

Nydam news

a monthly newsletter from Joel Nydam

News & Updates

Dear Parents

January 31, 2018

It's back!!! The Nydam News is making a return for the remainder of the school year as a way for you to see the great things happening at Legacy that your child(ren) is experiencing. You will see a little bit of a new format with the following pages being dedicated for the Specialists at Legacy to share pictures and communication of the experiences that are happening in Art, Technology, Music, Library/Media and Physical Education.

Homecoming week was a BLAST!!!

One of the great examples that makes Legacy unique is that we are a PreK – 12th grade school. During Homecoming week, special time is set aside for students to share their excitement, create posters, and get to know their "Big Buddies" better. The 7th-12th grade students spend time mentoring and meeting with their younger grade buddies during the week to raise school spirit and share the Homecoming experience with each other. This culminated at the Pep Fest last Friday. This time was a hit for all the students as they competed in relays, sang the school song, and learned cheers all with their "Big Buddies."



Upcoming Events

February – I love to Read Month – K-4th Grade

The month of February is a special month at Legacy. We are celebrating the gift of reading. At Chapel, Mr. Nydam shared some of the challenges for the month including the class that reads the most minutes gets to decide how he shaves his beard for the day! Yes, that crazy fur all over his face will finally disappear!!! We will also have a special guest on March 2nd who will reveal the finished Billy Muggins project, the book that the students wrote last year.

February 2 – Grants for Teachers Needs Parade at 1:40. Come join us!

February 5 – Parent Night at 7:00 p.m.

February 9 – Daddy/Daughter Ball at 7:00 p.m.

February 13 & 14 – PreK Love Tea

Joke of the Month:

Q: What do you call a fly with no wings?

A: A walk

Q: What did one bee say to another bee?

A: Wasabi!!!

Books/Resources to check out...

Here is a thought-provoking article on giving praise to our children. This has challenged me as a dad.

[LINK](#)



PhyEd/Health



Mrs. Cheryl Fregeau



Mrs. Beyer's Kindergarten class loves to play *Mouse in the House* with scoops.

The PreK classes have been discovering how to roll, scoop, and catch a whiffle ball off of a bounce in the air with a scoop. They have tossed the balls into large buckets and through hula hoops. Their favorite is the *Colored Whiffle Ball Run*.

Third through Sixth graders have been learning basic fundamental volleyball skills in PE this month. They've learned the ready position, how to position their thumbs with wrists down, form a platform with their arms, and how to shrug their shoulders to pass the ball underhand. We also introduced setting and serving underhand.

Fifth and Sixth grade girls are well on their way to becoming excellent volleyball players! They set a great example for their peers on how to move the ball in the game of *Nuke'em*. We used a beach ball to try for three hits per side and learned proper rotation and scoring.



Mr. Todd Manske



Mrs. Zieroth's First graders love playing the *Paddle/Bag* game.

The **K-2 grade** classes have been working on hand-eye coordination by playing with paddles and bean bags. We have been holding our bags on the paddles like pancakes and ice cream cones. They all shared their favorite flavors. They also did a wonderful job flipping the bag on their paddle and throwing the bag into buckets.

We played a game called *Paul Bunyan Pancakes* and they learned a few facts about Paul Bunyan. Students are looking forward to learning a fun game called *Scoops & Balls!*

The **5-6th grade boys** just finished up our badminton tourney! The boys really showed improvement on their racquet skills. This next unit will also involve nets at a lower level. We just started learning how to play *Pickleball*.

Band & Choir



Mr. Rolly Rudzitis

Favorite Made-Up Saying: Rudziti - pronounced "rud-zee-tie" (plural for many Rudzitis').

Favorite Bible Verse: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

Bio: I am in my 26th year of teaching at Meadow Creek/Legacy as the Band Director. I also teach High School Choir and Music Tech class for 5th and 6th grade. I coach volleyball with my wife Leah and have 4 children currently attending Legacy (Jezron, Taaron, Tezra and Joren). Five other children have already graduated (Justina, Tija, Talis, Janson and Talana). That's right, nine children all together. I like to compose music whenever I can and also lead worship at Hope Fellowship as the Worship Pastor. I have really enjoyed teaching and coaching at Legacy and am excited that I have an opportunity every day to pray with students and encourage them in their faith.

Favorite Movie Character: Bugs Bunny because he always seems to outsmart the other characters.

Funniest Teacher Moment: When students tell me they forgot their instrument because they had to take it home to practice.



5th & 6th Grade Tech Students creating music compositions.



Mrs. Tirzah Gerber

There are many great days to celebrate with music in the New Year! Martin Luther King Jr. Day, LCA Homecoming, Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, and Presidents Day are all inspiration for great music lessons.

PreK - Enjoyed their Song of the Month - "*All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir.*" Students learned how God has created our voices to work and that each one of us has a unique voice just like the animals in the song.

K - Continue to explore patterns of melody. Xylophones have been a fun way to hear and see these melodic patterns.

Grade 1 - Love to play *Forbidden Pattern* and they are experts at recognizing the pattern of the day. They also love playing music games such as *Hoo, Hoo*.

Grade 2 - Is learning to read the rhythm and pitch of melodies using "*Do Re Mi*".

Grades 3 & 4 - Recorders are coming this week! They have been learning rhymes to remember the letter names of the Treble clef staff in preparation.

Grade 5 - Has been working on Skill Building exercises to strengthen their reading of notation. Students worked in small groups to compose their own rhythm pieces to "*Just Give Me That Beat*," and played *Rhythm Bingo*.

Grade 6 - Is studying music history. Students learned about the instruments used and reenacting scenes from Bible stories that used music references. Daniel 3:1-10



Art & Technology



Mr. Andy Anderson

Superhero Name: Mr. Anderson (from the Matrix)

Favorite Verse: Ephesians 2:10 “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

This is my favorite verse because it reminds me that our God is a creative God, and in his supreme creativity, chose to make us in His image. We are his handiwork and his craft. And to think God had a plan for our lives, long before we were born, is an incredible and hopeful thought! I certainly hope that I live each day to do those ‘good works’ that He has prepared for me to do.

Bio: Mr. Anderson holds a Bachelor of Science in Visual Art Education K-12 with a Bible Major from UNW-St. Paul and a Masters’ in Education from College of St. Catherine. Mr. Anderson has spent the last 12 years sharing his art passion with elementary, high school and college students.

Favorite Coffee: Caribou Dirty Chai with Almond Milk

Funniest Teaching Moment: When an elementary art student held up his painting and all the paint ran down and dripped on the floor. He started to cry and said, “Mr. Anderson, my painting is just way too juicy!”



Mrs. Niessen’s 4th grade technology class designing a train using Keva planks.



Ms. Jayme Buchelt

Preschool: Students are working hard on their Valentine’s Tea placemats using the sponge paint method.

Kindergarten: Is learning about the artist Paul Klee (20th Century Expressionist) and his geometric art. We used this method to create geometric cats using crayon & watercolor paint.

1st Grade: Reviewed the art of Paul Klee; focusing on his painting called “The Castle and the Sun”. After reviewing geometric shapes and color theory, they created castles with oil pastels.

2nd Grade: The second graders created digital drawings on their computers and transformed them into a 3D digital models using the Selva3D website. This 3D rendering aided the students as they carved their image into Styrofoam, creating a sculpture ready to paint.

3rd Grade: We learned about the modern day pop artist; Romero Britto. Inspired by his art, the third graders painted their own cat onto newspaper using acrylic paint.

4th Grade: We learned about the surrealist artist Rene Magritte (20th Century Surrealist). We learned that surrealism is mixing something that is real and unreal together. Using that definition, the students created their own surreal animal.

5th/6th Grade: Are learning about Japanese ink painting techniques. Using a 1 yard long dowel stick, bamboo skewers and bamboo paintbrushes. Their final painting had to incorporate the long dowel stick but could attach any tool to the end of it, to aid in their final painting. (see picture).



Media Center/Tech



Mrs. Stacey Smitsdorff



Ms. Jayme Buchelt

PreK have been listening to stories about Bear, a character from Karma Wilson's books: *Bear Snores On*, *Bear Feels Scared*, *Bear Feels Sick*, and *Bear Sees Colors*. Each student illustrated their own bear book by answering questions: "I feel like a sleepy bear when I", "I feel like a scared bear when I", "I feel like a sick bear when I", and "I feel like a colorful bear when I"...

Kindergarteners have been listening to books about Valentine's Day and working hard on decorations for the school office. See if you can find your child's artwork on the wall outside of the school office!

In First grade, we have been reading nonfiction and fiction books about dinosaurs. Currently, we are reading *Lulu and the Brontosaurus*. This fun book is about a little girl named Lulu and her adventures looking for a pet Brontosaurus (look for a dinosaur to come home)!

The Second grade class is listening to the book *Mr. Popper's Penguins* and discussed fiction and nonfiction facts about penguins. They completed a Penguin Life Cycle project and will learn more about penguins as we continue to read this Newberry Honor Award book.

Both Third grade classes finished the book *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. Each class voted on the next read aloud and Mrs. Morrell's class chose another Mark Twain book, *The Prince and the Pauper* (Great Illustrated Classic version). Mrs. Luhring's class chose *I Survived the American Revolution*. I am enjoying the books as much as they are!

Fourth grade is half way through the American Girl book, *Addy*. This book is the first in the series, a fiction story about a nine-year-old slave girl living on a plantation with her family. The class has been working in their Addy books answering questions and creating a WORDLE about Addy's adventures.



Elementary Technology - Unit: "Coding"- Kindergarten, First and Second grade all started a new unit called "Coding". The students learned about the word 'persistence' and how to never give up on a task they need to complete. Each week there was a new challenge placed before them and they used different algorithms to complete the challenge and worked both independently and in pairs.

Vocab Words: Persistence, Algorithm, Debugging