



Tecumseh AFJROTC Keeping Active During Virtual Learning

The Tecumseh High School AFJROTC program has carried on in spite of the pandemic, keeping things as normal as possible and making adjustments when needed. Even though students have not been in the building for class, most of the routines, requirements, and expectations have stayed the same. Students are still required to dress in their uniforms one day a week and Major Couch and Chief Franklin inspect them in Google classroom, having cadets make any necessary adjustments. Cadets still participate in PT (physical training) and complete the workout during a Google class meeting each week.

Beginning the school year, the instructors had to rethink the way the group gets things done and make needed changes. An area that has had the biggest impact in the digital environment is communication. Cadets are expected to learn to organize and lead a lot of the activities, training them for leadership roles now and in the future. Trying to organize and execute group projects can be a bit challenging when cadets cannot meet face-to-face to discuss details. However, they are still getting things done and overcoming any issues as they arise.

The biggest impact to the AFJROTC program as a result of Covid-19 is how they provide services to the community. In a normal year, the group is highly visible in the community, volunteering at many local events. They provide color guard services, help out at festivals and other community activities, and sponsor many activities here at school. Already this school year they made the decision to cancel or postpone a back-to-school dance and a bowling team-building event. They are hopeful to still be able to hold a movie night at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base where they can have a private viewing and be able to spread out in the theater.

Although things are different this year, many aspects of the program are continuing as normal. The AFJROTC offers many clubs that cadets can join and those groups are still meeting. Recently, the Rocketry Club met after school to fire off model rockets. The Drill Team members are getting ready for competitions this year and meet in the mornings for practice in Shannon Gym. They will soon compete in a virtual drill meet, where they will submit a recording of their drill for evaluation. In-person drill competitions are set to begin in January and the Tecumseh JROTC is planning to host their annual Regional Drill Competition in March. The Color Guard members have been at the home football games presenting the colors before each game. A group of cadet volunteers has also been cleaning the stadium after home football games and Cadet Ryan Gess, along with two to three other cadets, comes to the high school everyone Monday morning to raise the American flags and Friday afternoon to lower them.





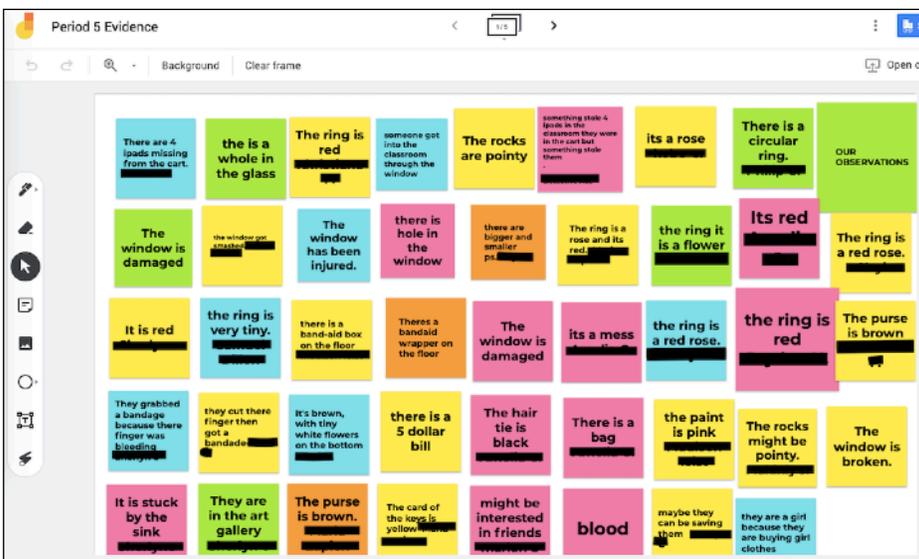
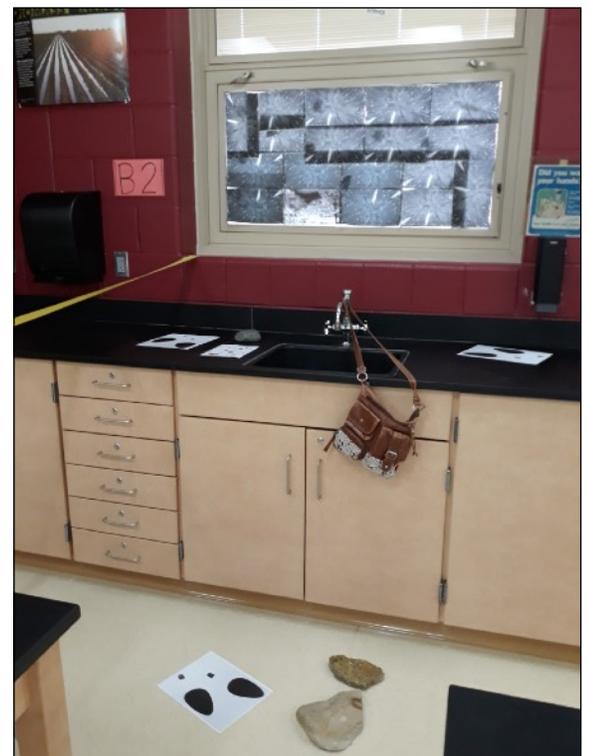
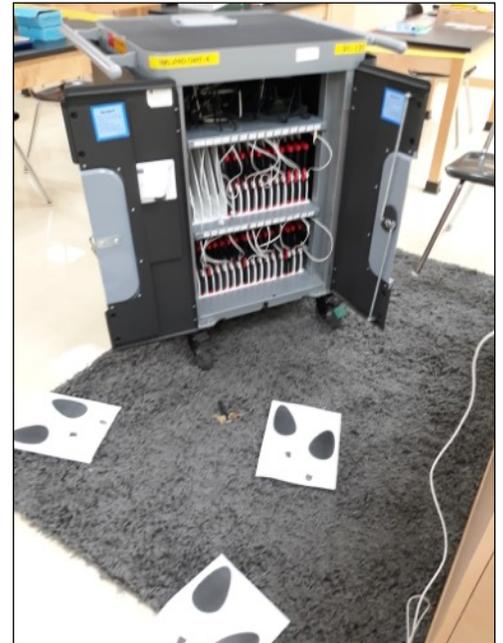
Sixth Graders Distinguish Between Observation and Inference with Investigation

Even though Cecilia Belvo's sixth graders are learning virtually right now, they've been engaged in a crime scene investigation in the classroom. She found that students were struggling with understanding the difference between an observation and an inference and came up with this activity to help them practice. Here's how she did it.

Ms. Belvo began by setting up her room as a mock crime scene. The students were told that someone broke into the classroom and stole 4 of the classroom iPads. Students were then encouraged to work along side her to help solve the case. They used Jamboard as a platform to record observations about what they saw and inferences about what they thought may have happened. They then created Flipgrid videos where they were encouraged to dress like detectives and walk through what they inferred happened at the crime scene, from beginning to end, as well as the type of person they inferred committed the crime. Students also included a simple sketch of the suspect in their videos.

To prepare the class for this assignment, Ms. Belvo showed the students fingerprints that were found at the crime scene and delivered a lesson on how detectives can analyze fingerprints to solve a case. Once the fingerprints were sent for analysis (theoretically, of course!) and a match was found, she created a video of herself as the chief detective of the case questioning the suspect about the crime.

The students really enjoyed the activity, and Ms. Belvo feels they became much better at differentiating between observations and inferences. Students came up with some really interesting theories about what may have happened at the crime scene; things she never would have considered on her own. Initially, she was on the fence about doing this activity with the kids because she wasn't sure how it would go. However, after listening to Matt Miller, the keynote speaker at the district Tech professional development day, she felt compelled to give it a try. Miller talked about how important it is for teachers to take risks and make learning a memorable experience for students. In this time of remote learning, she felt it was even more important to try to reach out to and engage students with a memorable lesson.





THS Students of the Week for Oct. 5

Congratulations to junior Gary Wiscombe for being selected Student of the Week for October 5. Gary was nominated by Mr. Hitt. Gary is always the first one to every class meeting, shows up on time, does all of his work, and participates in class. He is doing everything that represents



Tecumseh's 3 R's even within an online environment. He has modeled excellence during this first quarter of school to his peers and as a Tecumseh student.

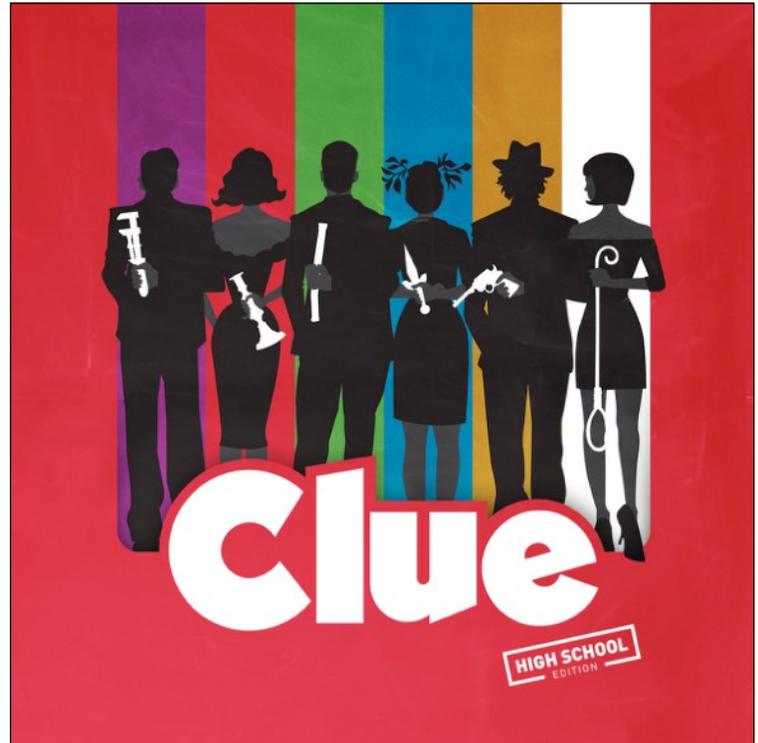


Junior Ryan Gess has been chosen Student of the Week for October 5. Ryan was nominated by Major Couch due to his dedication to the color guard and the AFJROTC program. Ryan has taken the lead for the color guards at football games this year. In addition to this, he comes to school every Monday morning

to raise the American flag and again on Friday to lower it. Ryan has also organized and participated in every home game stadium clean up. He leads a team of 30 cadets to pick up trash and show Arrow Pride in our stadium. Ryan has earned a key leadership position in ROTC this year and is fulfilling it way about standards and expectations! Congratulations, Ryan!

Fall Play Performances Scheduled for November 6 & 7

The fall play this year will be "Clue" and a recording of the performance will be available for streaming November 6 and 7. Information about purchasing tickets will be available soon.



(above) Cast members Elie and Adam Hoover look through the costume closets in the dressing rooms behind the stage.



Mr. Fox Engages Students with Class Projects and Activities

Tag Fox has been trying to keep the class routine and activities as normal as possible by having two Google meets with his third graders every day to cover math and reading lessons. He has also started an enrichment group and they are reading *The Toothpaste Millionaire* together. Mr. Fox likes to keep things interesting by using virtual dice to pick numbers in math and a virtual spinning wheel as a random student name picker. The class also has a PAX vision for their Google meets and use GoNoodle in the last few minutes of class as their Granny's Wacky Prize.

Probably the most unique thing Mr. Fox and his students have been doing is observing the classroom worm bin. The students learned the basic parts of a worm and discussed how worms can turn food waste into vermicompost. The students have enjoyed "observing" the change in the bin as he adds food scraps that slowly disappear over time.

Although things have gone well first quarter, Mr. Fox is looking forward to having his students back in the classroom where they can see and do things in person.



Ms. Rudd and Fifth Grade Team Working Together at Donnelsville



Fifth grade teacher Kim Rudd feels that digital education has been a team effort and she's very grateful to work with a team of excellent teachers! Their team has worked together to create digital lessons and activities using the Google platform. They began the year with a Google Slides "Getting to Know You" activity. The students were excited to share some of their slides with classmates and were able to learn about their peers.

During the school day, they have two live Google Meets and use this time much like they would in the regular classroom by interacting with students, reviewing homework, teaching lessons, and providing extra help. The teachers also use the Elmo projector so the students can see what they are writing and sharing on their computer screens. The Elmo projector has been especially helpful for teaching math lessons.

Students have also been using a variety of digital tools, like Google Forms, Nearpod, Generation Genius and Quizziz, when completing their classwork. These resources are very student-oriented and keep the students engaged with learning. Ms. Rudd, along with the rest of her fifth grade team, are looking forward to seeing their students in the classroom again!