

Dear Staff,

Seventy-one degrees in November! Really? Yep, and I'm glad for it. I hope you were able to get out and enjoy the weather even if it was a little rainy. I mentioned about a month ago that I was planting radishes, lettuce and – on Mr. Gray's suggestion – turnips. Everything came up beautifully, but while the radishes and turnips had great leaves, they didn't produce much in



the way of roots. Thanks to Google, I learned that I shouldn't have fertilized them. While the radishes are pretty much a bust, I found out you can eat turnip leaves. I like cooked spinach, and as it turns out, turnip leaves pretty much taste like spinach. Would



Nettle Creek Family of Schools

you like some fresh turnip leaves? I've got plenty! Drop me an email, and I'll be glad to bring them in. Coincidentally, I was in Meijer's yesterday and saw turnip greens in the produce department. I can bring you some that look a whole lot more tender than what I saw there.

Friday night's football game was a real thriller! Even though the final score didn't go our way, Mr. Snodgrass, his coaching staff and the players certainly came back winners. They had a great season and made us all proud. Time and again throughout Friday's game, the Tigers showed they had heart and were evenly matched with the Saints. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Snodgrass and his coaching staff for teaching their players how to play state-level



football and a whole lot more! On Thursday, TEC coaches came to Willie & Reds to recognize conference successes. Nettle Creek was very well represented and by my count brought home more hardware than any other team represented. Visitors to the high school can't miss the most recent additions to the athletic trophies on the front table.

No sooner do we close the door on the Fall sports season than we start Winter sports. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Olinger, his girls basketball staff and players for their win on Saturday night. This was their first game of what will undoubtedly be a very exciting season. Go Tigers!

It's fun to ferret out NCSC stories to share with you each week. Sometimes I have to wait until a scenario plays itself out before I can share the news! Often, I might share a particular event with staff that I wouldn't necessarily share with parents and the community. This is one of those stories. It was a week ago last Friday night when I checked my phone and saw that I had two missed phone calls and two texts. Though normally optimistic, I had a dreadful feeling all was not right at my favorite school corporation. Sure enough! All four messages were related to the escape of the spider that Ms. Muller kept in her classroom. By the time I arrived

at her room, Ms. Muller and Ms. Young had already spent several hours tearing the room apart looking in every nook and cranny for the spider. I helped for about an hour fervently hoping I wasn't the one who actually found it. I came by at 4:00A.M. the next morning hoping that she (the spider) might be out and easily found because it is nocturnal, but (thankfully) I didn't see it.



Saturday was an all-day hunt for the you-know-what, and we agreed that if it wasn't found by Sunday, the exterminator would spray. Ms. Muller did a yeoman's job hunting for it, but Sunday came, and the spider (that I learned jumps and climbs) was nowhere to be found. The exterminator sprayed the room, and I



started to draft the letter that would have to be sent home to notify parents. On Sunday evening as I was writing my staff newsletter, my phone beeped, and I received a text from Ms. Muller that simply said, "Guess who we found." Attached was a video that Ms. Klein shot that showed the capture of the tarantula – notice I mention what kind of spider it is AFTER it was caught... The main thing I noticed in the video was that it was huge and fast. I went over to the elementary school to be sure the video was authentic and met Ms. Muller and Ms. Klein leaving by the back door with the aquarium and spider inside headed for home. Good call... Though I read more about tarantulas in those 36 hours than I care to admit to and learned that evidently a tarantula bite won't kill people, let's leave poisonous pets at home from now on!

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to three individuals who are helping out in the Transportation Department! We send our thanks to Mr. Fannin, Mr. Schlegel and Mr. Ritter who are driving bus routes until we get a few more drivers trained. We have two folks who are just about ready to take their final test. We wish them well! If you have a friend or neighbor who might be interested in driving a school bus, please let me or Ms. Toler know, and we will contact them.

Finally, we send a tip of the Tiger's tail to the staff at the Jr./Sr. high school for being one of 130 high schools in the State of Indiana being recognized for the high percentage of students earning dual credits. Mr. Childs has been invited to participate in a recognition celebration at the State House this week. Job well done!



Yours for another successful week with children!

WD

