



November Newsletter

Western Wayne School District



PRE-KINDERGARTEN

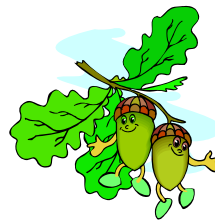
“A student should be comfortable enough to have confidence and challenged enough to stay alert and motivated” author unknown

During November, our educational experiences will flourish. We will begin to introduce the letters of the alphabet. The children will bring home some activities for each letter of the alphabet. These are a supplement to do at home with your children. We will discuss the food pyramid, and hopefully try foods from each group. We will complete our “All About Me” books. These will come home at Parent-Teacher conferences. We will discuss Veteran’s Day and create a patriotic

project. Thanksgiving presents many opportunities to describe what we are thankful for and why. Discussing family traditions gives the children a chance to talk in a group. In an effort to impress our loved ones at dinner, we will also reinforce manners and social skills.

Reading to your children daily is a great way to promote literacy and the home-school connection. The items we send home with the children to review help them with their language concepts. At school we provide a learning environment that encourages the children to trust us and become confident learners. Encouraging

them to share their school experiences will not only boost their confidence but also provide you with information about what they are learning. Please take time each day to talk with your children and listen to what they have to say. It is also important for them to pay attention to what you are saying. Have then retell what you share.



It is my honor to teach one of the most important things in life: the difference between right and wrong.

-Mrs. Coccodrilli’s room

FIRST GRADE

Our students were really busy during the month of October. They were screened for dental and vision problems, and were busy working on units on Fire Prevention, Columbus Day, and Halloween. The Halloween parade is always a special treat for the children because they get to see the high school band all decked out in their costumes.

During the month of November the students are working in the second book of the reading series, Catch A Dream. In this book of the reading series, they continue to work on short vowels, and are introduced to working with: digraphs, contractions, compound words, and initial blends.

In math, we are working on improving our addition and subtraction facts and

making progress with Mastering Math Facts.

The students will be discussing the importance of Veteran’s Day and writing in response to the topic. They will also learn about the first Thanksgiving and working on Thanksgiving Day activities.

We would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving!!



KINDERGARTEN

The kindergarten students are learning to sound out short vowel *a* words. We have been reading words from the -at word family such as: cat, bat, hat, fat, mat, etc. We would like to give your child the opportunity to read to you and demonstrate their understanding of these words by completing the activity below.

First, have your child read the following words to you:

cat mat



October was filled with fun activities and exciting things for our class to do! All of the students in our classroom have been working very hard and doing a wonderful job with our reading and math programs. We have really made so much progress since the beginning of the year!

In reading, some of the students have been learning about letter naming and what sounds letters make, and other students have moved into reading words and stories. Some of our students

After reading these words to you, have your child dictate a sentence to you using these two words. Finally, have your child demonstrate their understanding of the sentence by illustrating the sentence.

If your child completes this activity and returns the illustration to their teacher, they will be rewarded for their hard work.

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them. ~J.F. Kennedy

AUTISTIC SUPPORT

have even started to write their own stories!

Many of the children have also started their math programs, and some of the things that they will be learning about throughout the year are: counting, measurement, money, and basic math problems. Some students have even made their own flash cards that we will use throughout the year. Our math learning games have centered around matching numbers to their amount, and putting numbers in order from least to greatest. Some of our learning centers that we will be using later on in the year use many different coins, so if any parents would like to send in some of their loose change, we would greatly appreciate it.

Throughout the month of October, we spent some time talking about pumpkins and Halloween, and we made special fall and Halloween crafts to share with our families, including special spiders, bats, and our own little pumpkin patch!. We were excited to talk about the different ways that you can dress up for Halloween, and what the students were going to be this year.

Next month, we will be talking about Thanksgiving and the upcoming holidays. The students will learn about giving and what they are thankful for. We will spend some time learning about Thanksgiving and what the holiday means to us. Our students might even get to make special Thanksgiving treats!

TITLE ONE

Find

A

Love of

Learning by

Reading

Often,

Connecting with text,
and

Keeping your

Skills strong.



READ EVERY DAY!

THIRD GRADE

October was a busy month for our third graders. A program was presented to our students by the local fire department. The children were reminded about what to do in case of an emergency or fire. The firefighters also demonstrated their equipment and its uses.

A book fair was held during the month. The children were able to purchase books.

The children are finishing their formal cursive handwriting lessons. We will continue to practice as needed. We ask that the children continue to practice this at home.

In reading the children are in their second theme titled "What A Team!". This theme explores ways that people and animals can work

together to accomplish goals. The children discover that cooperation can make the difference in relationships.

They are able to apply that concept to their own lives.

Mathematic lessons are progressing. The children are continuing to work on their math facts. We are also working on subtraction with regrouping. Problem solving and written explanations for problems are a large part of our math lessons.

The children have completed the water unit. They have done activities about volume and weight. They also experimented with the concept of size and weight versus sink and float. What is the relationship between the two?

We are learning about ways to stay healthy. The children have com-

pleted the "Second Step Program" in health. Our children have learned about empathy, conflicting feelings, active listening, and accepting differences. The skills that we are learning promote a healthy environment here at RDW and also help our students outside of school.

Social studies lessons are about the different communities in our country. It tells us about the different landforms, natural resources, and human resources that makes each community so unique but yet the same.

The children and teachers would like to wish everyone "Happy Thanksgiving".



FOURTH GRADE

What We Have Been Doing:

- *Science:* We are conducting experiments with water.
- *Social studies:* We are learning about Pennsylvania's first residents, the Native Americans.
- *Health:* We are discovering the effects of tobacco and alcohol so we are prepared to make good decisions.
- *Reading:* We are reading stories about cooperation in Theme 2.
- *Math:* We are multiplying and dividing.

Writing: We are organizing and writing five paragraph essays.

What You Can Do At Home:

Encourage your child to practice multiplication facts for a few minutes each night. Ideas: Learn one new fact a night. Write it repeatedly. Say it aloud repeatedly. Before you know it, you will have mastered all of the facts! All students must master their multiplication facts by the end of the second marking period.

Ensure that your child reads nightly for 15 – 30 minutes. Record the reading on the reading log, which needs to be handed in at the end of the marking period.

Review with your child frequently: science, social studies, and health tests in 4th grade are not open book, it is necessary for students to study. Study guides or notes are prepared to help your student and you. Look for the blue homework folders in your child's backpack every night. Check it over to make sure that your child is filling out his or her Homework Assignment Booklet and completing homework assignments. Together, we can ensure that your child has a successful year!

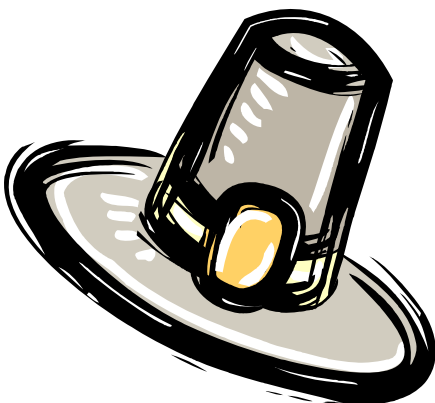
Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it --William Arthur Ward

FIFTH GRADE

Fifth Grade has been working very hard on becoming better readers. We are now exploring the unit called Team Work. This is very appropriate since fifth grade students have been working as a team to develop skills that good readers possess.

In math we have been studying numbers and operations, including multiplication and division. Our Rocket Math ships are beginning to soar as we move toward our Rocket Math goal of being Rocket Math free.

With Halloween just around the corner we are looking forward to a visit on October 29 from Mr. Mark Nebzydoski, high school science teacher. Mr. Nebzydoski will be giving us a spooky lesson in chemistry. Wow! Just think, it is exciting to have a real high school science teacher show us a little bit about the world of chemistry.



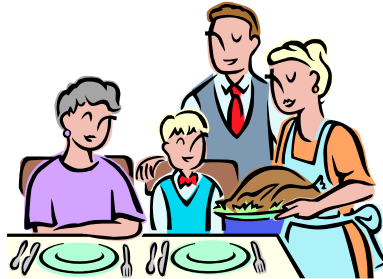
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Johannes A. Gaertner

To speak gratitude is courteous and pleasant, to enact gratitude is generous and noble, but to live gratitude is to touch Heaven.



SECOND GRADE

The first quarter of the school year is over. We are looking forward to meeting with each of you at parent/teacher conferences just before Thanksgiving. It is an important time to get together to share ideas about your child's progress. We are hoping that all parents participate in this very important discussion.

We are having a good time reading stories about "helping hands" this month. Our stories have genres of realistic fiction, photo essays and folk tales. The children really enjoy reading a variety of stories. We hope that they are also reading a lot of different kinds of books at home and getting credit for it on their reading logs. We know that the best readers are ones who read a lot.

We are now working with 2-digit addition and subtraction with regrouping. Help your child out by giving them some problems to work with on their own. Don't give them too many, we want them to be successful. Your child can get a special treat from their teacher if they show that they added 5 problems with regrouping successfully at home. They just need to bring in the paper with the problems and correct answers and show it to their second grade teacher.

We hope that everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving vacation. This is a special time for families.

EARLY INTERVENTION

Quality Time with Your Child Leads to Strong Language Skills

By Kelly Faulkenberry Cheek, M.S.P,
CCC-SLP

and Keri Spielvogle, M.C.D, CCC-SLP

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With our busy and often hectic lives, we never seem to have enough quality time with our children. The quality time parents spend with their children positively affects their development in many ways. Setting aside fifteen minutes or more a day with each of your children helps them to develop strong language and play skills. By following these fun and simple guidelines, your children will "get on the road" to good language skills!

Step 2: Asking the right question makes all the difference!

Try to remember that these activities focus on spending time with your child. They are not a "test" to see what he/she knows. Talk openly with your child and phrase questions so you get more of an answer than "Yeah" or "Fine." Ask your child "open" questions such as, "What was the most fun thing you did today?" or "Who did you play with at recess?" These questions require more of a response than a simple "yes" or "no." You can build on your child's answers with a comment or another question, thus further expanding the conversation. Recalling the events of the day helps your child to understand and use past tense, memory, and sequencing. When asked the right way, simple questions lead to a great language experience.

(look for step #3 in next month's newsletter)

