



# The Scot Times

Official Newsletter of MacArthur Middle School | Lawton, Okla.

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## Duke Talent Search begins

Seventh grade students who have scored 95% or higher on a recent grade-level standardized intelligence or academic test have been invited to participate in the highly-selective Duke University Talent Identification Program's 7<sup>th</sup> grade Talent Search. Candidates are invited to take the ACT or the SAT as 7<sup>th</sup> graders, which allows them greater insight into their academic abilities.

Mrs. Adair, Middle School Gifted and Talented Program Facilitator, will give these students packets that explain the benefits of participation along with instructions on the application process. Students have a choice of taking the tests on two dates at two locations, Lawton High School or Cameron University.

Last year MMS had several 7<sup>th</sup> graders who scored very high on the ACT or SAT test and gained state recognition. All students participating in the Duke Talent Program will receive recognition for their efforts. For more information about the program, visit:

[http://www.tip.duke.edu/talent\\_searches/grade\\_7/](http://www.tip.duke.edu/talent_searches/grade_7/)

## MMS gets visit from author



Novelist **James Houston Turner** shared his tale of persistence with MacArthur Middle School students on Thursday, Sept. 30, during the Scot Talk morning assembly. A native of Kansas and long-time friend of MMS registrar Gloria Foster, Turner overcame long odds, including surviving cancer and waiting more than 20 years to get his first novel published, to "live his dream" of being a world-travelling author.

## Class seeks toy donations

Mrs. Wilson's advisory class is seeking donations for the annual Lawton Firefighters' Toys for Tots campaign. Students will be collecting new, unused games, board games, toys and dolls from Oct. 3, through Dec. 5, as a service project. Please email [rwilson@lawtonps.org](mailto:rwilson@lawtonps.org) for more information.

## It's Parent-Teacher Conference Time!

Dear Parents,

The weather is cooling, the leaves are beginning to turn, the Highlanders are City Champs, and the Scots are one game away from following in the footsteps of their big brothers at MHS. These are the signs that Fall Break is just around the corner, and with Fall Break comes the end of the first quarter grading period. There are two and a half weeks left for students to work on their grades, so parents need to stay tuned to Parent Portal to keep up with student work.

Student Led Conferences are Oct. 18-19 and Fall Break will be Oct. 20-21. To schedule a conference contact Ms. Foster at 353-5111. Plan to bring your child, as conferences will be led by the student with the guidance of their teachers. You should receive a note with more detailed information very soon.

We want to thank our PTSA, City National Bank, and Ft. Sill for their generous donations that have allowed us to increase our technology at MMS. The PTSA donated \$5,500 to our technology fund allowing us to purchase hard drives and power supplies for 30 laptop and 30 desktop computers. The computers were donated by City National Bank and Ft. Sill. City National Bank supplied us with 27 desktop computers and Ft. Sill donated 30 laptops and 22 desktops. Along with the money from the PTSA, we have been able to open a new classroom lab, a new mobile lab, and replace all of the old computers in an existing lab. The generosity of these groups will help many students now and in the future.

Our doors are always open so if we can be of assistance to you at any time, please feel free to call. Our teachers, counselors, and principals are available to help you and your child get the most out of their time at MacArthur Middle School. As always, we want to thank you for entrusting us with your children.

Sincerely,

*Mark Mattingly*

# Hard work pays off!

## Builder's Club "On Fire for Service" in 2011

For its first project, the MMS Builder's Club will be working in conjunction with the entire student body to make cards for those who have been affected by the Bastrop, Texas fires. The GE life principle for this week is courage, and the students will be considering the courage the rescue workers and victims of those fires must have as they make their cards during their advisory period this week.

We will have a meeting next week to get these cards packaged up and sent out to Bastrop. At that time, Builder's Club members will be receiving their Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF boxes. This year, the Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF campaign will support the Eliminate Project: Kiwanis eliminating maternal and neonatal tetanus. Please be watching for those boxes to come home with your student and start collecting your spare change.

At the end of the year, Builder's Club

members got together for an end of the year party and made cards for the rescue workers helping out with the Joplin, Mo., tornado. Those cards were very warmly received and we received a very nice letter from the mayor and a phone call from the city clerk praising our students for the job they did. If you have access to facebook, you can check out the City of Joplin facebook page. They have posted pictures of our cards and they have received some nice comments. The cards are also being prominently displayed in city hall.

Builder's Club is sponsored by Erin Sackett, Eric Brown and Shawna Cartwright. Club officers for this school year are: Saviona Luster, President; Andrea Wilson and Kayla Arter, Co-Vice Presidents; Amber Hobbs and Ridge Miller, Co-Treasurers; Rod Sovo, Reporter; and Morgan Deland, Secretary.

## Spaghetti Dinner scheduled for October 4

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual Spaghetti Dinner and Bottle Auction, hosted by Great Plains Area Special Olympics, will be Tuesday, Oct. 4, in the MacArthur High School Cafeteria from 6 to 8 p.m. Cost for dinner is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. We would love to see you there!

If you would like to purchase a Sports Bottle, see Mrs. Couger or Mrs. Lippold. The cost of a Sports Bottle is \$20, which includes \$25 worth of merchandise in the bottle. It is not too late to donate merchandise to the Bottle Auction if you are interested.



**Introducing the 2011-2012 Yearbook Staff!** Congratulations to the following students for their selection as yearbook editors for this school year: Saviona Luster and Krysten Howard, editors; Mickayla Corvi and Jhania Barnes, sports editors; Kennedee Thorne and So Hyun Lee, club editors; Madison Dirickson and Danielle Nickell, class editors. Other 2011-12 staff members include Kellie Lail, Jessica Chao, Riley McKinney, Amber Monks, Sam McKee and Alex Harris.

## MMS student pens top essay



MMS 8<sup>th</sup> grader Taylor Savant was recently recognized for winning the Patriot's Pen essay contest, sponsored by the Lawton chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Taylor's essay was selected from among hundreds of local entries and she will represent the area in a statewide contest.

## ACE Remediation Saturday School

ACE Remediation Saturday School is now available for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who failed to score a 'satisfactory' on the 2011 Oklahoma Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT)

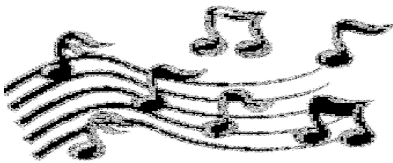
Lawton Public Schools will provide necessary transportation for students participating in the program and a bus schedule is available in the MMS office. For more information, contact Mr. Eddie Williams, 8<sup>th</sup> grade principal. **Please remember, your child will not be able to receive a driver's permit until they pass the 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading CRT test!**

Remaining dates for Saturday school are as follows:

- October 15 & 29, 2011
- November 5 & 19, 2011
- December 10, 2011
- January 14 & 28, 2012
- February 11 & 25, 2012
- March 10 & 31, 2012
- April 7 & 14, 2012

## MMS selects StuCo officers

In school-wide voting conducted on Friday, Sept. 23, 8<sup>th</sup> grader **Caleb Smith** was selected MMS Student Council President for the 2011-12 school year. Also elected to office for the year were Vice President **Kennedee Thorne**, Secretary **Hannah Valdez**, and Parliamentarian **Kate Dominguez**.



## Bands promise ‘spook’tacular concert Oct. 28

Scary sounds will be coming from the MMS auditorium on the evening of Friday, Oct. 28, as the MMS bands perform their annual Fall Harvest/Halloween Concert at 7 p.m. All band members will perform.

Warmup time is 6:30 p.m., for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and 6:45 p.m., for the 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Students can wear their MMS Band t-shirt or a Halloween costume. Family and friends also are encouraged to dress up and a costume parade will conclude the event. See you there - if you dare!

## Yearbook ads on sale now

Tell your student how much you care and help sponsor a school tradition in the process with a Josten’s personal yearbook recognition ad! Share favorite childhood photos, memories, and more in a format that will be treasured for a lifetime.

Proceeds from recognition ad sales are used to help support our school’s yearbook program. Create your own ad or let us work with you to create your memory today!

All pictures will be returned to the student. **THIS OFFER IS GOOD ONLY THROUGH JANUARY 31!** See Mrs. Traylor in Room 46 or call the MMS office to act now!

## JS2S presents 9/11 memorial flag

Hello from JS2S! We are off to a great start this year!

A huge ‘thank you’ goes out to all of the students who participated in the Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial. The students presented a memorial flag in honor of those who gave their lives 10 years ago. The flag is now hanging in the west wing of the school, across from the library, and students and parents are encouraged to stop by and take a look.

JS2S students also will begin collecting

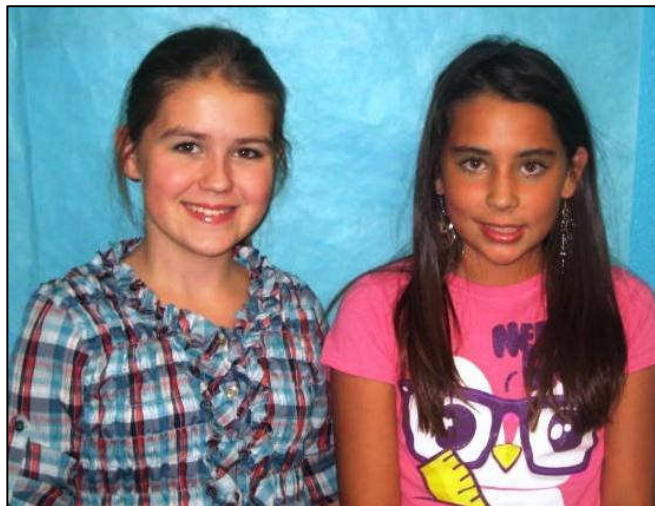
manufacturer’s coupons to send to a base in Japan. If you have extra coupons and would like to donate them to this cause, please send them to school. A collection box is located in Room 37. Coupons may be up to two months past the expiration date. Thank you for your contributions. For more information, contact JS2S Coordinator Denise Barry.

The next scheduled meetings for JS2S are Oct. 7 and Oct. 28, at 8 a.m., in the MMS library.

## Entries sought for Memorial essay contest

Last spring, students in Mrs. Adair’s Exploration class studied the impact of the Oklahoma City bombing on the state and the nation. Students set up a “walking museum” of archives from the event in the MMS library to share with the entire school. They concluded their study with a poetry contest and a visit to the museum.

Now all students have a chance to enter an essay contest to write a personal reflection on the importance of courage, resilience and hope. They may ask their English teachers for details of the essay, prizes and deadlines. All entries for the Student Essay Contest sponsored by the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum must be received by Friday, Nov. 11. For more information, visit the Oklahoma City National Memorial website at [www.oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org](http://www.oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org). Hover over the “Education” link on the left side of the main page and then click on “Student Essay Contest.”



**Faith Matson**, left, and **Brianna Fisher** recently were awarded first prize in the “Mac Middle” lyrics contest. They created lyrics to promote the use of technology and will each receive \$50 for their efforts. Their entry also will move on to compete nationally for \$75,000 in classroom makeovers in the contest, which is sponsored by E-instruction.

## SHADES to host Italian potluck dinner

The SHADES 8<sup>th</sup> grade team would like to invite all parents to join them for an

**Italian Potluck Dinner / Meet and Greet**

**Monday, Oct. 10**

**5:30 - 6:30 p.m.**

**MacArthur Middle School cafeteria**

Bianco’s restaurant has generously agreed to provide pasta sauce, while SHADES teachers will provide the pasta, as well as sweetened and unsweetened tea. **Parents are asked to bring side items, such as bread, salad, parmesan cheese and desserts.**

## DEUCES team news.....

We have really started off on the right foot here on the DEUCES team. We are excited to be more than half way through the first quarter, and we are really getting busy. We have a lot of fun activities going on here at school. Please encourage your children to become involved in many of the extracurricular clubs/activities that we have available. This makes students so well rounded and opens their eyes to so many future possibilities for them. We would like to thank the parents who came to the open house/health fair. It is so nice to put faces with names and meet the folks responsible for these wonderful students.

Here are some things your students will be working on in their classes during the upcoming month:

In Mrs. Ayers's/Ms. Sackett's reading classes, we have just begun to read and discuss the novel *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls. We will be choosing a project toward the end of the novel. The project will be due Oct. 17, 2011. Each student will present their project to the class. We will send out information on those projects as the time approaches. The presentations will be delivered orally to the classes on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. I am looking forward to their projects and reading the novel. On another note, Mrs. Ayers's gradebook has been restored to the computer. Please be patient as she enters all the grades that have piled up in the few weeks that it was down.

In Mrs. Gonzalez's science class for the next few weeks we will be studying cells. We will learn about the different kinds of cells, we will draw eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells, and we will make a cell using common items as the organelles. We have been learning about the metric system and have been learning to classify using a Dichotomous Key. This will come in very handy next year as 8<sup>th</sup> graders when they have their huge bug/leaf projects to do.

Mrs. Plunk's/Ms. Sackett's math classes will learn to solve and graph inequalities. We will then work with the coordinate graph system. Deuces math students will have their UNIT TEST on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14<sup>th</sup>. In the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, we do not allow students to redo a test. The test grade is final, therefore, they should study before the test. This test will cover: one-step equations, 2-step equations, equations with integers, one-step inequalities, graphing the solution set for inequalities, vocabulary and graphing on a coordinate plane.

Mrs. Plunk's honors math students will learn how to solve and graph the solution sets for inequalities. We will then move on to graphing on a coordinate plane with two variables (x and y). They will learn to recognize the slope of a linear equation. The students will become familiar with the  $y = mx + b$  format used with linear equations. Honors math will have a UNIT TEST on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14<sup>th</sup>. The Honors test will cover 2-step algebraic equations with integers, one and two step inequalities, graphing the solution set for inequalities, operations with scientific notation, word problems, graphing on a coordinate plane with two variables, and identifying slope and y-intercept.

In Mrs. Hopper's/Ms. Sackett's English classes, we have opened a Collaborized Classroom online! We are so excited about this new opportunity to learn, discuss, and collaborate with our team members, teachers, and administrators. About every two weeks there will be a thought provoking assignment posted on our Collaborized Classroom website and members will be required to go online, post a comment, and read and reply to other members' comments. We completed our first assignment last week and the dialogue was amazing - we had 121 comments and 269 replies posted in just two days! This first assignment involved reading a list of 'Internet Etiquette' strategies, posting a comment over what we read, and then reading other members' comments and posting replies. We learned a lot in just a couple of days, and what a cool way to learn! Be watching for our next assignment and get ready to comment and reply! We are also beginning the process of dissecting sentences. The first step we have learned is how to identify and label a prepositional phrase. The students have learned a preposition song to help them memorize the most frequently used prepositions. Ask them to sing it to you!

In Mr. Cook's geography classes in the month of October we will be studying Canada, Latin America, Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean Islands. Assignments will begin in class and, if not completed, will become homework. We won't have a written assignment every day, but there will be 2 or 3 each week. Please check your child's grade on Parent Portal and contact me if you have any questions. We now have our maps that we colored and labeled displayed in our hall, and they look great! Feel free to stop in and see them!

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DEUCES STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR SEPTEMBER!!

Moses Carlock	Kaleigh Dyas	Alyssa Snow
Josh McKinster	Dante Triplett	Aiden Caruana
Makayla Blasengame	Lauren Henry	Ryan Voeller
Brittany Hutchinson	Josh Sharum	Demre Lawson
Christian Scioneaux	Matthew Underwood	

## SHADES name top students

Congratulations to the SHADES team September Students of the Month! These outstanding students have exhibited honor, courtesy, and responsibility in the classroom and the hallways:

- Mrs. Koll - Holly Tubbs and Joshua Fleming
- Mrs. Barry - Sarah Dunnigan and Stephen Maddox
- Mrs. Junghanns - Cedar Caruana and Reed Webb
- Mrs. Fremin-Scott - Teonna Thomas and George Porter
- Mr. Holland - Amber Monks and Marcus Taylor
- Mrs. Roberts - Ford Sankey and So Hyun Lee

Thanks also to Subway for the delicious sandwiches provided for our luncheon. Students received certificates and their pictures are displayed on the team bulletin board.



## Red Ribbon Dance

Thursday, Nov. 3  
3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

**"Honor Your Heroes"**

**Students are encouraged to dress as their favorite hero – whether it's a fireman, an historical figure or even a parent (No superheroes or cartoon characters, please)!**

**Sponsored by the DEUCES team. Check out Scot Talk for more information!**

## News from the Extreme Team

Math classes are learning to solve algebraic equations. District-wide benchmark exams will be given in October and the first notebook grade will be taken.

At open house, many parents inquired about resources to help their student. MMS now has an online math tutorial program titled Catchup Math. Please follow these steps to utilize this program:

1. Go to [catchupmath.com](http://catchupmath.com), using the login name **mms593** and the password **Essentials** to register.
2. Complete the self-registration screen which will assign you an individual password.
3. Follow directions for taking an assessment quiz and completing individualized lessons.

We would like to have feedback about this program. We feel it will be beneficial to our students. Feel free to email comments about this software to Mr. Anderson at:

[manderson@lawtonps.org](mailto:manderson@lawtonps.org).

History classes will work on colony presentations. Students will research with partners one of the 13 original colonies and produce a creative presentation about their colony and try to persuade others to live there.

Book reports are due in reading on October 12.

Creative writing, creating bird nests and accompanying stories, equation frustration, punctuation, capitalization, and hink pinks, name just a few of the activities in English this first nine weeks. Honor students will be creating pumpkins and telling their life stories in October. Many essay contests are on the horizon in which we will be submitting our masterpieces.

Our September Students of the Month were presented with award certificates, a bag of treats, and their pictures added to our Wall of Fame.

These students exhibit courtesy, academic excellence, and good citizenship. A lunch of pizza and drinks will be served for these special students. Congrats to the following: **Tikara Kettries, Hailey Chisenhall, Kellie Lail, Matthew Seabolt, Michael Waddell, and Alejandro Gonzalez!**

## Champions team news.....

The Champions teachers would first like to remind you of some important upcoming dates. Benchmark testing will be held at the end of this month. It is very important that all students are in attendance for these days. Please speak with your student about the importance of coming to class prepared and ready to go on these important days. Also, student-led conferences will be on the evening of Oct. 18 and the morning of Oct. 19. We are looking forward to seeing all of those who can attend.

This month in Mrs. Hanna's reading class, students will read the famous novel, *The Outsiders* by Oklahoma author S.E. Hinton. Ms. Armstrong will start a unit on North America and review states and capitals in geography. Mrs. Swofford will begin two-step equations and inequality equations, while Mr. Suits will work with microscopes and looking at different types of cells in science. Finally, in English, Ms. Breeze's classes will study various writing techniques and work to compose a five-paragraph informational essay.

## Mini Mac Memo.....

The Mini Macs having been working very hard these past couple of months. The newness of school has worn off, but the students still find middle school very exciting.

In Language Arts, the students are doing a lot of writing, feverishly working to compose sentences, paragraphs, essays, and use proper grammar. In World Studies, the students will examine the Israelites. In Math, they will multiply and divide decimals. Science classes are studying the elements and Periodic Table.

In Reading, students will continue to read *Maniac Magee*, by Jerry Spinelli. Requirements for student book reports, which are due Oct. 10, have been sent home and discussed with the students. Examples have been shared in class. We will practice *citing resources* in class for

the bibliography.

Study Island is up and running. The students can log in at home. Parent Portal is now working, as well. Parents and students can log in from home and monitor classroom progress.

Student-led conferences are just around the corner and we look forward to meeting with you again.

The following students are Pizza Buddies and have been chosen based on classroom work habits and behavior. They were chosen to eat pizza for lunch with the Mini Mac Teachers. Congratulations!

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Ryan Carns      | Chelsea Hogue   |
| Caleb Walworth  | Sam Bailey      |
| Sophie Summer   | J.R. Winningham |
| Isaiah Quitugua | Cloey Foster    |
| Amir Awad       |                 |

## Trailblazers news.....

The first nine weeks has flown by. We appreciate all of the work that you are doing at home with your student.

Parent/Student/Teacher conferences are scheduled for October 18-19, 2011. Team conferences are scheduled for 10 minutes per student; please contact Ms. Foster at 353-5111 for scheduling. If you

feel you need additional time, please schedule through Mr. Bain, 6<sup>th</sup> grade counselor at 353-5111.

We continue to have students who are failing to turn in homework; we need your help to ensure that the work is completed and turned in. Thanks in advance for your help with this.

# Scholastic Book Fair



Oct. 31 - Nov. 4 in the library  
8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. each day

*Stop by and support  
your MMS library!*