



EverGreen Elementary

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT—December 2011



WORDS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

December is one of the most exciting, yet the busiest months of the year. Cookies to bake, concerts to attend, family to see, and so much more. Here are:



10 Ways on How Busy Parents Can Encourage Reading

- 1) Place a variety of children's books and magazines in handy spots around your home. Urge your kids to look through them often.
- 2) Bring books on family errands and trips—on the bus, in the car, to the doctor, to the store, to relatives' homes, etc.
- 3) Have your kids read books to you while you prepare dinner or fold laundry.
- 4) Turn play dates into reading circles. Ask the children to read to each other, then discuss the story.
- 5) Go to the library regularly. Bring paperwork and pay your bills while your kids look at books.
- 6) When you read the newspaper, have your children sit with you and read the comics or kids' section.
- 7) Ask your children to read recipes to you as you cook, or instruction manuals as you assemble items.
- 8) Encourage your older children to read to their younger siblings.
- 9) Give your kids books and magazine subscriptions as gifts.
- 10) Limit TV viewing to make time for reading. Even 15 minutes of reading before bedtime can improve your children's skills.



Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Miss Faliskie



LIFE SKILLS

It's amazing how quickly time flies. It's hard to believe we are into the second quarter already. Our classroom is full of excitement this month. We will be reading lots of holiday stories and completing some holiday crafts that are sure to put smiles on the faces of your children.

Your children have been working very hard learning their shapes, colors, numbers and letters. Please encourage your children to share what they have been learning and continue to review with them.

We recently read, *The Grouchy Ladybug* by Eric Carle. We made our own ladybugs.  We had a great time.

With the arrival of winter, please make sure that your children have a warm jacket, hat, mittens and boots for wellness/recess time.



I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Holiday Season!



PRE-K

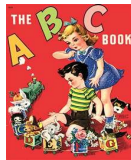


Winter is here and Pre-K students are observing all of the it brings with it. Observing and recognizing the change in son has been a strong focus in Pre-K. Discuss at home with child the change in weather, the trees, the animals, what are doing, and the holidays we celebrate in winter.



changes the sea- your they are

Letters are all around us! In the classroom we practice letters and the sounds they make each and every cepts are used at circle small group instruction the environmental print cards that were sent for your child.



day. Repetition and reinforcement of these con- time, when reading stories together, during and learning games. Continue taking notice of your child sees. Take advantage of the flash home. Remember to make learning letters fun

Language development is so important! We encourage you to continue to talk with your child about their day to day activities, the people they meet and the things they learn at school. Reading child every night for 15 minutes is a great build your child's language development!



to your way to



Merry Christmas!

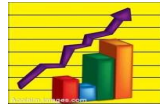
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Our Kindergarten classrooms are full of excitement and holiday spirit this month! Holiday stories and Christmas carols can be heard in every classroom. Their precious faces light up as we count down the days until Santa arrives.

Phonemic awareness, phonics, and writing skills are being worked on daily in class. The children are reading more words and sentences. Remember to practice sight words nightly.



In math, the kindergarteners are reading and making picture graphs, reading and making tally tables, and making predictions from data. The students will be identifying geometric shapes in two and three dimensions.

Please remember to review the work that comes home in the weekly Wildcat Folder  and Homework Folder, and read with your son or daughter every evening.



Encourage your child to do some writing at home with a reminder to try to print the letters correctly.

With the arrival of winter, please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for cold weather. A warm jacket, hat, mittens, and boots are necessary each day for school.

We wish everyone a very Happy Holiday Season!



FIRST GRADE

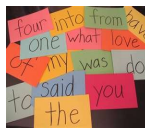
Welcome to EverGreen Elementary! First grade is a tremendous year of growth for your children. They will master many different skills. In reading, we will be teaching a variety of phonics skills and reading strategies to help students become fluent, independent readers. In math, we will focus on addition and subtraction facts, as well as patterns, money, time, place value, graphing, and more.



First grade students have reading assignments nightly. In addition, they are assigned a math or reading worksheet. Reading logs are extremely

important. Every night, students are expected to select a book of their choice for the Reading log. Parents should listen to their child read. If a book is more difficult, parents can read to, or with their child. Please sign your child's Reading log nightly.

Please review the First Quarter Sight Words with your child. The list is located in the center of the Homework Folder. Students are expected to read all of the words instantly. Spelling lists are sent home on Monday's in the Homework Folder. Practice these



words weekly. Spelling tests are on Fridays.



We wanted to say "Thank You" to all that could attend Open House. It was a pleasure meeting all of you. We also hope you enjoyed seeing our new school. We are very pleased with how everything turned out.

Please continue to read for 15 minutes each night with your child. This is very important for your child's reading success.



SECOND GRADE



Second graders have encountered different genres in their "Helping Hands" reading theme. They enjoyed a cumulative folktale, a photo essay, realistic fiction, and other stories that let students share how they help at home and at school. Next, the students were challenged with reading nonfiction texts about plants and trees. They interpreted information on charts, graphs, and diagrams.



Students learned to identify plural, com-

mon, and proper nouns. Rather than using the same words over and over again, students learned a variety of synonyms.

Second graders learned the meaning of digits, identified patterns, skip counted, and completed pattern tables. They practiced solving story problems and explained their strategies. Next, students added two-digit numbers with regrouping. Practicing math facts at home has really accelerated the students' progress in addition, **thank you!**



Students have enjoyed switching classes for reading interventions, enrichment, computers, grammar, science, and social studies.

Conferences are helpful for both teachers and parents to meet students' academic and social needs. Thank you for participating. The second grade concert performance reinforced supporting the arts in education. Thanks to all who worked hard to prepare and decorate for the concert.





The third graders have finished their second reading theme called "What a Team!" This theme contained realistic fiction, nonfiction and magazine articles as well as exploring the ways that people and animals can work together to accomplish goals. Students discovered that cooperation can make the difference in relationships. We encourage our third graders to apply this concept to their own lives. As a reminder we ask that your child is reading for at least 15 minutes each night and filling in their monthly reading calendar.

In math we have been investigating the world of time



THIRD GRADE

and money. We have also continued to soar through our facts in Rocket Math. Please support practicing math facts at home along with word problems.



We are "electrified" with science as we are learning all about electricity by creating static electricity and simple circuits.

In Social Studies we are learning about Early Communities in America. The third graders are finding out how lives were changed forever when Native Americans built the first communities in North

America thousands of years ago.



Veteran's Day was a day to remember those who have fought for our country as well as those who continue to do so. Third graders were able to share what they were thankful for at our Thanksgiving dinner in school. We are all thankful for our families, friends, our school and all the people who touch our lives everyday.

We would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season!



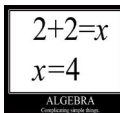
FOURTH GRADE



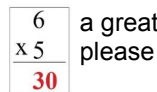
The fourth grade team was glad to have the opportunity to meet parents for parent-teacher conferences.

We have wrapped up our second reading theme. We have started theme 3 of our reading series, "Make Yourself at Home". In this theme, we will read about characters that grow and change along with their environment. In recognizing that change is part of nature, we hope that our students will come to appreciate their own tremendous potential for inner growth as we learn together.

In math, our lessons have been focused on Algebra and how it is used with addition and subtraction. We are using mul-



tiplication and division in a great deal of our math, so please continue to practice 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. For example, start with the two times table the first day and the next day you could review the two times table and then move on to the three times table and so on.



We have finished up our Energy unit and we have moved on to our Nutrition unit. We hope to take what we learn in the science lab and transfer it to what we do everyday to gain healthier eating habits. In Social Studies, we are

learning about the first settlers to the United States and Pennsylvania. Researching early settlers is always a good activity to share with your child.

Thank you for reading about our happenings and we would like you to continue enjoying spending time with your child each night reading. Please be sure to check your child's reading log and encourage them to update it each night.

The fourth grade team wishes you a Happy Holiday Season!



FIFTH GRADE



As you're reading this the first quarter and parent conferences have come and gone. We'd like to take the time to thank the parents and guardians who attended Parent/Teacher conferences. Communication is the key to giving your child the best education.

Also by now we have named our Student Council President. Our student council is made up of one student from each of the fifth grade classrooms. The members of our student council (Allison Mattern, Vaeda Pontosky, Tyler Dulney, Dylan Walck, and Michael Tomasetti) have been working very hard and have the honor to represent the school and seek some positive changes. They



also have the honor of being the first student council of our new building.

Amidst all the excitement of the elections and the Holiday season that has come upon us, we continue to push through our curriculum as we prepare for the PSSA testing. In Math we have been working with all sorts of numbers and operations, from simple addition to difficult algebraic expressions.

In Reading we continue to work on various reading strategies to help improve our students fluency and comprehension as these are important pieces in their success as a good reader. We ask that you continue home by reading and



that your child is reading 30 minutes nightly.

Lastly, we know this time of year can get hectic, but we ask you to please remember to be diligent in helping your child to be responsible for homework. It not only teaches them responsibility but also reinforces the skills that they need to be successful in school. We thank you for all your help and wish you a safe and happy holiday season.





TITLE I



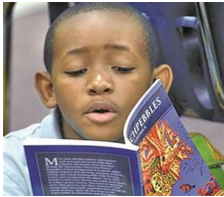
We would like to thank all of the parents who attended Parent/Teacher Conferences on Tuesday, November 22, 2011. Working together and communicating with each other helps us to better service the children.

Also, thank you to all of the families December 1, 2011. It is our hope evening was enjoyable.



who attended the Title I Parent Night on that the presentation was informative and the

One of the ways you can help your child with his or her reading is to practice reading with fluency. Fluency means to read at a good speed, to read with expression, and to punctuation while reading. Simply put, fluency means you read like the best ways to become a fluent reader is to reread ing stories helps your child to read more smoothly, be- knows the words. Also, as a child rereads a story, he/ those words and should know them in another book. Take time a few nights each week to listen to your child reread a story for fluency practice.



to pay attention you talk. One of stories. Reread- cause he/she she remembers

Happy Reading!

Wishing everyone a Happy Holiday!



ENROLLMENT



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Kindergarten	83
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Second Grade	87
Third Grade	86
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Fifth Grade	<u>108</u>
_____	655
Outside Placement	<u>8</u>
Total	663

