



# The Paw

SY 12-13 Volume 22

18 January 2013

*"Together we can make a difference."*

[www.stut-esb.eu.dodea.edu](http://www.stut-esb.eu.dodea.edu)

**Vision:** To inspire curiosity and ambition for life-long learning in every student.

**Mission:** Educate, Engage, and Empower Each student to succeed in a dynamic world.

**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.

## Middle School Class Changes

At the semester many MS students will have changes to their schedule either to their quarter length "wheel" classes, or a semester class that will come to completion at the end of next week (24 January). We are also going to rebalance advisory classes at the end of the semester. Some students will move into a more academic advisory in an attempt to increase their academic performance – these advisory classes will be smaller in number and will focus on work completion. The remainder of the advisory classes will experience changes in student population to equalize the numbers in the classes. Students will be re-issued new schedules at the end of next week to show the changes.

## Sports Club

The after school ES Sports Club has started. The Club is open to fifth and sixth grade students and is held in the BEMS gym on Thursdays from 2:45-4:15. The Club sponsor is Mrs. Mertens.

## Student Council Store

The Student Council Store is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:25-12:50 for all BEMS students and parents. The store is located in the cafeteria. We have a wonderful assortment of school supplies, school logo items and many other miscellaneous treasures. Stop by and check us out!

## 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 \$45.00. You can order your book online at [www.community.pictavo.com](http://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 22 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](http://www.imcom-europe.army.mil/webs/sites/staff_org/safety/road_conditions/index.asp)

## GradeSpeed

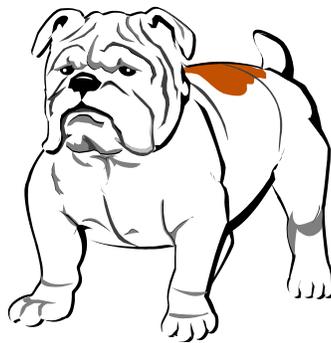
GradeSpeed is our on-line grade book program that allows parents to see how their students are performing at school. By accessing GradeSpeed on a regular basis you will be able to see the growth your student is making at school and avoid any "surprises" when it's report card time. GradeSpeed is available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

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

## Upcoming Events

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
29 January	NAEP Testing
30 January	NAEP Testing
18 February	Presidents' Day - Federal Holiday
1 February	BEMS (ES Only) Parent/Teacher Conferences
12 – 14 February	School Accreditation Visit from AdvancED
11-15 March	TerraNova Testing
4 April	End of Third Quarter (48 days of classroom instruction)
5 April	No school for students - teacher work day
8 April	Begin Spring Recess
15 April	Instruction Resumes - Begin Fourth Quarter
19 April	BEMS (Both ES/MS) Parent Teacher Conferences
27 May	Memorial Day - Federal Holiday
13 June	End Fourth Quarter & Second Semester (43 Days of instruction)
14 June	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

Happy New Year!

The weather is cold and snowy—just right to cozy up to a good book—make sure your student has a book for pleasure reading during the Sustained Silent Reading

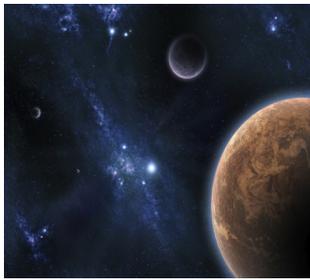


(SSR) portion of advisory. After SSR—the focus of Advisory is academics. Students should always be prepared to do any outstanding work and go see any teacher for additional assistance. Also, make-up tests are routinely scheduled during advisory so students should be prepared to take missed tests following any absence.

Keep your students bundled up nice and warm and we will keep their knowledge growing during this critical part of the year.

### 8th Grade Science—Mr. Harrison

We will finish the quarter by wrapping up our study of adaptations and Earth's Geological Timeline. Then we are on to our study of Space Science. Classes will make several visits (time permitting) to the Starlab—BEMS very own mobile planetarium. Do-DEA standards covered are: 8Sd.1 through 8Sd.10



**AVID 8—Ms. Krunich** Reflection is a critical component of the AVID program. Reflection involves thinking and mental processing about learning and experiences. Purposeful processing relies on thing thinking, reasoning and examining one's own thoughts/feelings and experiences. It is not our experiences we learn from, but rather, reflecting on the experience. AVID students reflect on learning, on themselves as learners and on how they learn best as a way to increase abilities/future learning. See pictures of students involved in the reflective process on page 2.



### Math- Ms. Forster

The mathematical concept most used in real-world situation is the subject of our new chapter. Percents are used every day, to figure a tip, interest on a loan or credit card, to read the stock market just to name a few. Your child will sharpen their skills when using ratios, decimals and percents while working with real life problems.

Math Tutoring Every Monday and Wednesday Room 304 (14:35 to 15:15). You will also find a number of resources including access to the textbook on my webpage: <http://www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/AForster/>

### Inside this issue:

Science 8	1
Math 8	1
AVID 8	1 & 2
German I and II	2
Algebra	2
Health	2
Spanish I and II	2
U.S. History	3
Language Arts	3
Art and Yearbook	2
Creative Thinking	3

## German I and II – Frau Chalkley

**German I:** The students are leaning about school supplies, school subjects, the German school system, and the German grading system. They also started to review for the Mid-term exam on January 23/24th.

**German II:** The students have finished a 3D model of a typical German town and presented their town as major, tourist, or as citizen describing location and places. They will talk about their past activities using the present perfect tense and review for the Mid-term exam on January 24<sup>th</sup>.



## Algebra— Mr. Harrison



We are closing out the quarter with a study of inequalities and will move into solving systems of equations with one, two, and three variables. Students should be using all the resources at [www.classzone.com](http://www.classzone.com) and practicing using IXL. Tutoring help is available in Ms. Forster's room each Monday and Wednesday.

## Health – Ms. Mertens

*Our students are studying sugar and salt and comparing recommended intake for adolescents compared to what they are actually consuming, by measuring with grams and teaspoons. They are studying consequences of excessive sodium and sugar. They are also looking at sugar in various types of soda and numerous other types of drinks. The goal is to show a picture of each drink, a nutritional facts label, and a measured baggie of sugar calculated in grams and teaspoons.*



## Spanish – Mr. Garcia

Spanish I students are learning about foods and beverages for dinner. They discuss food, health, and exercise choices to better understanding cultural perspectives on diet and health. Vocabulary pertains to the subject of foods and health and students must use it in context. Standards 1.1 and 3.1 are covered, which requires students to engage in conversation, expressing feelings and emotions and exchanging opinions as it relates to the subject area.



Spanish II students are learning to give and take advice or directions using vocabulary commonly used in the community setting. Students have been studying how to use the preterite. This concept can be difficult, so we are doing a great deal of examples and exercises so that students become familiar and comfortable with its usage. They will be exposed to the irregular preterite forms of the verbs "ir" and "ser". Students will be preparing a short skit or presentation on a voyage to Mexico, using vocabulary explaining how they prepared and what they did once they arrive to their destination.

## Art, Yearbook, and Humanities – Mr. Lloyd

**Yearbook Class**—Students worked on the BEMS yearbook spreadsheets and layouts putting together the yearbook. Also our yearbook class has been going around campus taking photos for the school activities sections. Yearbook students have been doing an excellent job this year taking photos for the yearbook!

**VA7: Technology Integration:** The student understands and creates art through technology.

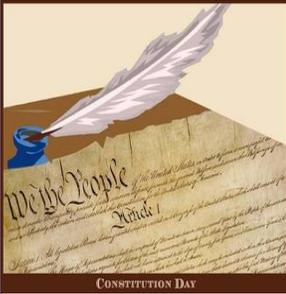
**Art 8**—Students finished creating their 3-D sculptures & are now working on linoleum block printmaking. We will have another group coming in for second semester and hope to have more excellent art to display in our upcoming Art Show.

**VA1b:** The student evaluates and selects art materials, media, technology, & techniques for desired effects in art production.

**VA2c:** The student combines various elements of art and principles of design to show artistic expression.

## Mrs. Lofgren

US History students will be starting our unit on the Constitution (8SS2). We will have two tests covering the Constitution. One in which students will be using the actual United States Constitution to answer questions (8SSK11) and one test covering the basic principles of government established in the Constitution. We will then be moving forward to examine how this new Constitution becomes the "law of the land" during the administrations of our first three Presidents (8SS3), our second little war with Great Britain (8SS5), the growth of our nation through the Louisiana Purchase (8SS4), and growing problems over slavery will also be covered (8SS7).



## U. S. History

## Babblingen Middle School 8th Grade Newsletter

### Contact information:

Martin.Harrison@eu.dodea.edu  
Ann.Forster@eu.dodea.edu  
Ulrike.Chalkley@eu.dodea.edu  
Sammi.Wright@eu.dodea.edu  
Stephanie.Lofgren@eu.dodea.edu  
Valerie.Krunich@eu.dodea.edu  
Israel.Garcia@eu.dodea.edu  
James.Lloyd@eu.dodea.edu  
Trudy.Mertens@eu.dodea.edu  
daniel.lesperance@eu.dodea.edu

## Language Arts—Ms. Wright



Students just completed technical writing and figurative language. At the beginning of the third nine weeks, students will take a verb test and continue the study of the parts of speech with adverbs and prepositions (DoDEA Standard 8E2c). Students read the "I Have a Dream" speech in conjunction with the MLK holiday and will be comparing different historical speeches (DoDEA Standard 8E1b3/4/6). Students started study of World War II by reading Franklin Roosevelt's speeches and will continue the study with homefront activities and a short story, "Homefront".

## Creative Thinking—Mr. Lesperance

Students in the Creative thinking class are learning puppeteering and using their new skills to teach lessons to fourth grade students. Topics include peer-pressure, bullying, and dealing with a deployed family members. These are challenging topics to talk about, but these eighth graders were well-trained and knew what they were doing. This coming spring, another troupe of eighth grade puppeteers will be selected and trained to teach younger kids how to deal with three more important topics many kids have to deal with but are afraid to talk about: divorce, the value of volunteering, and autism.

### AVID 7 and 8



McKenzie Gibel, Rebecca Crow, and Kyrianna Miller spend time reflecting on their learning in AVID.



**Puppeteers:** Brendon Sullivan, Hailey Collum, Chris Hobson, Destiny Keller, Camille Cline, Mick Songer, and Emilie Allen



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS  
Böblingen Elementary/Middle School  
Unit 30401  
APO AE 09107**



Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are pleased to inform you that Böblingen Elementary Middle School will represent schools across the nation by participating in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). NAEP is the largest nationally representative assessment of students across the country, and it is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP, which has been conducted since 1969, is different from other assessments because it provides a common measure of student achievement across the country. The results of NAEP are released as The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents, policymakers, and the public.

In our school, the NAEP assessment will be given on January 29<sup>th</sup> for 4<sup>th</sup> graders and January 30<sup>th</sup> for 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Your child will take either a mathematics or reading assessment. In addition to answering questions in one of these subjects, students will be asked some questions about themselves and their educational experience.

It will take about 90 minutes for most students to participate in the assessment. The results are completely confidential (in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provision of title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347), and the information provided will be used for statistical purposes only. Your child's grade will not be affected. Your child may be excused from participation for any reason, is not required to finish the assessment, and may skip any test question. While NAEP is voluntary, we depend on student participation to provide an accurate measure of student achievement that will inform improvements in education. Your child will represent many other students, so participation is very important. However, if you do not want your child to participate, please notify me in writing by January 22, 2012.

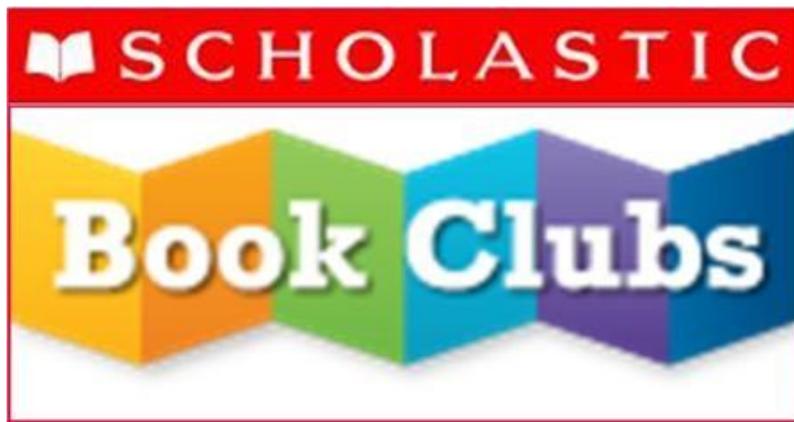
There is no need to study in preparation for NAEP. We do, however, ask parents to encourage their children to do their best and get plenty of rest the night before the assessment.

If you would like additional information about NAEP or to view sample subject area and student questions, please visit <http://nationsreportcard.gov/parents.asp>. If you have questions, please contact me at 07031-152715 or via e-mail at [dale.moore@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:dale.moore@eu.dodea.edu).

We are excited that our school will be participating in NAEP, and pleased that your child has been selected. We know that Böblingen Elementary Middle School's students will help us show what our nation's students know and can do.

Sincerely,

Dale Moore  
Principal



## Scholastic News:

Thanks to outstanding participation, BEMS PTA gave over 300 new books to teachers and over 30 hardback books to the library. These items were free from Scholastic, based on points earned through parent orders. That's right: when you order from Scholastic, you not only get great books and fun educational products for your child, but our school also earns points to purchase books and other classroom items. Everyone wins!

January flyers are now out - they should be sent home with your child or can be picked up from the school lobby. As always, you can browse products online at the Scholastic website.

For instructions on registering your account or obtaining your teacher code, please visit the Scholastic page at the PTA's website: [www.bemspta.org](http://www.bemspta.org).

**The next deadline for orders is 1 February.** There will be two additional order dates this school year: March 1st and April 1st.