Thoughtful Pennies

By: Dayna Larreau, Senior

The kindergarten through fifth grade classes recently completed a successful project called "Penny Wars." The basic concept of this game was to see how much the students could earn in an entertaining way for people in need.

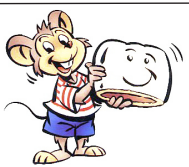
Jars were set up in the hallway and pennies were "positive." Silver coins were considered "negative" and could subtract from the amount in pennies. If a jar was filled with a dollars worth of pennies and a another dollars worth of silver coins were put in, then the amount would be 0. In the end, none of the classes' jars came out positive.

After the game was over, the kindergarten class counted out the money. They learned the skills of strategy and estimation. They also learned about giving and that small change can really add up to large amounts. The kindergarten class used their math skills and sorted and counted the coins into piles of 10 that were grouped into 10 new piles that created one dollar.

The game brought in $381 worth of coins. The money was used for many different gifts including toys, gloves, and winter supplies for four children, and a gift basket for the residents at Riverview Apartments. It also bought a sweatshirt for an Arnold resident and a coffee card and money on a grocery account for yet another resident.

All of the money was spent at local businesses. The kindergarten and third grade walked downtown to purchase the gifts for their classes and for the other classes involved in the project. These two classes also wrapped each item.

The Penny Wars was an extremely good learning experience for the kindergarten through fifth grade students. It was done in an entertaining way to encourage all to participate and it did good in the community for both the residents and the businesses.



The Little Mouse

By: Cindy Nisolle, Senior

In Europe, the Toothfairy doesn't exist. There is the Little Mouse who takes the teeth of the kids. Parents tell their kids that a queen needs teeth to build a castle. Knowing that their teeth will help somebody, the kids are less scared of losing their milk teeth. This is the Little Mouse who helps the queen to gather the teeth that she needs. Moreover, parents use the Little Mouse as a way to keep their kids brushing their teeth because the Little Mouse only takes healthy teeth.

When kids lose a tooth, they put it under their pillow or in a little box. The Little Mouse comes during the night and leaves money or a treat in exchange for the tooth.

Nobody knows for sure the origin of the Little Mouse, but that it could have come from a French tale of the eighteenth century. The story is about a fairy that is transformed into a mouse to help a kind queen to defeat a mean king. She hides under the king's pillow and then, she makes him lose all his teeth.

Otherwise, according to a former belief, when an animal ate a milk tooth, the permanent teeth took the animal's features. That's why, in the past, people gave sometimes the milk teeth to the rodents in order that kids obtain stronger and sharper teeth.

From the Principal's Desk

By: Dawn Lewis, Principal

Weather and School Closings

Well, winter has finally arrived! The snow is beautiful, isn't it? When we have snow days at school, it challenges us on a number of levels. Making decisions about school cancellations is always a bit of a guessing game, but have satellite radar on the internet sure helps. Even with that, the weather is unpredictable. The safety of the children is our main concern. Watch the news, listen to the radio, or check the school website if you are questioning the weather conditions. We list cancellations through these avenues.

Academic Performance

We are also concerned with the academic performance of the children in our classrooms. It seems like this time of year, some of the children start showing signs of carelessness in their work, or neglect to complete assignments at all. A way for you, as a parent, to help us combat this attitude, is to ask your children on a regular basis about their homework, or log in to PowerSchool to check their grades. These simple steps can help your child stay on top of schoolwork, and help teach about responsibility and hard work.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled to be held on February 10 from 2:30-7:30. I would encourage you all to attend and visit with our teachers, whether your children are doing well or not in their classes. Communication is key to having a successful educational experience, and even the brightest students have moments in class that the teacher may want to share with you.

New Student Teacher

We have a student teacher with us this spring. Trey White is a graduate of Mullen High School, and is a current student at Chadron. He is working with Julie Mohr, and helping out with some Junior High Coaching. Welcome him, and encourage him in his endeavor.

Senior Profile

Brandon Peterson

Parents: Cory and Mindy Peterson
What are your future plans? **My future plans are going to college. To UNL or UNK. I either want to go nto an engineering or science field to major in.**

What is your favorite memory from school? **Either the Outdoor Ed trip or just being with my class and having fun times and doing all sorts of shananigans.**

If there were no restrictions on money, what would you do after high school? **If money was not a factor I would travel the world after high school. I would travel everywhere in the world. I would be retired.**

Future Authors

By: Korrie Miller, Senior

It started with a blank book. Then the words appeared. Then came the pictures. The Kindergarten through second grade is writing a class book while the third through sixth is writing individual books. Mrs. Crow was the organizer of the event. For example:

There is a book that was called "Houdini Was" and it was about a class room pet. This pet was a hamster. In the fourth grade class room there certainly is a hamster. So why not write a book about their beloved hamster?

The fourth graders will be writing a group book about their hamster and an individual book on their own.

Mrs. Crow purchased the "Houdini Was" book earlier this year at the Book Fair. They were even impressed by the title, because earlier they had lost their own Houdini. After that the class decided on writing their version of "Houdini Was." They have so many stories of the hamsters in the room. The two remaining are Zero (black) and Butterfly (tan). They have even put them together for a period of time hoping for baby hamsters. They are "expecting" at the end of this month.

"We are doing two different projects. Each student wrote an individual story about Cinderella for their individual books. I have over 150 Cinderella books that they read and kept track of as many of them as they could. Over 50 of those are AR books, so they were reading and gaining points at the same time. These books gave them several ideas for their own version of Cinderella." Mrs. Crow states.

All books will be written and illustrated by the fourth grade class. The book will be submitted on February 28th and published March 3rd.

Mrs. Crow has had the classes writing books almost every year going all the way back to the class of 2004. She plans on continuing having the activity because it gives the class the opportunity to be creative, independent, and to become a young author.

Cindy Nisolle

Parents in Belgium: Marina and Etienne Nisolle
Parents in Arnold: Melody and Irving Jennings
What are your future plans? **When I go back to Belgium, I will go to college. I don't know which one yet because I am still not sure what I exactly want to do as job. But, I know that I love languages and working with people. I also like to use my creativity to develop things. So, I am working on figuring out which jobs require those qualities.**

What is your favorite memory from school? **During the Red Ribbon Week at the beginning of this school year, we had to dress up with camouflage clothes. I got some from my host sister and I wore a big fuzzy winter hat. Nobody recognized me. It was funny to hang out in the school's halls while everybody was looking at me wondering who I was.**

If there were no restrictions on money, what would you do after high school? **I definitely would like to come back in the United States each summer. I would like to again see all the people I have met here and visit other states that I have not seen yet. If I really had a lot of money, I would work every other day to keep more time for what I like to do such as playing piano or tennis, and time for my family and friends.**

Prom Plans on a Roll

By: Rachelle Preston, Senior

The Junior and Senior prom for Arnold and Callaway students has been combined. The prom will be in Arnold on April 16th, as decided by the school Administrators and Prom Sponsors.

"The students are the ones who came to the prom sponsors saying that they wanted to have prom together. A vote was taken in October of all juniors and seniors. Once we found out that an overwhelming majority of the students DID want to combine proms, then we approached the administrators, the co-op board, and school boards with the idea," said Mrs. Badgley, Arnold prom sponsor.

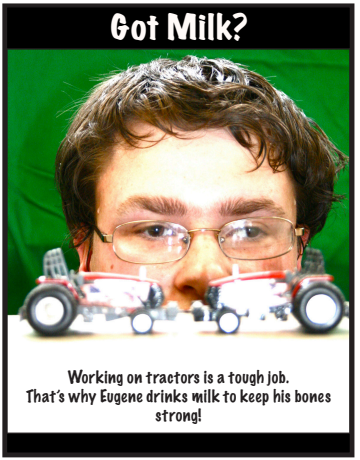
The two junior classes have met twice since the announcement of the combination of the proms. The classes met once in November over the Distance Learning system to save money on travel, and again in December in Callaway.

"Each school has their own way of doing a prom so it was important for the students to talk and decide on how to handle the differences," commented Mrs. Badgley on the responsibilities of the two classes.

The students have already decided on the menu, theme, and number of servers for the prom. The servers can now invite a date, bringing the maximum number of students that may be attending the prom to approximately 120 people. Due to the high number of attendants, the students of the two classes opted not to invite faculty of the schools, other than the prom sponsors, the principals, and their spouses. This also rules out any of the students parents being at the prom, as decided by the students.

The students have also fused together the times of the two proms, seeing that Arnold proms have in the past has earlier times for the promenade or grand march, supper, pictures and the dance, and Callaway has had later times.

"The decisions that the classes make for the first combined prom is important, because they will set a precedent of how things will be done in the future."



Awarding Graphic Design

By: Korrie Miller, Senior

The graphic design team is excited for this year being the second year to gain the SHGP(Sandhills Graphic Productions) award. They are one of 40 Apple Exemplary Programs in the United States, the only one in Nebraska, that was honored with the award.

"The application this year was one of the easiest applications we've filled out because it's a lot of the information from last year" states Mrs. Mohr.

The Arnold Graphics Design program was nominated by Barry Sevett from the Apple Education Development Executive.

To become nominated for this award the Graphic Design team had to have demonstrated a stron, well-articulated use of Apple products in k-12 education. They must have been demonstrated in an individual classroom, specific learning program (such as in journalism or world languages), administrative uses, or infrastructure. The deadline for applying for designation for the Appple Exemplary Program was November 19th, 2010

Achieving the Apple Exemplary Program benefits is getting a plaque acknowledging Apple Exemplary Program status, Web logo designating profram as an Apple Exemplary Program, Apple "Gift Items" for each educator involved in the program, Apple Training Series: iLife and iWork books for those newly selected 2010-11 programs, Vouchers for the iLife and or iWork certification online exam administered by Prometric for those newly selected 2010-11 programs, and a sample press relased for local communication.

Spirit Of the Season

Elementary

*Colbi Smith, nominated by Ms. Gracey for helping another student pick up their pencil box. Colbi won a prize donated by Great Plains Communication.

*Alex Streit was nominated by Kylee for helping another child stay in line. Alex won a prize donated by Wes Block.

*Laykin Wilkins was nominated by Aspen for putting up a chair for another child at the end of the day. She won a prize donated by Logan County Coop.

Middle School

*Jennifer Barraza was nominated by Sky. She helped her with homework. Jennifer won a prize from Forrester's Dodge City.

*Savanah Weinman was nominated by Sky for helping her pick up some items. She drew a prize donated by RainAway Seamless Gutters.

*Bobbi Barnes was nominated by Morgan for helping her with Math homework. She won a prize donated by Great Plains Communications.

High School

*Justin Mousel was nominated by Mrs. Moninger for staying late to clean the bus after One-Act play. He won a prize donated by Mrs. Mac's Monogramming.

*Kali Blevins was nominated by Casandra for helping her write an essay. Kali won a prize that was donated by Mills Hardware.

*Mariah Strasburg was nominated by Dru Magill. She let Hannah use her phone to stay in touch during a basketball game. Mariah won a prize donated by Jake's Trucking.

Finding Yourself
We Are Who We Are

Certainly Uncertain
By: Rachelle Preston
Senior

Recently, I was writing an essay for scholarship applications. I didn't know how hard this would be until it took me about a month to even try to write a rough draft. When I did this, I reread it, and I didn't even want to show it to my counselor. She read it and handed and back to me, and needless to say, she did agree that it was fairly terrible, none to my surprise.

So I've been thinking. How do you talk yourself up? Who is the kind of person that can easily write about themselves in a positive way? Where do people learn how to do that?

I guess what I have problems with is that I can't say "these are all of my good qualities." And I don't know very many people that can.

I could write a paper telling all of the things that I have problems with. I could make a list that says: "I'm not good at math. I have to work really hard at chemistry. I shouldn't and don't run often. I am possibly the most uncordinated person that I have ever met."

As my frustrations came out, and went to Mrs. Badgley and I said "why can't someone just come talk to me and ask me questions? If someone just came to talk to me, they would understand me better."

She, trying to give me several ideas, said "what is important to you?" I guess that thousands of things rushed into my head all at once, but when everything went clear, three things, if you will, stood out. My older brother, Jeff; my sister, Jessie; and of course, my little brother, Colbi.

I can easily talk about them. So I did. I sort of used them as my shield. If I talked about them, and how they have shaped me, then I'm not pointing to myself. It's easier to take their good qualities and find them in myself, because each of them have inspired me somehow. It was easy to talk about them.

So where does it come from? The ability to talk about someone else, but not yourself. It's fairly easy for our teachers to talk about the students they've known for four years. But where do people learn how to talk about themselves? It's almost like someone tells you when your younger that if you know how to make yourself sound good, then you are wrong.

I also didn't want to sound just like everyone else who would be applying. I wanted to stand out, just like everyone else who was applying. So, that's another reason that I wanted to talk about my siblings.

Anyone can say, "I was in this activity, and this activity, and this activity, and it inspired me because blah blah blah." My goal was to keep the people who select scholarship winners reading my essay, not put them to sleep.

After I wrote the second one, I felt proud of it. I was excited about it because it was about things that I was passionate about: my siblings, college, and journalism. The three things that will get me far in life. Things I can rely on for the rest of my life.

It's funny, isn't it? Even if you know exactly who you are, at the time when it's most important, you don't.

Who Am I?

Guess who the teacher is from the clues.

"As a little girl, my sister and I had a playhouse that was a soddy. When I was in high school, I had to pick dandelions for sticking my tongue out at my trigonometry teacher. That same year, I was the fourth one in my family to become High School Athletic Queen. Before I became a teacher, I decorated dozens of wedding and birthday cakes. I rode my bicycle 1400 miles the summer before I turned 50. *Who Am I?"* - ***Mrs. Crow***

"I worked in a vegetarian restaurant for ten years. We served nothing that had a face. I once had a tarantula and a python as pets. The tarantula was fine, but talk to me first if you are considering getting a python. I once had one point left on my drivers license because of speeding tickets. I finally figured out how to avoid them..duh! I am afraid of horses.

Who Am I?" - ***Mrs. Barton***

'I am someone who was a synchronized swimmer all through elementary, middle, and high school. I was a waiter for several restaurants so I could put myself through college without loans or scholarship money. I have scored a 278 out of 300 in an archery target tournament.

Who am I?" - ***Mrs. Badgley***

"I worked in a bakery when I was in high school. Most class periods, my friends got me in trouble for talking. First place winner in a spelling bee on television when I was in the 8th grade. Two of my favorite books: Anna Karenina by Tolstoy and The Power of Positive Thinking by Norman Vincent Peale.

Who am I?" - ***Mrs. Mills***

"I was on two state championship teams, although not in basketball, where I darn near wore out the bench by sitting on it. I married the Valentines Day Queen of my high school. I lived in another school district than I went to because I wanted to go to a larger district with more competition. I would have probably not have went to college if not for my ACT score.

Who Am I?" - ***Mr. Peterson***

"Allergic to cats
Bananas make me gag
Mom works at a Dairy Queen

Who am I?" - ***Mrs. Lewis***

Music Honors

Congratulations to **Claire Beshaler** who has been awarded a seat in the Kearney Middle School Honor Band. Also, congratulations to **Claire Beshaler, Rachael Smith, Grace Magill, Morgan Eggleston, and Bobbi Barnes** who were selected for the Singing Youth of Nebraska!

Lunch Program Information

Please keep your child's lunch balance current by making a regular monthly deposit. Statements will be sent when your child's lunch balance runs low. You may fill out a free and reduced lunch program application at any time during the year if your financial status changes. These forms may be picked up from Penny in the office.

Coke Cap Collection

You can help out the school by collecting your Coke Product bottle caps. Coca-cola is refreshing its commitment to supporting education by enabling schools to collect donated points and then redeem them for a variety of school rewards including playground equipment, supplies, classroom materials, and more. You can send your Coke caps (and other coke products) to the chool office and they will redeem tham. For more information go to http://ww.mycokerewards.com/schools. **Thank you for your support!**

Top 10 Gifts You Should and Shouldn't Give Your Valentine!

By: Korrie Miller, Senior

What you should do...

10. A card and a kiss on the cheek... It's cute.

9. Perfume or Cologne... People always need to smell good.

8. A date with just the two of you... it will be romantic and sweet.

7. A book... Most people would like to sit down with coffee or hot chocolate in front of the fire reading a nice book.

6. A day at the spa... Who doesn't like to relax?

5. Any mp3 or Ipod... It's really thoughtful, specially if you put all their favorite music on it.

4. Dancing lessions for the two of you... It will be fun and will bond you guys better.

3. A necklace or ring... Now many Males like to wear different kinds of necklaces so it would be a nice little gift.

2. Chocolate... it's always a great and traditional gift, and

1. **Something you've made... this could be a painting or anything you want. You're valentine will always appreciate and keep at heart something you have made because it's one of a kind.**

What you shouldn't do...

10. Kitchen appliances... Who really wants to get something for their house on Valentines?

9. Gift card from a store... It would seem like you didn't give any thought into it.

8. Video games... Do you not want them to spend the day with you?

7. Fake Flowers... Unless you can convince them that it's a very good reason, stick with the real ones.

6. Going on a date with the two of you and your friends... Again it doesn't feel like you really thought about it or care.

5. A chocolate bath in the hot tub, with your grandma... Haha that's just horrible.

4. Singing Telegram... boring and tacky

3. A picture of you on a mug... Although this is kind of neat, it's also very tacky.

2. Bathroom weight scale... that's just rude!

1. **A box of chocolate with a coupon for a free day at the gym... That's just sad.**

kmiller Wednesday, January 26, 2011 3:24:51 PM CT

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BOXHOLDER

Mystery Pic

? ? ?

By: Korrie Miller, Senior

Each month we like to share an interesting, yet rarely noticed aspect of the school with our readers. Can you guess what this is and where it's at? Hint: Look in the back ground and you may notice familiar objects.

Last month's picture a feather boa hanging in the art room.

? ?