

# Cairo-Durham Middle School



Mr. Michael Mitchell, Principal

Be Responsible \* Be Respectful \* Be Ready To Learn

## 2017



**April 7 Last day of Quarter 3**

**April 13 11:45 Dismissal**

**April 14-April 19 Spring Break**

**April 25 & 26 Spring Portraits**

**March Students of the Month:**

**Marissa Markiewicz**

**Jeremy Kosciusko**

**Kiyana Pereira**

**Jacob Waldron**

**Maya Englehardt-Lorenzana**

**Ethan Phillips**

**Congratulations!!**



Each year since 1973, on the first weekend in March, The Alaskan Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race takes place. It is a grueling 1,049 mile race across varying and dangerous terrain under difficult weather conditions. Temperatures can be as much as 40-50 degrees below zero. Our 6th grade Survival Unit includes selecting and following a musher (sled driver) while reading **Guts** and **Woodsong** by Gary Paulsen. The latter is an autobiographical account of Paulsen's 1983 Iditarod run. Throughout the unit, students work on many group and individual reading and writing activities comparing Gary's journey to their mushers' experiences. Through the wonders of the internet, we can follow the race and its minute by minute excitement. We also learn about the history of the race. It was established to commemorate the 1925 serum run. Balto and many other sled dog leaders and their mushers braved blizzard conditions to bring life saving medicine to the children of Nome, Alaska suffering from diphtheria. The culminating activity for our unit involved the students engaging in sled dog racing in gym class, and having an awards banquet on Thursday afternoon the 30th after the last of our ELA tests. Awards were presented to the students whose mushers received awards. Students enjoyed Eskimo ice cream bars while watching video of the presentations and speeches at the actual banquet held in Nome last Sunday. A few of the awards given were to Mitch Seavey (Wyatt Handel) the champion with a record setting time, and Cindy Abbott (Bethanie VanTassel) the Red Lantern winner.

[cd.powerschool.com](http://cd.powerschool.com)

Quote: *“Intelligence will never stop being beautiful.”*



Mckayla Mudge and Ally MacGiffert took 3rd Place at Twin County Science Expo for their "Rainbow Reactions Project"

Their project tested the effect of water temperature on time of the reaction of food coloring and oil

Good job girls!!!

*Our “Pennies for Patients” penny drive was a success again this year. We collected \$222 !!!  
The 6th grade received 50,000 gritty points for making the biggest donation. Start saving for next year!!*

**Nurse's Corner:**

*Our second annual American Red Cross Blood Drive will be on 4/27/17 in the High School Gym from 8:30am-2:30pm. Students who are 16 years old may participate with parent permission. Seventeen years old and up if meet weight requirements may participate without parent permission. Sign up in Health Office or call [518-622-0490](tel:518-622-0490) prompt # 3 for an appointment. Walk-ins from the public are welcome! We need to collect 50 pints and the scholarship will be determined by total number of units collected. Please help if you can.*