

Advanced Learning Program Newsletter

Paragould School District

Fall/Winter 2019

Dissection Day 2019



Front from left: Hannah Leisure, Emma Dillon, Jaley Oldham, and Lily Broadway.

Back row from left: Abby Stevens, Olivia Hancock, Evelyn McHaney, Abby Powell, Eli Schreit, Simon McBride, Sam Cook, and PHS Pre-AP biology teacher, Caleb Williams.



ALP juniors conducted a dissection lab with third and fourth grade ALP students. The juniors prepared for the lab by providing diagrams, reviewing safety procedures, and practicing a dissection lab beforehand. Caleb Williams, Pre-AP biology teacher at PHS, encouraged the juniors to communicate with the younger students and to be very active with the students while teaching them about dissection. The juniors who led the lab participated in the same experience when they were third and fourth graders.

“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.”

-Benjamin Franklin-



The PJHS Quiz Bowl Team attended team camp on Oct. 19 in Little Rock. Team members Hannah Vowell and Jo Beth Mitchell won awards for their teams (students from all schools were mixed together to form teams).

The team also competed in two invitationals this season. They played well in the Searcy tournament, but they did not place. The team placed 2nd of 11 teams at the NEA Educational Cooperative Invitational on December 10th. Way to go!

PJHS is hosting the 5A Quiz Bowl Regional Tournament on January 18.

Mrs. Hooten's pre-AP English 8 classes attended a professional dramatic presentation of suspenseful short stories this fall. They attended *Encore!*, which included "The Raven," "The Tell-Tale Heart", "The Monkey's Paw", "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow", and "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County."

Students in Advanced Placement Physics, AP Chemistry, AP Calculus, and Pre-AP Chemistry travelled to Discovery Park of America in Union City, Tennessee on Nov. 20th for a field trip.

While at Discovery Park, students explored different natural history exhibits and participated in a scavenger hunt. Other scheduled activities included participation in a volcano/rock special program, an earthquake simulation, and viewing of a tornado video. The instructors for these courses on the field trip were Anmity Bruton, Andrea Minor, and Tim Parrott.



ALP Hosts Annual Entrepreneur Day

The Paragould School District Gifted and Talented Entrepreneur Day will be held Feb. 6 in the PHS auditorium.

Advanced Learning Program students of Karen Snyder in grades 7-10 have formed teams and created a business plan and products for the project. The teams will compete in four categories: Business Display, Commercial, Elevator Pitch, and Overall Winners. Trophies will be awarded in each category for first, second, and third places.

Overall winners will attend the Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce Business Showcase in February at the Paragould Community Center. The overall winner will display their project and provide samples of their products during the showcase.

All PJHS social studies classes, PHS social studies classes, and ALP elementary classes will tour the projects and students will be able to purchase products.

Judges for the competitions will be Ronnie Wright from First National Bank, Paragould Gina Jarrett of Main Street Paragould, Dina Mason from Mor Media, Holly Gordon, advertising director at Paragould Light, Water, and Cable, Taylor Morgan and Drew Hancock, both from KAIT8, Michelle Sawyer of American Railcar, Brandi Goodson of Southern Bank - Jonesboro, and Tonya Henderson of Southern Bank - Paragould.

PHS Offers ACT Bootcamps

The Paragould School District Advanced Learning Program will offer two more boot camps during the 2019-20 school year. The camps will be held Feb. 1 and March 28.

The camps will be held at Paragould High School from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., where students will receive instruction in English, reading, math, and science reasoning, related to ACT testing, prior to the ACT exams. Teachers for the boot camp will be Kelli Rollins-Stidham, Mary Ann Washington, Andrea Minor, and Sonya Huffmaster.

The boot camp is for students who attend the Paragould School District and there is no charge for the boot camp.

Lunch will be provided for the students who register in advance.

PSD offers this opportunity to its students to assist them in gaining a higher ACT score in order to earn scholarships, acceptance into the college of their choosing, as well as entry into desired programs.

Students interested need to register with Karen Snyder, PSD Advanced Placement Coordinator, in room 29-125, by email at ksnyder@paragouldschools.net, or by phone at (870) 240-2271 ext. 6024.

PHS AP students earn 106 passing scores

The Advanced Placement scholarship awards ceremony was held Sept. 20, at 9:45 a.m. in the Paragould High School auditorium. Students who earned passing scores on the AP exams administered in May 2019 were recognized and presented with a check for \$100 for each passing score. A reception was held following the assembly in the senior lounge for recipients, families, and distinguished guests.

NIDEC Motor Corporation of Paragould made a donation to the Paragould School District for the presentations of these scholarships. Ronnie Howe, NIDEC production manager, and Patty Lee, NIDEC human resource manager, presented the checks to the recipients during the ceremony.

Recipients recognized at the ceremony include Ashlyn Apple, Courtney Babcock, Justin Beach, Zoey Beasley, Gage Blankenship, Shelby Blankenship, Rachel Booth, Alex Brengard, Lily Broadway Caroline Burrow, Zane Clark, Taylor Copeland, Bella Deatherage, Berry Dickey, Lainey Dillon, Kelsey Dupuis, Secily Ethridge, Averie Estes, Krysta Fowler, Meagan Foster, Shayley Foster, Bayleigh Freeman, Anna Gazaway, Preston Glenn, Alyssa Gurien, Brooke Hampton, Jackson Hancock, Olivia Hancock, Holden Hartsfield, Logan Hisaw, Lilly Hoggard, Naya Holloway, Payton Hooton, Mackenzie Jamison, Jilliyn Jeu, Blaire Justice, Taylor Kingston, Holly Lawrence, Shea Malone, Michala McPhink, Evelyn McHaney, Hannah Messer, Valerey Michael, Alexis Miller, Mattie Neighbors, Illyana O'Rourke, Emilee Owen, Jackson Parker, Claire Phillips, Jada Pulley, Calee Roberts, Zoe Rodrigues, Jason Rowland, Lena Schreit, Sarah Sellen, Keirsten Sharpe, Preslee Sharpe, Calysta Short, Matilyn Smith, Rose Smith, Alexis Stanley, Daniel Steele, Damian Stevenson, Kaitlyn Stoddard, Madison Symons, Suppapon Tetiranont, Mary Grace Tilley, McKenna Timmons, Gabriel Waddell, Tymra Walker, Abigail Wilcox, Emma Wyatt, Trace Wyss, and Melody Young.

Apple, Shelby Blankenship, Dillon, Jackson Hancock, McPhink, Parker, Rodrigues, Stevenson, and Stoddard earned \$300 because they earned passing scores on three exams, and Beach, Booth, Brengard, Copeland, Freeman, Jeu, Justice, Michael, Neighbors, Keirsten Sharpe, Tilley, Wilcox, and Wyss received \$200 checks because they passed two exams. All other students received \$100 checks for passing one exam.

The following students were recognized as AP Scholars because they earned passing scores on three or more AP exams during their time in high school: Apple, Beasley, Booth, Brengard, Dickey, Dillon, Michael, Neighbors, Owen, Phillips, Smith, Stevenson, Stoddard, Wilcox and Wyss. Six students, Shelby Blankenship, Copeland, Jackson Hancock, McPhink, Parker, and Rodrigues were recognized as AP Scholars with Distinction for earning an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken and scores of three or higher on five or more AP exams during their high school career. One student, Jackson Parker, was named a National AP Scholar because he earned an average score of at least 4 on all AP exams taken and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.



Paragould High School and AP Scholar with Distinction, Zoe Rodrigues, presents a speech at the AP Awards Ceremony Sept. 20th.



Third and fourth grade ALP students at WWE play the new Paragould-Opoly game for the first time. The game features the history of our hometown by displaying important landmarks from our city and county. The games can be purchased at your local Wal-Mart store.



Students in Anmity Bruton's Pre-Advanced Placement physical science classes travelled to Discovery Park of America in Union City, Tennessee on Dec. 4th for a field trip.

While at Discovery Park, students explored exhibits related to energy, motion, and chemical compositions. They also participated in a special class led by park employees.

Bruton explained that the students have studied motion and energy in class, but this trip allowed them to see these concepts in action.



Pre-AP science students from PJHS recently visited Parkin Archeological State Park. Students attended several programs including “Archeology Tool Box.” They also participated in a stratigraphy lesson. These programs introduced students to the tools used by archeologists and also informed them about how archeologists figure out how old things are based on where they are found in the ground.

Students Visit Hemingway Pfeiffer Museum in Piggott



Third and fourth grade ALP students in the PSD recently took a field trip to the Hemingway Pfeiffer Museum and Educational Center in Piggott. It included a barn studio associated with Ernest Hemingway and the family home of his wife, Pauline Pfeiffer. The students also visited the Matilda and Karl Pfeiffer Museum and Study Center located beside it. Students saw a world class mineral collection and a Native American artifact collection. It is also the location for the swimming pool scene during the 1956 filming of Elia Kazan's movie "A Face in the Crowd" starring Andy Griffith and Patricia Neal. ALP students learned so much history on this tour. The most exciting part of the visit seemed to be the presentation of geodes that included a large collection from the Matilda and Karl Pfeiffer Museum.

STEM Activities at WWE



Elementary ALP students were given two chairs with a piece of tape across them. They were instructed to use materials provided to create a bridge that would hold as many hot wheels cars as possible without the bridge collapsing. Students also built contraptions with STEM materials.

Oak Grove Elementary STEM Activities



OGE Elementary ALP students recently participated in a STEM activity by using a limited amount of gumdrops and toothpicks to build the tallest Christmas tree possible. They also used a limited amount of marshmallows and toothpicks to build a snow fort to protect the cup critter.

Baldwin Students Participate in STEM Activities



Sixth Graders Serve at Mission Outreach



Sixth grade pre-ap students volunteer monthly at Mission Outreach. Students serve lunch, gather dishes, wash dishes, and clean the dining room while they are serving others. This is the fifth year students have participated in this project.

“A kind gesture can reach a wound that only compassion can heal.” Steve Maraboli



ALP students at Woodrow Wilson and Baldwin Elementary learned about the History of the Titanic. These students were involved in a deep discussion about how the handling of the lifeboats, the warning the captain received, and many other factors that played into the disaster that took the lives of so many on board the ship.

Baldwin Students Build Towers Using Teamwork



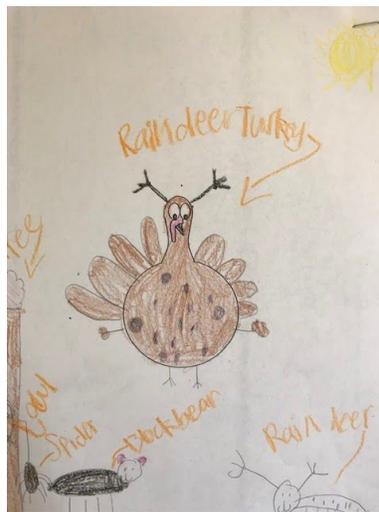
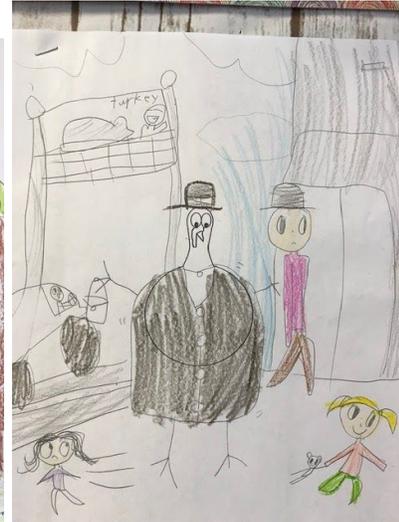
“Calling All Turkeys”



Elementary ALP students at Baldwin and Woodrow Wilson Elementary were given a limited number of supplies and divided into groups. Students were instructed to use the supplies to create some type of turkey in a limited amount of time while using team building skills. The students created some awesome pieces of artwork.

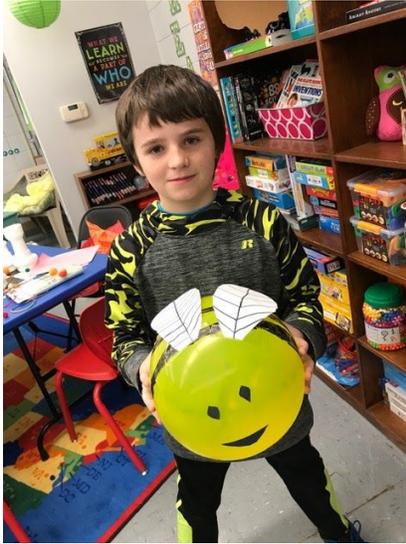


Turkey Transformations

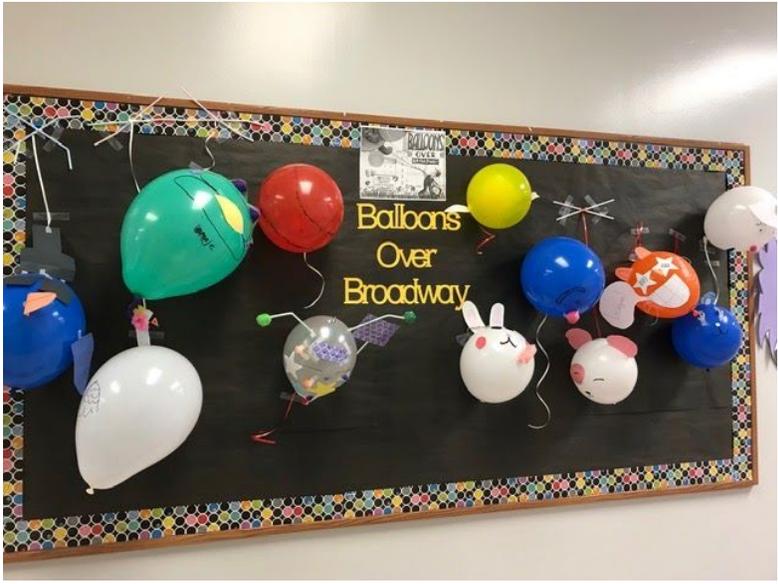


Second grade students across the district completed “turkey transformations” after listening to the story “A Plump and Perfect Turkey” by Teresa Bateman. Students were introduced to the words camouflage, disguise, and collage. They were instructed to transform their turkey into a picture that would show the turkey camouflaged, in disguise, or in a collage. Students used divergent thinking skills while coming up with clever ideas for this activity during the month of November.

“Balloons Over Broadway” Unit of Study



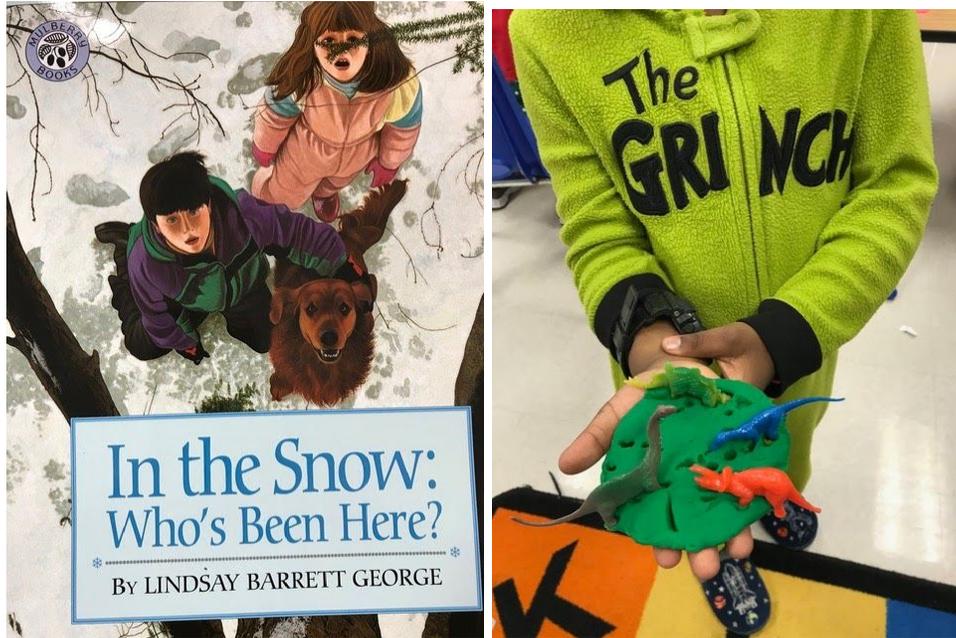
ALP students at Baldwin and Woodrow Wilson Elementary participated in a “Balloons Over Broadway” unit of study. Students learned about the history of Tony Sarg, a German American puppeteer and illustrator. He was known as “America’s Puppet Master.” He undertook the puppet-related work of designing Macy’s elaborate animated window display between Thanksgiving and Christmas. He is known for the huge tethered helium-filled balloons resembling animals that he designed for the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day parade. Students were challenged to watch the parade and then come up with a design for a balloon display.



GT/AP Parent Night 2019



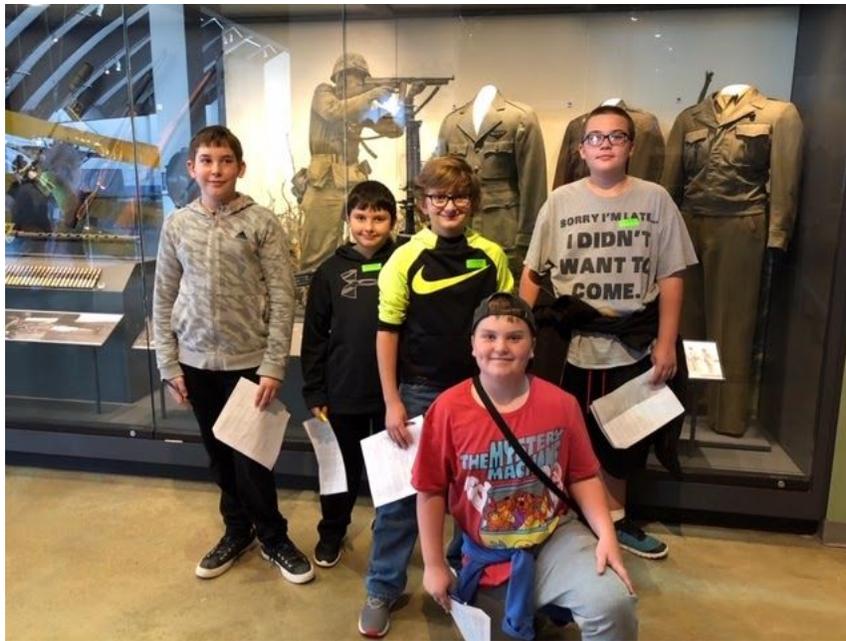
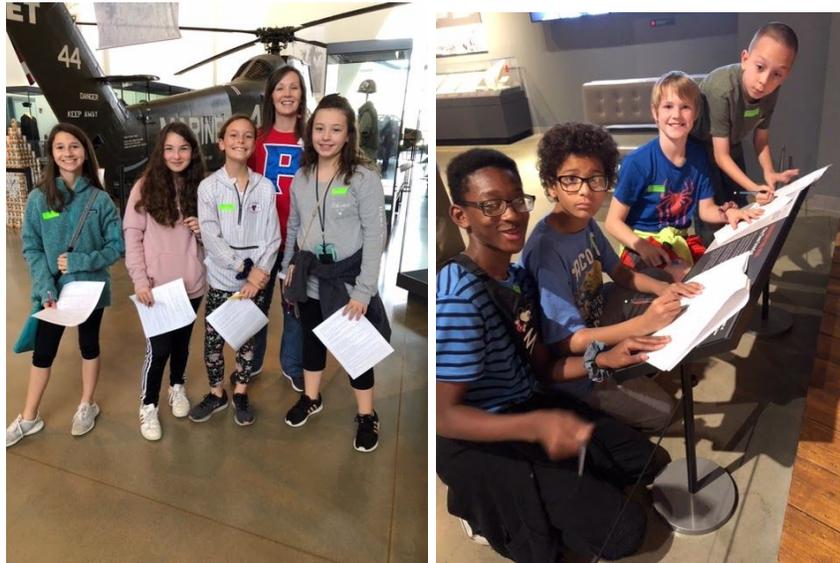
Kindergarteners Use Creative Thinking Skills



Throughout the school year, kindergarten students at Paragould Primary School learn about characters that teach them different ways to think. While learning about “Dudley the Detective” and convergent thinking, students used “detective thinking skills” to examine whose tracks might be in the snow. After GT Facilitator, Starla Wood, read the book “ In the Snow: Who’s Been Here?” by Lindsay Barrett George, students made dinosaur imprints in playdough. They had to use detective skills to determine which dinosaur imprint was in the playdough created by their partner. Students looked for clues to come up with the right answer.



Students Visit Discovery Park of America



Pre-AP science students from OGMS recently visited the Discovery Park of America in Union City, TN. The students participated in a three page scavenger hunt. Students had to find information from the nine indoor gallery exhibits about various artifacts including the history from the Gutenberg Press, engine turbines, various wars, the Ark of the Covenant, and natural history along with many other historical events.