

Volume 31, Issue 3 May 18, 2017

From the Desk of Principal Salness

Dear Ranch View Families,

As the end of the year draws near, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for making these past seven years as Ranch View's Principal the most rewarding experience of my career. It has been my honor to work with the students, staff and parents who make up such a wonderful and supportive community. It is with many mixed emotions that I leave this amazing school, but I



am confident that Principal Angela Stallion and her Assistant Principal, Catherine Cohoon, will continue to lead and foster greatness for Ranch View students! As you know, Mrs. Stallion is coming to us from Hinsdale and has several years of experience as Principal in that district and others. Mrs.

Cohoon is coming to us from River Woods where she has served as Assistant Principal for the past 3 years.

With the new school year comes several changes to our current staff. Newly created positions within the district have provided opportunities for our experienced staff to explore new career paths. Others have elected to make grade level changes, and new staff members will be hired over the summer by Mrs. Stallion to complete the staff roster for 2017-2018. On the next page is the current staff roster for next year.



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Continued... From the Desk of Principal Salness

Kindergarten	First Grade		
Mrs. Koble	Mrs. Ferro		
Mrs. Sheridan	Ms. McGovern (soon to be Mrs. Weilgat)		
Mrs. Dill	Mrs. Meluch		
Second Grade	Third Grade		
Ms. Suleman	Mrs. Groves		
Mrs. Wszolek	Mrs. Hayman		
New Hire	Mrs. Meath		
	New Hire		
Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade		
Mr. Jay	Ms. Shabel		
Mrs. Krause	Mrs. Porter		
Mrs. Pace	Mr. Pinelli		
Ms. Rouse – Former district Technology	New Hire		
Mrs. Roy- New Learning Support Coach at Ranch View			
Mrs. Morrow- Moving to Scott School as Learning Support Coach			
Mrs. Crockett- Moving to Mill Street School as Math Specialist			
Mr. Buckley- Moving to Mill Street School as Learning Support Coach			
Mrs. Baum- Retiring Ms. Claudia Hayes will take over as Principal Secretary			
Mrs. Lukas- Retiring New Hire			

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Mrs. Salness

I wish all of our amazing staff the very best as they move forward under new leadership at Ranch View, as some move on to new adventures in positions throughout the district or retire to relax and enjoy family. We have done great things together and you have all taught me so many things. Well done Ranch View staff and the families that have supported them! My time here with you all will never be forgotten.

Ranch View Student Services Team:

Deb Cohen, Robin Graefen, Debbie Joyce, Stephanie Gallagher, Erin Freeding, Mary Jo Powers, Anne Specht, Linda Mullins, & Annette White

Ideas for summer:

Children acquire skills through the school year, but they will lose ground if learning stops during summer break. The PPST has put together a list of activities to keep kids reading, writing, and learning this summer!



- Keep a journal of summer highlights with family and friends, vacations, special activities, sleepovers, cookies with grandma, etc...
- Continue to use district-recommended websites and games that are listed on Ranch View's home page, under Research Resources.
- For more summer reading & learning ideas, go to these websites to read about summer reading programs, as well as other opportunities they offer to the public.

Naperville Public Library: http://www.naperville-lib.org/

Lisle Public Library: http://www.lislelibrary.org/

Barnes & Noble: http://www.barnesandnoble.com/u/summer-reading/379003570

Anderson's Bookstore: http://www.andersonsbookshop.com/

College of DuPage: www.COD.edu/academics/conted/youth camps.aspx

Goodbyes

Dear Ranch View Elementary Community,

If you haven't already heard... I am transferring to Mill Street School to continue to grow and learn as a Learning Support Coach. I have very much enjoyed and grown every day of my 5 years at Ranch View Elementary School. It has been a pleasure getting to know the students and families at Ranch View. I hope to take what I learned here and build a new family-community at Mill Street Elementary. If you are ever in the area, be sure to stop by and say "HI". Have a terrific summer and enjoy the Outdoor Classroom! Sincerely,

Mr. Buckley

Thank You Ranch View Families!

Dear Ranch View community,

It is with a heavy heart that I write this last entry for the Ranch View Review. After 27 years as a First Grade teacher, I will be saying goodbye to my second home. I will be leaving the Ranch to take a new position as a Math Specialist at Mill Street School. I have been blessed to work with some of the most amazing colleagues, students, and parents throughout my years at Ranch View.

Thank you for the privilege of working with your children.

Fondly,

Jeanine Crockett

I will retire at the end of this school year. While I look forward to my new endeavors, I will miss my students. Thank you so much for your support and sharing your student with me.

-Georgie Lukas

My dearest Ranch View families, students, and friends;

If you have not yet heard my news, I am going to be taking a position at Scott Elementary School as a Learning Support Coach next school year. I am finding it impossible to say goodbye to all of you. My experiences at the Ranch have been ones that I will cherish forever. I have learned far more from my students here than I could have ever taught them. Your support, generosity, and willingness to care for *all* of our students and staff is unmatched anywhere else. I am honored that I have been a part of the Ranch View family. Thank you for entrusting your children to my care. Please keep in touch so that I can celebrate all of the many

wonderful things your children are yet to do!

Fondly,

Mrs. Alex Morrow



Tales from the



Ranch View Learning Commons

by Mrs. Mougette

What an amazing year it's been in the RLC! We could not have done it without our hardworking *volunteers*. Thank you to the volunteers who shelved books in the mornings. It's a big job and so nice to see their smiling faces day after day.

Ranch View runs smoothly thanks to the efforts and kindness of our volunteers.

In April, we were delighted to welcome **James Russell** for a K-2 author visit. We enjoyed his new book, <u>The Dragon</u> Hunters.



The RLC has been buzzing with robots. Between the after-school STEM program for 4th and 5th graders and MakerSpace, students at the Ranch have been programing and controlling many different types of robots.



All RLC books were due Wednesday, May 10th. Please remind your child to return any missing library books or pay for any lost/damaged books.

Summer Reading Reminder:

Children who don't read over the summer experience summer learning loss. That's right - kids don't just feel like they've forgotten some of what they've learned - they actually do forget it. And the effect is cumulative. Kids who lose reading skills over the summer will be two years behind their classmates by the end of 6th grade. — School Library Journal

READ-DISCUSS-LEARN-GROW!



From the President of H & S, Jill Wroble

Home & School's Year in Review....

A special thanks to those parents who stepped up to Chair Ranch View's 30+ Home & School committees. They successfully organized and motivated hundreds of volunteers throughout the year! And thanks to **YOU** who served under each and every committee to make it a success.

Kicking off our year was **Jen O'Sullivan** and **Stacie Quigg** with the Gift Wrap fundraiser. School spirit was never a problem with **Jing Kong** and **Valentina Minkova** heading up our Spirit Wear sales. Lynda Cabrales kept us informed with the production of the Ranch View Directory. **Carrie Tilton** and **Joann Maciaga** were up next coordinating and manning two great Book Fairs. Our Skate Party would never have happened without **Kim Kedziora** and **Stephanie Fiore**. Winter wouldn't be the same without Saddlefest, one of our most volunteer-intensive activities, that was orchestrated by Laura Bahula, Audrey Minor, and numerous chair people. Our largest fundraiser, Silent Auction, came through beyond our expectations under the fine direction of Patty Cerney and Erika Jensen. To round out the year, Barbara Akkeron and Jie Su brought together our scientists for an incredible Science Fair, blending curriculum and fun. SFCP chairs, **Dina Esposito** and **Annette Larsen**, co-hosted with Ranch View students to put on our STEM Night. Thanks to Barb McCarthy collecting

AND THANKS TO YOU WHO **SERVED UNDER EACH AND EVERY COMMITTEE TO** MAKE IT A SUCCESS.

brick path orders to fundraise for our Outdoor Classroom. And, who doesn't look forward to our Flower Sale? Eileen Hall and Alison Grumbles volunteer with smiles as bright as the flowers themselves.

Besides our "seasonal" committees, there are many committees that run continuously throughout the year. Annie Gryzmajlo and Melissa O'Shea were the driving force behind the Manna gift card program. **Elizabeth Breese** tirelessly collects those Box Tops. Heather Tritt lined up a ton of successful Restaurant Nights. Every Tuesday morning, Laura Bahula and Jen O'Malley were running our school store. Always reaching out for those Direct Donations was Faryal Ahmed. Anne Onorati, Andrea Saylan, and **Heather Tritt** worked through the year to create memorable moments for our 5th graders, including the Fifth Grade Program, Outdoor Ed., and Yearbook Signing Parties. Protecting and taking care of our children with Health and Safety was Ellie Laneville.

Putting this very newsletter together is **Michelle Clark**, who edited

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Continued... From the President of H & S, Jill Wroble

and compiled the very informative Review throughout the year. In appreciation for the staff, our Hospitality committee chairs **Melissa O'Shea** and **Wendy Puglielli** dished out fantastic luncheons and delicious breakfasts, which is quite the undertaking when you're feeding a "family" of 80. In preparation for the upcoming year, **Anne Onorati** did a fantastic job setting up the H&S Board in Nominations. Keeping the Sign-Up Genius running smoothly was **Eileen Hall** and **Nicole DeVerdier.**

The successful classroom parties were attributed to the hard-working team of **Lynda Cabrales** and **Jen O'Sullivan**. Starting off our year and coordinating supply packets was **Megan Benton** and **Kirsten Haskell**. **Sandy Neuenkirchen** and **Stacey Maulsby** spearheaded the fundraising activities, including the creative

Art To Remember program. And, thanks to **Kirsten Haskell** who compiled and coordinated the volunteers for each committee. Our year will wrap-up with quite the celebrations planned by **Stephanie Fiore** and **Wendy Galgano** with Assemblies. **Sheila Ochoa** and **Dawn Swiderski** are hard at work organizing Field Day. **Stephanie Fiore** and **Erin Wikman** coordinated the videographer to capture Spring Sing memories. And last but not least, our yearbook committee, headed up by **Karen Bailey** and **Dawn Swiderski**, which ties the school year together in our professional-looking yearbook.

What a great group of volunteers! Thanks for all you do.

A special thanks also to my fellow Executive Board members: **Jie Su**, **Audrey Minor**, **Kirsten Haskell**, and **Erin Wikman**. You have donated so much of your personal time and energy... "Thank You!" is not a big enough sentiment! *We are sincerely grateful for you*.

Jill Wroble

RV H&S President ranchviewpresident@gmail.com



NOT A BIG

ENOUGH

SENTIMENT!

News from the ELL Room by Ms. Jill Stoner and Mrs. Walsh

Bonjour! Hola! Labas! Assalaamu alaikum! OLÁ! Li ho bo!

Namasthe! H,ej! Guten Tag! Geia sou! *Dzień dobry!* Buna Kon'nichiwa こんにちは Nǐ hǎo你好 வணக்கம் Vanakkam! Merhaba! Kamusta! હેલો Hēlō! हॅलो Hělō! హలో Halō! 여보세요 Yeoboseyo! Marhabaan!

Greetings from the ELL Room!

Success:

To hear English words coming from a newcomer's mouth; to see the smiles and confidence on student faces as they share their projects with their classmates; to see students embrace their culture by speaking over the intercom using their native language; to hear the laughter of the children throughout the day; to see students making friends; to see parents sharing their cultural traditions with classrooms; to observe our Ranch View community embracing diversity; to hear about family networking occurring outside of our school walls; to see our Ranch View community demonstrate a growth mind-set; to know we have touched the lives of many people in positive ways.

This is to have succeeded.

-- Mrs. Stoner & Mrs. Walsh



Art News by Mr. Arndt

All students at Ranch View have the wonderful opportunity to work with the Fine Arts team. Students get the opportunity to take Music, Physical Education, and Art Class.

Kindergarten students get 50 minutes every week for art where they focus on basic visual

art fundamentals, elements, principles, and fine motor skills. Students are exposed to drawing, painting, and sculpture throughout the course of the year. First, second, and third grade students get 50 minutes of

art every week. During this time, students continue to develop and tone their

fundamental skills, laying the ground work for fourth and fifth grade. These students get 1 hour of art every week. Throughout the year, these children participate in a variety of art

projects ranging from complex individual pieces and group collaborative projects to digital photography. All students also create digital projects as well, such as stop motion animations using iPads. All students are exposed to a variety of mediums where they are then

encouraged to continue exploring their interests. The Ranch View fine arts team is devoted to providing students with unique experiences that enhance their classroom learning and

everyday lives. Each student should have an art shirt that they can keep in their classroom. This can be an old shirt from anyone in the family that can go over their school clothes to avoid getting them messy during art. Donations of art supplies are always welcome.

- Mr. Arndt

Stop Motion

Animations



P.E. News by Mr. Blondell

End of the Year Updates for P.E.

Students in 3rd-5th grade are currently taking their final physical fitness assessments as mandated by the state. The required tests are the PACER test, mile run test, curl-ups test, sit and reach test, and push up test. Though these tests are required, it is an exciting time. Students take the time to set fitness goals based on their fall results and even share them with others. They are reminded about the importance of working toward improving their own personal fitness and not comparing themselves to anyone else. The students work very hard to achieve personal best scores on their fitness tests. My favorite part of this process is seeing them celebrate their accomplishments.

Students in grades K-2 have had the opportunity to preview the fitness tests during their warm-ups. However, students in these grades are not officially assessed until they reach third grade. They enjoyed the experience of attempting the tests. The primary students have been mostly focused on reviewing high intensity aerobic games as a means of exercise. We also discuss the importance of heart health and how these intense activities can benefit the most important muscle in the body.

Field Day

Field Day is right around the corner for the RV students. Parents can be a part of the fun by volunteering during the day's activities. Please consider joining us for a fun-filled Field Day 2017! You can register to volunteer using Ranch View's Sign-Up Genius website.

Summer Camps

Summer is almost here! Parents, there are numerous opportunities for your children to stay active and healthy during the summer months. Several sports and activity camps are offered through District 203 and the Naperville Park District. Please visit the following websites for more information on camps that will keep your child active all summer long:

Naperville Central Summer Camp Directory-

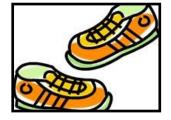
https://napervillecentral.8to18.com/dashboard/catalog

Naperville North Summer Camp Directory-

https://napervillenorth.8to18.com/dashboard/catalog

Naperville Park District homepage-

http://www.napervilleparks.org/

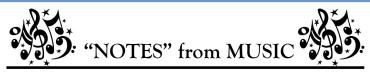


Ranch View Running Club

This August, the RV Running Club will begin its 2017 season. Students who will be entering grades 3-5 are eligible to participate in this fun and healthy activity group. Look for informational flyers when we return to school in August. In the meantime, consider joining "Youth Running Camp" on the North camp directory above. Older students are eligible for cross country camps run through both Central and North.

Have a wonderful summer!

-Mr. Blondell Page 10



May 2017

Music Information for the "End of the school year" (May 2017):

*May 4th Spring Sing – Congrats Ranch View Students! Your performance was a success!



*ALL 3rd, 4th, and 5th GRADES - From May 15th thru 19th, the 3rd/4th/5th graders will be BRINGING HOME THEIR **RECORDERS** for SAFE KEEPING over the summer. Fifth graders may keep their recorders. All 3rd and 4th graders need to put recorders in a safe place at home for the summer, but they will need to bring back their recorders in the Fall to use again in music class next school year.

*SUMMER: The **music fun** doesn't have to end with the school year. There are many places in Naperville where students can extend their music learning; places like "Kids Kabaret", "Young Naperville Singers", and The Naperville Center for the Performing Arts, just to name a few. Please feel free to check out these places and see if they are offering summer music programs.

Music Information for the "Beginning of NEXT school year" (Aug. 2017):

*AUGUST 2017: All of the 4th and 5th Graders need to bring their Recorders back to school. We'll be playing these instruments again. If students need to order a new recorder for any reason, we can do that in the Fall. All recorder-order information for students/parents will be sent out in the Fall.

*2017-2018 Music Concert dates will be announced in the Fall.

Contact Information for the 3 Ranch View Music Teachers:

- *Mrs. Sass (Vocal/General Music): hsass@naperville203.org
- *Mr. Frendewey (Band Teacher): <u>bfrendewey@naperville203.org</u>
- *Mrs. McClure (OrchestraTeacher): smcclure@naperville203.org

~Have a wonderful summer,

Mrs. Sass





by the Kindergarten Team: Mrs. Sheridan and Mrs. Kolbe

Reading Workshop

As we begin our poetry unit, students will be able to:

- Understand, interpret, appreciate, and enjoy the genre of poetry.
- Experience the rhythm and beat as we enjoy a variety of poems.
- Make connections, think deeply, and analyze poems for the author's purpose and message.



As we begin our Unit 4: Opinion Writing, students will be able to:

- Learn that opinion writers get their words out into the world.
- (Jse mentor texts as inspiration, incorporating what they have learned into their own writing.
- Include facts and reasons to support their opinion about a topic.

Math

For the remainder of the year, our focus in math is becoming familiar with partners of numbers through a variety of learning activities. Student learning targets will be:

- I can tell you partners of a number within 10.
- I can tell you a teen number is a ten and some ones.
- I can add and subtract fluently within 5.

During math, we continue to see how your child is demonstrating the following math practice standards:

- 1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- 2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- 3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- 4. Model with mathematics.
- 5. (Jse appropriate tools strategically.
- 6. Attend to precision.
- 7. Look for and make use of structure.
- 8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.







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FIRST GRADE FUNDAMENTALS by Mrs. Crocket, Miss McGovern, & Mrs. Meluch

Our journey through first grade is almost complete. Throughout the year we have learned to read and write for a variety of purposes, to utilize word patterns, to infer the meaning of interesting words, and to solve mathematical problems flexibly, fluently, and accurately. We have learned all of this while working together as self-directed learners, collaborative workers, complex thinkers, community contributors, and quality producers. So, the next time your children say... "I didn't do anything at school" ... rest assured they have been working really hard all year!

Our students' love for reading increases as we continue to read a variety fiction, nonfiction and poetry materials. We are utilizing different types of text to illustrate the many ways reading materials can be organized. As children's

background knowledge increases and their decoding and comprehension skills improve, the children can begin to evaluate and interpret different texts. When asking children questions while reading, it is imperative that students return to the text to find the evidence to support their answers. As your children continue to read at home,

please have conversations regarding what they are reading. Encourage children to reread when meaning breaks down. Having children read daily throughout the summer will help them maintain their fluency, accuracy, and comprehension skills. Consider joining the library summer reading program to help motivate and increase their love of reading.

What connects reading and writing? Word Analysis! We have focused our attention on consonants, blends, digraphs, and short and long vowel patterns. The children have read and have written words with short vowel patterns. We expect children to apply the various spelling patterns and High Frequency Words into their daily

writing. We will be spending the remainder of the year reviewing the spelling of the High Frequency words. This summer, spend time reading and writing these 103 High Frequency words. The instant recognition when reading and instant recall when writing these words will help them with the second grade standards.



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Continued... FIRST GRADE FUNDAMENTALS by The First Grade Team

The children's voices have been heard through their writing. We have exposed children to multiple purposes for writing. We have asked them to write small

moments about their lives. They wrote informational pieces about topics they were interested in. The children wrote opinion pieces to support their likes and dislikes. Finally, we are finishing up the year writing realistic fiction pieces where the children create a series of books around a character with various problems and solutions. Summer is a great time to provide your children with a variety of writing tools

and fun paper choices. The extra time and fun experiences provide ideas for the children to write stories or small moments. Encourage your children to write and draw about their feelings, stories, or fun experiences.

Our students have become strong mathematicians! They are able to solve problems fluently, flexibly, and accurately. We have spent a great deal of time reviewing fact fluency, "part-part-whole" relationships, and problem solving. We have helped students to see the connection between addition and subtraction. We are introducing adding two-digit numbers to get them excited about the second grade standards. Spending time having children practice addition and subtraction facts will greatly prepare them for second grade. Try a variety of ways to get students to practice their facts, such as computer devices or paper-and-pencil practice. The following is a great website to print addition and

http://www.bigactivities.com/math_sheets/index.php

subtraction sheets for all types of problems:

First grade is an amazing time in your child's educational life. First grade is much like the foundation on a home. Its purpose is to hold the structure above it. A house just plunked down on bare earth is more likely to crack or damage over time. Well... first graders who do not have a strong foundation may suffer in the above grades. Your children have worked hard this year to build that strong foundation. We appreciate your help and support in creating strong students who have shown "True Grit" throughout the year.

Enjoy your summer!



Second Grade Notes

by Mrs. Marci Dill, Mrs. Alexandra Morrow, Miss Eman Suleman, & Mrs. Sara Wszolek

Start the year out on the right foot! This summer, you can do many activities that will prepare your child for school next August!



<u>Visit the public library often</u>. Check out many wonderful books with your child. You can read to your child, read together, or your child can read to you and family members. Rereading books multiple times will build your child's fluency. It is a great idea to model and work with your child on reading with expression and tone as well. An exciting way to show improvement in these reading skills is to tape your child

reading a book the first time and once again after they have practiced 4 or 5 times. They will actually hear the difference! Our second graders can also continue to read through the summer reading from Raz-kids.com. This site allows students to record themselves reading so they can hear how fluently they are reading. It is also an excellent opportunity for the students to check for their understanding by taking a comprehension quiz after reading and rereading a story.



Reinforce your child's skills with time and money through real-life situations. Have your child count his/her piggy bank, money for treats, or admission to a special place. Expose your child to both analog and digital clocks. Refer to the time related to specific events (i.e. "We leave in 15 minutes.").

<u>There are many educational websites and software programs available</u>. Some of our favorite software programs are: <u>www.mathplayground.com</u> and <u>www.arcademics.com</u> for math and geography activities! The students can continue on with Xtra math and IXL math. There are also many fun apps that students may wish to use to review and maintain their math skills.

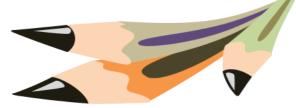


<u>Brush-up on those writing skills</u>. Send postcards, letters, thank you notes, and emails to friends and family. Your child could also plan a special day and write out an itinerary for the entire family. Continue to practice reading and spelling the second grade high frequency words.

The Year Ahead... For incoming second graders!

Reading: In second grade, the children continue reading fiction, nonfiction and poetry genres. We spend a great deal of time working on discussing fiction stories by having the children thinking about the characters, setting, problem, solution, and ending to the story. We discuss the author's purpose and the author's message. The children spend time working on retelling the story by telling the events in sequence. In informational text, the children look for text features in the book and discuss the vocabulary, the main idea, important details, and interesting facts that they learned in the text. In poetry, the students learn about the elements of a poem, ... Continued on Next Page ...

Continued... Second Grade Notes by The Second Grade Team



mental imagery, the rhythm, the tone and the mood of the poem, and the poet's message of the poem.

<u>Writing:</u> Second graders integrate reading and writing with the same genres. During the year we spend time writing narratives, informational text, and poetry.

Science-

- Sound: We will be searching for sounds, learning what makes sound and that sound travels through many things, exploring pitch and volume, designing and building musical instruments, and sharing our instruments. Sound energy will be explored using hands-on experiments.
- **Life Cycles**: We will observe trees, plants, and insects throughout the year and the changes they go through in their life cycles. We end the year by watching caterpillars as they make their amazing change through the life cycle and become Painted Lady butterflies.



• **Rocks and Minerals**: We will learn the properties of rocks, properties of minerals, rock types, where rocks come from, and that rocks are made from minerals.

Social Science:

- Naperville Now and Then: Travel back in time to the days of the Potowatomi Native Americans and the first settlers. We take a field trip to Naper Settlement to see how Naperville has changed.
- Australia: Come with us as we visit the Land Down Under. See how different locations effect how people live, work, play, learn, and worship!

Health

Germs: Learn how to take care of your body and battle those germs! We study exercise, sleep, keeping clean, and brushing our teeth well.



For Your Information

- * Please label all of your child's school supplies (including art shirts, headphones, lunch boxes, and outer clothing).
- * Sharpened pencils are always appreciated on the first day back.
- * Students get a healthy snack break in the morning to keep their energy level high! Only healthy snacks will be eaten at this time. Water bottles are welcome as long as they have a pop-up top that can be closed easily.
- * We would also like for the children to have their own set of headphones in a labeled bag for use with technology.

Many exciting activities are planned for our 2nd graders. It is a year of tremendous growth. We look forward to meeting everyone in August!



Everything You Wanted to Know about THIRD Grade but Didn't Know Whom to Ask

by Mrs. Julie Groves, Mrs. Laura Meath, & Mrs. Chris Hayman, and Ms. Diane Krause

We welcome you and your family to our third grade pod! We have many new and exciting educational adventures for your child to explore.



Our first adventure is LITERACY. We build on skills that the children learned in second grade. Your student will use comprehension strategies and various reading skills paired with metacognition (thinking about your thinking) to deepen understanding of text. This type of deep thinking will enhance your child's reading comprehension and help them to discover the love of reading.

These strategies will be practiced during shared, independent, and guided reading and during strategy groups. Your child will also have the opportunity to discuss books and reading strategies during one-on-one conferencing with his or her teacher.

Another component of literacy is WRITING, which is carried into all subject areas. There are four units of study: narrative, opinion, informational, and fairy tale writing. The volume of writing increases in third grade, and we strive to help children understand the reading and writing connection. Some cross-curricular examples of third grade writing are: math problem solving with written explanations, reading responses, paragraph pieces, and poetry. The study of grammar is also part of our curriculum.

A portion of the writing block is word study where students work in small groups at their level of spelling development. Also, all third graders need to master 100 high-frequency spelling words by the end of third grade.

Equally important in third grade is the adventure in MATH. The curricular concepts that will be addressed are: multiplication, division, measurement and graphing, number sense,



addition, subtraction, geometry, and fractions. Math Tasks, which are realworld applications of concepts, will challenge the students to apply their math knowledge through exploring, observing, and connecting to real life.

Throughout the year, your child will travel through the SOCIAL SCIENCE communities of Medieval Europe and Japan. Students will be exposed to the components of communities and will study them in past and present settings.



Our last journey takes us into the world of SCIENCE. Students will travel down the paths of: habitats, light, and the paths of the sun and the moon within the solar system.

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Continued... Everything You Wanted to Know about Third Grade by the Third Grade Team

Third grade journeys outside of the classroom <u>may</u> include a trip to Safety Town! All of the field trips will relate to the curriculum and provide a different learning experience for the students. As well as the outside trips, there are many exciting culminating activities that occur inside the classroom.

If you want your child to have a smooth voyage into third grade, we recommend daily reading, journal writing, and practicing fluency of addition and subtraction facts to 100. Your child can continue to utilize the IXL subscription to practice all second grade skills. This will enhance the comfort level of your child as he or she transitions to learning multiplication and division.

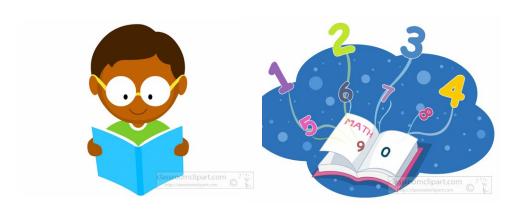


Another resource for parents is to become familiar with the 3rd grade Common Core State Standards. They drive our curriculum and our expectations for third graders' learning.



The Third Grade Teachers look forward to meeting you and working with each of you throughout the year. Have a safe and relaxing summer wherever your summer's journey will take you! Be sure to have your child bring along a good book to read.

Third grade... a lot to **THINK** about!



Fourth Grade Revealed

by Mrs. Jamie Ferro, Mr. Jerry Jay, Mrs. Melanie Pace, and Mrs. Chris Roy

Here is a peek into what you and your family can expect to experience in fourth grade. We look forward to seeing you in August.

Literacy

We will continue utilizing School Wide Reading Fundamentals and Lucy Calkins' The Art of Teaching Writing - Units of Study in Opinion, Informational, and Narrative Writing. Using mentor texts, novels, primary resources, poetry, and nonfiction texts, students will learn about the structure of texts, text features, and author's craft, as they comprehend with deeper meaning. These skills will be used as students learn to develop their writing in narrative, opinion/argument, informational pieces, and literary essays. Students will be "Reading as writers and writing as readers."

Fourth graders should be able to choose a book for reading that is "just right", which means that it is not too easy and not too hard. Students should be able to read that "just right" book silently for 30 minutes or more at home each night. Student stamina in reading and writing is important as students engage in longer and more difficult texts. Students should also be able to talk and write about what they read using evidence from the text to support their opinions and inferences.



Social Science

This is the year we journey across America! We begin with the northeast region and work our way south and west. We focus on one guiding question: What defines a region? We explore various aspects of each region, including place, location, movement, and human interaction, as well as what makes each region unique. We also focus on states and capitals, as well as, maps as separate areas of study.



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Continued... Fourth Grade Revealed by The Fourth Grade Team

Science

Our budding fourth grade scientists have a year of discovery ahead of them! The fourth grade science program focuses on: Matter, Watery Earth, and The Human Body in Motion. These units share the common denominators of wondering about the natural and physical world, seeking answers through exploration and investigation, pursuing ideas in depth, observing carefully, communicating clearly, collaborating/sharing in a group, and developing critical response skills.

STEM

In addition to our regular science units, our students will participate in a highly engaging **S.T.E.M**. project. They will construct and maneuver a robot through a series of challenging obstacles. In doing so, students will integrate their **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering, and **M**athematics skills to work collaboratively by problem solving, building, programing, and recording

Math

data using Lego Mindstorms.

Our math program is designed to assist fourth graders in answering the question: *How is mathematics used to help me understand my world?* Students will understand that mathematics is a language, that order matters, and that reasoning and proof create meaning. Students will also understand that there are relationships amongst numbers. They will discover that authentic problems can be solved using appropriate computational strategies. Finally, they will ascertain that accuracy and efficiency is essential to computation. Knowledge of basic math facts is <u>essential</u> for student growth and progress throughout our mathematics curriculum. *Please review and practice basic addition/subtraction and multiplication/division facts throughout the summer.*

Testing

Fourth graders now participate in two online tests: *PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers)* and *Performance Series Assessments*. In addition, all students will take the *COGAT (Cognitive Abilities Test)* while select students will participate in *ITBS (Iowa Test of Basic Skills)*.





By: Mr. Pinelli, Mrs. Porter, and Miss Shabel

Fifth Grade Review of 2016-2017

In the last weeks of fifth grade, our students will continue to explore the messages and elements of poetry and to notice how authors express their feelings and emotions as they convey these messages. In Social Science, the students will continue to look at how the exchange of power affects individuals and society. We will close out the year with hand-on-equations and by incorporating the Math Practice Standards in problem solving in mathematics. Our Fifth Grade celebration will be on Monday, May 22nd in the afternoon. We look forward to celebrating your student's success and their journey to Kennedy in the next couple of weeks.

Fifth Grade Preview of 2017-2018

Math

The year alternates between working with fractions and decimals from thousandths to ten thousands with all four operations. We will also explore perimeter, area, and volume with two-dimensional and three-dimensional shapes. We will continue to work towards mastery of conversions between customary units and metric units for length, liquid volume, and weight/mass.



Summer Tip:

Come into 5th grade with mastery of multiplication and division facts 0-12s.

Social Science

We begin the year studying the concept of Revolution by studying the background of the American Revolution. In the second trimester, we move to the study of Pluralism and participate in a Civil War Simulation after building background knowledge about immigration and our changing America. We end the year with a study of Power and how shifts in power lead to World War I and World War II, as well as the Great Depression.



Summer Tips:

- Travel to gain experiences and background knowledge about local and national landmarks and museums
- Read and discuss current events

Continued... 5th Grade by: Mr. Pinelli, Mrs. Porter, and Miss Shabel

Literacy

Our reading curriculum is based on models of best practices aligning with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Our balanced literacy framework for instruction provides opportunities for using mentor texts, shared reading, and independent reading, while varying the materials and instruction according to student ability/need. Students will have experiences with various and increasingly complex texts for the purpose of gaining a deeper understanding with fiction, nonfiction, and poetry texts.

Writing is based on research-based curriculum and on assigned types of writing specified in the CCSS (narrative/memoir, argument essay, and information essay). While authentically involved in the writing process, students will continue to analyze, synthesize, organize, reflect and respond to information and ideas in their own writing. Throughout the literacy curriculum and other content areas, students engage in writing with journal responses, reading responses, presentations/ projects, creative writing pieces, and assigned writing tasks.

Summer Tips:

- Encourage consistent, sustained reading time several times each week.
- · Read a variety of genres.
- Research challenging vocabulary.
- Write in a journal about your reading and summer experiences several times each week.
- Have a family book club.

Science

Science consists of three hands-on units where students question, collaborate, experiment, research, observe, and discover. We will be studying the world around us and the interdependence between organisms and their environment. We also focus on energy and the transfer of energy between organisms and objects. And, finally, we learn about the surface of the Earth, how it's changing, how it interacts with the hydrosphere, and how humans impact it.

Summer Tips:

- Explore and examine ecosystems and food chains in your surroundings.
- Create your own Makerspace with a variety of materials that you can find around the house (cups, string/yarn, toothpicks, playdough, blocks, straws, paper tubes, etc).

Outdoor Education

Outdoor Ed is one of the highlights of the fifth grade year. Students will participate in a variety of team building activities, archery, tree climbing, fishing, forest study, initiatives, archery, frisbee golf, and paintball.



Mark your calendars: October 9th & 10th

Have a wonderful summer!

Academically Talented Classes by Georgie Lukas

Summer is approaching and students are blooming. They have worked persistently to stretch their thinking, knowledge, and skills.

Project IDEA (PI)

This year, the resources and curriculum for fourth and fifth grade PI continued to be developed along with assessments. Each grade has four units arranged around the Common Core State Standards being the targets. We also have *Newsela* as a resource, which is a student "newspaper" on-line with articles covering current topics. Students practice their reading skills by reading nonfiction while increasing their background knowledge on various topics.

Units	4 th grade	5 th grade
1	Fables and Poetry	Humor/Poetry
2	Nonfiction/Mystery	Nonfiction/Historical Fiction
3	Fiction/Fantasy	Fiction/Invention/Sci-Fi
4	Synthesis/Responsible Citizenship	Synthesis/Individual Contribution

Currently, the fourth grade PI students are reading novels with the theme topic of community contributor. As a PI class, the students researched the Transcontinental Railroad, organized the information, and presented a lesson to all fourth graders. They did an outstanding job as community contributors and demonstrated responsible citizenship.

Fifth grade PI students finished their plays that they wrote, acted, filmed, and produced. Now they are working on Public Service Announcements regarding ecology or space. Students have to research, write, edit, and produce a video. Students also need to consider inventions and the impact they have had or may have on ecology and our space endeavors.

3rd Grade Honors Math

Students have tackled numerous math concepts this year in honors math. They began with understanding base ten, and moved on to multiplication, division, fractions, geometry, measurement, and data. Whew! Such a busy year.

4th Grade Honors Math

Students are working on algebra and enjoying it tremendously. Our standards include:

- Represent and solve problems with a symbol for the unknown.
- Generate and analyze patterns that follow a rule.
- Form ordered pairs from patterns, and graph the ordered pairs on a coordinate plane.

Students are excited about Algebra and eager to learn about it.

5th grade Honors Math

Our current unit is data and graphing. Students worked in groups to analyze and graph data on all of our presidents. They also learned about the stock market this year. Now that the year is coming to an end, students are responsible to put their investments into a pie chart with earnings or losses.

I will retire at the end of this school year. While I look forward to my new endeavors, I will miss my students. Thank you so much for your support and sharing your student with me.

-Georgie Lukas Page 23

Calendar of Events

2016-2017 School Year:

Wednesday, May 24th: Field Day

Thursday, May 25th: Last day of student attendance (if no Emergency Days are used)





Ranch View Rangers: Partnering to Build True Grit!

G-Goal Attainment R- Resiliency I- Integrity T-Twenty-first Century Skills

<u>Greatness Requires Internal Toughness</u>

2017-2018 School Year:

8/17/2017: Kindergarten Sneak Peak and School Begins for 1st-5th Grades

8/18/2017: Kindergarten First Full Day

8/18/2017: Kindergarten Boo Hoo Breakfast

8/23/2017: Picture Day

8/28/2017: H&S Gift Wrap Sales Begins

TBD: Curriculum Night KG-2nd, ELL

TBD: Curriculum Night 3rd-4th PI/HM

9/4/2017: No School - Labor Day

9/7/2017: Ice Cream Social

9/14/2017: Manna Due

9/15/2017: Gift Wrap Sales Ends

9/21/2017: Manna Pick up

9/27/2017: RV Review

10/2/2016: Art To Remember Sales Starts

10/2/2017-10/6/2017: Book Fair

10/5/2017: No School for Students - Institute Day; Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences

10/6/2017: No School for Students; Morning Parent-Teacher Conferences

10/9/2017: First Day of 5th Grade Outdoor Ed.

10/10/2017: Second Day of 5th Grade Outdoor Ed.

10/12/2017: Manna Orders Due

10/13/2017: Art To Remember Sales Ends

10/16/2017: Picture Retake Day

10/19/2017: Manna Pick-up

10/26/2017: Vision & Hearing Screening

10/31/2017: Autumn on Parade

