MIDDLE MATTERS

Titusville Middle Schoo l

October Recap 2026 ● Titusville Middle School ● Titusville, PA

Reminders from the Main Office

🎟️ **Hall Passes:** Sign out in SmartPass **and** grab a hall pass lanyard anytime you leave class.
🚪 **Door Safety:** Never let anyone into the building. Office staff must screen all visitors.
📝 **Notes & Excuses:** Turn all absence/leave early notes into the office. See Mrs. Proper for trip forms before planned absences.
⏰ **Punctuality:** Arrive to school and class on time—excessive tardies result in detention.
🧹 **Cafeteria:** Clean up your space after breakfast and lunch.
📞 **Phone Calls:** Call home only after lunch (before the bell) or during catalyst. Get a pass from your teacher first.

IMPORTANT DATES

🚀 **11/5**: Q2 Starts
💬 **11/12–11/13**: Parent/Teacher Conferences (No School)
🦃 **11/26–11/30**: Thanksgiving Break (No School)
🚀 **TBD**: Q2 Rocket Day
🤸 **1/28–1/29**: S1 Mission Trip (Jump Park)

Titusville Middle School students enjoyed a fun-filled Fall Fest on October 30! As the first-quarter mission trip, Fall Fest gave students who met the school's expectations an opportunity to celebrate their hard work and positive choices outside the traditional classroom.

To qualify, students needed to maintain 75% or higher in all classes, have no unexcused absences, and have less than one hour of detention. Students who met all three requirements traded a traditional day of classes for a day of fall fun with their classmates.

The festivities included sipping hot chocolate, playing football, and painting pumpkins. Fall Fest was a great opportunity for students to relax, enjoy time with friends, and celebrate their accomplishments.

Congratulations to all the students who qualified and participated! We look forward to seeing our Rockets continue to work hard and make positive choices throughout the school year.





Pumpkin Carving Brings Creativity to Life Skills Classroom



Students in Mrs. Shaw's Life Skills classroom got into the Halloween spirit by carving pumpkins! Students showed off their creativity and enjoyed a fun fall activity together. The class also held a pumpkin carving contest, and congratulations go to **Ryleigh Rago**, who took home the winning spot! Great job to everyone who participated and made the contest a success!

Lady Rockets Battle Their Way to the Championship





The Titusville Middle School girls basketball team had an exciting season, finishing with an impressive 12-3 record and earning a spot in the FCVAA Girls Basketball Championship! After competing in the playoffs, the Lady Rockets advanced to the championship game against Conneaut. The team fought hard throughout the contest, ultimately falling just three points short in an overtime battle.

Congratulations to the Lady Rockets on an outstanding season! Their hard work, determination, and teamwork made for an exciting run. Way to represent TMS!





7th Grade - Writer of the Week

The Man Over There by Alexis Jones

In a very small shop
Where people bought crop
She said, “Look at the man in there”
And everyone began to stare
He looked scary
And maybe kind of hairy
His beard was very low
With a faint glow
His face was ancient
And his son was adjacent
You couldn’t find him in a crowd
But he was also very loud
Like a needle and thread
His palm held the head
His skin is the same
As the head of the dame
Everyone took
That his heart was a book
So he never got caught
From the place he sought





The Coloring Book

By: Brianna Roberts

Ahhh! I woke up to the eerie sound of being watched and heard a scream. So I got up and grabbed my phone from my nightstand. I turned on the flashlight and saw the battery was at 5%, and turned it on low-battery mode so it wouldn’t die as fast. I shone the light in front of me. It was just enough light that I could see the ground below me. As I walked carefully down the hall, I felt a soft, shivering whisper in my ear. It said, “I’m behind you.” The whisper paralyzed me with fear.

Suddenly, I heard a loud but soft thud on the ground. So I gathered the courage to turn around. I saw nothing but a red colored pencil rolling on the ground.

I picked it up and saw what looked like teeth marks on it, but I immediately dropped it because I heard another thud, but it was heavier this time. I quickly gathered the courage to go see what it was. I started to continue walking down the hall till I got to the stairs. They spooked me because my light didn’t reach the stairs, so I couldn’t see my feet or the stairs. When I was walking down the stairs, my heart dropped as I tripped on something. I caught myself, though.

I checked to see what I had tripped on; it was a book that was covered in spider webs. So I pulled back the webs so I could read the title. But the cover was blank. So I flipped through the pages. On the first page was a coloring page filled with every color except red. Then I realized it was a picture of me sleeping. So I started to panic and then suddenly my phone died and the flashlight turned off. Then I fell to the ground with fear and heard a laugh, and then I passed out.

TMS Equestrians Head to 4-H States!



Congratulations to TMS students Willa LaBolle, Addison Gibson, Jordyn Greathouse, and Takoda Troup on advancing to the 4-H State Competition in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania! After countless hours of practicing and caring for their horses, these equestrians qualified for the Crawford County Roundup, held July 31 through August 2. Their strong performances earned them a spot at 4-H Districts in September, where they continued to impress and secured their advancement to States. Best of luck to these talented students and their equine teammates as they compete October 22–25!









8th Grade Tours Colestock

Our 8th-grade students had the opportunity to tour Colestock Auditorium with retired teacher and local actor Mrs. Judy Millar! Students explored behind the stage, learned about stage lighting, and practiced basic stage directions. Thank you, Mrs. Millar, for sharing your knowledge and giving our students a behind-the-scenes look at the world of theatre!







Putting Pen to Parchment: A Medieval Writing Adventure

Students in Miss Ledebur's Western Civilization class spent the month of October working on their quill pen project. Students had a blast creating their own quill pen and then writing illuminated letters with them. This project allowed for students to experience what it was like to be a monk in a medieval scriptorium. Miss Ledebur and her student's are looking forward to doing more fun and creative projects in the future.











TMS Students Explore the Future of Manufacturing

On October 7, twenty eighth-grade students from Titusville Middle School attended the 13th Annual Manufacturing Day 2026 at the Bayfront Convention Center in Erie. Accompanied by Mr. Abrams and Mrs. Martin, students explored exciting career opportunities in manufacturing, engineering, robotics, and construction.

Students attended a breakout session titled *"Build the Future: Robots, Innovation, and High-Tech Careers."* They also visited an exhibit hall featuring manufacturing businesses, college programs, interactive machines, and hands-on technology demonstrations.

The experience gave students an opportunity to discover potential career paths and see how science, technology, and innovation are shaping the future of the workforce.















Tea Time at TMS: Eighth Graders Show Off Their Etiquette Skills

Eighth-grade students in Mrs. Mosher's FACS class put their manners to the test by hosting a special tea party for TMS staff! In preparation for the event, students made a variety of treats, learned how to set a table properly, and prepared conversation topics to help them confidently interact with adults.

During the tea party, students dressed professionally and demonstrated their knowledge of proper etiquette, table manners, and hosting skills. The event gave students a chance to practice important life skills while enjoying some tea and tasty treats with TMS staff. What a wonderful way to put classroom learning into action!







Sixth Graders Learn, Grow, and Get Involved: An Update from Sixth Grade Teachers

Sixth-grade students at Titusville Middle School have been busy learning, growing, and participating in activities throughout the school year. In Catalyst, students have been writing thank-you notes and are now exploring personality traits. They also celebrated their Wilderness Quest counselors with a party on Friday to show their appreciation for the adults who helped make their outdoor learning experience memorable.

Reading Allies has begun, giving students additional opportunities to strengthen their reading skills. Teachers are also adjusting Rocket Block groups daily to meet students' individual academic needs. In addition, students who participated in hunter safety recently took their test and should have received their orange cards and patches.

As the school year continues, sixth-grade teachers are preparing for upcoming parent-teacher conferences to connect with families and celebrate student progress!



Halloween at TMS











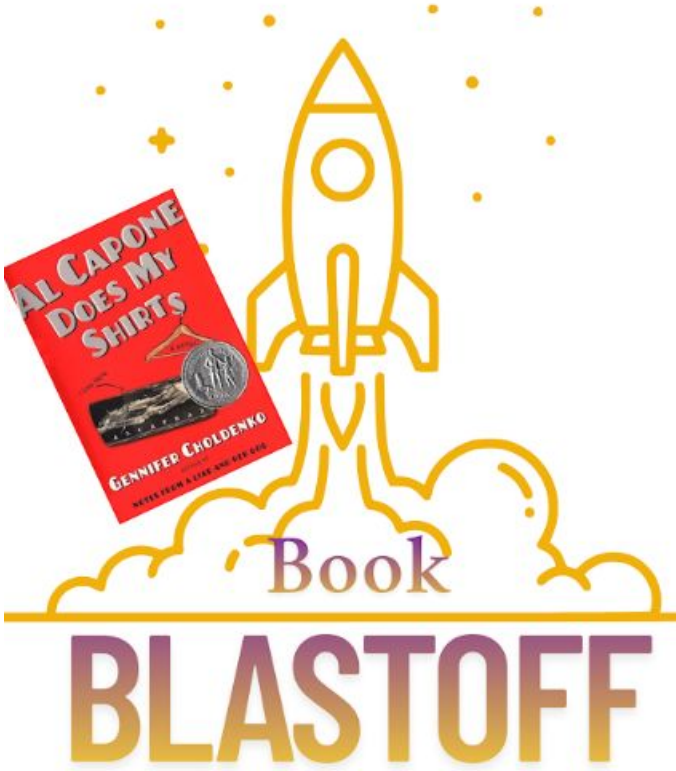






Locked Up in a Good Book: October's TMS Book Blastoff!

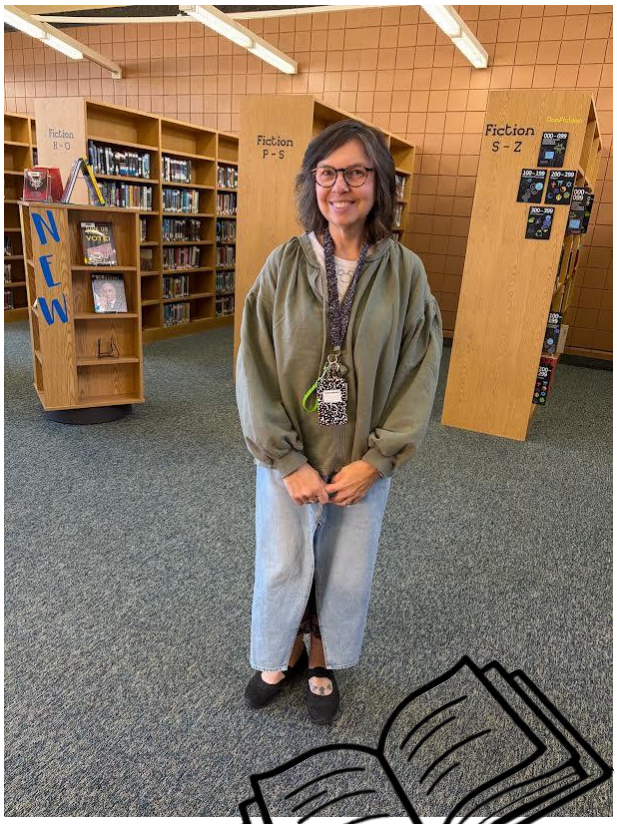
Welcome to the October TMS Book Blastoff! The TMS Book Blastoff is a space for our library to showcase a favorite book each month! If you have a book you would like to see featured in the Book Blastoff, let Mrs. Seaton, our librarian know!



In this month's Book Blastoff, I would like to introduce you to one of my all-time favorite middle school book titles, *Al Capone Does My Shirts* by Jennifr Choldenko.

Al Capone Does My Shirts is a story of baseball, buttons, family, friends, and mobsters! It is a historical fiction novel, set in 1935 during the great depression. Moose Flanagan is 12 years old and his family just moved to Alcatraze Island, a prison located smack dab in the San Francisco Bay and home to world famous mobster Al Capone! As if that is not freaky enough, he has to deal with his older sister Natalie, who doesn't talk and who has meltdowns at the drop of a button!

Why is the Flanagan family living on Alcatraz Island? Moose's dad just got a job as an electrician for the prison. His sister,Natalie, is going to be attending a special live-in school to help get better. (Remember those tantrums? Well, she has A LOT of other problems too!) Moving to Alcatraz is the only way the family is able to help Natalie. But, Natalie only makes it one day at her special school - she gets kicked out after one night and must return to the family's new home on Alcatraz. Now, Moose must watch her after school each day. Thankfully, he has baseball and buttons to keep her occupied… and, maybe, just maybe Al Capone!



While on Alcatraze, Moose and Natalie meet many other kids whose families also live on the island. One of those kids is Piper, the jail warden's daughter. Piper is bossy and likes to get everyone in trouble!

Now, because Al Capone is a prisoner at Alcatraz, the prison is kind of famous and all the kids who live at Alcatraz, as well as all the kids at Moose and Piper's school, want to know everything they can about Al Capone. Thus, the laundry scheme.

What happens next? Do Moose, Piper, Natalie and all the other kids ever get to meet Al Capone? What happens with the laundry? What happens with Natalie? What happens with baseball and buttons?

If you want the answers to these questions and to see what other trouble Moose and his friends get into, come down to the library and check out Al Capone Does My Shirts.

Making a Difference: Life Skills Students Maintain the Caring Closet



Students in Mrs. Shaw's Life Skills classroom are making a difference at TMS by organizing and cleaning the Caring Closet each week! The Caring Closet, coordinated with the support of Mrs. Wakefield, TMS Education Services Specialist, provides students with access to essential items they may need, such as clothing, personal care products, and other everyday necessities.

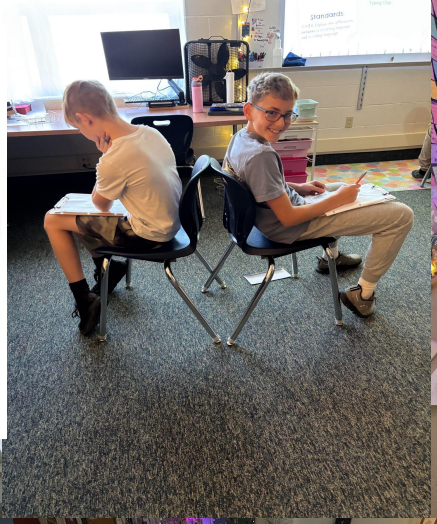
Through their weekly work, students help keep the space clean, organized, and welcoming for everyone who uses it. Their efforts demonstrate responsibility, teamwork, and the importance of helping others. Thank you to Mrs. Shaw's students and Mrs. Wakefield for helping keep this valuable resource available to those who need it!

Math Meets the Real World: Dream Car Edition



In Mrs. McLellan's math class, students applied recently learned concepts via a real life situation. The students researched their dream car, had to determine tax, down payment, simple interest and monthly payments. This was a culminating assessment for Module 2.













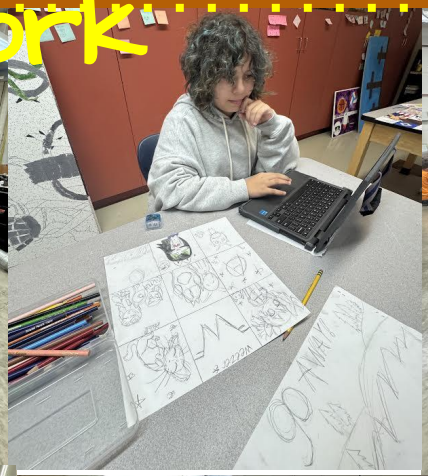


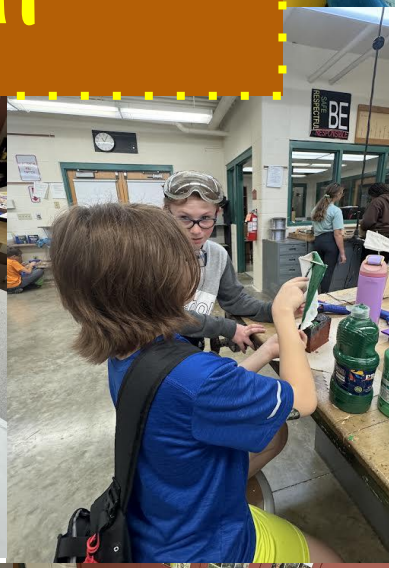


Voyager Classes at Work

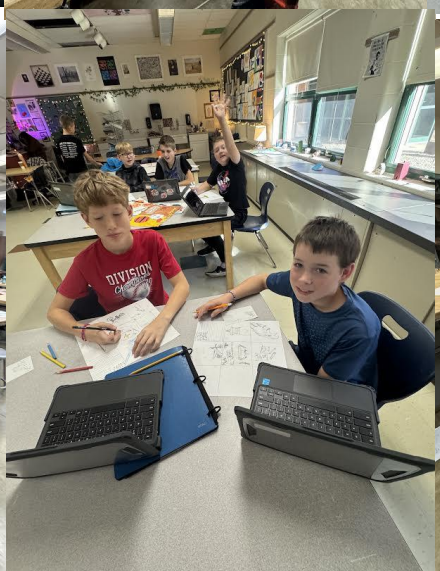




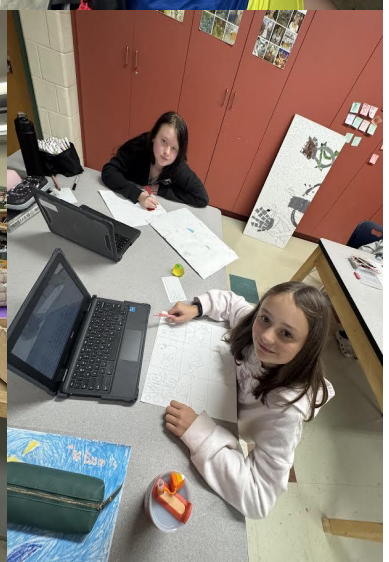












Creek Connections



7th grade science students are participating in Creek Connections this year! Students are learning practical lab skills by monitoring the water quality of Oil Creek. Every month students collect a water sample and collect data about the water's dissolved oxygen content, pH, alkalinity, turbidity, nitrate, and more!











Jr. High Reading Competition

On October 27, 2026, the Jr High Reading Competition team won second place and a cash prize at the Jr High Reading Competition which was sponsored by the Riverview Intermediate Unit 6 Gifted Consortium. The team prepared by reading 24 books and then answered questions about the books against 7 other teams, earning 53 points. The team also won the Spirit Award for their enthusiasm and teamwork during the event. They designed team shirts, which read, "Mrs. Tainton Makes Us Read," and took along their team mascot, Bob the Snowman.

Pictured left to right back row are: Simon Ross, Teagen Parker, Seth Kirkland (as Bob the Snowman), Zane English, and Wesley Riddell.
Pictured left to right front row are: Carter Nosko, Adi English, and Timmy Anderson.

