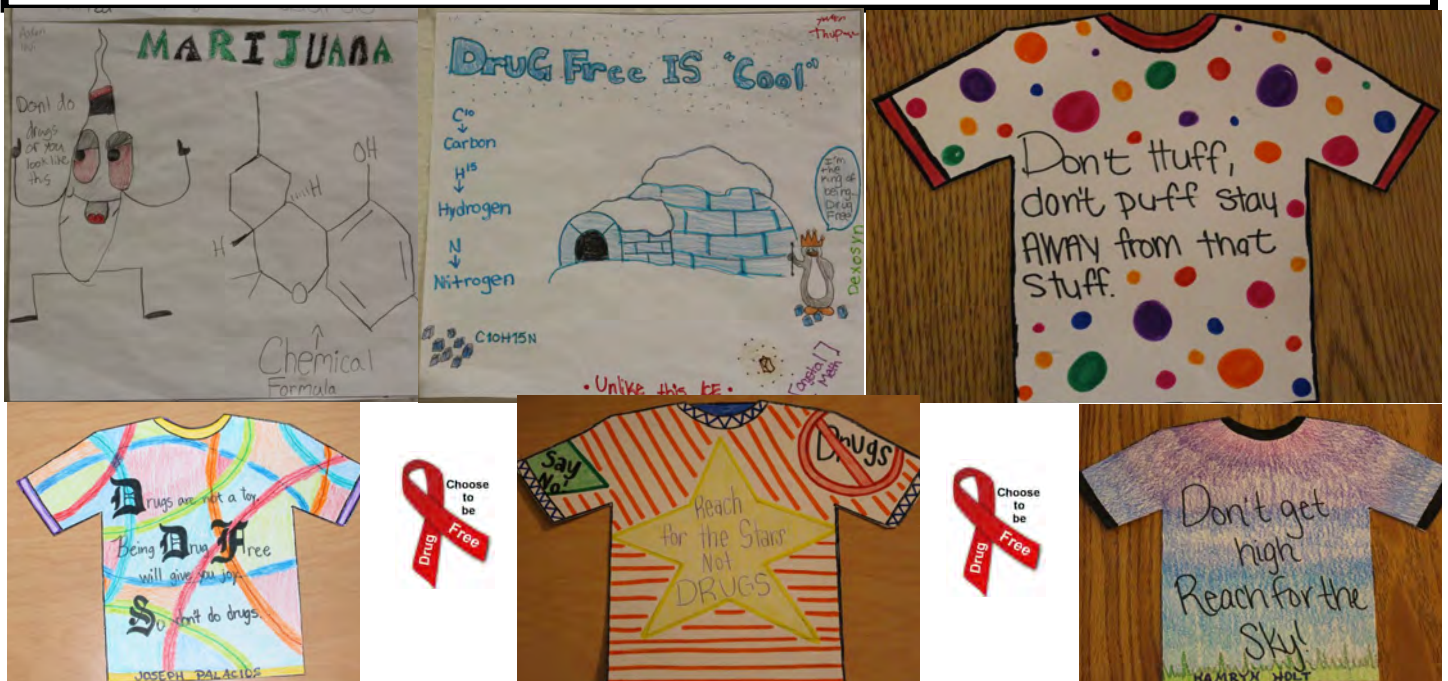
Winner of Best Drug Free Slogan with her original poem. See Page 1, 'From the Counselor' section.

Abby Sneed

Winner of 'Keep Your Eyes out for Drugs' Eyeball Estimation.



A few more Drug Free Week Activities



JCC Reading Riders



JCC members are joining Center Intermediate students as Reading Riders. Each Friday, two groups of JCC members visit CIS classrooms, reading to students, helping with core subjects, and listening to students as they read. This is one of our JCC students favorite activities during the year. The younger students look up to CMS students as role models.

GT News



Straight Outta GT!

CMS GT students visited SFA to go to the Planetarium where they saw a presentation over Stars and Constellations. The kids really had a blast. Due to weather issues, they did not get to tour the observatory. This trip was the culmination of a Unit on Astronomy, specifically Stars and Constellations.

CMS Riders are Respectful #altogether



CMS Cares

Very recently at Alto High School, a beloved athletic role model named Cam'ron Matthews passed away. He was well known and loved. When word of this tragedy reached CMS, we wanted to express our sympathy and compassion for Alto's devastating loss. We are keeping Alto and Cam'ron's family in our thoughts and prayers.



CMS Tribute to Veterans



Valorous warriors.
Emotional, experiences.
Trained to the max.
Extraordinary sacrifices.
Respect the ones with battle scars.
Appreciate the ones who fought for us.
Nation's Hero's.

Acrostic Poem

By Lesly Gonzalez

CMS Band—Practice Makes for a Perfect Christmas Concert!



Eighth graders in CMS Band hall are busy polishing up their performance for the annual Christmas Band Concert on December 8. This is always a favorite for the students as well as the community. Our band rocks!



Sneak Peak! CMS Gym



CMS Gym Nearing Completion

Construction workers are working hard to complete renovations on Center Middle School's gym. Graphics will be painted on walls soon. Sometime after Thanksgiving break, we should be playing basketball in our gym. Above is a sneak peak! We are excited about the updates and cannot wait to have sports and P. E. classes inside our own gym, especially since we will have air conditioning for the first time! We hope parents and other community members will come out and see our new gym once it opens.

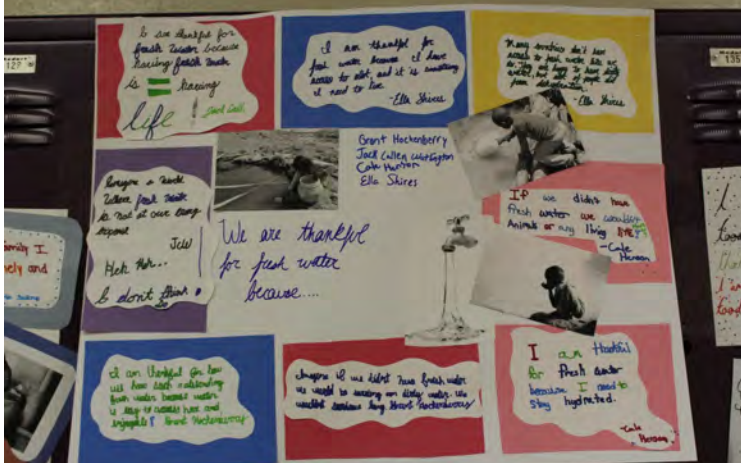
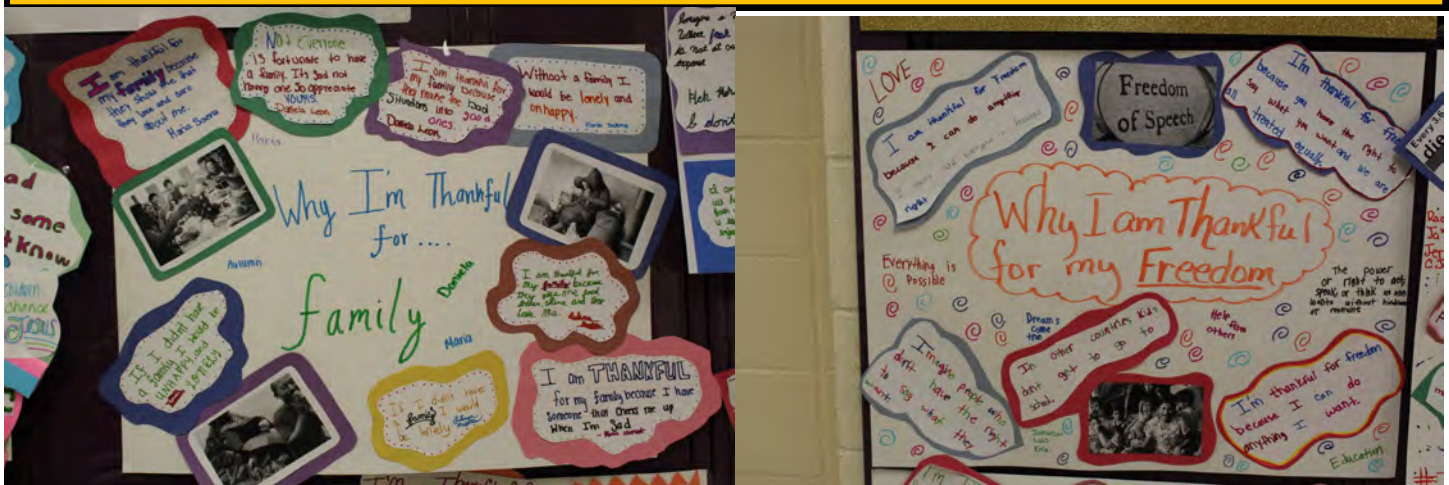


A big

Thank You

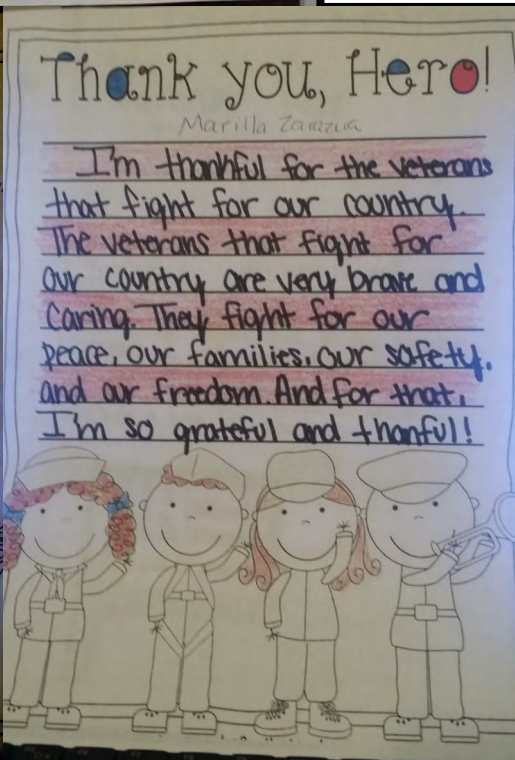
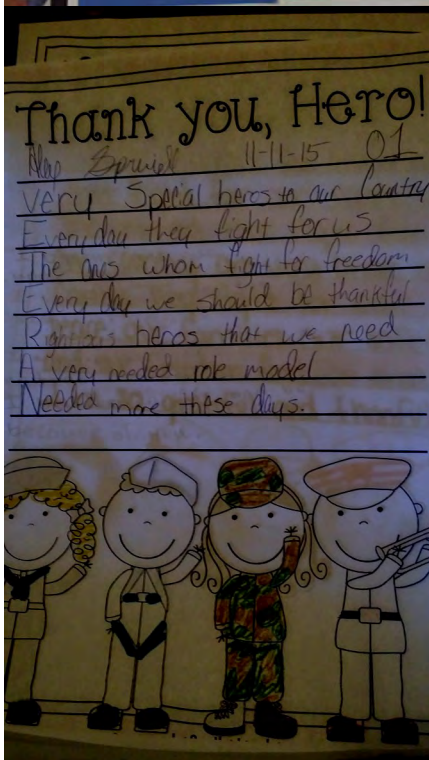
goes out to our students and coaches for their patience and flexibility in carrying on Sports and P. E. classes as our gymnasium is renovated. At left, a girls' P. E. class is held in the outdoor pavilion area.

Riders are Thankful

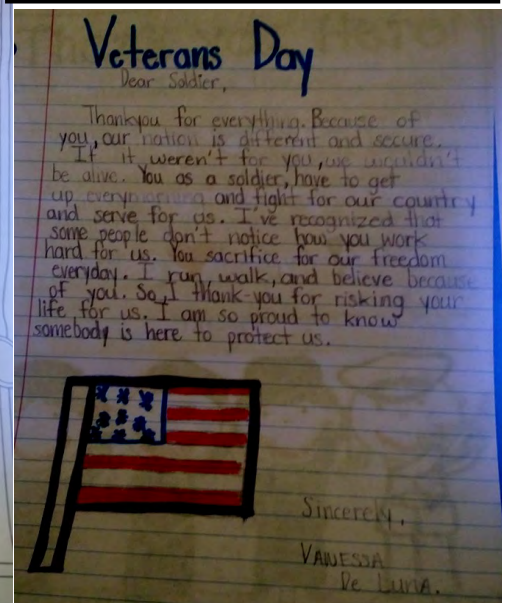


Why I am Thankful...

Posters were created in Mrs. Belrose's seventh grade class.



Veterans Day Tributes from Vanessa De Luna, Alex Spruiell and Marilla Zarazua. Completed in Mrs. Stone's seventh grade writing classroom.



We Are Thankful For...

Students in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade classes shared their thoughts before Thanksgiving break.

Jocelyn Berry... "I'm thankful to be alive, because I want to get to experience so many things in life. I'm also thankful for music, because music brings people together."

Destini Phillips... "I am thankful for my mom because she takes care of me. I can count on her when I am down and sad and need encouragement."

Elisio de la Cruz... "I am thankful for my teachers, like Mrs. Williams, because she likes to have fun in the classroom."

De'Skyshen Crockett... "I am thankful for having both my parents who are the best and when I am doing something wrong, they help me to fix it."

Evan Vera Melchor... "I am thankful for sports because football and soccer help me to relax when I am stressed."

Kdree Na... "I am thankful for the tradition that my family celebrates. My family has a tradition where we put our names in a bucket and all of my family members gets one of the names without looking and whoever they got, they will have to give them a gift or a present."

Brianna Gonzalez... "I am thankful for my family that cares for me."

Lizbeth Chavez... "I am thankful for friends and family and for having a roof over my head and for having food on the table."

Edwin Moreno... "I am thankful for a house because if I didn't have one, I would be outside in the cold at night!"

Brylie Ross... "I am thankful for my church."

Dex Rankin... "I am grateful for shoes!"

Ariel Liker... "I am thankful for being alive another day!"

La'Corey Buckley... "I am thankful for my family because they provide me with shelter, food, clothes and lots of good stuff."

Tatum Mettau... "I am thankful for my grandparents because they take me places and get me things."

Alyssa White... "I am thankful for my cute pets."

Jase Bird... "I am thankful for school because I can get a good education."

Maria Saenz... "I am thankful for freedom because I get to be myself."

Markez Cartwright... "I am grateful for chicken because without it I wouldn't have a favorite food to eat."

Aiden Hagler... "I am thankful for my dog because she is hyper and she loves to play."

Miguel Guerrero... "I am thankful for inventors because without them we wouldn't have clothes, technology and schools."

Andrea Morales... "I am thankful for my health because it will help me live a long life."

Cole Chandler... "I am thankful for laughter because if you are sad, it will make you happy."

Kristen Orsak... "I am thankful for my theatre family because they make me laugh and make me happy."

Ella Shires... "I am thankful for my pets, they are wolf descendants, but they can do tricks."

Susana Jiminez... "I am thankful for my sisters. They are annoying but lovable. They help me when I'm down."

Alexandria Patton... "I am thankful for my abilities because some children don't get to do the things I am able to do."

Tanya Santana... "I am thankful for my cats because I have something to play around with."

Tianna Williams... "I am thankful for my friends because they comfort me and are there for me."

Benjamin Garcia... "I am thankful to be a Roughrider! Go Riders."

Have a happy, blessed Thanksgiving!

CMS Supports CHS X-Country



CMS' plans to cheer on the CHS Cross Country Team as they headed to state were dashed due to inclement weather. We wanted the boys to know we were cheering them on and wishing them the best as they headed to compete on state level. We are proud of the Cross Country team and coach.

