

Nydamnews

a monthly newsletter from Joel Nydam



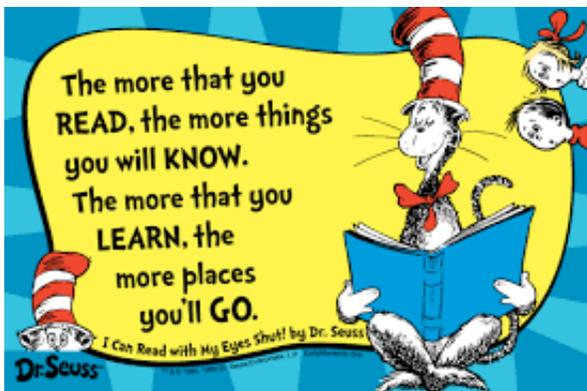
News & Updates

Dear Parents, February 3, 2019

I am excited for the month of February for many reasons, but my favorite reason is how we celebrate the love and joy of reading. During this month, I have challenged the K – 4th grade students to read over 90,000 minutes as a collective group! Last year Mr. Mulvihill and I slept on the roof of the school because the students beat the goal of reading 80,000 minutes by reading over 101,000 minutes! The announcement of what will happen if the students beat the goal will happen on Wednesday, February 5th.

Also, please mark your calendar for Friday, February 28th as we will have a K – 4th grade assembly to celebrate the reading challenge.

5th and 6th grade have some great events and projects coming up. One 5th grade class just finished selling and making slime. The other class is gearing up for some more business learning. 6th grade is looking forward to entrepreneurship lessons over the next few months.



Upcoming Events

February 3rd - Start of Reading Month! - This month long challenge is geared to inspire students to build that love for reading.

February 14th - Valentine's Day and Daddy/Daughter Ball. Many fun activities are planned in the classrooms as well as a special dance for Dads and Daughters.

February 18th - No School - Conferences 8-4 p.m. We love connecting with you as parents to communicate and partner about the growth of your child.

February 20th - Conferences 4-8 p.m.

February 28 - Mother's Knight - This is a special night for Moms and Sons

Joke of the Month:
Q: What did the shy pebble wish?

A: That she was a little boulder!

Q: I've just been diagnosed as color blind

A: It really came out of the purple

Books/Resources to check out...
Six Things to Do When Reading with Your Kids

[LINK #1](#)

Art & Technology



Mr. Andy Anderson: Art/Tech



Ms. Jayme Buchelt: Art/Tech

As we enter into mid-quarter, 5th and 6th grade technology students are deepening their understanding of computer generated animation. They are specifically focusing in on stop animation using cameras that connect to their laptops and capture still frames of their animated objects. All students have been grouped in animation teams of 2-3 and can be seen here working on building a solid plot and storyboard. All students have been challenged to incorporate the use of Legos © in their films, so we'll see what they come up with! Filming begins next week as students build their props and characters and start shooting their stop motion movie!

FOCUS: 3rd Grade Art
The most anticipated time of the year has come for the 3rd graders, CLAY! The students learned about the individual uses of the clay tools and how to best utilize them in their projects. After such extensive learning, they were granted a practice clay day. The purpose of a practice clay day is to have them test their knowledge of the new tools with the functionality of the clay. They made some wonderful sculptures during this practice time, although they were not allowed to keep the practice sculptures, they looked forward to creating their final pinch pots. Look below for a couple wonderful examples of what they created during their practice clay day.



PhyEd



Mrs. Cheryl Fregeau

PE and Health Teacher

January has been Manipulative Month in Mrs. Fregeau's classes.

Kindergarten -2nd Grade: Focused on paddle and scoop activities using bean bags and whiffle balls. Some of the games we played were: Mouse in the House, Paul Bunyan Pancakes, Doghouse Tag, Bean Bag Move & Groove, and Bean Bag Collector. Studies have shown that developing hand-eye coordination is so important in other areas of learning. See this article for more information. [Click Here](#)

Crosby and Riley are carrying a bean bag between their foreheads (pictured below).



4th- 6th Grade: Moved from scoops to lacrosse sticks. For many, this was quite challenging but an opportunity to learn new skills. The students worked on techniques and drills in cradling, scooping, passing, and catching. The 6th grade girls were ready for a game and had lots of fun playing.



Mr. Todd Manske

PE and Health Teacher

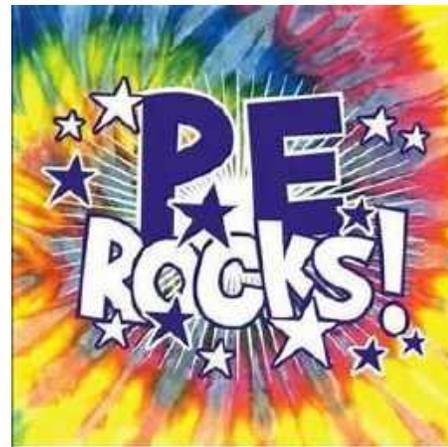
In the month of January, Mr. Manske's PE classes have done many exciting activities! We were able to swing on the rope at the beginning of the month which is always a favorite activity!

Kindergarten-4th Grade: Played bean bag games, paddles, scoops and balls.

All grades did a great job on the 7 minute marathon!

5th -6th Grade: Had a lot of fun playing basketball and badminton.

Make sure to ask how your child did in the badminton tournament!



Band/Choir



Mr. Rudzitis

Band Director

Students in Music Tech class are venturing into arranging and creating their own version of the song "Jesus Loves Me". They are recording the original version on a piano track and then adding creative ideas to make their original version. They are working on creating their own loops such as drums and keyboard synth pads (synthesizer). We should end up with quite a variety of "interesting" interpretations!



Mrs. Gerber

Music Teacher

PreK - The students have been learning about how God has created animals and people with unique voices. A favorite song is "All God's Creatures Got a Place in the Choir." Here is a fun version of the song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-iP27eatYxE>

Kindergarten - 2nd Grade - Each class is learning how music is made up of melody patterns and rhythm patterns. Students are having lots of fun growing in their ability to read the language of music through rhythm reading videos on Virtual Music Minds Youtube channel - check them out and practice with your kids.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vZ5mlfZlgk>

3rd - 4th Grade Tis' the season for recorders to invade the homes of our students. This will be year two of using the recorder curriculum called "Recorder Karate." Last year was a hit with students challenging themselves to get the next level recorder belt. Help students practice at home with this Youtube Channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCm8oNISRrEJ2geUTju4b8w>

[A](#)



5th Grade - During January, the 5th grade students have been reviewing foundations in rhythm. Small groups composed and performed their "Just Give Me That Beat" rhythms using Boomwhackers for an accompaniment.

6th Grade - What a fun month as students have dug right in and spent the month researching music history in small groups. Students are putting the finishing touches on their time period posters and will use their sleuth skills to identify which time period various pieces of music come from. Can you put the following time periods in chronological order?

Classical **Renaissance** **Romantic**

Medieval **20th Century** **Baroque**

Media Center



Media Center Specialist

Preschool completed a four-week author study on Karma Wilson and her books about the character Bear. Each student created a bear book to take home.

Kindergarten studied fiction and nonfiction books about penguins and polar bears. Each student created a penguin for the library wall and a take home book full of facts about polar bears.

1st grade concentrated on everything snow this month. We read books about snowmen, snowflakes, and learned how to fold and cut a snowflake.

2nd grade explored the book genre mysteries. We had a book tasting party and moved through the library sampling four different series of mystery books.

3rd grade spent three weeks reading a series of books *Iggy Twist Scientist*, *Ada Peck Architect*, and *Rosie Revere Engineer* and worked in groups to solve the problems from the books. Examples: Help Mrs. Luhring cross the bridge safely, lower the baby carefully, and create a machine so Mrs. Luhring can fly. It was a time of great learning and creating!

4th grade is listening to a read aloud book about a nine year old slave girl, *ADDY*. Each student is answering questions about the characters and learning a few facts about the Civil War.

