



South Plainfield Middle School

2023-2024

Newsletter Committee

Melissa Cook
Elyse Phillips

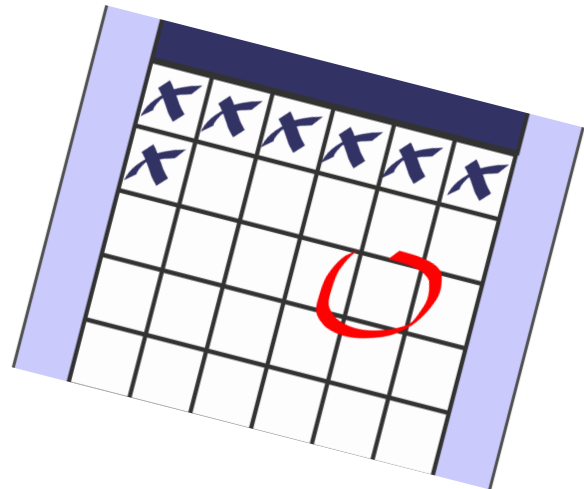
Michele Rodriguez
Kelly Richkus

NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS!

November:

- November 13 - End of the 1st Marking Period
- November 20, 21 -Early dismissal/Parent Conferences
- November 22 - Early dismissal
- November 23-24- No School Thanksgiving Recess



MRS. MEININGER'S SCIENCE CLASS

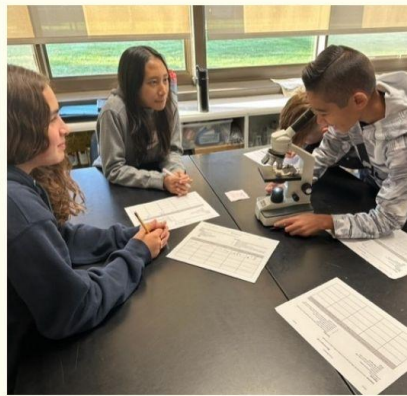
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investigating cells and the parts that make them function. Is it living or nonliving?

We started our second unit by observing cells under the microscope to get familiar with details. Then, to explore the components of the cell, we played a game of cell organelle *Guess Who!?* and learned their functions.

MICROSCOPES!



Blaise observing cell structure



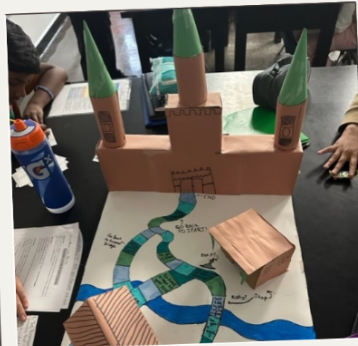
Lucia, Katie Anthony, & Nick discussing if water has cells or not



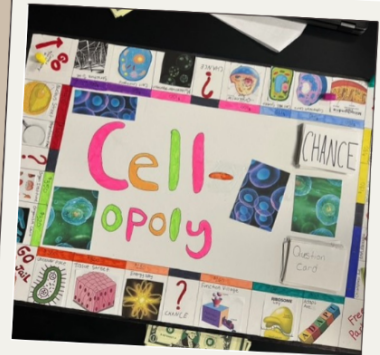
"Does your organelle contain DNA?"
Katelyn and Mackensie ask yes or no questions to figure out the chosen organelle.



cell board game
creations



cell board game



cellopoly



digestion lab

WE'VE
BEEN
BUSY!

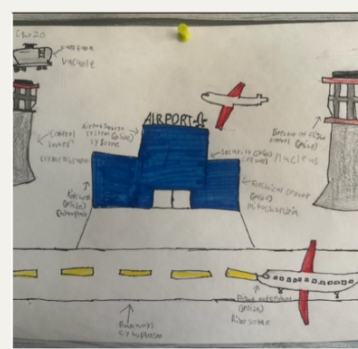


kidney
filtration lab

in Mrs. Meininger's Science Class



cell system
analogy: zoo



cell system
analogy: airport



cell system
analogy: zoo

November 2023

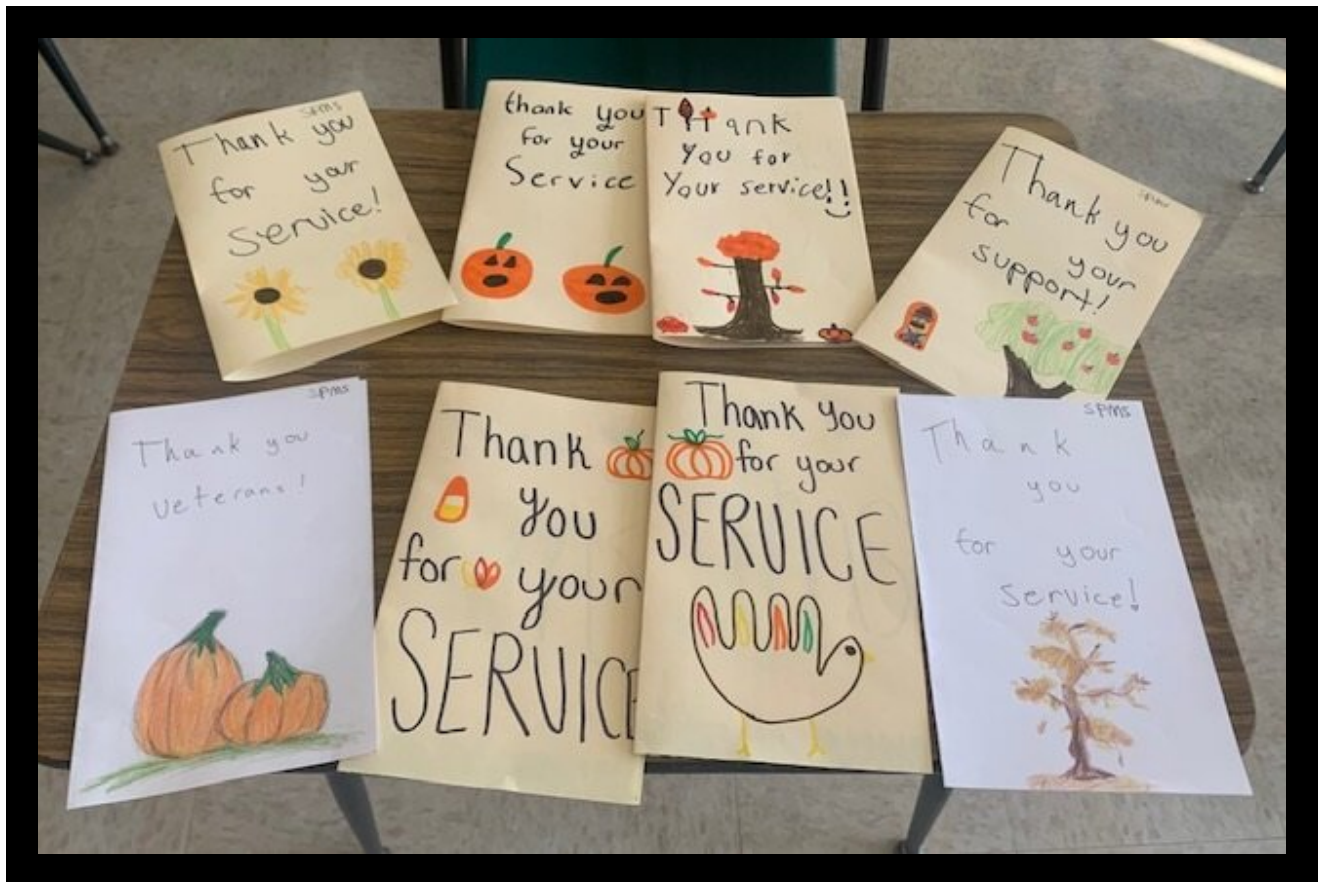
Student Fun

The South Plainfield Middle School Student Council and grade advisors organized this year's Volleyball Tournament, which was held November 14. Students had a blast working together to try and win the double elimination tournament. Many teachers participated on teams and helped make the night run smoothly. We can't wait to do this event again in the future!

Winning Team: Julian Hernandez, Nick France, Mikey Gerardo, Andrew Bena, Alex Teal, Optimus Campbell, and Ms. DiBella



The National Junior Honor Society created thank you cards for people serving in our military. They will be delivered for Thanksgiving and the service people will receive them when they are having their Thanksgiving dinner.



Day of the Dead is Celebration

Nov. 1st and 2nd

*On November 1st, students in Spanish classes enjoyed the celebration of the Day of the Dead tradition, where loved ones are remembered. This was the culmination of creating masks, pamphlets and viewing educational videos and snippets of the movie *Coco* as part of their cultural lessons of this tradition.*

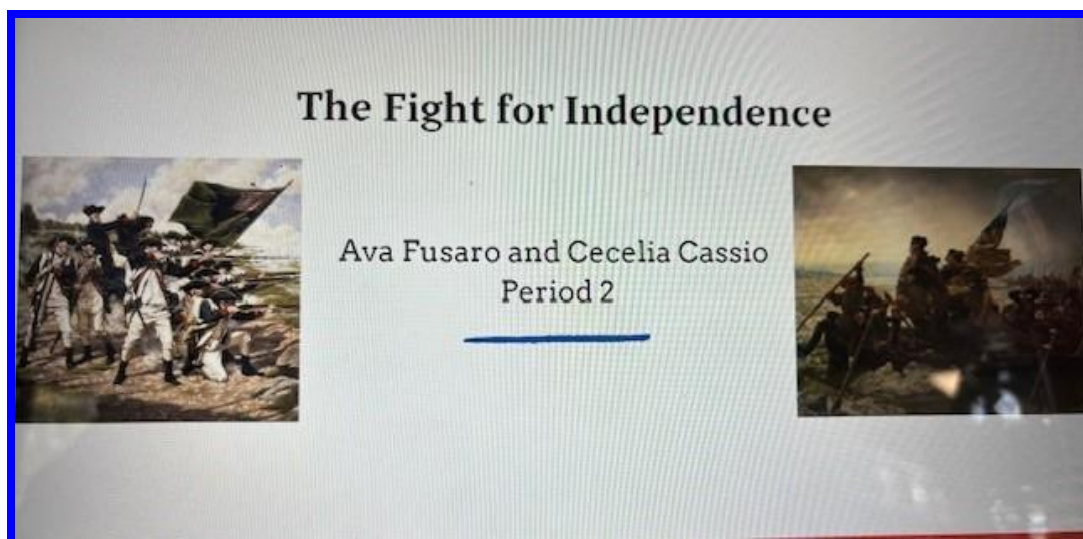
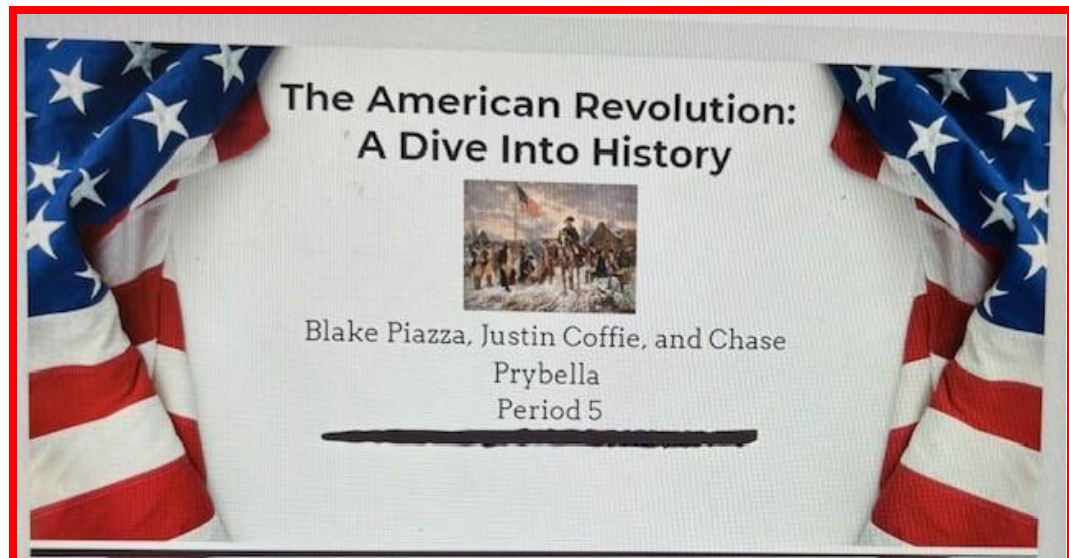
Ms. Rendon and Ms. Salazar re-enacted a presentation of how altars are created in Latin America. They placed cempasuchiles (marigolds), velas (candles), comida (food), calaveras (sugar skulls), and photos on the altar. On November 2nd, students shared their own short anecdotes of deceased family members and pets, and everyone thanked each other for sharing.





Ms. Pinelli's History Classes

Students created websites for the American Revolution. Along with the help of our librarian, Mrs. Alongi, students worked together to design websites that included topics, such as: The Declaration of Independence, reasons for the American Revolution, main battles, treaty terms, problems faced by US citizens after the war, and various other topics. The students enjoyed the hands-on approach to learning.



COUNSELING CORNER



Welcome to the Counseling Corner! The week of October 16th-20th was designated as School Violence Awareness Week. Middle School students and staff joined together to raise awareness and prevent school violence and bullying among our young people. Students and faculty made a visual statement by participating in school spirit days including wearing Tie-Dye to “Keep the PEACE!” and wearing our favorite sports jersey to “To team up against school violence.”

The week of October 23rd - 31st was Red Ribbon week, which serves as a reminder to educate youth on the dangers of substances, encourage participation in drug prevention activities, and make healthy choices. Daily announcements were made inspiring Middle School students to lead fun, healthy, and drug free lives.

October brought a more routine schedule after our transition to a new year. It is the meat of the marking period. All students are encouraged to regularly check their school email, Classroom pages, and their Genesis account so they have a greater awareness of their progress throughout the marking period and they don’t get a surprise when it ends. Every student was issued a paper planner as a tool to keep organized. Teachers hold at least two extra help sessions a week to give their students a chance to revisit tough concepts, ask more individualized questions in a smaller setting, or work on assignments with the ability to get feedback they can’t get working independently at home. Take advantage of the free online tutoring program for extra Math help. November is a choppy month with several days off, so the end of the marking period can really sneak up. A reminder that Nov. 13th was the last day, and conferences are being held just before our Thanksgiving break.



Nurses Nook

As winter months approach, a few pointers:

WHEN IS SICK TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?

WHEN TO STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL:	IT'S OK TO RETURN TO SCHOOL IF YOU ARE:
Fever with a temperature of 100 or higher	You are fever free for 24 hours WITHOUT the use of fever reducing medicine, such as ibuprofen or Tylenol (acetaminophen)
Diarrhea or vomiting within the past 24 hours	Free from diarrhea and/or vomiting for at least 24 hours
Coughing that won't stop or other problems with breathing	Cough is mild and infrequent and evaluated by doctor if needed
Body rash with itching and/or fever	Free from body rash, itching or fever and evaluated by doctor if needed
Eye infection: eye is red and oozing a yellow or green discharge	24 hours after starting antibiotic eye drops or ointment

Veterans Day Assembly

https://youtu.be/NT7iUa5_Llc



At 11 a.m. on November 11, 1918, the Armistice took effect which ended the fighting of World War I. That is the origin of Veterans Day, originally known as Armistice Day. It is a day to celebrate peace and the men and women who have fought so bravely for it over many years.

The Middle School celebrated Veterans Day on Wednesday, November 8, to honor veterans' sacrifices and to think of ways we can further peace in the world.

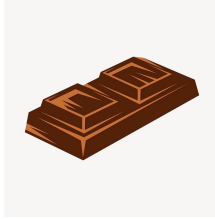


JUNIOR JOURNALIST



Congratulations to Janna Zahran and her ELA teacher, Mr. Deremiah. Janna was a winner for the Junior Journalist contest for her writing entry, "Too Much to Do."

CANDY FOR SALE!



The Middle School Student Council will be holding a Fall Chocolate Candy Sale that started Tuesday, November 14th and it will run to Friday, December 1st. This fundraiser is to help us raise money to support student activities and events and to raise money for the student's 8th Grade Class trip to Philadelphia. In addition, students have several opportunities for prizes. When you receive a box there is a chance for a golden ticket that can be turned into our Guidance office for a prize. As an added bonus any student that picks up a box of candy by this Friday, will be entered into a raffle to win a One Pound Chocolate Bar. There will be three wins. Boxes can be picked up after school by the gym at 2:20pm.

A presentation about the fundraiser took place during the lunch periods where students were informed that with parent permission they may participate. Students can bring a signed permission slip or parents can register utilizing the QR code on the form to register online. Please send checks payable to SPMS Student Activity Account for \$60.

Please make sure that envelopes turned into the school are clearly marked with your child's name and grade. All chocolate must be paid for before additional chocolate may be checked out and you must sell the entire box(es) and turn the money in no later than Friday, December 1st. Thank you all students and parents for your hard work and dedication to this fundraiser!

South Plainfield Middle School

ADMINISTRATION

908-754-4620



Main Office

- *Principal: Mr. Leo Whalen ext. 2610*
- *Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Lodato ext. 2601*
- *Assistant Principal: Mrs. Kelly Richkus ext. 2611*
- *Administrative Assistant: Ms. D'Addario ext. 2602*

Guidance

- *7th Grade Counselor: Mrs. Mikaelian ext. 2633*
- *8th Grade Counselor: Mrs. DeMello ext. 2632*
- *SAC: Ms. Aziz ext. 2634*
- *Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Giannakis ext. 2631*

School Nurse

- *Mrs. Wollman: ext. 2620*