

**North Branford Intermediate School**  
**NBIS News - January, 2018**

- The NBIS Interact Club wrapped up its Holiday in a Shoebox project in December. Twenty shoeboxes were filled with needed items and small gifts for children in the New Haven area who receive services from New Reach, and these were delivered to the agency before the holidays.
- Original pieces of cultural art, created by Seventh Grade Social Studies students, are on their way to the Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Educare located in the city of Chennai in Tamil Nadu, India. Ms. Ardine's and Mrs. Sabetta's students are incredibly excited about receiving artwork from their partner students. Art pieces from India will be arriving in the early months of the New Year.
- The NBIS Interact Club is currently holding a school-wide coat drive to collect coats for the BHcare Clothing Bank which provides clothing for those in need in North Branford and the surrounding area. The Club will also host a community-wide coat drive on Sunday, January 21st from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.
- The NBIS Robotics Club has begun working with Jerome Harrison School, teaching elementary school students the fundamentals of robotics and programming as a class during the elementary school day.
- On December 4<sup>th</sup>, three Math department members (Mrs. Brustman, Mrs. Colandrea, and Mrs. Valentino) attended the 2017 ATOMIC Annual Conference in Cromwell, CT. The workshops at the conference focused on facilitating productive student discourse about mathematics. Our representatives shared their new learning with their colleagues and developed new ideas to use in their classrooms.
- In Health, Sixth Grade learned about different mental and emotional disorders in our Body and Mind unit. Seventh Grade learned about different pathogens in our Communicable Diseases unit. Eighth Grade learned how to perform CPR and use an AED along with other safety knowledge skills in our Safety Prevention unit.
- Several NBIS students auditioned for the Southern Region Middle School CMEA Festival. Seven NBIS students were accepted to the mixed chorus, the treble chorus, the flute choir and the concert band. These students are Emily Hortillo (7<sup>th</sup>, flute choir), Ben Reynolds (8<sup>th</sup>, mixed chorus), Sheyenne Rivera (8<sup>th</sup>, treble choir), Brianni Berrios (8<sup>th</sup>, treble choir), Alex Shadman (7<sup>th</sup>, band), Zachary Chittenden (8<sup>th</sup>, band), and Brooke Karpel (6<sup>th</sup>, band). They will participate in the CMEA Southern Region Festival during the first weekend in March.
- On December 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, the band and chorus presented their winter concert to the NBIS students and parents. The concert was a success and Mrs. Zoll and Mrs. Jones are very proud of the students!
- The NBIS 2017-2018 National Geographic Bee Finals will be held in the Library on January 24<sup>th</sup>. All students will participate in a preliminary competition in Social Studies classes.
- Student reporters for the NBIS school newspaper "The Scarlet Banner" finished the second edition.
- Student Council is holding a door decorating competition for winter cheer; created Public Service Announcements with the TV Club; and are working on February school spirit activities.
- Language Arts teacher Audrey Jankiewicz recently attended a "What's New in Young Adult Literature" workshop and shared its resources with the 6-12 English Language Arts teachers.
- Sixth Grade Art students have just finished working on a Monochromatic Landscape painting. Seventh Grade students have just finished working on designing a room using colored pencils. Eighth Grade students have just finished working on a color wheel line design, learning about color theory and tertiary colors.
- The Yearbook continues to be developed. The cover has been chosen and our photographers are actively capturing events and student life.
- Kathy Granfield recently began an after-school program focused on bridge-building. In this activity, students have the opportunity to think about problems faced by bridge engineers, and work through how they would use engineering strategies to overcome these problems.
- The NBIS Spotlight Players are in full swing with their production of The Music Man. Tickets go on sale February 6<sup>th</sup>. Performances are on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7 p.m. and February 24<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. It is sure to be a wonderful show.