

# Cougar Paws

## NORTH PUTNAM MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 20  
End of 1st Semester
- December 21  
Winter Break begins
- January 6  
Students return
- January 8  
Parent Paws PTO
- January 8-16  
Performance Series testing

The students at NPMS are taking the Performance Series test from January 8-15. One of the scores they receive will be their Lexile measure.

The Lexile Framework evaluates both reading ability and text complexity on the same scale. Unlike other systems, the Lexile Framework uses assessment results to match readers with texts essential for

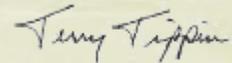
growth and monitor their progress toward standards.

It can be difficult to engage struggling readers with books. Often, they've fallen years behind their classmates. Reading may be an activity they associate with failure because the difficulty level of the reading materials for school has risen faster than their reading ability

has grown. Lexile measures can be used to quickly find appropriate books for struggling readers.

Find out more about the Lexile Framework at [www.lexile.com](http://www.lexile.com).

Educationally yours,



## VETERANS HONORED

The eighth grade recently concluded its Veteran's Day unit by honoring veterans of American wars and military personnel with a combined convocation of the middle school and high school. Each eighth grade student created a project honoring veterans. Some of the projects were poems, acrostics, letters to soldiers, posters, and military models. These displays of appreciation were used for decorations during the program. Students also created a display of stars that listed names of family members and friends that have served or are presently serving in the service. A very special PowerPoint

presentation that was created by Krisara Dill and Darrin Tennis was shown throughout the program. Students also learned about the im-



portance and the history of Veteran's Day.

Senior, Jerica Bean, served as the Master of Ceremonies for our Veteran's Day ceremony. Eighth grader, Nick Goode, welcomed the audience. The program commenced with the

Presentation of Colors by our local VFW. The National Anthem performed by the high school choir followed. Eighth grader, Alanna Nunez read her very touching essay entitled "Veteran's Day". As the high school band played *America's Finest*, 8th grade students presented flags of the branches of the military. Flag bearers were: Sierra Witty, Terran Wittig, Zachary Culberson, Caleb Ramsey, Cooper Strasburger, Andrew Moore, Caleb Duncan, Jacy Holtze, Tirzah Freije, and Caitlyn Osborn. Audience members who were associated with each branch were asked to stand as the

— see Veterans page 2

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Principal's Corner	1
Veterans Honored	1
VFW Students of the Month	2
Counselor Corner	2

**NORTH PUTNAM  
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

8905 N CR 250 E  
Roachdale, IN 46172

Phone: 765-522-2900  
Fax: 765-522-2863

**Follow us on twitter**  
**@NorthPutnamMS**



**Vision Statement:**

NPMS students will be highly motivated productive citizens who are prepared for high school and the work force of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Our students will be life-long learners and high achievers. They will be nurtured by parents, teachers, and community members in an environment that promotes emotional, physical, and intellectual growth.

**VFW STUDENTS OF  
THE MONTH**

Annually, Roachdale VFW Post #3284 awards a total of nine students from the middle school for outstanding citizenship. In recognition of this honor, each student receives a plaque displaying his/her name. These individuals are selected by their grade level teachers for exemplary citizenship. They are all models of good citizenship, a strong work ethic, an apparent value for education, and pride in our school. Recipients for September, Oc-



tober, and November are sixth grader Camryn Albers, daughter of Tresa Bonifacius and Aaron Albers, seventh grader Grant Hoke, son of Mark and Jennifer Hoke, and eighth grader Katie Gilliam, daughter of Ryan and Sarah Gilliam. Congratulations to these three outstanding citizens.

— Veterans from page 1

flag was carried onto the floor. The military branches honored by flags were the Army, Coast Guard, Air Force, Marines, and the Navy. Dr. Tippin narrated the selection.

Alison Elmore read her heartfelt Veteran's Day essay. *Proud to be an American* was performed by the high school choir. The high school band performed *Shenandoah* and *Stars and Stripes Forever*. Abby Spencer read her compassionate essay entitled "America's True Heroes". Jacinda Garver read a very touching poem, "Heroes Unaware" by Mark A. Wright. An honorable American flag folding ceremony was conducted by Jonathan Kirby and Danny Cummings. The playing of *Taps* by Morgan Price concluded the program.

We thank all veterans, military personnel, and patrons who were in attendance at the convocation. The students are very proud of their accomplishments and were happy to share them with the community and the student body on this very special day.

**CORNER**

**COUNSELOR**

**First Semester Students of the Month**

**August:** Reuben Edwards (8<sup>th</sup>), Grace Lake (8<sup>th</sup>), Abigail Shinovich (6<sup>th</sup>), Elliot Sabens (7<sup>th</sup>), Sabrina Toth (7<sup>th</sup>), and Austin Rader (6<sup>th</sup>)

**September:** Ethan Christy (8<sup>th</sup>), Gabby Carney (8<sup>th</sup>), Emily Fink (7<sup>th</sup>), Chris Murray (7<sup>th</sup>), Abby Simmerman (6<sup>th</sup>), Allison Staples (6<sup>th</sup>)

**October:** Annie Peabody (8<sup>th</sup>), Lucy Springmeyer (8<sup>th</sup>), Marcus Burdine (7<sup>th</sup>), Jessica Farmer (7<sup>th</sup>), Lexi Claycomb (6<sup>th</sup>), Cauy Whaley (6<sup>th</sup>)

**November:** Emily O'Neal (8<sup>th</sup>), Treyton Smith (8<sup>th</sup>), Jakota Herbert (7<sup>th</sup>), Jazlyn Tipton (7<sup>th</sup>), Taylor Weddle (6<sup>th</sup>), Aidan Baker (6<sup>th</sup>)

**December:** Savannah Couch (8<sup>th</sup>), Caleb Ramsey (8<sup>th</sup>), Emma Blanford (7<sup>th</sup>), Hunter Duncan (7<sup>th</sup>), Taylor Hensley (6<sup>th</sup>), Aaron Fritz (6<sup>th</sup>)

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars Program**

Indiana's 21st Century Scholars is a needs- and performance-based program that provides students the opportunity to earn up to a four-year scholarship at an Indiana college or university.

Hoosier students who meet income criteria can enroll during their 7<sup>th</sup>- or 8<sup>th</sup>-grade year of middle school. Students commit to maintaining academic success, remaining drug and alcohol free, and completing college-preparation activities.

Scholars are provided resources and assistance to help them plan and prepare for college and pay for expenses not covered by their scholarship.

Please contact Ms. Ward, school counselor, if you would like MORE information on this program. 522-2900

**Next PRO Meeting**  
January 8, 5:30 PM  
NPMS Media Center

**Formal Valentine's Dance**  
February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 7:00-10:00