



WE ARE SPARTANS

— ACHIEVEMENT RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY EMPATHY —

IMMS Messenger December 2017 Volume XIII Issue XXXIX Indian Mound Middle School McFarland, WI

Project moves inside



By Teagan Mallegni

IMMS 6th grade

In the addition project of the middle school, “there are so many successes to celebrate,” says Principal Tarnutzer. One is that the new spaces are watertight before winter. Other big highlights are that the new space has walls, floors, windows and a roof. Fall work also included constructing the interior walls, plumbing, and electrical work. Finishing the outer brick work also is being done now.

“I am also very proud of how accommodating our students and staff have been to the noises during construction,” he added. “The workers are trying to take care of any remaining noisy work during times when students are not at school.”

Mr. T also said the construction project is slightly ahead of schedule. The construction workers will provide temporary heat to the new spaces so that they can work on the interior, he explained. That will include building the walls, adding doors, installing the flooring over the cement, and installing technology. In addition to keeping the workers warm, the heat is needed as some of the new materials must be kept warmer, such as drywall.

Among the successes have been challenges, the biggest challenge, said Mr. T, has been access to the playground. “We lost our sidewalk and had to walk within the barrier.” The good news is that in December the sidewalk was poured and became useful again.

Even though the playground is permanent, items will be added to it such as installing the swings. Work also needs to be done next to the playground, areas which are blocked off with the black “silt fence.” Some of that is for storm water management and the creation of drainage areas for times when there is a lot of rain. This work will likely be done in the spring.

This spring works also will begin the gym expansion resulting in a temporary wall being installed so they can take down the current wall and move it out toward the staff parking lot.

The interior and exterior of the new spaces will be finished by the end of the school year, said Mr. T. As soon as school is done, the focus turns to remodeling the current classrooms and connecting them with the new space.

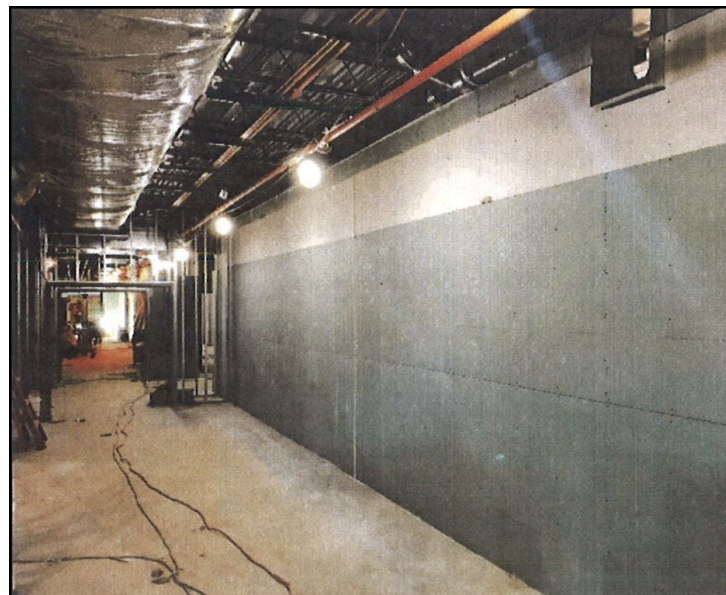
Above: The addition to IMMS is outlined by exterior walls constructed in the fall.

At right: Exterior face brick is completed along the main entrance.

Far right: Window glazing is installed in Area A.

Bottom near: Mechanical ductwork, overhead plumbing and fire protection sprinklers are installed in Area A.

Bottom far: Drywall work includes abuse-resistant board installed along the bottom eight feet of wall.



Photos from the Findorff staff, Included in the Executive Summary Report

Poetry

Simple Truth

Can't touch the stars,
If you're buried so deep.

Can't climb a mountain,
If you can't move your feet.

Can't run a marathon,
If your legs are stiff.

Can't be a boxer,
If you can't take a hit.

Can't be a pilot,
If you are so blind.

Can't flash a smile,
If always declined.

Can't send a wink,
If you're all alone.

Can't make a call,
Without a phone.

Can't swim across,
Not knowing how to float.

Can't keep warm
Without a coat.

Can't count on everyone,
To answer the call.

Can't count on someone,
To catch your fall.

~Emily Schoeller

Just some Fix

Broken wings were
Made to be fixed.

Take my hand I can
Give you a lift.

Say you got a problem
Well, I do too.

Broken wings can
Fly too.

Twisted ankles
Were made to be straight.

Take my hand before
It's too late.

Say you're hurt
Well, I am too.

Twisted ankles can
Run too.

Say you got a
Head injury.

I'll be your shoulder to cry on,
If you need.

Say you're crazy
Well, I am too.

Head injuries
Must think too.

~Emily Schoeller

Insider

Don't let them in.
Slam the door.
Keep it locked
furthermore.

Don't let them spy.
Close the blinds.
Keep it shut
stay behind.

Don't let them hear.
Raise the walls.
Keep them up
or you fall.

Can't let them in.
Can't let them spy.
Can't let them hear
all the lies.

Through the door.
Behind the blinds.
Over the walls.
Too much to find.

On the outside
it may seem clear.
But truthfully,
it's all too queer.

~Emily Schoeller

That Feeling

Ever get that feeling,
That you're world is falling
apart.

That it's all crumbling down,
And that's just the start.

Every get that feeling,
That the plague is coming back.

That it's driving you insane,
And soon you're ought to crack.

Ever get that feeling,
That it won't be okay.

That it's all just done,
And you just have to walk away.

Ever get that feeling,
That it's not worth moving on.

That it's you're stuck in place,
As if a curse was cast upon.

Ever get that feeling,
That if you stay still.

That if you did as told,
You'd feel bad about the kill.

~Emily Schoeller

How to Win a War

Raise your defense
When you're walls are covered
in questions.

Lose your innocence
To disprove your confessions.

Act very dense
To hide your obsessions.

Electrocute your fence
To isolate your many depres-
sions.

Use your common sense
To cover the retaliations.

Save every cents
To bribe in the cooperation.

Pay an expense
To unroll the nation.

Bring them in with the incense
Just don't let them see the for-
mation

~Emily Schoeller



Staff photo

Brady Baek, a seventh-grader at IMMS.

Spartan Spotlight: Brady's best

By Teagan Mallegni

IMMS 6th Grade

This issue of the Messenger shines a spotlight on Brady Baek, a seventh-grader at IMMS. Here are 8 items Brady likes best:

1. Target practice. He has a pellet gun and uses a box target.
2. Work. He cleans, does yard work and work on

vehicles.

3. Playing music. His favorite artist is Nugent.
4. Playing with his dogs. He has four Pomeranians; their names are Leo, Dexter, Cooper and Scrappy.
5. Snowmobiling.
6. Buffalo.
7. P.E. class.
8. The movie *Saving Private Ryan*.

IMMS Messenger issue contributors include: Gwenn Crull, Cade Kullmann, Teagan Mallegni, Kami McGinn, Emily Schoeller and Avery Weaver. To participate, contact Adviser Ms. Ndlovu at NdlovuT@mcfsd.org.

Ask Lili: How to deal with toxic friendship

By Kami McGinn

IMMS 8th Grade

Dear Lili,

I'm in a really toxic friendship right now; all she does is use me for some of my friends that are from a different school or at the high school. What she does is when we are hanging out she keeps telling me to invite my other friends so she can hang out with them or she spread nasty rumors about me and other people I talk to! I feel trapped because if I leave she'll tell other people who knows what! I really don't know what to do.

A: Well, this is bad. I feel like you should tell a teacher about what this girl is doing to you and other people. Then tell your friends with whom she wants to hang out what she's doing to you so they'll understand. I went through a similar situation earlier this year. Just remember that middle school is not forever, plus you can always hang with your real friends after school. I also think that if you are scared about the rumors, ignore them. I know that it's what teachers tell you to do, but it works if they see you don't care; they'll stop. Try to make some new friends that won't care about the rumors she's saying; you'll probably find the closest friends doing that. Also, try joining clubs to get new friends; you could meet people from different age groups doing this!

Love, Lili

Dear Lili,

I don't know what's happening anymore! I use to be an A/B

student my whole middle school career but now in 8th grade I'm slipping hard! I now have Cs, Ds and two Fs! I just don't want to do any work. I try to make myself do it but I just can't. I get distracted so easily! Not like my phone or anything but like pencils and squirrels outside my window. Any study tips or just a way to get back in the passing zone?

A: Ouch! This looks like a case of senioritis, a supposed affliction of students in their final year of high school, college, or middle school characterized by a decline in motivation or performance. Most people get this but you seem to be getting it pretty early. To get out of it -- this might sound weird -- but TAKE A BREAK! I know, surprising. How you do this: when you're doing your homework and you feel it kicking in, take a small break, such as get a snack or watch ONE (don't go down that rabbit hole) YouTube video or just listen to music while doing your work. This can work in class, too, when you're working on a paper, worksheet, you name it; many teachers, if you bring headphones, will allow it if you stay on task. Remember: soon your senioritis will pass and you got this!

Love, Lili

Dear Lili,

My friends have been talking about sexual identities and I didn't know what half of them were! I knew lesbian, gay, bisexual and heterosexual but now they're talking about pansexual and polysexual, aromantic, asexual, demiromantic and demisexual. What do they

mean? I'm very confused; do I need to know this now?

Dear Very Confused Person,

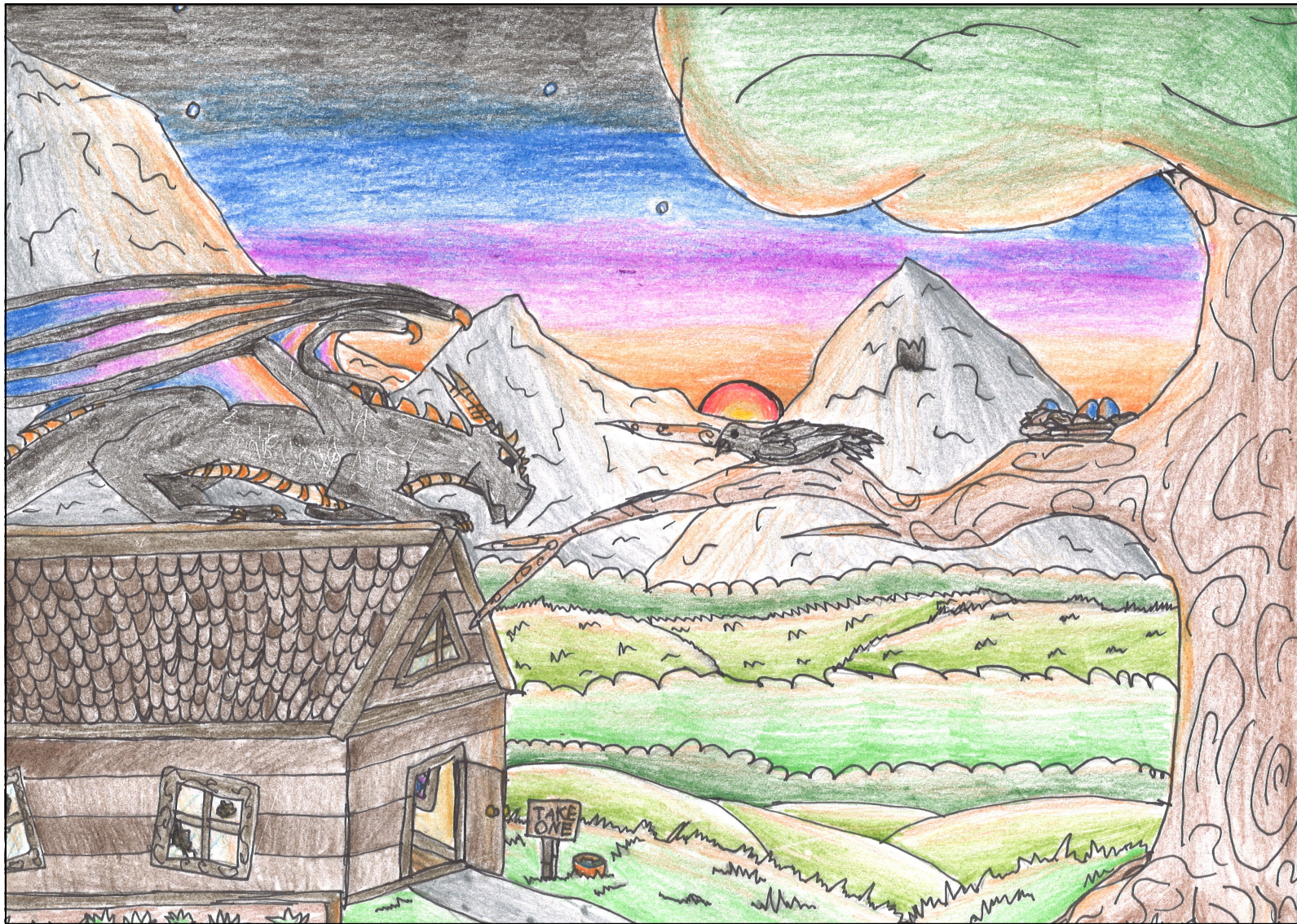
Whoa! I know this is a lot to take in, but let me explain it to you.

Pansexuality, or omnisexuality, is the sexual, romantic or emotional attraction towards people regardless of their sex or gender identity. Polysexuality refers to people who are sexually attracted to more than one gender or sex but do not wish to identify as bisexual as it infers that there are only two genders. Polysexuals often include the idea of a third gender, often regarding transgender as the separate third gender and subsequently being sexually attracted to people in that category.

Aromatic refers to a person who does not experience romantic attraction. Asexual refers to a person who is not interested in or does not desire sexual activity, either within or outside of a relationship. Demiromantic is a type of greyromantic or one who only experiences romantic attraction after developing an emotional connection beforehand. Demisexuals are characterized by a lack of sexual attraction toward any person unless they become deeply emotionally or romantically connected with a specific person or persons.

Even after you know what the terms mean, it can still be very confusing. If you are still confused, ask Ms. Meyer, the adviser of our school's GSA; she can help you. If your friends ask you and you don't know, just tell them you're still questioning and they'll get it.

Love, Lili



Spooktacular images

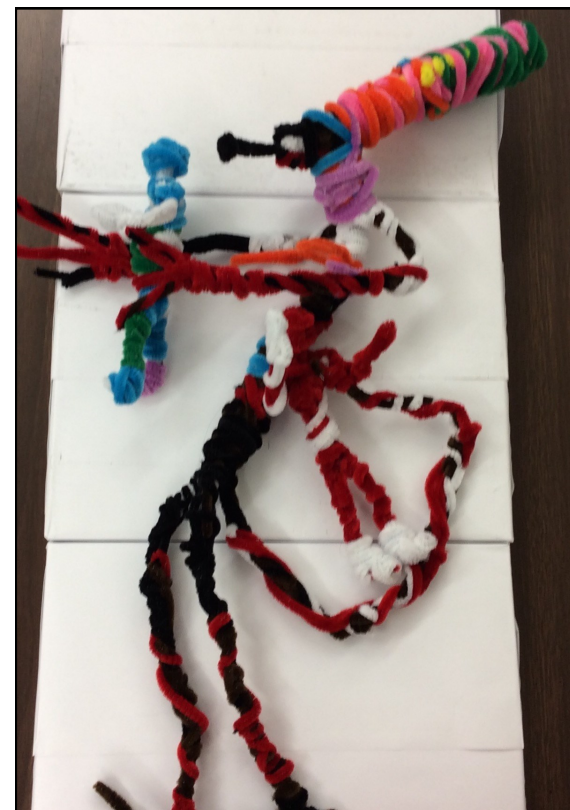
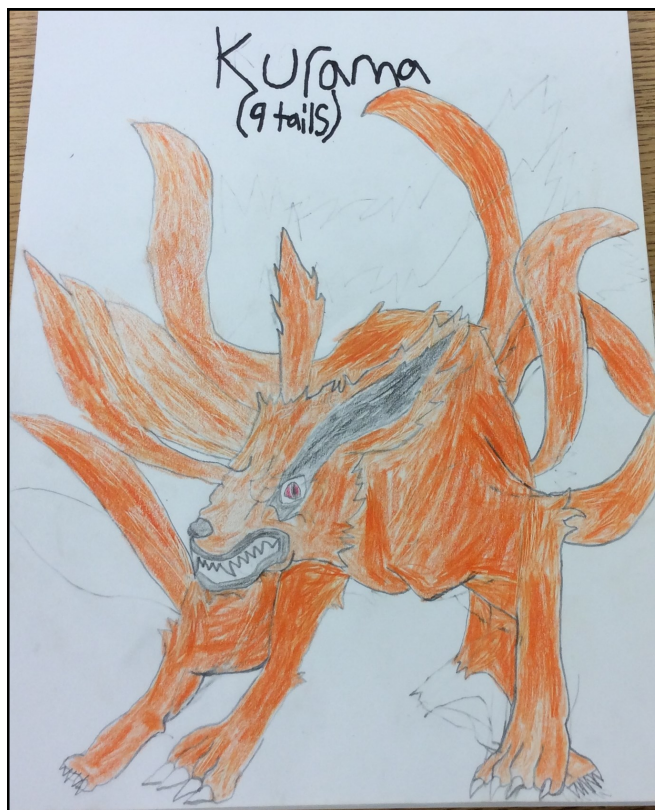
Winners in the IMMS Messenger Spartan Spooktacular Story & Art Contest were:

First place, shown at left, is *Dusk of Halloween* by Vivian Zabawa-Lodholz, an IMMS seventh-grader. The medium is colored pencil on paper.

Second place, bottom left, is *The Angel has Fallen* by Danika Wise, an IMMS sixth-grader. It was inspired by a possible ending for chapter 4 of *Bendy and the Ink Machine*.

Third place, bottom center, is *Kurama* by Kaden Clark, an IMMS eighth-grader. It also is done in colored pencil.

Fourth place, bottom right, is the sculpture titled *End of the World* by Trent Nesbitt, an IMMS seventh-grader.



Portable chargers are popular at IMMS

By Ms. Neal

IMMS Library Media Specialist

“Portable Chargers are COOL!” We hear this a lot from students at IMMS.

We added 20 portable chargers to the library’s collection the beginning of November. Each day the majority of the chargers have been checked out. Now, that IS a fun fact, but consider what this means.... Students who checked them out are not prepared for class.

Some additional facts are:

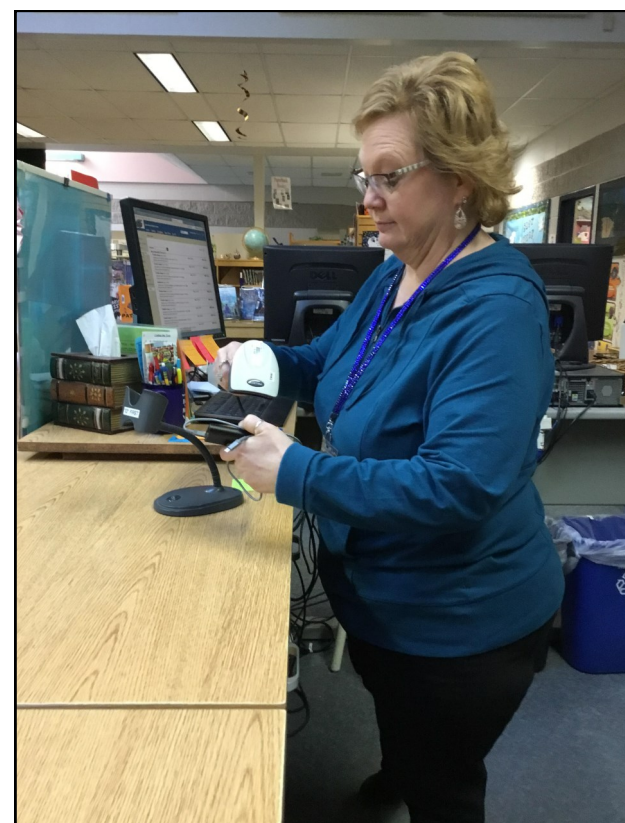
- As of Jan. 17, 2018:
- Portable chargers have been checked out 548 times.
- 177 students have taken advantage of this opportunity.
- Five students have checked out the chargers in excess of 10 times resulting in a C/E behavioral referral (for not being prepared for class).
- 32 times the chargers have ALL been checked out before 11 a.m.

Here are some things to know about the chargers:

- We added them as a service to students for emergency needs – the expectation is that

you are charging your iPad every night so you are prepared for class. But things do come up. Please do not rely on a charger being available.

- If you need a charger for at home we sell them in the library at \$19 for the cord and \$19 for the block. They can be charged to your IC account. You also can order one from Amazon for cheaper but it must be Apple certified. (You will have to turn one in at the end of eighth grade with your iPad; if you don’t, you will be charged \$38.)
- You should have your ID to check them out and if you are coming from a class – you should have a PASS.
- The chargers MUST be back in the library BEFORE core 10. If they are late, you will be charged a late fee as well as lose privileges for 1 week. We will not check them out after core 8.
- Portable chargers are relatively cheap – if you find yourself using them a lot, you should buy your own.



Staff photo

Ms. Neal, IMMS Library Media Specialist, checks in a portable charger at the end of the day.

IMMS students to present *Wizard of Oz Jr.*

By Brielle Bruce
IMMS Grade 8

Ms. Lemens, adviser for the IMMS Drama, was interviewed in December by the IMMS Video Club as part of the IMMS News. She provides an update on the drama.

Q: What is the name of the play?

A: We are doing *The Wizard of Oz Jr.* this year.

Q: How many students are participating in the drama production this year?

A: We have 75 members in the cast, and there are 20 crew members. So that would be a total of 95.

Q: When and where will the performance be held?

A: The performances are in February: Thursday, Feb. 8; Friday, Feb. 9, and two shows Saturday, Feb. 10.

They are at the McFarland High School auditorium.

Q: What are the kids doing to prepare?

A: We are having rehearsals with the cast. And we are having music, dance, and acting rehearsals. Basically learning the material first. The tech crew has started preparing what they're going to be making, too.

Below: Learning material for the upcoming production of *The Wizard of Oz Jr.* are, from left, Alexis Udell (flying monkey), Kylee Carmichael (Toto), Kylie Fernan (as Niko understudy), Sadie Witt (flying monkey), Catherine Briddell (Dorothy), and Avery Weaver (as witch understudy).

Photo by Gwen Crull, IMMS Grade 7



Photo by Cade Kullmann, IMMS Grade 7

Members of the IMMS tech crew, Tyra Haugen and Emily Blattner, paint set pieces for the upcoming production of *The Wizard of Oz Jr.*



Staff photo

Courting success

Members of the IMMS seventh-grade boys basketball team set up an inbound play during a game against Verona at Waubesa Intermediate School. Bubba Blair prepares to pass the ball to teammates, from left, Keats Dyslin, Gavin Schulz, Kyle Kussow, and Micah Pribbenow.

Runners reach for goals

By Teagan Mallegni
IMMS Grade 6

Seventy-seven Indian Mound Middle School students wrapped up their cross country season this fall with success.

“The students are all improving and working toward meeting their running goals for the year,” Coach Harrison said in October.

Some of this year’s IMMS runners have been running for a long time, while a lot are also beginners, said Coach Harrison. “It’s also great to see new runners every year.”

Having so many new runners led to the challenge of many students with very diverse needs in terms of helping them improve in their running.

“My goal was to make sure that every student had the opportunity to improve on their goals, and for me to incorporate training that would help them do that,” Coach Harrison said. Those goals were met. “I haven’t looked at the data yet, but just watching the kids run, I can tell they have all improved,” she

said.

Not only that, but the team also had students who placed each meet. This year, the team had meets at Edgerton, Stoughton, Monona Grove, DeForest, and Whitewater.

“We always have standout runners,” said Coach Harrison. “I would say that Paige Ceelen is a standout runner for sure. She’s a seventh grader and is an amazing runner and a wonderful teammate.”

The eighth grade class is full of standout runners. Cole Weaver and Riley Turner always place high. Lily Innes and Katie Rossman have been with the team for three years now, and they are real leaders. The same is true with Carter Snyder, Sean Fernan and Cash Kujak.

“Really, our entire eighth grade class does a great job of leading the team,” Coach Harrison said.

“McFarland has a great legacy of Cross Country runners,” Coach Harrison said, “and I’m excited to see what these kids do when they get to high school!”