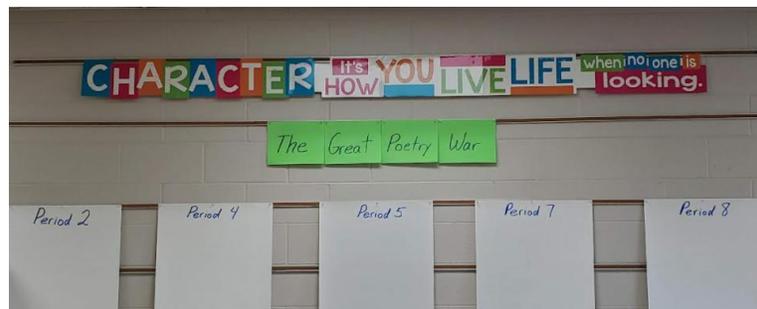


Greetings Elmwood Community,

Wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day next Monday, bring on the chocolate for all. As I look back, it always seems that every year we get a pretty good snow storm on Valentine's Day. Looks like we got it early this year. Wednesday was frustrating for all of us when schools closed on the forecast even though the storm slowed down. It happens, but I always want to error on the side of safety. The next couple days made up for it and the roads were definitely tough to travel on. A quick thank you to all the parents who helped their child complete the first e-learning lessons that the teachers assigned.

1. The 8th Grade ELA students recently finished their poetry unit. While learning about the different components of poetry, we had a poetry war between the class periods. Each class had to use a different element of figurative language every day to create a poem that was then entered into a competition when completed. Judges voted on each period's use of rhyme scheme, figurative language, and overall creativity. Students had fun trying to figure out how to develop their poems and defeat other periods by coming up with a new "battle plan" each day. Congratulations to the 8<sup>th</sup> Graders in Period 4 on winning The Great Poetry War!



2. Middle school students in the Life Skills class wrapped up their sewing unit with a snowman project. Students enjoyed getting to personalize their snowmen, while practicing many different sewing techniques. They used both hand and machine stitching techniques! The students were super proud of these snowmen that they created.



3. Congratulations to the following middle school choir students who were nominated and accepted into the Ohio Music Education Association's (OMEA) District I Junior High Honors Chorus: Kathleen Brumbaugh, Addilyn Rochowiak and Drake Stearns. Congratulations also to the following high school singers who were accepted by a recorded audition into the OMEA District I High School Honors Chorus: Kaitlynn Logston, Solanna Riddle, and Ashton Worley. Unfortunately, due to covid, this grand event held every year at the Stranahan Theater, hosting an honors orchestra, band, and choir, was canceled for this year after all young musicians applied and auditioned.
  
4. I am excited to announce that Elmwood was awarded a school bus purchasing grant from the state of Ohio. The grant, in the amount of \$45,000 will pay for half the cost of a new bus. We will be getting our bid requirements out soon so that we can take advantage of this grant. Our intent is to buy two new buses, with this grant offsetting the cost to our finances. Over the past 5 years or so, this will be the third grant. We were awarded a federal grant that purchased three buses, a second grant that helped pay for half a bus, and now this one. These grants are a big win for the Elmwood Community as we are helping to make our tax dollars go even farther.
  
5. Mrs. Duncan and Mrs. Bodnar's 4th grade class made Valentine's Day cards for the Bowling Green Manor Nursing home. This opportunity to make cards for the residents, taught us many lessons. Some educational, some humanitarian, and some compassionate. We were happy to be a part of this project!



With the second half of the year well underway, the teachers want to remind you to work with your children on completing their work and keeping focused on what is happening here in the district. When your child gives us 100%, we are better able to figure out where the child's weak areas and their strengths. This leads to targeted instruction that will make sure every child grows this year. Here are a few upcoming events for students and/or family that you may want to be aware of:

- Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> American Red Cross blood drive here at school
- Monday, February 21<sup>st</sup> No School
- Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Wax Museum
- Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup> Elementary PTO Snowball Dance
- Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> Middle school band concert
- Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> Middle school dance after school
- Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> High school band concert
- March 12<sup>th</sup> into 13<sup>th</sup> Day light savings time-"spring ahead"
- Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting @ 5:30 PM