

## **Congratulations to this year's MMS Spelling Bee Winner & Participants!**

The MMS Spelling Bee was held on January 9<sup>th</sup> & was attended by 6<sup>th</sup> graders & family members. David Sixon won this year's MMS Spelling Bee & Jillian McLaughlin was the runner-up. The winning word was tumultous. David will participate in the New Hampshire State Spelling Bee in Concord on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

MMS competitors, who were selected by highest scores on their grade-level spelling tests, were:

- Grade 6:
  - Hannah Army
  - Edie Leak
  - Jacob Lydon
  - Felicity Rysdam
- Grade 7:
  - Jamie Anderson
  - Luca DeRosa
  - Jillian McLaughlin
- Grade 8:
  - Jordan DeCastro
  - Ben O'Connell
  - David Sixon

## **Exciting Happenings in World Language**

¡Hola, buenos días! ¿Cómo estás? Hasta luego amigos. These are just a few of the dozens of Spanish phrases that students are using each day to communicate with each other & teachers all over the school building! Upon entering class on the very first day, students begin speaking & hearing Spanish. Every day their skills & confidence grow tremendously as they practice familiar phrases & are introduced to new ones. Now that we have reached the halfway point of the trimester, students are connecting their knowledge into longer conversations & written dialogues that have them asking & answering more advanced questions. Students have also put their language skills to the test through playing a variety of immersion games that only allow them to use Spanish & body language to communicate for extended periods of time, sometimes for up to 20 minutes!

In addition to developing language skills, students have been exploring the regions of the world where Spanish is spoken as an official language. Each student chose one of the 20 Spanish-speaking countries & spent several days investigating & researching the unique culture, traditions, & perspectives of their country. Students made connections across many disciplines while investigating the geography, climate, education system, economy, food, & significant points of interest in their country.

During the next portion of the trimester students will continue making cultural connections & comparisons of their world & Spanish-speaking regions while expanding their vocabulary, reading & writing skills, & communication skills. Soon students will be able to speak about their academic schedules & classes! It is going to be an exciting second half of the trimester!