



The Paw

SY 12-13 Volume 20
21 December 2012

"Together we can make a difference."

www.stut-esb.eu.dodea.edu

Vision: To inspire curiosity and ambition for life-long learning in a supportive environment for all students.

Mission: Provide an exemplary education that inspires and prepares all DoDEA students for success in a dynamic, global environment.

Goal #1 All students will demonstrate a proficiency in writing strategies in the English Language Arts.

Goal #2 All students will demonstrate a proficiency in communication in Mathematics.

MS Counselor Change

Mrs. Jennifer Kukes, 7th & 8th grade counselor, has made the decision to move back to the US to rejoin her family and has left our school. We are currently recruiting for a new counselor and hope to have one in place by the end of January. Ms. Mary Supik, 5th & 6th grade counselor & 6th grade AVID teacher, will be able to provide interim services until the new counselor has been hired and is in place. She can be contacted at mary.supik@eu.dodea.edu.

Student Store

The Student Store will be open every "B" Day from 1:45-2:15 for the Elementary Students. It will also be open on Tuesday's and Thursday's from 12:30-12:50. The store is located in the Cafeteria. Stop by and check out our selection of wonderful items for sale. Thank you on behalf of the MS Student Council!

Yearbook Ordering

Now is the time to order your copy of the 2012-2013 Boeblingen Elementary Middle School Yearbook. Yearbooks can be purchased now for the low price of \$35.00. You can order your book online at www.community.pictavo.com or you can pay by check, or cash, to Mr. Lloyd in room 413b. When paying by check, make sure you include your student's name and homeroom/advisory teacher's name on your check. Please make checks payable to BEMS SAF.

Lunch Bunch

Middle School Honor Roll students received certificates and a Lunch Bunch Pass giving students the opportunity to go to the food court for lunch. Lunch Bunch Passes are dependent on Honor Roll level, the higher the Honor Roll, the more opportunities to attend the lunch bunch. Dates are listed below, these will be supervised lunches. Students *must* have their Lunch Bunch pass to attend.

Dates & Locations:

Tuesday 8 January

Tuesday 15 January

Friday 18 January

Tuesday 22 January

Tuesday 29 January

Winter Weather

Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather with coats, hats, scarves, and gloves. Students will go outside for lunchtime recess everyday possible. Help us keep our student population healthy and warm! Check out the following website for updates on school closures or delays: http://www.imcom-europe.army.mil/webs/sites/staff_org/safety/road_conditions/index.asp

GradeSpeed

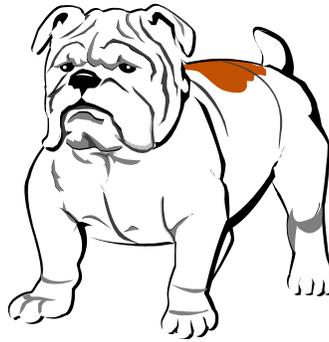
GradeSpeed is our on-line grade book program that allows parents to see how their students are performing at school. By accessing GradeSpeed on a regular basis you will be able to see the growth your student is making at school and avoid any "surprises" when it's report card time. GradeSpeed is available for all students in grades 4 – 8, please follow this link for access:

<https://dodea.gradespeed.net/pc/Default.aspx>

Upcoming Events

24 December	Begin Winter Break
7 January	Instruction Resumes from Winter Break
11 January	Professional Development Day – No School for Students
21 January	Martin Luther King Holiday – No School for Students
24 January	End of Second Quarter
25 January	Record Keeping Day – No School for Students
Monday, February 18	Presidents' Day - Federal Holiday
Friday, February 1	BEMS (ES Only) Parent/Teacher Conferences
March 11-15	TerraNova Testing
Thursday, April 4	End of Third Quarter (48 days of classroom instruction)
Friday, April 5	No school for students - teacher work day
Monday, April 8	Begin Spring Recess
Monday, April 15	Instruction Resumes - Begin Fourth Quarter
Friday, April 19	BEMS (Both ES/MS) Parent Teacher Conferences
Monday, May 27	Memorial Day - Federal Holiday
Thursday, June 13	End Fourth Quarter & Second Semester (43 Days of instruction)
Friday, June 14	No school for students - teacher work day

Böblingen Middle School 8th Grade Newsletter



Böblingen School Improvement Goals

- > A 3% increase in K-8 students will demonstrate proficiency in writing strategies in English/Language Arts as measured by Terra Nova tests and common assessments.
- > A 3% increase of K-8 students will demonstrate proficiency Mathematics Communication as measured by Terra Nova tests and common assessments.

In General

The 8th Grade team wishes to thank our students, parents, and community for such a great year with the highlight of BEMS being named as a 2012 Depart-



ment of Education Blue Ribbon school. We look forward to another great year for 2012 with our school certification taking place in February. Look for updates on this process as we get closer to the dates. Till then, Happy Holidays and Merry New Year!



Please be safe on New Years with all the fireworks in the local area!

8th Grade Science—Mr. Harrison



We completed our study of Earth Science, with the bonus of using the StarLab in Layered Earth mode—a brand new program provided by DoDEA. Test grades turned out very well and we are doing two quick new units, the first is about conserving resources and the second is about biological adaptations over time. The units cover parts of DoDEA standards 8Sb and 8Sc. We will then *launch* ourselves into a study of space: standard 8Sd.

AVID 8—Ms. Krunich We recently completed a team building exercise in which each team was given - 10 Life Savers; 10 toothpicks; 10 straws; 1 piece of copy paper; 1 pair of scissors; a piece of masking tape. **The mission:** Construct a go-cart with two axels and a minimum of four wheels. A fan will be used to see which go-cart travels the greatest distance. Students enjoyed the collaborative exercise, while learning how to communicate and work together. See pictures on page 2!

Math- Ms. Forster

In Chapter 4, your child will be learning about ratios, rates and proportions . Students should be able to tell whether ratios are proportional or non proportional. We will be exploring functions as they relate to linear equations. Also included in this chapter are a review of Polygons, parallel lines as they refer to polygons, Dilation, translation and rotation.

If your child has any questions concerning his/her math homework remember that you can access the information on my website at <http://www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/AForster/> .



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German I and II – Frau Chalkley

German I: The students are working on a presentation on Christmas traditions in the German speaking countries.

German II: The students have been learning about personal pronouns. They are using vocabulary to describe their homes and rooms. They are creating a floor plan of their future college apartment.

All German classes enjoyed the fieldtrip to Esslingen. Thanks to all chaperones who supported the learning experience.



Algebra— Mr. Harrison



We continue our study of linear equations with a quick and easy chapter on inequalities and then will move into solving systems of equations. We will enrich our understanding by using the novel “The City of Ember” to pull out some real world problems. This will cover standard A1.3 In addition to the publisher resources at www.classzone.com, tutoring help is available in Ms. Forster’s room each Monday and Wednesday and practice via IXL.

Health – Ms. Mertens

Our students are studying advertising strategies, tips on being a wise consumer, influences that lure you to buy products, comparison shopping and the importance of keeping up with health care current information, products and services. They are also analyzing generic and name brand products and learning about consumer protection.



Spanish – Mr. Garcia

Spanish I students have been busy learning about foods. They have been learning the appropriate vocabulary and grammar that allows them to speak and communicate in Spanish using what they know. They are distinguishing between breakfast items and lunch items. They are also learning how to conjugate er and ir verbs. It has been a very busy quarter for them. I wish them and their families a wonderful Holiday Season.



Spanish II students have been learning about reflexive verbs along with preterite verbs. They have been learning to express themselves in writing using these types of verbs. This can be a challenging experience for those students learning a second language, but my group have risen to the challenge and are doing very well. I again with them and their families a wonderful Holiday Season. Hasta el Año Nuevo.

AVID 8—Ms. Krunich



Students build and test Life Saver go-carts as part of an AVID team building experience.



Student work for Humanities 8—Art

Mrs. Lofgren

In US History students are discussing the long-term and short term causes of the American Revolution. After conclusion of the Revolution

we will be moving straight into the development of our first national government under the Articles of Confederation. Students are examining the lessons learned from Great Britain, while also making a critical examination of the true effectiveness of the government established by the Articles of Confederation. Upon completion of the semester exam, we will be moving forward examining the government established by the United States Constitution. Students will be working extensively with the actual Constitution and learning the nuts and bolts of how our national government works. As a reminder, the semester exam will be January 23rd and 24th covering all material presented first grading period.



U. S. History

Babbling Middle School 8th Grade Newsletter

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Language Arts—Ms. Wright



After completing a winter project and looking at different types of direction manuals, students use this knowledge to technical write (DoDEA Standard 8E1b.7). With this writing, students will continue to practice four square and incorporate the traits of Six + 1 writing. The technical writing also has accompanying illustrations. Figurative language continues with a flip chart outlining types and examples of these devices (DoDEA Standard 8E1a to c). Students continue studying grammar. Having just taken a test on adjectives, students move to verbs to finish out the nine weeks (DoDEA Standard 8E2c).

Art, Yearbook, and Humanities — Mr. Lloyd

Yearbook Class

Students created an Impressionist photograph using the paint function with Photoshop. They also created a Haiku and placed it in the textbox on their artworks. Since then, students in Yearbook Class have been working on differing grade level spreads for the Yearbook by downloading photos and naming them. The yearbook is progressing along nicely and will be ready to send to the publisher beginning of April.



Art 8

Students in Art 8 have created some nice abstract relief sculptures. They are beginning printmaking this week and some have already begun to carve their linoleum blocks.



PTA News



Spelling Bee

The annual BEMS Spelling Bee is drawing near, and permission slips have been distributed. The Semi-Final round will be held on Tuesday, 15 January, after school at 2:45 in the library. Finals will be held on Thursday, 17 January, in the school gym at 1:15. 3rd through 8th grade students must attend at least one practice to participate in the Bee. Practices are Wednesday, 9 January, at 2:30 in the library, Thursday, 10 January, at 2:30 in the gym, and Monday, 14 January, at 2:30 in the gym. We need volunteers to assist with practices and competitions. Please email Cynde Holbeck at tchwholbeck@yahoo.com, if you are interested.

Seasons Greetings from BEMS PTA

We hope that all our BEMS families have a wonderful and relaxing holiday break. We've enjoyed a fun and festive December with our Holiday Gift Shop and our awesome holiday band concerts. It's definitely a time to count our blessings and be thankful! We'll be back in full swing in 2013. The new year will bring plenty more opportunities for our kids to learn and for parents to share in volunteerism!

Sunshine Math

Our Sunshine Math program will be in full swing starting in the New Year, and the PTA is looking for volunteers to support this valuable student enrichment program. Starting 16 January through 20 March, volunteers will be needed to grade worksheets Wednesday mornings at 8:00 a.m. in the school cafeteria. We are also looking for an assistant to help coordinate the Middle School worksheet grading and prizes. Please email Cynde Holbeck at tchwholbeck@yahoo.com, if you are interested.



PATCH YOUTH CENTER
WINTER BREAK
December 24th—January 7th
Trip Schedule

- **27 December 12: JumpInn** \$24 (\$8 for campers)
- **28 December 12: Bowling** \$16 (free for campers)
- **3 January 13: Sensapolis** \$65 (\$49 for campers)
- **4 January 13: Bowling** \$16 (free for campers)

For more information or to register contact the HUB at
430-7204.

Pre-registration and a permission slip are required.

The HUB is open from 0730 to 1300 for Winter Camp
between 24 December and 4 January. Drop in hours start
at 1300.