

North Branford Intermediate School
NBIS News - March, 2015

- Robotics Club students have been working to learn the fundamentals of robotics including programming design and construction. Students are in the process of building competition claw bots that will have preprogrammed and remote controls. The club will hold a competition in the NBIS gymnasium in March.
- Future Problem Solvers - kudos to Rebecca Sabetta, Allie Cordero, Myles Vincent and Allison Wang for completing the Qualifying Problem Booklet on the topic of Propaganda. Top scoring booklets will be invited to the State Conference in the spring to compete for a chance to go to the International Conference in June. The team is to be commended for their strong efforts and perseverance.
- The Math Team continues to work hard on their math video. They have finished their script and are now in the process of filming and editing the video. The team is very excited about this project and they can't wait to share it with everyone!
- 8th grade French students used the internet to complete a collage describing themselves. Students wrote a short paragraph in French to explain the pictures on the collage. 8th grade Spanish students watched the movie Selena and wrote a research paper on it. 7th grade Spanish students are preparing a conversation to present to the class. It consists of greeting someone, asking his/her name, introducing a friend and saying goodbye. World Culture students are studying Mexico. They have learned about various holidays, foods and the geography. In connection with the holidays, students are making a typical craft, papel picado.
- In honor of Read Across America, the Library is holding a Read to Grow Book Drive for the month of March. Gently used books, appropriate for infants through 8th grade, are being collected. These books will then be picked up and distributed by the Read to Grow to families and organizations in need.
- The Yearbook is in the final stages of production. Many pages are complete and we are now including photographs of the recent activities here at NBIS and of the Boys and Girls Basketball teams.
- Scarlet Banner reporters and editors will begin working on the third edition shortly.
- TV Club production crew has prepared a segment for Read Across America Day on March 2, while the rest of the members of the TV Club busily prepare for the daily morning announcements and Passport to Pride shows.
- The Music Department recently began our spring fundraiser. The profits will help 7th and 8th grade students with the cost of their music festival trip to the High Note Festival in June. Additional funds raised by 6th grade students will help with the purchase of new music, supplies, and repairs and benefit all of the music department. On March 3rd, the 8th grade chorus will be singing in the North Branford Choral Spectrum Concert. This performance is a collaboration with JHS, TVES, and NBHS and will feature groups from all schools. The Band Spectrum Concert has been postponed from March 5th to April 1st and will feature the 8th grade band and NBIS jazz band. On March 18th, the 6th grade general music students will be attending a concert at the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. On February 28th three NBIS students performed at the CMEA Southern Regional Music Festival at Lincoln Middle School in Meriden. Caroline Shadman, 6th grade, performed on trombone in the band, Ethan Sabetta, 6th grade, performed with the world drumming ensemble, and 8th grade student Bella DiMartino performed with the orchestra. All three of these students auditioned in December with hundreds of students across

the southern region of Connecticut, and were accepted into the festival based on their exemplary scores. It is an honor to be a part of this festival, and we are very proud of these three students' accomplishments.

- NBHS Course Scheduling for 8th grade students took place the last week of February. School counselors met with sixth grade classes to introduce Naviance.
- Physical Education students will continue to participate in a unit of volleyball and then a March Madness basketball tournament.
- Mrs. DePalma's sixth grade social studies students are in the process of finishing a mini-research project. This project is preparing students for the upcoming collaborative research project with the Librarian, Mrs. Molloy. Ms. Ardine and Mr. Orosz's seventh grade students are currently analyzing original pieces of cultural artwork created by students in Jordan and Latvia. This artwork project is part of the year-long Creative Connections Art Link program. Mrs. Papa's eighth grade students are now preparing for a videoconferencing session, which is part of the Presidential Primary Sources Project.
- The Student Council's main mission over the course of the last month was to help raise funds for the district-wide St. Baldrick's fundraiser. Many students participated in the head shaving event at Jerome Harrison on February 23rd and NBIS staff members shaved their heads in a special assembly on February 24th. Students and staff at NBIS raised over \$4,800. Nineteen NBIS students volunteered to have their heads shaved. Special congratulations to seventh grader Sean Lucibello, who raised \$975, and Jady Joiner, who has participated for two years and raised more than \$1500! Our participating staff members were Mr. Neufeld, Mr. Burke, Mr. Gill, Mr. Bickelhaupt, Mr. Orosz, and Mr. Crescenzi. It is worthy to note that Mr. Neufeld raised \$1570 this year. This is the third time that Mr. Neufeld has participated in the St. Baldrick's event.