



# ALEXANDER MIDDLE SCHOOL

*"In the middle – kids come first."*

540 Birch Street Nekoosa, WI 54457

Phone: 715-886-8040 Fax: 715-886-8097

Jonathan L. Sprehn, Principal

December 2009

Tis the season to be jolly, and jolly is just what we strive for each day in education. Creating fun lessons and finding the spark to ignite interest is always a goal our teachers have. Middle school students are always looking for fun in everything they do. The definition of jolly is "full of fun", and our hope is that your days are full of fun all year round not just thru the holiday season. Sometimes it is hard to find fun in learning, sometimes it can just be hard, but we can remind our students and ourselves that hard work does pay off. We will soon be halfway thru the school year and with that if your student(s) is struggling and not finding a whole lot of jolly in their day please help to remind them how important learning is for their future and encourage them to ask for help. We want to help in any way possible. Thank you for sharing your student(s) with us.

On Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> Nekoosa hosted the opening Chess Meet for 2009-2010 North East Wisconsin Chess Association (NEWCA) at AMS. NEWCA is comprised of teams from Nekoosa, Wisconsin Rapids, Marion, Neenah, Waupaca, Plymouth, Green Bay, Appleton and Shawno. Approximately 130 players competed in the all day event. Nekoosa's varsity and J.V. teams are made up of both high school and middle school players. This year we had about 25 students who competed and the results will be included in our January newsletter.

The Alexander Middle School Student Council is sponsoring a Candy Cane Sale from December 7<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup>. Candy canes will be sold for 25 cents apiece, and the proceeds will go towards a Mini Course Day for students which will take place in May of this school year.

Our AMS Robotics Club has been busy constructing robots with the help of approximately 10 to 15 student members. Students are now beginning the construction of hands and arms for more advanced use. This club has proven to be very educational using hands on learning while having lots of fun.

Please mark your calendars for these up and coming important dates or events:

December 21 – AMS MVPS Festival of Trees Drawing

December 24 to January 3 – Holiday Break

January 22 – End of Quarter 2

January 25 – No School, Record Keeping Day

January 26 – Start of Quarter 3

Our Alexander Middle School Staff wish you all a blessed and jolly holiday season!