

# HAMLIN / LAKE ELEMENTARY

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT — November 2010



## WORDS FROM MISS FALISKIE

### How to Help Your Child with Homework

**Homework can help your child do better in school.** It helps your child learn more. He or she can practice what is learned at school and find out more about subjects taught at school.

**It teaches your child important skills.** These include: following directions, being organized, and working on his or her own. Homework helps your child learn to be responsible.

**You can help your child with homework.** You don't have to be an expert!

**The keys are to be positive,** make it clear that you think homework is important, **and show interest,** ask your child about school and homework every day. Listen carefully to what he or she says.

**Make your home a learning center.** Set a regular study time. Pick a time that is good for both of you. Allow time for play and other activities.

**Pick a study area.** It should be quiet, feel comfortable, and have lots of light.

**Keep track of assignments.** Have your child write them on a calendar. Check them off when they are done.

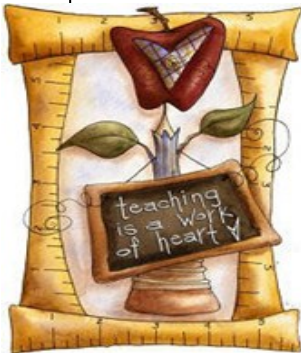
**Have needed supplies ready.** These may include a ruler, tape, paper, pens and pencils.

**Don't do your child's homework.** He or she will not learn as much if you do.

**Be there for help.** Go over directions with your child. Do the first problem together. Then, let your child do the rest. Offer to give a practice test.

**Check your child's work.** Make sure your child completes the homework. Don't correct it. Go over graded papers together. Ask. "What did you do well?" "How could you do better next time."

**Praise your child.** Say things like "Great job!" or "I'm proud of you for trying."



*Miss Faliskie*



## PRE-K NEWS



October provided many safety lessons for the Pre-K children.

Hamlin firefighters came into our rooms to talk to us about fire safety. We practiced "stop, drop, and roll", crawling under smoke, and calling 911. The firefighters talked to us about how important it is to have smoke detectors in our houses, and practice fire drills at home. Thank you, Hamlin Fire and Rescue for sending Firefighters Jimmy, and Jean.

We practiced staying in safe zones and staying away from danger zones in and around a school bus. We would like to thank Laura Franc for bringing a "big" bus to school for us to practice these skills.

On October 8<sup>th</sup>, it was wonderful to have so many of our Grandparents visit us. We enjoyed spending time with them, showing them around our classroom and having them read to us!

Halloween was also great fun! Carving pumpkins, roasting pumpkin seeds, and parading around the school were just a few Halloween activities that we enjoyed.

In November, we started learning the letters of the alphabet and their sounds. **Mm, Ss, and Rr** are the first three letters we will be working on. Don't forget to read for 15 minutes every night and sign the "Reading Calendar".

The activities that we are working on in Math are: sorting by color, shape and size, describing how things are the same and different, counting to 20, and identifying the numerals 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.



Also in November, we are looking forward to learning about the first Thanksgiving and dressing up to eat our "feast" in the cafeteria.



### Inside this issue:

Miss Faliskie.....	1
Pre-K.....	1
Kindergarten.....	2
First Grade.....	2
Second Grade.....	2
Third Grade.....	3
Fourth Grade.....	3
Fifth Grade.....	3
Title I.....	4
Enrollment.....	4



## KINDERGARTEN

The kindergarteners have been busy with a bounty of activities this month! We have Thanksgiving in mind. The students have been learning about the very first Thanksgiving and what life was like for the Pilgrim families.

In reading, the children have been learning to make predictions as they listen to a story. We are discussing important details as we read and focusing on following the sequence of events in a story. Some of the stories that we are enjoying include: The Warthogs in the Kitchen, The Crayon Box That Talked, and I Took My Frog to the Library.



We are concentrating on listening for letter sounds at the beginning, middle, and end of words. We are also blending letters together to make words such as: **nap**, **tap**, and **map**. Remember to keep your child reading daily and fill out the reading calendar in the homework folder.

In math, the kindergarteners are learning about ordinal numbers, how to estimate, and the concepts of **more** and **less**.



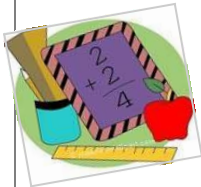
We look forward to seeing all of you at *Parent Teacher Conferences*.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!



## FIRST GRADE

With Autumn upon us, it's hard to believe we are at the end of the first book in the Trophies reading series, Guess Who. Students have been developing phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension skills that are essential for reading success. On your part, it is extremely important to take the time to listen to your child read nightly. Please continue to review all Sight Words, as well as weekly spelling lists.



First graders continue to expand their math skills daily, as they learn to tell time to the hour and half hour. They continue to distinguish coins, identify shapes, write numbers to 100, interpret graphs, and memorize addition facts. We can't stress enough, the importance of practicing addition facts to 10, and counting by 1's, 2's, 5's, 10's, and 25's.

We would like to thank all the parents and guardians who took time out of their busy schedules to participate in parent-teacher conferences.

Thank you for caring about your child's education.



## SECOND GRADE

We are falling back into a great new school year. October is upon us and we have been enjoying the beautiful weather that autumn brings.

Bus Safety and Fire Safety was presented again this year and offered important reminders of how to keep ourselves and others safe on the bus and at home. We learned that in addition to stop, drop and roll, it's also vital that we cover our faces to prevent harmful burns.

Grandparents Day was a huge success this year. We were excited to have an abundance of grandparents come in and visit our second graders. A special thank you, to all that were involved in the organization of this memorable day.

We just finished the first reading theme in our anthology *Just for You*. In the theme, *Being Me*, we learned how people discover new things about themselves through experiences and relationships. We found that the differences among people make each person special.

In math we have finished our first two chapters covering foundational concepts in how we think about addition and subtraction. We learned that we can use our knowledge of addition facts as a strategy to find the answer to a subtraction problem. Please continue to have your child practice their rocket math facts each night. Consistent practice will help your child build automaticity and help them advance in this program.

Thank you for all you do at home with your child. Perhaps the most important thing your child can do each night is spend time reading aloud. We encourage all parents to keep daily reading time a priority in your home. It is a great time





## THIRD GRADE

The third graders continue to start their days with excitement as we make our way through the fall season.

In our 2<sup>nd</sup> reading theme "What a Team!" students accomplish goals. They discover that cooperation can make the difference in relationships and are encouraged to apply that concept to their own lives.



students' explore ways that people and animals can work together to cooperation can make the difference in relationships and are

Math is all about using rounding, estimating and compatible numbers with addition and subtraction facts. Students continue subtracting 3-digit numbers with and without regrouping. Knowing simple math facts makes this process easier. (Rocket Math) Problem Solving will continue to be an emphasis throughout the school year.



Students have been learning cursive handwriting. They have been practicing working on their lower case letters. Encourage your son/daughter to practice at home. They are so proud of their work.

We look forward to seeing you at Parent Conferences.



## FOURTH GRADE

Last month 4<sup>th</sup> grade enjoyed spending time with our grandparents and we had a great time dressing up in costumes and conducting our annual Halloween parade. Now November is here, and as our leaves are changing all around us, change is also taking place in our classrooms. We are now into the next theme in reading, "Side by Side. In this theme we explore situations that highlight "cooperation that strengthens relationships." We hope the students apply this concept to their own lives, as we learn together.

In Math our Lessons are focus on Algebra and how it is used with addition and subtraction. Then we turn to multiplication and division, so please continue to practice the multiplication and division facts with your child. A simple way to practice math facts with your child is to ask them to tell you a multiplication group. You can start with the two times table and move on from there. We also ask you to encourage your child to take home extra rocket math sheets to practice.



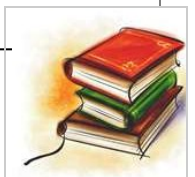
Science is also changing as we wrap up our experiments in energy and start to focus on nutrition. We enjoy learning about what our bodies needs to fuel up and keep our energy levels high for learning. Social Studies has also changed gears. We are still learning about Pennsylvania, but we also are focusing on the regions of the United States and Pennsylvania. When you plan your next vacation be sure to include your child in the discussion, they may want to visit a famous landmark that we have explored or get away to a warmer climate that we have visited in our Pennsylvania History book.

As the winter months approach we continue learning and practicing our writing. A diary, journal or log is a great way for your child to practice writing. Next time they say they have "nothing to do" encourage them to write you a story, real or imaginary. It improves their writing and can open up your child's world to you.

Finally we ask you to encourage your child to continue their 20 minutes of reading every night. It is an important part in helping your child's growth in reading. Please check your child's reading log and encourage them to update it every nights. Reading together is a great way to spend quality time with your child.

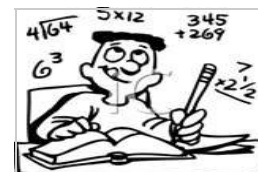
## FIFTH GRADE

As we head into November, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade is making great progress. In Reading we are moving through Theme 2 of our series. The students are reading all sorts of stories that center around team work. Please continue to be involved with your child and encourage them to read 30 minutes a night.



In Science we are continuing through our mixtures and solutions unit. The students are really enjoying all of the hands on activities that take place in our science lab. These activities help the students to see what they are learning about and it really makes an impact on their understanding.

We also continue to push through our Mathematics curriculum. Currently we are working digit multiplication and division. We ask that you continue to work on these facts at home vital to the students' success in years to come.



with double as they are

Finally, our LEFL football season continues to roll on. All the teams are very competitive and it's looking like it's going to come right down to the end of the season to see who's going to emerge as the Super Bowl champion. It's an exciting time for the last 5<sup>th</sup> grade class of Lake Elementary!





## TITLE I



We would like to thank all of the grandparents who were able to attend Grandparent's Day on Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Both students and grandparents enjoyed the special reading time together! Also, we would like to thank all of the parents and children who attended the Title I reading night held on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Reading is surely an important and fun part of our lives!

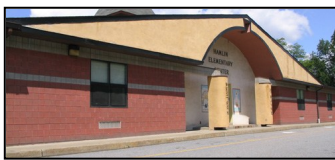
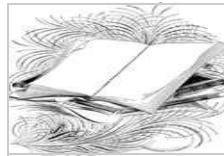
We ask parents to continue to read to their children each night, and if you're children are in first grade or beyond, please listen to them read to you. Reading for as little as 15 minutes every night fosters a love of reading and strengthens your child's reading skills. First, second and third grade Title I students bring home sight words three to four times a week to practice. Second and third grade students bring home books to read as well. Please continue to complete this homework with your children. Kindergarten parents, please be sure to review letters and sounds with your children.



We look forward to meeting with you at the November Parent-Teacher Conferences, to be held on Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please contact the Hamlin or Lake schools at any time if you need to speak to Mrs. Daniels or Mrs. Malec.



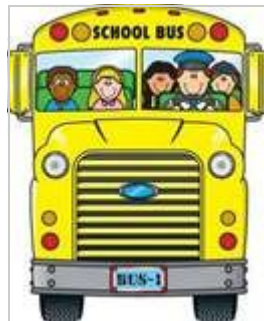
**Happy Reading!**



HAMLIN ELEMENTARY

Early Intervention	11
Pre-Kindergarten	65
Kindergarten	81
First Grade	84
Second Grade	84
	<hr/>
Total	326

## ENROLLMENTS



LAKE ELEMENTARY

Third Grade	113
Fourth Grade	106
Fifth Grade	99
	<hr/>
Total	318