

# THE MIDLAND MONTHLY

## 'Twas a Season Filled with Song and Dance!



### First Student Talent Show



Room 220



Room 222



Room 507



Room 506



Room 505



Room 506



### Holiday Assembly



Sahil plays a piano solo



Natalie sings a solo



Blair decorates the tree



Junior Chorus performs



Rudolph visited



Senior Chorus performs



**BUDDING ARTISTS**



**Joseph C. Room 218**

**Jasper Johns**

Jasper Johns was a famous American artist. He enjoyed painting, printmaking and later in his life, collage.

He richly painted maps, flags, numbers and targets. His work was popular because he was inventive and he helped start a new art movement that included everyday items.



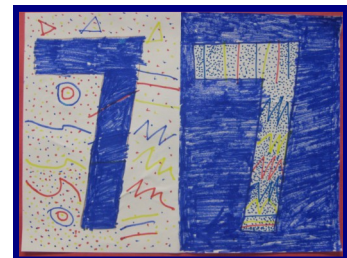
The students studied the work of Jasper Johns, who emphasized concrete subject matter, which laid the groundwork for both Pop Art and Minimalism. The students recreated their own their own versions of his famous "Numbers in Color" using markers and crayons.



**Jillian H. Room 217**



**Angelica L. Room 220**



**Nathaniel M. Room 222**

**SOCK TREE DONATIONS**



The Midland Student Council sponsored its eighth annual **Sock Drive** for the Homeless.

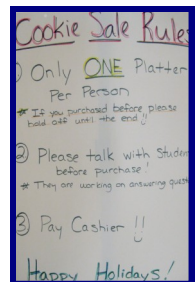
Thanks to all your generosity, they collected over 385 pairs of new socks! There were 134 pairs of children's socks, 126 pairs of women's socks and 125 pairs of men's socks. It was an amazing and colorful sight to see all those socks hanging from the tree!

As always, we thank you for your generosity and support in this community service project.



**SUPER SENIOR STAFF COOKIE SALE**

Reminiscent of "Black Friday," the Super Senior cookie sale was such an overwhelming success, that in order to control the customers' enthusiasm, rules and cue lines had to be formed! The holiday cookie platters sold out both days!



**GENEROUS TECHNOLOGY DONATIONS**

**6 iPads and 6 iPodtouch  
for the Speech Department**



A grant from Patrick's Pals which is a non-profit foundation started in 2008 to provide children with multiple disabilities equipment and therapies necessary for them to function on a daily basis. Patrick's Pals was started by Jim & Kerry Conmy in honor of their son, Patrick.

Each speech therapist will have an iPad and iPodtouch available for their professional use. Appropriate applications will be downloaded to allow the therapists the ability to explore, practice and become familiar with the software and its capabilities so that they can be individualized for specific students.



**A Pen Friend  
for every Teacher**

A gift from the Hyde and Watson Foundation. This charitable foundation provides financial support to nonprofit organizations in the arts as well as medical research, health care and education.

This voice labeling system allows users to easily record and re-record information onto self-adhesive labels. Teachers can design an endless number of instructional materials using this device.



Small Talk Sequencer

**6 Go Talk 9,  
6 Go Talk Pocket  
1 Talkable III  
1 Small Talk Sequencer**



Talkable III

Money raised at the annual Midland CROP for Kids was donated for the purchase of these devices to be used in the Speech and Occupational Therapy departments.

**Talkables** are compact message communicators that allow for simple communication and come with built-in icon holders. Each one has 15 seconds of total recording time and allows for 3 messages.

**The Small Talk Sequencer** can carry on a conversation with its single, sequential and random message capability. It has 300 seconds of recording time and can record up to 250 messages

**GoTalks** are battery powered augmentative/alternative communication (AAC) devices used by people who cannot communicate well by speaking. Another person (a classmate, sibling or friend, for example) records messages – any messages the user will likely need, in any language, dialect or accent. An overlay of pictures (or words or symbols) is created. The pictures help the user remember where to find messages. The overlay is slid into the GoTalk, and then the user can “talk” simply by pressing on a picture to play a message. This allows users – maybe for the first time – to communicate quickly and easily just by pressing a button.



Go Talk Pocket in-the-hand communicator with six cells



Go Talk 9 with its 36 messages

**The Choice is Yours**

The December Social Skills theme was **Helping Others**

Congratulations to the Students of the Month

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 210- Naomi P.  | 218- Jenna R.  |
| 212- Jose S.   | 219- Blair B.. |
| 215- Bridny C. | 220- Alexa D.  |
| 217- Heba A.   | 222- George H. |



**January Social Skills Theme– Understanding/Accepting Feelings Appropriately**



Children often struggle not only with understanding their feelings, but also relating to other people’s feelings. These skills are critical for personal well being and building relationships.

**Identifying Feelings** – Teach children to recognize when they have a specific feeling. Whether happy, sad, or angry, the first step in coping with a feeling is identifying it. Help children identify feelings by discussing emotions when they occur. If a child is angry say, “I see you are angry. You have your arms crossed and are stomping your feet.” Another tool is to role play times when specific emotions surface. Use novel examples as well as recent experiences for the child. Discuss and write about different feelings in a feelings journal.

**Recognizing Other People’s Feelings** – Learning to empathize with other people and respond appropriately to another person’s feelings is an important skill for building relationships. Show pictures and drawings or role play situations to discuss the words, body language and experiences that indicate a person’s feelings. When discussing a child’s own feelings, incorporate the concept that peers and adults have similar feelings in the same situation. This helps children develop empathy. Read stories where characters experience events that are happy, sad, surprising, or frustrating. Discuss why the characters felt the way they did and what they said or did to indicate their feelings.

**Responding to Other People’s Feelings** – Not only do children have to identify other people’s feelings, but they also need to learn how to respond when someone is angry, sad, or excited. Teach children appropriate responses through role play and reviewing past events. Discuss how different people in the role play feel, how their body language and words show their feelings, and the best response for the situation. Also discuss how the child would feel if this happened to them and how they would like other people to respond. This helps children learn to empathize with other people.

**January Nutrition Theme**

January is the time to **“Kick Off to a Healthy New Year”** with healthy food habits. It is also a good time for warm comfort food. Consider the following stew recipe which provides protein and fiber as well as comfort from the cold weather.

**Ingredients:**

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 2 tablespoon canola oil       | 1 (15.5-ounce) can cannellini beans or other white beans, undrained            |
| 1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom  | 3/4 pound skinless, boneless chicken breast halves, cut into bite-sized pieces |
| 1/8 teaspoon ground cloves    | 1 cup light coconut milk   |
| 3 garlic cloves, minced       | 1/2 cup water  |
| 2 cups finely chopped onion   | 1 tablespoon chopped peeled fresh lemongrass (about 1 stalk)                   |
| 1/2 teaspoon chili powder     | 1 (14.5-ounce) can fire-roasted diced tomatoes, undrained                      |
| 1/4 teaspoon ground turmeric  | 1 (8-ounce) baking potato, cut into 1/2-inch cubes                             |
| 1/2 teaspoon ground coriander | 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro   |

**Preparation:**

Heat oil in a Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add cardamom, cloves, and garlic to pan; cook 30 seconds, stirring constantly. Add onion; sauté 8 minutes or until tender. Add chili powder, turmeric, and coriander; cook 30 seconds. Add beans and chicken; stir to coat. Add milk, 1/2 cup water, lemongrass, tomatoes, and potato to pan. Cover, reduce heat, and simmer 30 minutes or until potato is tender. Serve with cilantro.



**Staff Perfect Attendance**

**Kathy Andia**                      **Viera Liska**  
**Mark Andia**                      **Tricia O'Connell**  
**Mary Dee Atkins**                **Lois Parker**  
**Deb Gallagher**                 **Marlene Schienberg**  
**Goodness Herrera**             **Susan Shea**  
**Linda Hickey**                    **Anthony Staropoli**  
**Kathy Jordan**                   **Brenda Wagner**  
**Pauline Kodack**                **Amy Zvolanek**  
**Linda Lara**                      **Terry Zvolanek**  
**Carla Larson**

**September 6, 2011 to December 9, 2011**

**January Calendar**



**Friday, January 6/7-** Respite

**Wednesday, January 11-** Cub Scouts/Girl Scouts

**Wednesday, January 11 & 18-** Parents' Basketball Spectating

**Friday, January 13-** Teen Dance "Pajama Party"- 7 to 9PM

**Monday, January 16-** NO SCHOOL- Martin Luther King's Birthday

**Wednesday January 18-** Learning Institute "Creating the Vision of a Rich  
Life for My Adult Special Needs Child," Dinah Fox- 7PM

**Thursday, January 19-** Parent Support Group- 1:15 to 2:45

**Friday, January 20/21-** Respite

**Tuesday, January 24-** Assembly- "The Human Body"  
The Franklin Institute-9:40 AM

**Wednesday, January 25-** Students vs Staff Basketball Game  
Cub Scouts/Girl Scouts and Midland Cookies

**Tuesday, January 31-** Movies at Midland (500 Wing & Transition Class) 3 to 5:30PM  
Cookie in a Jar (200 wing) 3 to 4:30PM