

The Red and Gray

Edited by Lucy and Mychal

November 1st, 2018

Upcoming Events

by: Brody

Nov. 1- Picture retakes
Nov. 1- Parent-Teacher Conferences
Nov. 1- 2 hour early dismissal
Nov. 2- No school
Nov. 4- Time change
Nov. 4- Marching band state finals
Nov. 6- Desco Deposit Day
Nov. 9- No afternoon MARCS
Nov. 10- Winterfest 11am-5pm
Nov. 14- 8th grade trip to Career Technical Center
Nov. 15- Boys basketball at Rock Hill 5:30pm
Nov. 15- Girls basketball vs Rock Hill 5:30pm
Nov. 16- No afternoon MARCS
Nov. 20- 2 hour early dismissal
Nov. 21- 23- Thanksgiving Break

Fun Facts

by: Brody

- Grapes explode if you microwave them. Don't try it though!
- In Philadelphia, it's against the law to put pretzels in bags.
- You share the same birthday as at least 9 million other people across the world.

Gamer Guys

RED DEAD REDEMPTION 2

The 3rd installment of the Red Dead franchise is being released October 26. It has been 8 years since the last installment of the Red Dead franchise released. The game takes place in 1899 in the Old West and, this game is in a giant open world.

Our Thoughts

We think that this will be a great installment in the Red Dead Franchise. We give this a game a 9 out of 10. We are very excited for this game's release and advise you pick this game up.

National Holidays

by: Doyle and Jacob

5th- American Football Day
6th- Basketball Day, Election Day
7th- International Stress Awareness Day
8th- Cook Something Bold Day
9th- Carl Sagan Day, World Freedom Day
10th- National Vanilla Cupcake Day
11th- National Sundae Day
12th- National Pizza Day with the Works Except Anchovies Day
13th- Actors Day
14th- International Girls Day
15th- America Recycles Day
16th- International STAND UP to Bullying Day

Quiz Bowl County Champs

by: Brody

MINFORD WINS AGAIN!

The Minford Junior High Quiz Bowl team has won another county tournament yesterday, playing the Portsmouth and New Boston teams before facing off against Green for the tournament seat. Minford played against the Portsmouth team at 6 last night, beating the Trojans 44-23. They played the New Boston team right after, beating them 56-24, scoring 100 points total in just 2 games. They played fast and well, with Jimmy Adams and Brody Pack from the 8th grade being the frontmen for the team. Jimmy and Brody have also won four county tournaments altogether, starting in 5th grade.

Now the Falcons had to face off against the second-rank team, the Green Wildcats. They finished the main round with a score of 18-5 Minford, and came out of the alphabet round 36-13, meaning that Green had to win if they won all 12 final questions. The Wildcats failed to do so, scoring only 2 questions and earning themselves 4 points. Minford cruised through the final round, racking up 8 additional questions to put the final score at 52-17 Minford. With another county tournament under their belts, they came home filled with pride.

Staff Spotlight

by ::Autumn

Welcome Home, Mr. Matiz

Mr. Josh Matiz has returned to the position of the 8th grade health teacher and the 6th and 8th grade P.E teacher for the 2018-2019 school year. He has returned after teaching at Portsmouth Middle School this past year. When asked, "Why did you decide to come back to Minford?" He responded with this, "I really missed teaching here at Minford, seventeen years is a really long time. I feel back at home."

This will be Mr. Matiz's 18th year teaching at Minford Middle School. When asked, "How has it felt since being back at Minford?" he replied, "It has been really good. I was very excited when I got the call that I would be returning this year. I have missed it a lot."

Mr. Matiz decided to start teaching because when he was in school he had multiple teachers who he looked up to during his school years. Mr. Matiz decided to start his career as a P.E and health teacher because they both deal with the body, exercise, sports, and healthy lifestyles. He attended Portsmouth High School and attended West Virginia State University for college.

Mr. Matiz's schedule is very busy. During the football season he handles being a father, teacher, and a football coach. Outside of school, Mr. Matiz enjoys spending time with his family, playing golf, and hunting. He is married to his lovely wife, Renee and has two children, JD (age 12) and Lauren (age 8). When asked how he handles such a busy schedule and still coach football, he replied, "It's hard, but I enjoy it."

Science Fair

by: Isabella and Juniper

The 2018 science fair will be held on November 6th. Students participating in the science fair must bring their displays to school on this day for judging throughout the school day. The science fair is for any student in grades 4-8, but only 5-8th grade students can advance to the county science fair. Parents are welcome to come and view the science fair projects in the middle school gym from 6 to 7 p.m. on November 6th. Awards will be presented to the six highest scorers in each grade at 7:00.

"[The] Science fair is a great learning experience," says science fair coordinator, Mrs. Gullion. "It can also award you with money and prizes, along with extra credit in your science class."

Halloween Costume Contest

by: Mychal

Yesterday, October 31, was dress up day for our middle school. At the end of the day a costume contest was held in the gym. There were many categories for all of the costumes. The winner of the funniest costume was Mason Book. Cammy Bradshaw was the recipient of the scariest costume award. The best character costume went to Maddie Veach. Blake Skeens was awarded with the most original costume. Congrats to the winners!

Yearbook

by: Vaeh

Mychal Cron, Yearbook Editor: Have You Ever Thought About Joining Yearbook?

As many people know, we have a yearbook staff, but no one really knows what all they do. The yearbook takes a lot more work than what it looks. Students on the staff take pictures and work on the yearbook starting at the beginning of the year. Each year a junior editor is chosen from the seventh grade staff, and they are promoted to editor eighth grade year. Our editor this year is Mychal Cron, daughter of Melissa and Todd Cron.

I asked Mychal how much work goes into yearbook, and this was her response, "A lot of hard work goes into yearbook. There is a lot of behind the scenes work that not everyone notices. Whether it is editing or taking a lot of pictures." I also asked Mychal what she enjoys about yearbook., "I enjoy yearbook a lot. Mrs. Seaman is a great conductor of the yearbook and makes it so much fun. It is fun being able to go around to events and take pictures. Being able to pick the design and colors is also very exciting."

Mychal was the junior editor last year, and is now our editor. Mychal is a great editor, among a great staff and teachers. Our yearbook staff makes keeping memories forever possible!



Sports

by: Hannah, Sydney, Vaeh

Cross Country

On Saturday, October 13th the cross country team competed at Northwest for the SOC conference meet. The Boys team got first place with an overall score of 15 (a perfect score) Our top placers for the boys team were Sam Tieman with a time of 12:08, placing 2nd, Skylar Allen in 3rd, Luke Rader finishing in 4th, and Charlie Neal in 6th.

Our Jr High girls team got 2nd place with a score of 40. The top scorers for the girls were Juniper Allen placing 1st, with a time of 12:49 and Chelsea Dietrich who finished 2nd overall. "The thing about cross country is you're chances of winning are about 150 to 1. It takes a special kid to be tough enough to run cross country. I'm so lucky to coach these kinds of kids... who toe the line Saturday after Saturday and try to be the best runner that they can possibly be." says Minford's cross country coach of six years, Ann Marie Allen. Then, on October 20th was the State Cross Country meet, Juniper Allen placed 15th out of 116 runners with a time of 12:52.



Soccer

October 20-21 were the last days of the 2018 soccer season. This was also the last time that our 8th graders played together. Matt Knore and Matt Brooks' team finished in fourth overall at the Valley tournament. Chad McHenry's team and Todd Cron and Matt Porter's team finished the regular season in the South Eastern tournament held in Waverly. McHenry's team placed fourth overall and Porter and Cron's team finished as champions! This was a great season for all three Minford U15 teams!

Girls Basketball

Mr. Joe Nelson Reigns as New Girls Basketball Coach

We interviewed the 8th grade girls basketball coach, Joe Nelson. Although this is his first year coaching, he brings to Minford experience as a prior referee and a scout for the high school girls' basketball team. As the season is starting in full swing, we asked how he would promote a positive energy within the team through both positive and negative situations. "I will try to praise the good things a player does in public, then correct the bad things in private. Also promoting actions, reactions, decisions governed by what is best for the team, pride in school and family. Winning as a team and losing as a team is very important."



His expectations for the team and season are developing skills, improving team chemistry, giving effort no matter what and rebounding and limiting turnovers. He wants the team to improve so that their performances are better at the end of the season than the beginning. Mr. Nelson believes that one of the key factors to success will be "A player's attitude and work ethic, execution of offensive and defensive sets/progressions, and the ability to execute."

The girls team will open up at home against Vinton County on November 15 at 5:30. We would like to wish Mr. Nelson and the Lady Falcons good luck in their upcoming season.

Boys Basketball

The Jr high boys play their first scrimmage also on November 15th at Rock Hill at 5:30. Tryouts will be held on November 5th and 6th in the middle school gym for both 7th and 8th grade boys.



Recycling Making a Difference

Minford Middle school has been recycling in classrooms for approximately 7 years. The recycling program was started by 7th grade science teacher, Mrs. Byrd and our past superintendent Mr. Wilcheck. "My main motivation for wanting to create the recycling program is I feel that big life lessons can be learned at school. Learning that the little things, such as recycling, can make a huge difference in the world is super important." says Mrs. Byrd.

Our school has generated a great amount of plastic, paper, and cardboard that is now being sent to the Wellston Rumpke Recycling Center rather than landfills. This is a step in the direction of making our school and community more environmentally friendly. But are we really doing enough? The answer? No, we are not doing enough for our environment. This is a statement that can be tough to say, but we must confess that it is very, very true.

One main environmental issue that I see throughout our school is the disposal of plastic water bottles. Only 1% of students use reusable water bottles. 43% of the 6th-8th grade students at Minford use disposable bottles but there are no recycling bins in the cafeterias. So how do we fix this growing problem? To be continued in the next issue of The Red and Gray...

Honor Roll

by: Vaeh

Since we have just entered a new nine weeks, many students have made the honor roll. It is an privilege to be in the honor roll, and it takes a lot of hard work.

The grading scale for our junior high is, A:100-93, B:92-84, C:83-70 D:69-60 F:59 and below.

With the honor roll, it takes an A or A and B average all nine weeks.

For 6th grade, our AB honor roll students are, Alillyonna Adkins, Anna Adkins, Cobe Charles, Gabby Clark, Lexi Conkel, Gavin Downey, Boston Frazie, Kalista Grubb, Baylee Guido, Beth Henry, Lydia Irelan, Bennett Kayser, J.D. Matiz, Cheyanne Mattox, Lily McHenry, Lexi Pendleton, Noah Pennington, Alex Reeder, Abigail Slusher, Aiden Slusher, Tyler Slusher, Ethan Swick and Alex Woods.

The 6th grade all A members are, Sophia Arnett, Pierce Banks, Kaylynn Carter, Waylan Carter, Ethan Cordle, Mackenzie Coriell, Madison Coriell, Tatum Coriell, Ava Cronin, Ella Estep, Myles Montgomery, Jackie Pendleton, Marlee Pendleton, Maggie Risner, Karleigh Sherman, Jackson Shoemaker, Ambreea Sowards, Hannah Stockham and Shania Wheeler.



The 7th grade AB honor roll

includes Sadie Bear, Grace Bennett, Kendall Carver, Tad Coriell, Kynedi Davis, Hannah Dengal, Annah Hall, Sadie Hatfield, Tyler Henthorn, Jacob Humston, Miranda Johnson, Drew Livingston, Savannah Martin, Cali Miller, Girlie Reed, Paris Rigdon, Kailey Shaffer, Jeremiah Smith, Cameron Thacker, Carly Thoroughman, Sean Vaughn, Maddie Veach, Kate Wiseman and Alex Wright.

The 7th grade all A honor roll students are, Rylie Banks, Mason Book, Landon Boston, Meredith Byrd, Emily Cram, Xander Knore, Addi Lute, Harley Lute, Allie McCray, Walker McHenry, Allie Morrison, Sophia Shepherd, Mya Shonkwiler, Katie Strickland, Sam Tieman, Logan Twinam, Abigail Weaver and Grant Wheeler.

The AB honor roll members in 8th grade are, Jimmy Adams, Addy Akers, Emma Anderson, John Ball, Katherine Ball, Annabel Belford, Cole Borland, Doyle Chinn, Lauren Entler, Matt Justice, Mason Kline, Haley Knore, Bradley Lore, Jacob Lute, Morgan McCoy, Kenzie McKinney, Luke Oakes, Shelby Rhoden, Caiden Rose and Barrett VanSickle.

Juniper Allen, Mychal Cron, Isabella Fitch, Lucy Grashel, Blake Hammond, Paige Martin, Hannah McCormick, Sydney Mougey, Autumn Picklesimer, Nevaeh Porter, Luke Rader and Sarah Roberson are the **all A honor roll students of 8th grade.**

Congratulations to all of the first nine weeks honor roll members!

Wings Award

Jackson Shoemaker 6th Grade
by: Juniper and Isabella

This week's Wings Award goes to Jackson Shoemaker. Jackson Shoemaker has been a member of Minford's quiz bowl team for one year, and plays football, baseball and basketball since kindergarten. Jackson describes himself as being kind, caring, and athletic. He says, "My greatest inspiration is Lebron James because he is a good person and he does kind things."

Jackson believes that students can make our school a better place by getting kids to stop bullying and stealing.

"Jackson is always very polite and willing to help in the classroom," says art teacher, Mrs. Winebrenner. He is a good example for students in grades below him, and he is very kind-hearted.

Falcon Closet

by: Autumn and Vaeh

At Minford Middle School we provide help to anyone who needs it. One of the many things that we provide is the Falcon Closet. The Falcon Closet is a closet in the middle school full of necessary things for any student who needs it. The Falcon Closet provides necessities such as: coats, shirts, pants, shoes, personal hygiene products, and much more. The closet is put together all from donations, and is kept together with the help from students. The Falcon Closet does not only provide to students who need the clothes because of home issues, but if students need clothes because of an accident that happens at school, they can go to the closet for whatever they need!

Student Voice

by: Jeriah

Some kids might really enjoy coming to school everyday because they have a lot of school pride. In this newspaper article, I'm going to see why that is. I asked two 6th-8th grade students the question, "What is school spirit to you?" Here are their responses:

Q.What is school spirit to you?

S1: "Just supporting your school and peers and participating in extracurricular activities are great ways to show school spirit."

S2: "A good attitude at school or wearing school colors. You could also show spirit by attending sporting events."

Incentive Day

Dodgeball Champs!

by: Doyle, Jacob, Sarah

As the last dodgeball hit the last remaining teammate of Mr. Reynolds homeroom, the crowd cheered. Mr. Shonkwiler's homeroom had won the dodgeball championship game! The seventh grade team held their trophy high along with their heads. The other homerooms, 6-8, will have the opportunity win the trophy on the next Incentive Day!



Scary Story Winner

by: Annabel Belford
8th Grade

Children fear the dark for they know what lurks in it.

Adults do not fear the light for they know what lurks in it.

If only the adults knew of the horrible monsters that hid in the children's closets while they slept, the ones that glowing red eyes were visible from under the bed.

Soon they would learn.

The boy's room, covered in stars was dark, only the pale moonlight illuminating it. He held his plush blanket just under his nose, clenching his eyes shut while hot breath fanned over his face.

A large being, well over nine foot tall stood over him, claws at it's sides digging into the hardwood floor making deep scratches that would never be fixed, for his parent's could not see. Slime-like saliva dripped onto the boys face and comforter and the golden eyed fox like beast stared deep into his soul. It's long lion-like tail slowly moved around in a swishing motion, intimidation radiating off of the creature.

It's mouth, shaped into a crooked grin stretching back to its ears opened, revealing rows upon rows of razor sharp teeth, stained black. The boy shook with fear, wanting only to scream and cry for his parents. He knew that even if they came into the room in this very moment however, they would not see the horrifying giant lingering over him.

He let out a short whimper, and its mouth snapped shut just in front of his face. It's golden eyes staring deep into his soul when he opened his own baby blue hues.

It's head tilted, and just like a confused dog, one ear dropped while the other stayed up. It seemed to be hesitating to kill the boy, but even it couldn't quite figure out why. It gently gripped onto the comforter, pulling down and leaving the boy to the midnight air. It continued to stare at him, before picking him up by the shirt, saliva soaking through it.

The boy shook with fear, still staring into the eyes of the beast.

Soon they would learn, he thought.

Editor's Choice

by: Emily Trapp
6th Grade

The story of Adeline Tucker was told by a boy named Jacob Bell. When he first told the story no one believed him, but he told the truth. Every year on October 14 Adeline's spirit comes back and 14 twelve year olds go missing. Jacob knew Adeline they used to be friends until she became... something else.

One day she decided to get revenge. She placed an idea in people's minds that maybe Jacob just said these things so he could get away with murder. She did this, because he held her back and she had died. He was soon arrested and executed at age 19.

One day Jack and I went to the graveyard on Jack's block. When we got there, it was vacant. It was a rainy and windy October day. It before the story was told.

When we heard something in the bushes, I started running. Jack pulled me back and we investigated. When we saw the demonic creature I got chills. That was the last thing I remember.

About 7 years later Jack was executed. Jack's real name was Jacob Bell. I also remember the killings. People in Maine call October 14 the night of the Chiller. When I think of Jack's death I taste the sweet revenge.

I am Adeline Tucker and you may be next.