

# Ranch View Review



Volume 33, Issue 2

January 25, 2019

## From the Desk of Principal Angela Stallion

Happy New Year Rangers! It's hard to believe we are half way through another school year. We have had a busy 2018 and we welcome 2019, when we will continue to provide many opportunities for our students and parents.

### CELEBRATIONS

#### **STEM:**

This year we were able to provide students increased opportunities to engage in STEM activities with the addition of Science Olympiad. I want to thank Mrs. Kennel for taking the lead on this and organizing and implementing such a valuable program. This wouldn't be possible without our parents who have volunteered their time. We are so fortunate to have support for programs such as this.

Science Olympiad is a competitive tournament in which participating schools send teams of students with parent-volunteer coaches to participate in a series of 12 events spanning various science disciplines.

The mission of Science Olympiad is, "improving the quality of K-12 science education, increasing male, female and minority interest in science, creating a technologically-literate workforce and providing recognition for outstanding achievement by both students and teachers."



#### **SEL:**

This year, our Ranch View SEL Committee spent time updating our Matrix of Universal Behavior Expectations. The addition of teacher expectations in each of the areas will provide our students an understanding of how staff will support them as they apply responsible, safe and respectful behaviors throughout our school. We have fabulous student leaders here at Ranch View and when asked to help support our behavior matrix, they were eager to help. With the support of Mrs. Dill and Mrs. Kolbe, student council created videos which we started showing this week. These videos explain and demonstrate appropriate behaviors aligned to our matrix. We are proud of our Student Council and thank them for their participation with this endeavor.

Our SEL committee is now researching possible schoolwide positive behavior supports. It is our goal to create a system of celebrating all of the wonderful ways our students display appropriate SEL skills. This, along with A Ranger You Should Know, will highlight students and behaviors that keep Ranch View School a safe, responsible and respectful community for our learners.

### Inside this issue:

FROM THE DESK OF PRINCIPAL ANGELA STALLION	1-2
RLC UPDATES	3
HOME & SCHOOL PRESIDENT'S LETTER	4
SPECIAL PROJECTS/ FUNDRAISING	5-6
ELL, ART, MUSIC, P.E., RUNNING CLUB, K-5TH GRADE, & ACADEMICALLY TALENTED CLASSES	7-18
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	19

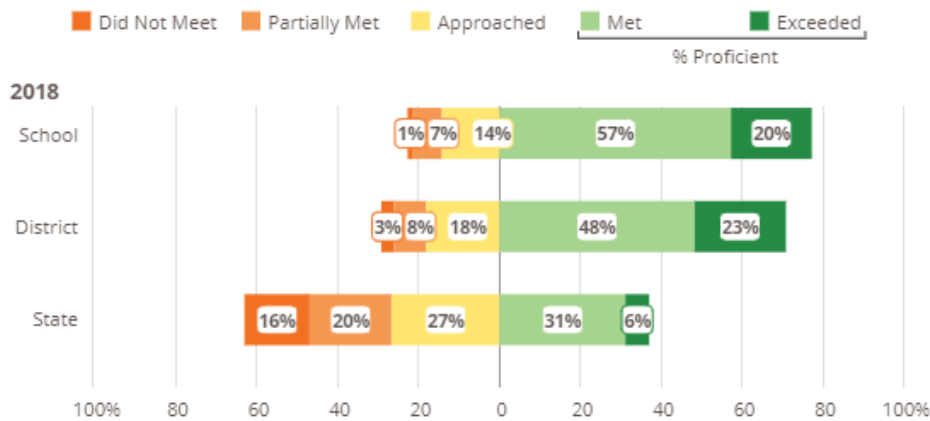
# Ranch View Review

## Continued... From the Desk of the Principal Angela Stallion

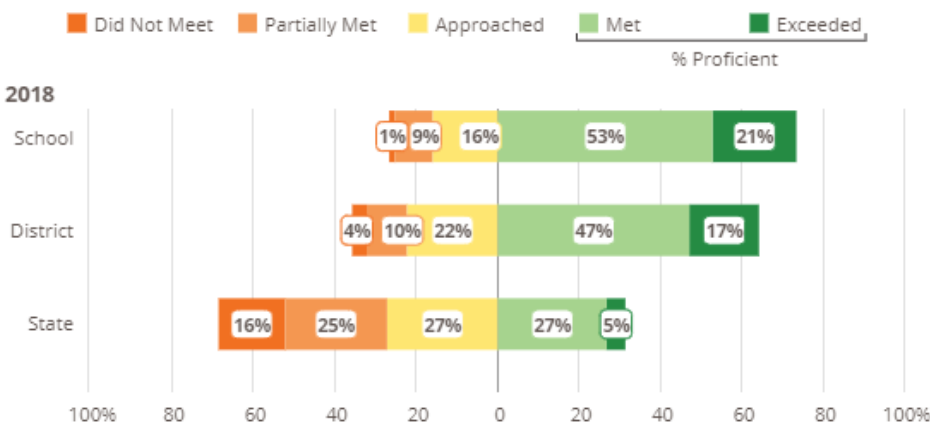
### PARCC Assessment:

Scores from the 2017-2018 school year have been published. Ranch View School continues to perform at a high rate in the areas of literacy and math. Our scores remain well above the state averages. Teachers have reviewed the data from PARCC as well as Performance Series and have developed a School Improvement Plan designed to create a rigorous educational environment for students while maintaining a focus on SEL. This year, we will administer the IAR (Illinois Assessment of Readiness). The IAR assesses the New Illinois Learning Standards Incorporating the Common Core and will be administered in ELA and Mathematics. This assessment, like PARCC, is aligned to the standards and our curriculum. At this time we do not have an exact testing window, but it will be administered sometime in March or April. The charts below show our PARCC 2018 spring data.

### 2018 PARCC ELA



### 2018 PARCC Math



# Ranch View Review

## Continued... From the Desk of the Principal Angela Stallion

### Inside/Out Club

Through our partnership with Ranch View SFCP, we were fortunate to be able to bring Inside/Out Club to our students and families. I must give a great deal of thanks to Rebecca Gadomski and Wesley Gosselink who spent many hours coordinating the addition of this club to Ranch View School.

“The mission of this club is to develop kids with character inside and out. Its vision is individuals and families empowered through strength of character and volunteerism to live fuller lives for generations to come.” The response has been fantastic and we have many students and parent volunteers participating in this program. We are, again, so grateful to have such a supportive community who never fails to amaze me with their dedication to our students and school.

Due to the success of this club, we are planning a family event that will highlight the mission of this program and allow our families to experience some of the activities our students engage in. Students and families do not need to be active in the club in order to attend this family event. All are welcome! Stay tuned for more information on this event planned for February 28th.

### School Improvement Plan:

We are pleased to announce that Ranch View’s School Improvement Plan was approved by the Board of Education for the 2018-2019 school year. If you remember, this plan was developed in the fall of 2017 and was written as a 2 year plan. We are excited to announce that Ranch View met our 2 year goal in the spring of 2018 and therefore, we needed to adjust our expected percentages of students meeting/exceeding standards. Our updated goals are listed below.

Reading- By spring of 2019, 79% of students will meet or exceed on the English Language Arts IAR assessment.

Math- By spring of 2019, 76% of students will meet or exceed Mathematics IAR assessment.

SEL-Ranch View School will nurture a positive SEL climate for students, staff and parents.

The full plan can be viewed on Board Docs at [www.naperville203.org](http://www.naperville203.org) and includes benchmarks for success as well as an action plan. The staff has worked very hard on this plan to ensure our students receive optimal instructional services and we are so appreciative of the support we receive from our families. The success of Ranch View is a team effort and we are proud to work alongside you on behalf of your student!

Respectfully,

Mrs. Stallion

## Tales from the



October was Internet Safety month in the LC. Grades K-5 had various lessons from online safety to “netiquette.” 4th and 5th graders will continue with lessons on copyright, safe searches and plagiarism as well as lessons taught about cyber bullying by the Naperville Police Department.

Students celebrated Computer Education Week during the month of December. They programmed several robots and tried a few coding programs.

As you’ve noticed Read to Succeed is back!

Keep recording your reading minutes on your log. Record these minutes on your Kane County Cougar log too.



Great America logs are due Feb 19th and Cougar logs are due March 16th. Great incentives to read!

### Spotlight Selections

In keeping up with the Illinois Standards Aligned Instruction for Libraries (I-SAIL), we encourage the students to read both fiction and nonfiction books. Our spotlight selections for the next few months will include books about winter, Martin Luther King and black history. Remind your child to visit these book displays the next time they come to the LC.

At the end of January, all 4th grade students in the district will visit River Woods school for a presentation by Catherine Applegate. Ms. Applegate is the author of many amazing books: *The One and Only Ivan*, *Crenshaw* and *Wishtree*. This opportunity is made possible by Naperville Reads and Anderson’s Bookshop.



**Mrs. Mougette**

**READ-DISCUSS-LEARN-GROW!**

## Ranch View Review

# HOME & SCHOOL

Ranch View Elementary School

### From the President of Home & School,

Dear Ranch View,

Happy New Year! May the beginning of 2019 be a healthy and pleasant start for our Ranch View community. While the academic year may be half over, the work of our dedicated volunteers is never done. All our events and fundraisers would not be a success without the tremendous efforts of volunteers like you. Want to know more about what Home & School does? The best way to learn is to attend our monthly meetings! The next one is February 19th, 2019 @ 1:00pm.

We hope you had a chance to visit the book fair during the October Parent/Teacher conferences which was wonderfully orchestrated by Becky Sams & Shannon Klein. Please remember to visit our Spring Book Fair the week of February 11th here at Ranch View.

Our fundraising effort led by Ginger Kreitz & Erin Wikman was very successful with the Charleston Wrapping Paper sale as was our Art to Remember fundraiser run by Ellie Laneville and Mariya Koci. Our Rangers are decked out in awesome Spirit Wear thanks to Jie Su and Jen Maulding. We also thank all those families who have participated in our Direct Donations program monitored by Wendy Puglielli.



The sound of children laughing could be heard throughout Ranch View during our Winter classroom parties. Thank you to Jasmine Patel & Jen Olson as well as all our Room Parents for creating these memorable days for the children. We still have one more party this year! Our Valentine's Day party is scheduled for February 13th.

Volunteers Jing Kong & Valentina Minkova successfully hosted a fantastic Roller Skate Night in November. Thank you to Jing and Valentina and to all the families who participated and reported what a fun evening it was. Mark your calendars for April 25th, 6pm for the Spring Skate! Let's also thank our volunteers who work many of our monthly fundraisers: Barbara Akkeron with Restaurant Nights, Delphine Dodier for Manna Cards and Staff Appreciation Donations and Ellie Laneville and her committee assisting with the Health & Safety Vision and Hearing screenings.



Save the date! Our next major Ranch View event, Saddlefest, is planned for **February 9th**. Ranch View heads West for some rootin'- tootin' fun! This will be an exciting and fun filled day for all of the students and their families and is RVHS' major fundraising event! Games, raffles, food, prizes, bake sales and much more will keep all our Rangers busy for hours. Don't forget to visit our Silent Auction to see what Ranch View staff exclusives we have available. Thank you to Meagan Colbenson & Laura Bahula and their team for their efforts in creating this memorable day, as well as Megan Benton and her team for all of their hard work soliciting staff donations to make our Silent Auction a success. More info will come home shortly.

The Ranch View Review is an invaluable tool for our community to keep current on events at our school. I would like to thank Wesley Gosselink for her effort editing this important publication. She is our newest RVR editor and we are indebted to her!

If you are interested in getting involved in any of these exciting programs and committees, please feel free to contact me at ranchviewpresident@gmail.com. Our next Home and School Meeting is scheduled for February 19th at 1:00pm. All parents are part of Home and School and welcome to attend. See you there!

Audrey Minor

H&S President

**HOME  
& SCHOOL**  
Ranch View Elementary School

# Saddlefest is February 9th

**That's right, it's almost time for SADDLEFEST!**

**Wristband and Ticket Pre-order forms went home Friday, Feb 1st!**

**CASH ONLY FOOD SALES THIS YEAR!!!**

**You can STILL Volunteer!!!**

## **Saddlefest Details**

HOWDY PARDNERS! Are you ready for the biggest event we have at Ranch View? That's right, it's almost time for SADDLEFEST!

Our newest Pardner families are probably wondering what in tarnation is Saddlefest? Only the best part of the year here at Ranch View!! Our parent volunteers (and boy there are a LOT of them) set up fun carnival games, a Bake Sale, and a Kitchen for getting yourself some snacks. There's also a Silent Auction, a cake walk, face painting & MORE. The greatest, most amazing part? Our little pardners can put their teachers in jail! How about them apples?

For those of you Saddlefest veterans, there are a few changes we want to highlight for you this year:

- The date! Saddlefest is a month earlier on **February 9<sup>th</sup>**
- There will be the option to purchase wristbands ahead of time for \$20 to be used for unlimited games! Tickets will still be available in advance and the day of the event priced at 4 for \$1.
- Food items will be available for purchase at Saddlefest for cash ONLY. **CASH ONLY** will be used for food purchases (bake sale, hot dogs, nachos, popcorn, chips, etc). Prices range from \$1-4. Plan ahead for a family lunch!

Mark your calendars for February 9<sup>th</sup>! Volunteers are still needed. If you can help, please see the Sign-Up Genius emails previously sent or contact Meagan or Laura (contact info below)! All are welcome to volunteer! Can't wait to see you in your cowpoke hats!

If you have a question, just give us a holler!

Meagan & Laura

[ranchviewsaddlefest@gmail.com](mailto:ranchviewsaddlefest@gmail.com)



## Ranch View Review

### Special Projects and Fundraising

# HOME & SCHOOL

Ranch View Elementary School

Plan on attending the Spring Book Fair in the Ranch View Learning Commons, February 11th-15th! The kids love it and it's a great way to get them excited about reading. The fair will be open to everyone February 13th-15th (see below for exact times). We'll have a huge selection of books ranging from pre-school to adults. Don't forget to grab some new titles for Spring Break! Profits from the Book Fair will be used to fund improvements around our school for students to use and enjoy.

Students will be able to fill out their Wish Lists during their LC time during the week of the Book Fair as well as make purchases. **Please send CASH ONLY (\$20 or less) in a labeled envelope & account for 7.75% sales tax.**

#### Book Fair Schedule

Student Wish Lists & Sales: Monday & Tuesday, February 11-12, 8:30am - 2:30pm

Student Wish Lists & Sales: Wednesday, February 13, 8:30am - 1:45pm

Open to all, Wednesday, February 13, 2:15pm - 4:30pm

Open to all, Thursday, February 14, 4:30pm - 8:00pm

Open to all, Friday, February 15, 8:00am - 11:00am

No time to stop by the Fair? Favorite title sold out? Check out our online fair! Ranch View has its very own Scholastic Book Fair site for you to use. The online fair will be available from February 4th - 24th. All books ordered through the Online Book Fair will be delivered to your student at school after the Book Fair has ended. Just visit:

<http://www.scholastic.com/bf/ranchviewelemschool1>

During the Spring Book Fair we will be participating a Scholastic program called All For Books. Funds collected through this program will be used to buy books for a worthy cause (an underserved school, shelter, or literacy organization- details are still be finalized). Students will have the opportunity to bring All for Books monetary donations to school the week before the fair and we will continue to collect spare change during the fair.

Don't forget to volunteer! Look for the volunteer signup that was sent out in late January! There will be opportunities to setup the fair, work during sales, and take down.

Questions...? Email us at  
[RanchviewBookFair@gmail.com](mailto:RanchviewBookFair@gmail.com)

***A GOOD RULE OF THUMB TO TEACH KIDS PURCHASING  
BOOKS ON THEIR OWN: FOR EVERY DOLLAR IN BOOKS,  
SET ASIDE A DIME FOR TAX.***

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

**Bonjour! Hola! Labas! Assalaamu alaikum! OLÁ! Li ho bo!  
Namasthe! H,ej! Guten Tag! Geia sou! Dzień dobry! Buna**

There are many holidays and celebrations that happen around the world in January and February.

**Lunar New Year** is observed in countries that follow lunar calendars like Taiwan, China and Malaysia. Depending on the lunar calendar a particular group follows, the holiday can happen in January, February, March, or even September! Each cultural group has their own special ways to celebrate with food, family, and activities.

**Mardi Gras/Carnival** is celebrated before Lent for many Christians. There are parties, fun foods, parades, and festivals to mark the occasion.

Wishing you happiness...

Mrs. Stoner and Mrs. Walsh





# How to help your child with test taking.



### Do's

- Do encourage your child. Praise him for the things he does well. If he feels good about himself, he will do his best.
- Do make sure that your child attends school regularly. Tests reflect your child's overall achievement. The more effort and energy your child puts into learning, the more likely he/she will do well on tests.
- Do provide a quiet and comfortable place for your child to study at home. Create a study schedule to help your child study a little bit each day.
- Do make sure that your child is well rested on school days and especially the day of a test. Children who are tired are less able to pay attention in class or to handle the demands of a test. For optimal school performance, most 6-8 year olds need 11 hours of sleep and 9-10 year olds need closer to 10 hours.
- Do review tests with your child and discuss any wrong answers with your child to find out why they answered as they did.
- Do make learning fun! Get creative! Play a short

### Don'ts

- Don't be too anxious about your child's test scores. If you put too much emphasis on test scores, this can upset your child.
- Don't judge your child on the basis of a single test score. There are many other factors that might influence a test score.
- Don't "cram" the night before. This will increase anxiety which interferes with clear thinking. Get a good night's sleep. Rest, exercise, and eating well are as important to test-taking as they are to other schoolwork.
- School attendance is important for future success. Students who were absent 10% of school days in Kindergarten and 1st grade combined scored 60-100 points lower on standardized tests in 3rd grade.

# *Art News by Mr. Arndt*

The Art Room is filled with talented, hardworking and creative artists. Kindergarteners are putting the finishing touches on their first clay sculpture. The students began with basic hand building techniques forming the clay into flat shapes and then cutting the clay into a snowflake shape. The sculptures were fired in the kiln and the students then painted them. Students also have been working on a variety of seasonal art projects as they discuss how artists create projects based on the seasons and also continue to work on their drawing, cutting, gluing and coloring skills. These projects will be on display at open house.

First grade students have been working with geometric shapes. They were challenged to create and use as many geometric shapes as they could out of construction paper and then assemble them together in space ship using their own imagination. These masterpieces will be on display at open house.

Second grade students have been learning about perspective and landscapes. They drew and colored beautiful winter landscapes that they completed by painting on certain details such as snow. They also created perspective paintings and drawings of hot air balloons. These projects will be on display at open house.

Third grade students are working on a unit on observational drawing. This includes still life pieces or realistic animals of their choosing. These animal drawings will be on display at open house.

Fourth grade students are completing a unit on perspective drawing. They have created one-point perspective drawings of their dream room. These amazing drawings will be on display at open house.

Fifth grade students are completing a unit on self-portraits and caricatures. Each student has created a self-portrait, but in the caricature style. The drawings look like themselves and the backgrounds all show various interests that they have.

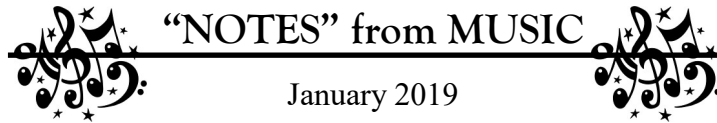
Please stop by the art room during open house to see our amazing Ranch View art gallery!

Thanks,

Mr. Arndt



## Ranch View Review



### **HAPPY NEW YEAR:**

Welcome back to school in 2019. The 2018 December Winter Program was a success, great job to all the students!! Now it is time to forge ahead into the musical adventures of the Winter & Spring.

### **DISTRICT MUSIC ASSESSMENTS:**

**Kindergarten**= Kindergarten does NOT have a formal district music assessment.

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade**= First grade does NOT have a formal district music assessment.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**= Second grade DOES have a district music assessment. To prepare for that, the students are singing songs, playing instruments, and responding to the music through movement. Their District Music Assessment covers Form, Pitched and Unpitched instruments, and reading basic one-measure rhythmic patterns.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**= Third grade DOES have a district music assessment. **ALL 3<sup>rd</sup> GRADERS WILL NEED A RECORDER.** Students will read and perform basic melodies on the Recorder for their District Music Assessment.

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade**= Fourth grade DOES have a district music assessment. The students are using music technology to compose a piece of music that contains specific elements of music. The assessment will cover the elements of Form, Dynamics, Tone Color, and Music Texture.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade**= Fifth grade DOES have a district music assessment. Their assessment is cross-curricular in nature. It combines their background knowledge from social studies with their American Music History unit. The students are working on an American Music History Unit covering Patriotic music, Spirituals, Jazz, Blues, and early Rock-N-Roll.

### **CHORUS:**

Chorus is a singing opportunity open to 5<sup>th</sup> graders. **Spring Chorus** will begin early February. Information packets will be given to 5<sup>th</sup> grade students closer to that time.

### **BAND/ORCHESTRA:**

If you have questions about BAND, please contact the band teacher, Mr. Brad Frendewey at [bfrendewey@naperville203.org](mailto:bfrendewey@naperville203.org)

If you have questions about ORCHESTRA, please contact the orchestra teacher, Mrs. Shawnita McClure at [smclure@naperville203.org](mailto:smclure@naperville203.org)

Best Regards,

Mrs. Sass

Vocal/General Music Teacher and Chorus Director

hsass@naperville203.org

# *P.E. News* by Mr. Blondell

Happy New Year!

2019 is off to a great start in P.E.! There are a lot of exciting units coming up in the winter.

Before jumping into details about some of our upcoming units, this is the time of year I like to remind parents about gym shoes. Please help your children remember to bring their gym shoes to school on their PE days. When they wear their boots to school, please help them pack their gym shoes in their backpacks so that they can change into them before P.E. class. This will ensure that they can safely participate in all of our physical activities. Student safety is one of my top priorities. Students will need to complete an alternative activity if they forget their gym shoes. Thank you for your help!

In January, we will be starting one of the students' favorite units: Floor hockey! Students in kindergarten through second grade will work on developing their basic skills of stick handling, passing, and shooting. They will finish the unit with offensive and defensive strategies that will help prepare them to play full games at the end of the unit.



The third through fifth grade students will be working on many of the basic skills mentioned above before starting their big hockey tournament. This is one of the most exciting events of the year. The students look forward to it. Not only is it fun and competitive, it teaches them all about the responsibilities of teamwork and sportsmanship.

This year, we have continued our partnership with the Chicago Wolves hockey team. Partnering with the Wolves provides our students with a gift. The gift from the Wolves is a voucher to a FREE Chicago Wolves home game! I will be sending these vouchers home with your child soon so that you can start using them as soon as possible. The games are even more affordable for families now that the Wolves no longer have a parking fee. I hope you get a chance to use them.

Lastly, third, fourth, and fifth grade students will be participating in a two week climbing wall unit in late February or early March. Exact date will be sent out soon. This will be their full-climbing unit involving harnesses. Please consider volunteering for these P.E. classes. Don't be intimidated by the sound of "rock wall." Volunteering is fairly easy and parents are taught the simple belaying technique during their volunteer time. You will be able to sign up for these volunteering opportunities on Ranch View's Sign Up Genius site.

Thank you and feel free to contact me at any time with questions ([mblondell@naperville203.org](mailto:mblondell@naperville203.org)).

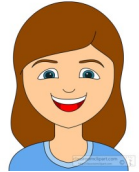
Mr. Blondell

## Ranch View Review

# Kindergarten

### Reading Workshop

During read aloud and whole group instructional time, our focus is retelling familiar text. We use the 5 finger strategy when retelling stories. We also are continuing the strategies of using pictures and sounding out words during guided reading instruction. Moving forward, we will begin to look at non-fiction genre.



### Writing Workshop

During writing, we are focusing on writing narratives. We encourage our writers to write about a single event or several loosely linked events. We concentrate on sequential order and including details about the event.



### Math

During math, we are focusing work on a ten frame so students can “see” numbers. Understanding that numbers are composed of tens and ones is an important foundational concept which sets the stage for addition and subtraction. We will continue story problems as our students develop a better sense of adding and subtracting.

### Science and Social Science

Our focus for science is forces and interactions-pushes and pulls. We investigate this doing experiments in the classroom. We are looking at famous people’s contributions to our society. We are continuing to learn how to be successful members of our school community

### SEL

We have been actively practicing skills for learning. We have learned to focus attention, listen to the speaker, use self-talk when needed, and be assertive when needing help. We will continue to work on skills throughout this year.



Happy Winter,  
Mrs. Dill , Mrs. Kolbe , and Ms. Marrone

# FIRST GRADE FUNDAMENTALS

### Reading

First graders will delve into the world of fiction this trimester. In this unit, students will think more deeply about the look, sound, and purpose of fictional stories. The students will enhance their understanding of traditional tales, fables, fantasy fiction, and realistic fiction by comparing and contrasting characters, events, author's message, and story elements. The students will also explore how dialog and illustrations can be used to enhance meaning and comprehension.



Continue reading with your child every day. We can really see the growth they are making in their reading and comprehension skills. Great work and thanks for helping to make their reading lives successful.

### Writing

Our focus for the upcoming months in writing will be opinion writing. First graders will learn that opinion writers write with lots of reasons, and they support those reasons with details. The unit culminates in writing book reviews. Students will work on the essentials of persuasive writing, making claims or opinions, supported by examples and explanations for those reasons. Students will be constantly revising to make their claims more powerful and convincing.

### Math

First graders will be learning about place value. They will be counting, reading and writing numbers to 120. As the unit progresses, students will understand that each digit has a particular value: hundreds, tens or ones. The students will learn strategies to represent teen and decade numbers. We will continue to learn new approaches to add within 20, then advance into adding two-digit numbers and a one-digit number ( $54+6=$ ), as well as, adding two-digit numbers by a multiple of 10 ( $17+10=$ ) within 100. As in all of our other math units, students will be expected to explain their reasoning in a variety of ways.



### The Weather Outside is Frightful ...

Chilly Weather is here! Please remember to send hats, mittens/gloves, and a warm coat each day. If the wind chill is zero or above we will go outside for recess, so please make sure your child is prepared for cold weather. If there is snow on the ground, students must wear boots and snow pants in order to play in the snow. PLEASE, label all of your child's outerwear. We have no way of knowing whose pair of black snow pants is whose... or gloves or hats or mittens or boots! We really appreciate your help with this.



# Ranch View Review



## Second Grade Notes

Dear 2nd grade families,

Happy New Year! We hope that you enjoyed your winter break. We are getting ready to start 2019 with new resolutions and goals for success at home and in school! In this newsletter, we will highlight our academic plans as well as some reminders and school information.

### **Math:**

We are moving into Unit 4: Subtracting 2-digit numbers. In this unit students will meet the following targets: solve one-step word problems within 100, solve two-step word problems within 100, add and subtract within 20, and apply and explain appropriate strategies for addition and subtraction within 200. At the same time, your child will also work with the 8 standards for mathematical practice which include: making sense of problems and persevering in solving them, reasoning abstractly and quantitatively, constructing viable arguments and critiquing the reasoning of others, modeling with mathematics, using appropriate tools strategically, attending to precision, looking for and making use of structure, and looking for and expressing regularity in repeated reasoning.



### **Reading:**

We are bringing our fiction reading unit to a close and moving into unit 3: reading nonfiction and informational texts. In this unit students will read and study three types of nonfiction (reference, biography, and literary). They will develop an understanding of various forms, features, and purposes of nonfiction. Students will understand the structure, layout, and text features associated with each particular type of nonfiction writing. They will enjoy the aesthetic features of nonfiction texts while appreciating the clear and accurate information and presentation of facts. Nonfiction reading often leads to inquiry and students will develop passions for locating information, finding answers to questions and wonderings, and deepening their understanding about the nonfiction topics they are reading and learning about. Students will learn and apply specific reading skills and strategies that will enable them to discover facts, identify big ideas, and learn new information about the topics they are reading about.



### **Writing:**

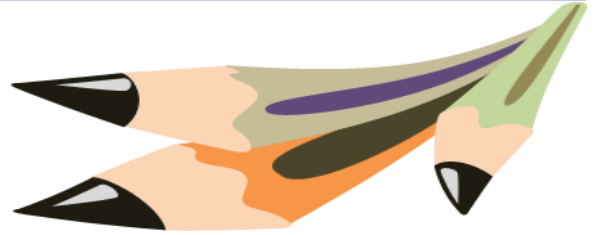
We are wrapping up our opinion writing unit. When we bring this unit to a close, we will move into Unit 3 which focuses on information writing (lab reports and science books). During this unit students will participate in a shared class science topic. They will conduct an entire experiment while being encouraged to ask and record questions, along with design and conduct multiple trials of a simple experiment. Provided with a four-page lab report booklet, students will take notes using words and drawings, generate their hypotheses, explain their procedures and develop their conclusions. Students will internalize the scientific procedures and writing process. Students will feel like experts in writing real-world lab reports. They will be able to independently design and conduct an experiment, record their processes on the lab reports using domain-specific vocabulary. Finally, they will write their own informational book that teaches readers about a well-known topic. From there, we will move into an exciting Superhero writing unit. In this unit students will create a superhero to send on an adventure. During this unit we will focus on narrative writing with an emphasis on revision.



... Continued on Next Page ...

## Ranch View Review

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



#### **SOCIAL SCIENCE:**

In Social Science we are continuing to focus on how and why communities change. Specifically we are looking at Naperville Then vs. Naperville Now and how our community has changed over time. Students are beginning to understand that change happens when people interact with each other and their physical environment. Some of our guiding questions have been: What is change? What is the relationship between change and our physical environment? How does change affect people's needs and wants? What are the effects of change on people? During this unit the students will travel through time learning from the Potawatomi Indians, Joseph Naper, and the settlers. It is sure to be exciting information!

#### **Science**

Our science focus is on the Earth's surface. During this unit, students will be able to identify how the Earth's surface changes. Through experiments and observations students will begin to understand slow and fast changes to the Earth surface. Additionally, students will study erosion. As engineers, they will design solutions to prevent or slow wind and water from changing the land.

#### **SEL Learning Targets**

- I can handle making mistakes.
- I can manage anxious mistakes.
- I can manage anger.
- I can finish tasks.

#### **REMINDERS:**

Cold Weather – As the weather changes please be aware that we will go outside for recess unless the temperature falls below zero. With this being said, please be sure that your child is prepared! Please understand that sweatshirts are not enough! We should see clearly labeled coats, gloves, hats, and scarves. On snowy days your child can bring an extra bag for snow pants and boots as needed!

Naper Settlement Field Trip ~ Jan. 28, 2019

Parent-Teacher conferences ~ Feb 14 and 15 (No School for Students on these days)

Practice addition and subtraction math facts DAILY

Read 20 minutes daily





## Ranch View Review

# Thinking Third Grade

### **Thank you for attending Open House at Ranch View!**

We always enjoy sharing exciting Ranch View learning opportunities with you. What a wonderful time to celebrate the love and friendship that we share with our friends and family! This is also the perfect time of year to acknowledge when our children are showing kindness in and outside of school.

### **Math Highlights:**

In our math unit on fractions, students have practiced identifying fractions, building fractions from unit fractions, exploring fractions as parts of a whole. Students will find equivalent fractions, and will compare fractions (either with the same denominator or the same numerator). Students are learning many new math terms. Throughout each math unit, we continue to focus on solving story problems and memorizing our basic division and multiplication facts.

### **Language Arts Highlights:**

Please make sure your child is reading 30 minutes a night in a "Just Right" book. Time spent reading should be recorded nightly on the log and on the optional Six Flags Reading Challenge and Ozzie Reading Club.

Our language arts unit highlights nonfiction. Nonfiction is a rich, engaging genre offering a variety of topics that will entice any reader! Our skills of focus include: summarizing, text structures, synthesizing, drawing conclusions, generalizing and comparing/contrasting. The evening can be a nice time to sit down with your child and read together. Additional practice and discussions involving these skills can help your child feel dually supported.

### **Science/Social Science:**

Our first lessons on Medieval Europe and its systems have intrigued and amazed us. Students have enjoyed reading many resource books such as *Knights and Castles* (Magic Tree House book). This month, we will wrap up Medieval Europe's transportation, education, economic, and government systems. In Science, we are exploring weather and noticing patterns.

### **Writing:**

Informational writing is our new area of focus and students write with the goal of teaching their readers. We will learn how to write a table of contents, organize introductions that draw readers in, write in chapters that inform others, and form conclusions that leave readers wanting to do, think, or learn more. In Library lessons, students have learned about conducting research.

### **Keyboarding**

Our fingers will continue typing away in February! 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are learning how to type. Our focus includes: how to use both hands on the keyboard, keep our eyes and attention on the screen instead of the keys and the appropriate finger movements. Students are welcome to use their login information at home to practice using Typing Quest Jr. Your child may enjoy typing up a short story to share with your family and/or our class.

# Winter News for Our Wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> Graders

Now that we are halfway through the school year, we are looking forward to conferences coming up in February. The conference dates are February 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Preparation has already begun and the students are excited! Spring conferences will be student led, which means that student attendance at the conference is required. ePortfolios will be used to showcase strengths and areas in need of growth. Students are collecting evidence to self-reflect on their progress for this trimester and set goals. Be on the lookout for additional information regarding conference scheduling so that you can witness your child's rigorous academic growth for yourself.

Open House is Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. You will have the opportunity to visit your student's classroom. This is a time for your child to boast about their incredible learning environment. Being a fourth grade student and coming to Ranch View to learn each day is their job. Think of this as your child's "Bring your family to work day".



Each week, our fourth graders continue to improve their Social Emotional Learning (SEL) skills. Fourth grade students are currently focusing on the Habits of Mind and relationship skills. Social Emotional learning has a direct, positive impact on student learning. Applying Past Knowledge to New Situations, Listening with Understanding and Empathy, and Demonstrating How to Work Effectively with those who are Different from Oneself are all ways to help us develop mindful habits.

Students will have the opportunity in January to hear Katherine Applegate, author of *Home of the Brave*, *The One and Only Ivan* and other great books. On February 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, the DuPage Children's Museum will be at Ranch View, providing an opportunity for our students to explore "Wheels, Levers, and Pulleys." Mary Browning from the Naperville Police Department will present the "Be Smart, Be Safe" program in April. Students will learn rules for personal safety, suspect identification, and Internet safety.

Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered their time for our book talks through Sign-up Genius. All of the books selected are from the "Battle of the Books" list. If you haven't seen this list, it's a great place to get book recommendations. The students are excited to have their parents read to each of our classrooms, and we look forward to these talks every two weeks. Be on the lookout for more opportunities to participate in the next round of talks.

## Ranch View Review



**Reading:** After concluding our fiction unit, we have begun focusing on nonfiction. First, we are reviewing the various text structures common in nonfiction pieces. By identifying the text structure of a reading piece, we will be able to better comprehend and take notes on what we are reading so that we can continue moving forward with our written responses to reading as well as orally sharing our understanding with one another.



**Writing:** All students are working on improving their nonfiction writing. Each student has selected a research topic about an important historical event or historical figure and has begun researching and identifying interesting and informative facts. As students incorporate their research findings in their writing, they will focus on using the most appropriate text structure for each section of their topic. They will also add in images (pictures, maps, graphs, etc) that support the text and are engaging for their readers.

**Social Science:** For our second unit, we will participate in a simulation about the American Civil War. Each student will “enlist” in the military and take on either a Confederate or Union soldier identity and work with their fellow soldiers in learning about the causes and consequences of the Civil War as well as about military life and the major battles of the Civil War.



**Math:** We have begun multiplying whole numbers and decimals. Students are expected to calculate the product of two multi-digit whole numbers with the standard algorithm. When working with decimals students are expected to be able to use concrete models and/or drawings to calculate the product. Please encourage your student to consistently practice the basic multiplication facts through 10s so s/he becomes more efficient with solving multi-digit multiplication problems.

## Calendar of Events

### 2018-2019 School Year:

<b>Feb 9th</b>	<b>Saddlefest</b>
<b>Feb 11-15th</b>	<b>Spring Book Fair</b>
<b>Feb 13th</b>	<b>Valentine's Day Parties, 1:30-2:15pm</b>
<b>Feb 14th</b>	<b>Institute Day - PM Conferences</b>
<b>Feb 15th</b>	<b>AM Conferences</b>
<b>Feb 18th</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL— President's Day</b>
<b>Feb 19th</b>	<b>RV Home and School Mtg @ 1:00pm @ Ranch View</b>
<b>Feb 25th</b>	<b>End of Trimester</b>
<b>March 1st</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL— Institute Day</b>
<b>March 4-21st</b>	<b>Flower Sales</b>
<b>March 19th</b>	<b>RV Home and School Mtg @ 1:00pm @ Ranch View</b>
<b>March 25-29th</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>
<b>April 4th</b>	<b>Band/Chorus/Orchestra Concert and 5th Grade Program, time TBD</b>
<b>April 24th</b>	<b>Manna Orders Due</b>
<b>April 25th</b>	<b>Roller Skating Party @ 6-8pm</b>
<b>May 3rd</b>	<b>Half Day Institute</b>
<b>May 5-11th</b>	<b>Teacher Appreciation Week</b>
<b>May 14th</b>	<b>RV Home and School Mtg @ 1:00pm @ Ranch View</b>
<b>TBD</b>	<b>5th Grade End of Year Party</b>
<b>TBD</b>	<b>Field Day</b>
<b>TBD</b>	<b>Last Day of School</b>



**Ranch View Rangers: Partnering to Build True Grit!**  
G-Goal Attainment R- Resiliency I- Integrity T-Twenty-first Century Skills  
**Greatness Requires Internal Toughness**

