



THE POLO R-VII SCHOOL DISTRICT PANTHER PRIDE

January 2012

Volume 7, Issue 5

February Activities

- 1 - Youth WR practice 5:30-8:30
 - Spelling Bee Grades 5-8 1:20 pm in Gym
- 2 - V/JV WR @ Hamilton 5:30 pm
 - VBB vs. Hamilton 6 pm
 - JH CRBC practice 3:15- 5 pm
- 4 - Polo Youth WR Tourney
- 6 - Late Start 10:20 am
 - JV BB @ Maysville 6 pm
 - Youth WR practice 5:30-8:30 pm
 - MS Academic Team @ Hamilton 4 pm
- 7 - V BB vs. Stanberry 6 pm
 - JH CRBC practice 3:15 -5
- 8 - FFA Area Proficiency Awards @ Chillicothe 4:30 pm
 - Youth WR practice 5:30-8:30 pm
- 9 - Caldwell County Spelling Bee in Gym 7 pm
- 10- V WR Districts @ Lexington 6 pm
 - V BB @ Worth Co. 6 pm
 - JH CRBC practice 3:15-5 pm
- 11- JH CRBC games 8-4
 - Richmond MS Music Contest
- 13- Youth WR practice 5:30-8:30
 - MS Academic Team @ Cameron 4 pm
- 14- V BB @ King City 6 pm
 - K-4 Valentine Parties 2 pm
 - JH CRBC practice 3:15-5 pm
- 15- Jump Rope for Heart in HS Gym 5:30-7 pm
 - Youth WR practice 5:30-8:30 pm
- 16- K-6 Father/Daughter Date Night 6:30-7:30 pm
- 17- V BB vs. Maysville 6 pm
 - JH CRBC practice 3:15-5 pm
- 20- No School - President's Day
- 21- V/JV vs. Lathrop 5 pm
 - PTO Book Fair thru 24th in Multi
 - FBLA District Contest @ NCMC in Trenton
- 22- Youth WR practice 5:30-8:30 pm
- 24- V/JV vs. Winston 5 pm
- 27- V BB District Tourney TBA
 - Youth WR practice 5:30-8:30 pm
- 29- Youth WR practice 5:30-8:30 pm

From the Elementary Office

by Beverly Deis
Elem. Principal

What a difference a year makes! The weather is just the opposite of last year. Yes, it is cold, but at least the playground is not covered in snow - or at least not yet! We do go outside for recess when appropriate so please continue to send clothing for your child(ren) for inside and outside recess.

Now that we are in the second semester of school, students really have to "buckle down" on their attitude and on their assignments. We will be taking the MAP test in April and we need the elementary students to perform the very best they can so the school can meet the state and federal requirements. We have smart students at Polo Elementary and the test is the way students can "show what they know." Teachers in the elementary classrooms use supplemental resources such as "Buckle Down" and "Study Island" to help prepare students for the upcoming MAP tests and the upcoming Stanford tests. Study Island is available on the web for you to use at home with your child too! Have you tried it yet? If not, you might have your child walk you through the "Island."

The Parental Involvement Committee has a few parental involvement activities planned for the upcoming months. First, Polo Elementary will host a Father-Daughter Date Night on February 16 with pictures, dancing, games and fun! Next, the Mothers get to come with their sons for Sundaes-t Night on March 8 and this night involves homemade sundaes, pictures, games and fun! We will also have our annual MAP Parent Involvement Day for grades 3-6 on Friday, March 23 at 2:00 pm. Individual classroom teachers will be sending home more information about this day. Please mark your calendar for these special activities and plan on attending if at all possible. These are great opportunities for parents and guardians to have "hands on" experience while spending quality time with your child.

The character education word for the month of February is "courtesy." This means you are polite and considerate. Courtesy is something we all need to show others on a daily basis. Please discuss being courteous to others with your child(ren) as we will be discussing courtesy at school throughout the month of February.

Thank you for filling out the booklets for QSP. We will soon be receiving similar booklets for Time for Kids. Your participation with this helps our school receive items for elementary including "Time for Kids" for all K-6 students. Time for Kids is a great supplemental resource used by the teachers. It won't take much of your time and your child(ren) will receive a special prize just for turning in the completed booklet. Please help our school receive "Time for Kids."

The PTO will be having a Book Fair the week of February 21. Please help support our school and our PTO with your attendance at the Book Fair.

The local Polo R-VII Spelling Bee will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 1 in the HS gym. This is open for students in grades 5-8. The Caldwell County Spelling Bee will be held on Thursday, February 9 at 7:00 pm in the Polo HS gym. Please come and support our local spellers.

Other upcoming dates include:

- Feb. 1 - Polo Spelling Bee
- Feb. 7 - PAT Screening
- Feb. 9 - County Spelling Bee (7:00 pm)
- Feb. 14 - Valentine's Day parties for PK-4, 2:00-3:00 pm
- Feb. 15 - Jump Rope for Heart (5:30-7:30)
- Feb. 16 - Father/Daughter Date Night
- Feb. 20 - No School
- Feb. 21 - PTO Book Fair begins
- Feb. 23 - Family Night at the Book Fair
- Feb. 27 - PAT Screening
- Mar. 8 - Mother Son Sundae-t Night
- Mar. 9 - Group Picture Day

Also, remember to mark your calendars for the upcoming Spring MAP tests to begin on April 11. Be sure to talk with individual teachers on date and time specifics. These tests are just one way our students show "Panther Pride in Excellence and Performance."

For All Your
School Information
Needs and Wants
VISIT OUR
SCHOOL WEBSITE
polo.k12.mo.us

Perfect Attendance 2nd Quarter

Aaron Bowman, Tyler Carter, Joshua Caskie, Keith Farmer, Mya Heil, Cooper Jay, Olivia Wolf, Cheyanne Abeln, Ty Claypole, Trevor Foster, Jayden Gurwell, Jade Misel, Josie Misel, Gavin Norton, Ariel Pilger, Bobby Snapp, Jace Bolling, Robert Bowman, Jordan Carter, Shea Hall, Chaz Morrison, Kaydence Norton, Kenny Oswald, Collin Pieper, Jenee Qualman, Evan Scott, Katelin Vaught, Corryn Baird, Cody Blackwell, Brooke Boydston, Kara Claypole, Mallory Clevenger, Lillian Cooper, Mariah Dick, Marisa Fickess, Ashley Foster, Thomas Kepler, Maggie Martin, Dillan McKee, Jacob Sales, Camryn Tomlinson, Earl Cory, Laney Durbin, Dylan Frazier, Joel Heil, Jacob Hurd, Katherine Nichols, Ayrika Ross, Colt Smith, Madison Baughman, Mitchell Berndt, Dylan Brower, Chance Carr, Mariah Clevenger, Christopher Dick, Jared Robison, Harley Sammons, Luke Cory, Sierra Dye, Dalton Frazier, Katelynn Minnis, Nathan Minnis, Dylan Sales.

POLO MS Perfect Attendance 2011-12 First Semester

Matthew Attebery	Shelby Bates
Jorgia Cory	Cheyenne Dye
Jennifer Farmer	Emily Fickess
Danielle Gurwell	Ryan Henry
Joely Hicks	Brandon Hubbard
Erik Johnson	Jenna Johnson
Josh Kesler	Michael Leamer
Jake Leonard	Douglas Lindaman
Gunnar Martin	Austin McKinzie
Alex Myers	Zachery Phillips
Taylor Rash	Parker Smith
Adrianna Staus	Shelby Stump
Lisa Tackett	Kalee Tarwater
Billie Thompson	Ryan Virtue
Gavin Walker	Alex Way
Katy Woodfin	

POLO HS Perfect Attendance 2011-12 First Semester

Ashley Allen	Danielle Allen	Corinne Attebery
Gage Aubrey	Blake Bates	Cati Boruch
Daniel Boruch	Austin Bowley	Ben Branstietter
Sammie Copeland	Mattie Curp	Alexandra Diaz
Kylee Eaglen	Jimmy Endsley	Jessica Farmer
Tyler Feil	Emily Fickess	Monica Fickess
Zach Freeman	Dakota Generaux	Haley Harrison
Jake Hicks	Justin Hicks	Dillon James
Doug Jenkins	Alex Johnson	Jenna Johnson
Jordan Kilmer	Megan Knutter	Megan LaMarr
Brandon Latimer	Harley Martin	Wiley Martin
Brady McCaskey	Dalton Mills	Mason Misel
Maisson Phelps	Jack Pile	Tabitha Poje
Carlie Powers	Rhea Rardon	Tristan Rardon
Adriana Segar	Ashton Shelton	Jonathan Shelton
Avery Snodgrass	Megan Standley	Jonna Stottlemeyre
Emily Templeton	Sarah Thomas	Emma Tormey
Sayyadina Uehling	Brandee Vick	Anna Way
Jed Wilson	Sean Winget	

POLO MS Honor Roll First Semester 2011-12

"A" Honor Roll

Emily Fickess	Parker Smith	Jennifer Farmer
Billie Thompson		Averie Heil

"B" Honor Roll

Jesse Vaughan	Jenna Johnson	Erik Johnson
Danielle Gurwell	Brittany Sheppard	Gage Aubrey
Ashley Harris	Adrianna Staus	Shelby Bates
Mikayla Reavis	Josh Kesler	Lisa Tackett
Cheyenne Dye	Austin McKinzie	Alex Way
Alex Jensen	Morgan Berndt	Aerial Eggers
Derek Faulkner	Katy Woodfin	Tiffany Pimentel
Joely Hicks	Kalee Tarwater	Shelby Stump
Taylor Rash	Jake Leonard	Ryan Henry
Douglas Lindaman	Ryan Virtue	Matthew Attebery
	Alex Myers	

POLO HS Honor Roll First Semester 2011-12

"A" Honor Roll

Mason Misel	Mattie Curp	Jessica Farmer
Jake Hicks	Adriana Segar	Alex Johnson
Dylan Fry	Ashley Adams	Jack Pile
Kelsey Gallion	Tyler Feil	Dalton Mills
Sammie Copeland	Avery Snodgrass	Zach Freeman
Tony Utt	Monica Fickess	Missy Cawthon
Brady McCaskey	Duncan Parker	Corinne Attebery
Samantha Smith	Dillon James	Carlie Powers
Sarah Thomas	Emily Templeton	Haley Harrison
Ashton Shelton	Jonna Stottlemeyre	Katie Garrett

"B" Honor Roll

Tristan Rardon	Brandon Latimer	Cati Boruch
Skylar Howe	Sidney Copeland	Wiley Martin
Brooke Jones	Matthew Ham	Jennifer Adams
Jennifer Rash	Jed Wilson	Alisha Ross
Alex Diaz	Aimee Walker	Loren Wagner
Tyler James	Megan Standley	Houston Stone
Stephanie Generaux	Tabitha Poje	Kylee Eaglen
Blake Bates	Anna Way	Tiffany Farrar
Logan Stump	Erica Taylor	Doug Jenkins
Brandee Vick	Justin Hicks	Savannah Cline
Linda Mynatt	Rhea Rardon	Jordyn Phillips
Darrek Tate	Daniel Boruch	Alec Eggers
Jordan Kilmer	Michael Clark	Alex Gaines
Justin Hazelman	Kadee Phillips	Landyn Street
Sayyadina Uehling	Megan LaMarr	Emma Tormey
Toby Poje		Jennifer Lindaman

Panther Card Trip 2011-12 First Semester

7-8 Middle School

Matthew Attebery	Shelby Bates
Cheyenne Dye	Jennifer Farmer
Emily Fickess	Danielle Gurwell
Ryan Henry	Joely Hicks
Erik Johnson	Jenna Johnson
Josh Kesler	Jake Leonard
Douglas Lindaman	Alex Myers
Taylor Rash	Parker Smith
Adrianna Staus	Shelby Stump
Lisa Tackett	Kalee Tarwater
Billie Thompson	Jesse Vaughan
Ryan Virtue	Alex Way
Katy Woodfin	

9-12 High School

Corinne Attebery	Blake Bates	Cati Boruch
Daniel Boruch	Sammie Jo Copeland	Mattie Curp
Alex Diaz	Kylee Eaglen	Jessica Farmer
Tyler Feil	Monica Fickess	Zach Freeman
Haley Harrison	Jacob Hicks	Justin Hicks
Dillon James	Doug Jenkins	Alex Johnson
Jordan Kilmer	Megan LaMarr	Brandon Latimer
Wiley Martin	Brady McCaskey	Dalton Mills
Mason Misel	Jack Pile	Tabitha Poje
Carlie Powers	Rhea Rardon	Tristan Rardon
Adriana Segar	Ashton Shelton	Avery Snodgrass
Megan Standley	Jonna Stottlemyre	Landyn Street
Emily Templeton	Sarah Thomas	Emma Tormey
Sayyadina Uehling	Brandee Vick	Anna Way
Jed Wilson		

5th & 6th Grade Honor Roll

Students making the honor roll at Polo Middle School for the second quarter are: 5th Grade - A Honor Roll: Madison Baughman, Sommer Gurwell, Jared Robison. B Honor Roll: Hailey Boyle, Sierra Dye, Teresa Harris, Micheal Knotts, Teagan Logan, Cheyenne Martin, Andrew Sifford, Zachary Smith. 6th Grade - A Honor Roll: Megan Latimer, Matthew Vaughan. B Honor Roll: Alex Arthur, Mitchell Berndt, Dylan Brower, Mariah Clevenger, Shelby Copeland, Robbin Crawford, Clay Garton, Garion Hall, Kallie Heil, Steven Knotts, Nickolas Myers, Taylor Wagner, Makayla Wise.

Larkins to Advance to State



Congratulations to Kayla Larkins, 2nd grade, for receiving 1st place at the Northwest Regional Elks Lodge "Hoop Shoot"! Kayla made 13 free throws Saturday, January 7 at Cameron. She competed against 4 other girls in our region in the 8-9 year old group. Kayla will advance to the state level competition in St. Louis, Missouri, Saturday February 4th, 2012. We are very proud of you, Kayla, and good luck in St. Louis!

PREPARING FOR MAP

Every spring, students in grades 3-8 take the MAP Assessment. We are currently in the second semester of school and MAP testing is just around the corner. Below are some tips on how you can help your child perform well on the MAP Assessment.

Tip #1: Read, Read, Read!

Reading takes skill and practice. One of the best and simplest steps to improve the reading ability for children is to provide sustained periods of time for children to read.

Tip #2: Help your child to read like a writer.

Even in the early grades, children can begin to "get into the head" of the author. Reading improves a child's writing, and writing improves a child's reading.

Tip #3: Read a variety of books and magazines.

MAP Communication Arts test contains short stories, poems, dialogues, magazine articles, charts and tables. Children need to be able to read a wide variety of texts ranging from road signs to restaurant menus, comic books to classics, and from tennis shoe ads to computer manuals.

Tip #4: Build your child's reading stamina.

To build reading stamina, you may wish to encourage your child to increase gradually the amount of time she reads at one sitting. Include short breaks, such as stretching or closing her eyes for a minute. Set individual reading goals based upon doing the "best that she can."

Tip #5: Teach your child that visuals are part of the text.

Students are often required to gather information from photos, captions, drawings, charts, and graphs. You can help by teaching your child to look at all of these materials as part of the total text.

Tip #6: Help your child know how to use text-based support in written responses.

Most of the constructed-response items on the MAP assessments have two parts or require children to explain or show how they arrived at their answers. Children will receive only partial credit for answers to questions that are not supported with specific details or that do not contain an explanation.

Tip #7: Teach your child to preview the test before starting.

Planning the test time will allow your child to pace himself while he is working and decrease stress.

Tip #8: Teach your child to identify all parts of a question.

Teach your child to identify exactly what each question is asking. Some questions have multiple parts, which are often combined into a single sentence with a single question mark at the end. The child should underline each question word (who, what, when, where, why, how and any other word or phrase that indicates a question). By doing so, she can see if a question has multiple parts. Not answering all parts of a multi-part question is a common error.

Tip #9: Teach your child to paraphrase test items, turning questions into statements.

Teach your child to turn questions into statements. The child may underline the question words as described above, and then turn each part of the item into a statement. For example, the question, "Why did the main character play with the ball?" could be rephrased as "The main character played with the ball because ..." This practice allows the child to phrase the question in a way that makes the most sense to him. He is then ready to read the passage and look for answers.

Tip #10: What can a parent or guardian do to ensure successful assessment for their student?

- Be aware of the testing schedule.
- Be certain that your child has had adequate rest (this may mean getting them used to an earlier bed time before the week of testing).
- Be on time for school.
- Avoid scheduling appointments that can be done at a later date.
- Dress your child in layered clothing. This way, the child may add clothing to get warmer or remove some clothing to be cooler.
- If your school allows it, make sure your child has a book to read when the testing session is complete.
- Be certain that your child has two or more number two pencils (not mechanical).
- Have a positive attitude.

Adapted from the Practical Parenting Partnerships by Laura Schwab

VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest Winners Announced

The Patriot's Pen Competition is sponsored through the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies Auxiliary Post. Middle school students in Mrs. Erickson's Communication Arts classes were assigned an essay topic of "Are You Proud of Your Country?" This event was sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies Auxiliary Post 858 from Chillicothe, Missouri. Commander George

Laprade, Melvin Littrell, Ed Allender and Marjorie Murray of VFW Post 858 from Chillicothe presented the essay winners a certificate and cash. The winners from the seventh grade were: 1st - Ryan Henry, 2nd - Shelby Stump, and 3rd - Billie Kay Thompson. The winners from the eighth grade were: 1st - Jenna Johnson, 2nd - Mikayla Reavis, and 3rd - Brittany Sheppard. Students received cash in the amount of \$25 for first place, \$15 for second place and \$10 for third place. Congratulation to these students!

The winning essays are to follow. The third place essay in the seventh grade division was unavailable.

Are you proud of your country?

By: Ryan Henry

The right to bear arms is an american privilage I take part in, I enjoy many opportunities, and experience many freedoms. America stands for freedom. Brave men and women throughout history made sacrifices so that we can live free. Thomas Jefferson said, "No freeman shall ever be debarred the use of arms."

The Second Amendment of Constitution gives Americans the right to keep and bear arms. People use guns for sporting activities like hunting to provide food for their families. Target competitions bring family and friends together. Many families spend quality time together at the firing range and while hunting. Americans also have the right to bear arms for personal protection. Sadly, many people die from the misuse of guns.

Immigrant workers still call America the "land of opportunity". One such opportunity my country shows begains with owing a home or a car. Another opportunity is being able to choose what kind of job to have. The best opportunity is that all children between the age of five and eighteen can get a public education. Children in some countries never have an education.

Americans experience many freedoms because of the First Amendment to the Constitution. One of these freedoms is the Freedom of Speech. The Freedom of Speech is the right to talk freely if we have a different opinion about something that we do not believe in. Martin Luther King's speech "I have a Dream" is an excellent example of the Freedom of Speech. Another Freedom is the Freedom of Assembly. The Freedom of Assembly is the right to protest freely without penalty.

My country give me the right to bear arm that makes me proud of my country, and to enjoy many opportunities, and experience many freedoms. Sacrifices made by many men and women have made America the land of opportunity. If Americans study and work hard there are many opportunities waiting for them. Freedom is an honor all Americans can be proud of having. I am proud to be an American.



"Are you proud of your country?"

By: Shelby Stump

"Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no constitution, no law...no court can save it..." Learned Hand said this in his speech in 1944. My country makes me proud because of three reasons, constitution because freedoms, liberty because people govern themselves, and democracy for the right to vote for my leaders.

The United States constitution stands as a model of cooperative diplomacy. The constitution allows me to vote for my leaders and it protects my rights. I love freedom of speech, I love that because if I did not get that freedom I would not be able to do some of the things I do today, such as vote and speak my mind without people judging me on what I say, also I get the freedom of opening my own stores and buissness without anyone telling me I cannot.

Liberty, a moral and political principle and a right that identifies the condition in which citizens are able to govern themselves and to take responsibility for my own actions. Conception of liberty typically consists of the freedom of citizens from outside compulsion of coercion, also known as negative liberty. It can also be the quality of being free in my country, and I am lucky to have that because at the age of 12 I want to be free and not locked up like other third world countries.

The term democracy comes from the Greek language. Democracy, forms of government in which I get an equal say in decisions in their life. There are several types of democracies; some provide better representation and freedom than others do.

Most significantly, of all the protection my country gives me liberty so I can speak for myself, democracy gives me freedom, and last but not least a constitution so I can vote for my leaders. This, and more, has made me so proud of my country.

"Are you proud of your country?"

By: Jenna Johnson

My country makes me proud in many different ways. When England ruled over the Americas, we declared independence as one. All over this country, people help and support all that happens in here. Helping in disasters, fighting in wars for freedom, and our flag that shows what America stands for make me proud the most.

All around disasters strikes America. Whether hurricanes tore away cities, flooding ruined farmland, fires killing forest, and tornados taking homes from others. Disaster struck in Joplin, Missouri. A torndo tore through the city destroying homes, businesses, schools, and breaking the hearts of citizens. People came from all around the nation to help the city return to normal.

Also, soldiers help our country, but for freedom. Ready at all times, soldiers prepare to protect America when needed. Troops from around the country fight to keep the U.S. free, and protected from others. The military stand for Americas freedom, and fight for what right. From land, sea, and the sky, our soldiers watch over us like angels from heaven.

In addition, when soldiers go to war, their families raise the flag in pride to support their loved ones. Jesse Jackson once said, "Our flag is red, white and blue, but our nation is a rainbow- red, yellow, brown, black, and white- and we're all precious in God's sight." When America loses important people, families all around lower their flags at half-staff in honor of them. Our flag shows what we stand for as a country.

These make me proud of America the most. This land stands as one, always together. We will never go down without a fight. Here we will live as free citizens in this country for years on end. This country lives on as long as our soldiers protect us, and the flag still flies.



"Are You Proud Of Your Country?"

By: Mikayla Reavis

George Washington, the first president of the United States, once said, "By heritage and by choice, the United States of America will make that stand!" George Washington showed pride for his country and I follow his opinion! The military, respect for the flag, and several freedoms make me proud of my country!

To begin with, the military helps keep everyone and myself safe and free. They risk their life's everyday to keep the people of the USA safe. I think that everyone should appreciate the Army and Marines more because of what they do. Many lose their life's to protect the United States of America. The sons and daughters of some families fight for America, and they love them for that.

I show much respect for my country because I respect the flag. My school and the students say the Pledge of Allegiance once a week. The band also plays the "Star Spangled Banner" at football games and basketball games. Everyone always takes their right hand, puts it over their heart and hums along to the beautiful tune at the games. People do this to respect the flag.

Everyone shares the freedoms like, freedom of speech, freedom of religion and freedom of press. The military helped everyone gain these freedoms. Freedom of speech: Anyone states their own opinion and speaks their mind. Press: Newspaper/magazine writers publish anything; it needs to show some type of proof. Freedom of religion: Anybody in America believes in any religion that they want to. Many more freedoms than just those three show that I represent pride for my country.

In conclusion, everything that I mentioned makes me very proud of my country today. Living in the United States make me glad because of the freedom, my respect for the flag and that the military helped everybody gain the freedom everybody shares today. I show much pride for my country because of these many ideas. Every citizen of America shares the freedoms. I answer yes, to the question "Are you proud of your county?"

"Are You Proud of Your Country?"

By: Brittany Sheppard

I agree with what Garth Brookes once what said "Stand straight, walk proud, have a little faith." Americans and I live by this quote daily. The great people of America fight for me, make great accomplishments, and show pride by playing "The National Anthem" at most sporting events. All of this and more makes made me proud to be an American.

I stand straight and walk proud when I think of the many people that die fighting for our country. Right now, approximately 170,000 men and women fight for this country so you and I may have our freedom. Sadly, many people die when they go to war to protect our country, and pride over comes me when I think of how the many men and women put their life on the line for me. Yet I grieve when I think of the devastation this causes families.

I have faith that my country will help those in need, no matter how near or far we have to travel to do it. Americans are known for their helping hands, dedication, and devotion to helping any cause. My country helps bring peace to other countries and helps clean up and rebuild after natural disasters. Americans have made many great accomplishments and as a country, we have overcome the Great Depression, war, and even terrorism. The devotion that my country and I show makes me want to yell at the top of my lungs that I am proud to be an American!

I am proud to know that when I run into a stadium; I will hear the band playing "The National Anthem." It saddens me to know that at some sporting events people do not have the respect or time to play "The National Anthem." I know when I hear my band playing "The National Anthem", we are doing it to show respect, dedication and devotion to my country. This and more has made me say, I am proud enough that I sing, listen to and play Americas Theme Song.

For me to say I am proud of my country understates my pride. The great people of America fight for me, make great accomplishments, and show pride by playing "The National Anthem" at most sporting events. All of this and more makes made me proud to be an American.

Junior Varsity Brings Home Plaque

Polo Lady Panther JV took second place in Gallatin's Junior Varsity Tournament on Saturday, January 21. They played the South Harrison bulldogson Thursday and came out with a victory of 50-27. They faced off against Trenton bulldogs on Saturday and came up short but brought home a 2nd place plaque.



Back row: Tiffany Farrar, Jessica Farmer, Danielle Allen, Adriana Segar

Front: Assistant Coach Wendy Howell, Brooke Jones, Monica Fickess, Anna Way, Megan Knutter, Emily Busick, Head Coach Greg Keith.

Polo Winter Concert

Polo School district held their annual Winter Concert in December which included grades Preschool - 12th grades. The concert was under the direction of High School Band Director Andrew Dunker and Vocal Director Andrea Henderson. Jane Shelton played accompanist for the evening. Polo's Jazz Band comprised of Monica Fickess, Daniel Boruch, Ashley Adams, Sidney Copeland, Doug Jenkins, Haley Harrison, Duncan Parker, Jesse Vaughan and Sarah Thomas, performed several songs after each of the preschool and elementary classes sang several songs, played musical instruments and danced to a few Christmas songs. The High school band, under the direction of Mr. Dunker also performed DECK THE HALLS AND FIRST NOEL. The High School Band and the Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Andrea Henderson, performed and sang Hallelujah to close the evening.



Fickess and Farmer Polo's MSHSAA Essay Contest Winners



Polo School District's Middle School Language Arts teacher, Denise Erickson has asked her seventh and eighth grade students for the past 11 years to participate in the MSHSAA Essay Competition on "Sportsmanship". The students are asked to write a 250-300 word essay on the topic: "THINGS I WISH EVERYONE KNEW ON WHY WE

PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES?" After the students completed their essays at the Polo school level, a committee judged the papers on: writing style, overall content, flow, examples, spelling, length, lead paragraph, summary paragraph, and punctuation. Eighth grader Emily Fickess was selected as the top MSHSAA Essay Contest winner at Polo and will be moving on to the District level. Seventh grader Jennifer Farmer is the runner-up for Polo. Both girls will receive a certificate from MSHSAA for their efforts. Each of the eight winning district essays will be published on the MSHSAA website. The district winners will then qualify for the state judging level and a chance

Father-Daughter Date Night

The Parent Involvement Committee is hosting a Father-Daughter Date Night for all young ladies in grade K-6 with their fathers or "favorite male guardian" such as an uncle, grandpa, etc. Father-Daughter Date Night will be on February 16th from 7PM-8PM at Polo Elementary School. There will be a photographer to take pictures of you and your date from 6:30PM-7:00PM. Photo packages will be available for purchase. Come join us for a night full of dancing, games, cookie decorating, and lots of fun! Mark your calendars now for this event and be looking for the invitations to be sent home with your student. We look forward to seeing you at Father-Daughter Date Night on February 16th!

Mark Your Calendars!

Mothers and sons, mark your calendar for March 8th for Mother-Son "Son" date! The Parent Involvement Committee will be hosting an evening of fun for the young men in grade K-6 and their mothers or "favorite female guardian" such as an aunt, grandmother, etc. More information to come about this event, but mark your calendars now!

915 Douglas
St. Joseph, MO 64505
Phone: (816) 364-FOOD (3663)
Fax: (816) 364-4404
Web: www.OurCommunityFoodBank.org



Dear Family:

A USDA grant has been awarded to Second Harvest Community Food Bank to start the Close the Gap program. The purpose of the program is to help provide better access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP formerly called food stamps). I am very excited to be able to service your county on this new project. I will provide assistance in the initial application process for SNAP benefits. As your Food Security Coordinator, I can field your questions and help complete required paperwork/gather supporting documents. I will then submit the application packets directly to the local SNAP office.

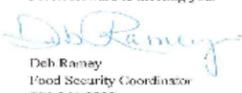
USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) estimates that for each \$1 billion of retail sales it will generate \$340 million in farm production, and 3,300 farm jobs. With each additional \$5 of SNAP benefits are spent in your area it can generate \$9 in total economic activity.

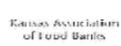
SNAP is meant to help families when they are experiencing economic challenges or going through a difficult financial situation. Many recipients are employed full-time but need extra help to afford more nutritious foods and not have to make difficult choices. SNAP benefits are accepted at most grocery stores and other retail places. Now SNAP benefits are issued on an EBT card. Gone are the old food coupons. Also there are very few foods that you cannot buy with the SNAP benefits.

With our new program the following issues can be a thing of the past:

- Don't assume that you are ineligible due to income, the guidelines have changed.
- If you have had a previous bad experience dealing with the Division of Social Services office or staff, you will not have to see them.
- The "fishbowl" of a small town of everyone knowing can be eliminated.
 - An appointment can be scheduled at a neutral location.

I look forward to meeting you.


Deb Ramey
Food Security Coordinator
816 344 2808
dramey@ourcommunityfoodbank.org

A member of:   

Elementary Counseling News

The Character Word of the Month for January was Trustworthiness. Students learned that this means to be honest; don't deceive, cheat, or steal; be reliable; be loyal; build a good reputation; and have the courage to do the right thing. Students in grades K-4 learned about building Towers of Trust. Students brainstormed different ways that they could show others that they were trustworthy. After drawing examples of being trustworthy, students shared their example with the class and added a brick to our tower. Once all the students contributed to our tower of trust, Mrs. Arway asked what they thought would happen to their tower if they did something that would break the trust they had built. As students gave examples, Mrs. Arway took bricks away from the tower until the tower fell down. Students learned that it can take time to build a trust with others, but does not take a lot of time for that trust to fall down. Mrs. Arway challenged the students to always think of ways that they can work every day to build trust with family, friends, teachers, and other important people in their life.

The 5th and 6th grade students participated in an obstacle course to illustrate the importance being trustworthy. An obstacle course, complete with "traps" was set up for the students to walk through. Students were paired up with a classmate and one person was blindfolded. The other person, the "guide", had to use words to instruct their blindfolded partner through the obstacle course. The "guide" had to provide instructions to their partner to pick up blocks at each of the stations without getting caught in the "trap." Once they reached the end of the course, partners switched roles and went back through the course. Students learned that at the beginning, it was difficult to trust their partner, but by the end, the trust they had in their guide grew. Mrs. Arway and Mrs. Ogden helped the students brainstorm situations that this might resemble in their own life now and what it might look like in the future. Students were encouraged to always think about the obstacle course they went through and to remember the importance of building trust with others.

**After Prom Fundraiser
Spaghetti Dinner
Saturday, March 10,
2012
5-8 pm
Prairie Ridge Church**

POLO PARENTS AS TEACHERS FREE SCREENING!

WHEN: Tuesday February 7th and Monday February 27th

WHERE: Polo Elementary School, 300 School Street

AGES: Children should be between three months and five years of age

CONTACT: Call Jamy Aubrey at Polo Elementary to sign up for a screening time.

**The screening will consist of Health, Hearing, and Vision as well as a Developmental Screening Questionnaire.

*Every family that participates will be entered into a drawing for a GIFT CARD!

Polo R-7 Schools
300 W. School St.
Polo, Mo 64671
660-354-2200



Child Development Class

By Ashley Allen

On Friday, January 6th, the student in Mrs. Phares' third hour Child development class started going to the preschool to learn more about that age of children. The students in the class are juniors Ashley Allen, Megan Knutter, Camie Smith, and Ashley Rowlands; sophomores Kaitlyn Adams and Amber Adams. On their first visit to the preschool, the high school students learned all the Preschool students' names and then in turn introduced themselves. The second trip was on the 13th; both sets of students were more comfortable with each other. They painted pictures, read books together, played with blocks and many other activities. On Friday the 20th, the class returned and was excited to see all the preschoolers.

I asked some of the students what they like most about going to the preschool and this is how they responded. Megan Knutter said "she likes to play with them and see them smile and laugh." Also Amber Adams said that the "preschool kids are cute and fun to play with." The students really enjoy going to the preschool on Fridays and hope to continue this activity.

Perfect Attendance Drawing

Winners of the second quarter perfect attendance drawing at Polo R-VII School were Kenny Oswald, elementary; Erik Johnson, middle school; and Brandon Latimer, high school. Each student received a gift card to Wal-mart.

Turkey Bowl Results Are In!!!

By: Rhea Rardon

FCCLA sponsored the Turkey Bowl on Wednesday, December 21, 2011. You had to bring in 2 canned goods or \$1 to attend. The FCCLA members that helped with the activity were Austin Bowley, Dillon James, Justin Hicks, Landyn Street, Rhea Rardon, Haley Harrison, Avery Snodgrass, Sammie Jo Copeland, Justin Hazelman, Zach Freeman, Alex Gaines, and Duncan Parker. All of them had a job to do that were either setting up pins, taking the money or cans, resacking the turkey, or doing the scoreboard. Each class was paired up beginning with the 5th and 6th, 7th and 8th, then 9th and 10th. Only one class could win out of each pair. 6th grade won as a group and the bowlers were John Bost, Matt Vaughan, Teagan Logan, and Makenzie Jay. 7th grade won and their players were Shelby Stump, Jake Leonard, Dakota Martin, and Katie Woodfin. 10th grade won and their players were Tabitha Poje, Kylee Eaglen, Tyler James, and Logan Stump. The winners received a prize. The Turkey Bowl raised \$109 and 189 cans that were donated to Christ's Cupboard Food Pantry to help needy families in the community.

Pre-K/Kindergarten Parent's Meeting

Mark your calendars! There will be a meeting on March 1st for all parents with children that will enter Pre-School or Kindergarten next school year (2012-2013). The meeting will be held in the Library at Polo R-VII Schools. Babysitting will be provided. Dinner will be served at 6:30PM with the meeting from 7PM-8PM. Please RSVP if you are planning on attending. Contact Polo Elementary School at 660-354-2200.



I N F O R M A T I O N

February 2012 Menu

Menu is subject to change.
Each meal includes one milk.
Lemonade and orange juice are available for 30¢.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1 Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Chicken Quesadilla, Corn, Fruit	2 French Toast, Sausage, Fruit Hamburger on Bun, Curley Fries, Fruit	3 Donut, Ham, Fruit Grilled Cheese, Soup, Fruit
6 No Breakfast – Late Start Corndog or Burrito, Pinto Beans, Fruit	7 Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Pizza, Corn, Fruit	8 Pop Tart, Ham, Fruit Chicken Pattie on Bun, Glazed Carrots, Fruit	9 French Toast, Sausage, Fruit Meatball Sub, Green Beans, Fruit	10 Biscuit w/Sausage Gravy, Fruit Turkey on Bun, Slaw, Fruit
13 Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Chicken Fajita, Spanish Rice, Fruit	14 Pop Tart, Ham, Fruit Nachos, Refried Beans, Fruit	15 Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Wrapped Weiner, Baked Beans, Fruit	16 French Toast, Sausage, Fruit Chicken Nuggets, Corn, Fruit	17 Donut, Ham, Fruit Hamburger on Bun, French Fries, Fruit
20 No School – President's Day	21 Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Sweet & Sour Chicken, Oriental Vegetables, Fruit	22 Pop Tart, Ham, Fruit Grilled Cheese, Soup, Fruit	23 French Toast, Sausage, Fruit Ravioli, Green Beans, Fruit	24 Biscuit w/Sausage Gravy, Fruit Shrimp, Peas, Fruit
27 Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast Fruit Corndog Nuggets, Baked Beans, Fruit	28 Pop Tart, Ham, Fruit Chili, Carrot Sticks, Fruit	29 Hashbrown, Sausage, Toast, Fruit Beef Sticks, Mashed Potatoes, Fruit		

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February 2012 Activities Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 *Youth Wrestling Practice 5:30-8:30 p.m. *Spelling Bee Grades 5-8 in Gym 1:20 p.m.	2 *Varsity/JV Wrestling @ Hamilton 5:30 p.m. *Varsity BB vs. Hamilton 6:00 p.m. *JH CRBC Practice 3:15-5:00 p.m.		4 *Polo Youth Wrestling Tournament *GRC Honor Band Concert 5 pm @ Bethany
5	6 *Late Start 10:20 am *JV BB @ Maysville 6:00 p.m. *Youth Wrestling Practice 5:30-8:30 p.m. *MS Academic Team @ Hamilton 4:00 p.m.	7 *Varsity BB vs. Stanberry 6:00 p.m. *JH CRBC Practice 3:15-5:00 p.m.	8 *FFA Area Proficiency Award @ Chillicothe 4:30 p.m. *Youth Wrestling Practice 5:30-8:30 p.m.	9 *Caldwell County Spelling Bee in Gym 7:00 p.m.	10 *Varsity Wrestling Districts @ Lexington 6:00 p.m. *Varsity BB @ Worthy County 6:00 p.m. *JH CRBC Practice 3:15-5:00 p.m.	11 *JH CRBC Games 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. *Richmond MS Music Contest in a.m.
12	13 *Youth Wrestling Practice 5:30-8:30 p.m. *MS Academic Team @ Cameron 4:00 p.m. *5th/6th Grade BB @ Gallatin 6:00 p.m.	14 *Varsity BB @ King City 6:00 p.m. *K-4 th Valentines Parties 2:00 p.m. *JH CRBC Practice 3:15-5:00 p.m.	15 *Jump Rope for Heart in HS Gym 5:30-7:00 p.m. *Youth Wrestling Practice 5:30-8:30 p.m. *Tech Center Recruiting visit @ 9:15 a.m. in FACS Room	16 *K-6 Father-Daughter Date Night 6:30-7:30 p.m.	17 *Varsity BB vs. Maysville 6:00 p.m. *JH CRBC Practice 3:15-5:00 p.m.	18
19	20 *No School- Presidents Day	21 *Varsity/JV vs. Lathrop 5:00 p.m. Senior Night * PTO Book Fair thru 24 th in Multi *FBLA Districts Contest @ NCMC in Trenton	22 *Youth Wrestling Practice 5:30-8:30 p.m. *BOE Meeting 7:00 p.m.	23 *5th/6th Grade BB vs. Gallatin 6:00 p.m.	24 *Varsity/JV vs. Winston 5:00 p.m.	25
26	27 *Varsity BB District Tournament TBA *Youth Wrestling Practice 5:30-8:30 p.m.	28	29 *Youth Wrestling Practice 5:30-8:30 p.m.			