

Spring has Sprung!

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
—Nelson Mandela

March 2013



Upcoming Events

March 5th	Crazy Hair Day!
March 15th	St. Patrick's Day Celebration!
March 27th	Family Tea 1:00pm
Looking Ahead:	April Field Trip to the Zoo! Forms due: March 27th.

Out with the old...

March is here, and as we begin a new season, it means that exciting things are happening in your child's classroom. As spring break becomes near, we begin to anticipate what lies ahead. Enclosed with this newsletter you will find important information regarding the stars of the weeks throughout March, along with the breakdown of the reading and spelling word tests that will be given this month.

As always, mid-weekly newsletters will also be sent out regarding the homework and projects that need to be completed. Also, if there are any issues that need to be resolved please feel free to send in the communication form that is also attached in this month's newsletter.

Inside there is also this month's calendar containing the important events and special happenings that our class will get to experience this month. Please remember, as we near the end of the year things can begin to get extremely busy. Keep an eye out for updates throughout the week, and if any questions or concerns arise, feel free to contact me at any time.

School: 7245479384 ext. 1432

Cell: 7245873246





It's the Process not the Product

In this classroom, the belief is that when students create their own ORIGINAL work, they take more away from the activity.

I am proud of the work that my students have been creating in the classroom. The creativity that the students have been displaying is phenomenal. All of the students are beginning to understand the difference between primary and secondary colors.

At the end of this month, students will be bringing home all of their activities from the 3rd nine weeks.

I am sure that you will be very pleased with their work. We would not be able to have such great artwork around the room if it was not for the support of all of the students' families.

The support from the families has helped to give our classroom the materials needed to finally be able to have children pull away from worksheets, and "picture-perfect"

modeled projects; meanwhile, each individual gets to show their personality. It is another strong belief in our classroom that any child can be whatever they dream to be, and keeping all doors open for each student is crucial. Again, thank you for the support, and thank you also for creating a wonderful classroom community.

What's with the Fundraising?

We have been making significant progress with all of the fundraising ideas. We have been raising money to take our students on another trip to the Art Museum in Pittsburgh. The money will not only pay for the buses, but the lunches as well as give the students ten dollars

spending money as well. All of the money that has been raised so far has helped to fund our trip to the PPG Aquarium & Zoo, classroom materials, and other various activities that take place throughout the school year. (i.e. classroom parties, art materials, etc.)



Next
Fundraiser?

- Sarris Candy
- Basket Sales
- Raffle Tickets
- Other



AAAHCHOO! We don't like the flu!

During this time of the year, not only allergies, but viruses and other infections are prone to come out and about. We want to keep everyone in the best health as possible. Here are some helpful tips for avoiding being sick this spring!

WASH THE GERMS AWAY

Because germs are in the air so much, at school we are frequently washing our hands. A lot of the students have mini-hand sanitizers attached to their backpacks; however, this does not kill all of the germs.

Please help at home to remind your student(s) to wash their hands frequently and to follow the proper steps:

1. Wet Hands
2. Apply Soap
3. Rub Soap into a Lather
4. Sing the ABC's while rinsing
5. Dry with a clean towel

Along with these five simple, but important, steps it is important to remind children to keep their hands away from their eyes, nose, and mouth because doing so helps prevent the spread of germs.

PLENTY OF REST

"It goes without saying that sleep is essential to staying healthy. Getting the right amount will help reenergize your child's body and brain." Studies have also shown that children who are not tired are more likely to be in good moods, have better concentration in school, and help excel their learning experiences.

Creating a calming atmosphere about thirty minutes before bed can help children who have trouble sleeping. It is important to have as minimal distractions as possible to help children be well rested for the next day. Keeping the television or computer off can be helpful, and as an alternative, have him or her read or take a bath.

Keep in mind that is recommended for school-age children to sleep ten to eleven hours a night

EAT HEALTHY AND TAKE THOSE VITAMINS

It is important for children to have a balanced diet. If there are some food groups that your child does not like to eat, maybe consult our school's nutritionist and she can help create a diet plan for your student. Along with keeping a well-balanced diet, it is important for young children to take their vitamins so they can stay healthy and grow to be big and strong.

Although these tips may seem like common sense, we all tend to forget about the simple things in life. It is important to try and stay in the best health possible because no one likes to feel under the weather. Plus...we would miss our friends in class! ☺

Our Stars of the Weeks in March

Week of March 4-8

- Blaise Pheon
- Jeff Dirkiweitz

Star Books:

Where the Wild Things Are

A Chocolate Moose

Week of March 11-15

- Sophia Jackson
- Mitch Sampson

Star Books:

Flat Stanley

You Can't Eat Your Chicken Pox,
Amber Brown

Week of March 18-22

- Carolyne Harper
- Landon Marx

Star Books:

Magical Tales from Many Lands

*The Tales of Uncle Remus: The
Adventures of Brer Rabbit*

Week of March 25-27

- Addalyn James
- Brock Leechalk

Is Your Mama A Llama?

The Giving Tree

****Please remember to send in your student's poster to display their family, friends, and loved ones to the class for their star week.**

****Also, please remember to pack your star student's chosen book to read to the classroom in their backpack.**

MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

Blaise Pheon: March 4th

Sophia Jackson: March 13th

Landon Marx: March 19th

Brock Leechalk: March 30th

Volunteer Opportunities
(Still Available)

- St. Patrick's Day Party
(1 or 2 vol. needed)
- Zoo Field Trip
(3-4 vol. needed)
- Art Museum Field Trip
- (4 volunteers needed)

Assignments/Projects

Spelling Tests

March 4th- Group 1

March 11th- Group 2

March 18th- Group 3

March 25th- Group 4

Reading Words Tests

March 12th- Group 1

March 19th - Group 2

Major Project

State Reports

And

Presentations

March 26th

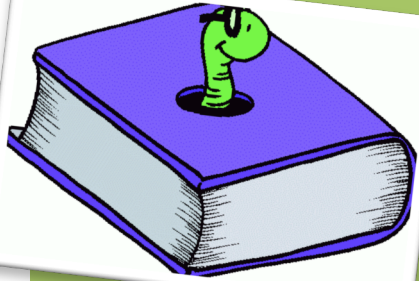
IN CLASS

We will be beginning preparations for our end of the year play.

Students will need to bring in old "painting" clothes for building sets.

Also, any materials that can be of use are appreciated.

(i.e. cardboard, paint, paintbrushes, etc)



Keep on Reading!

As a class, the students are up to 78 books read at home. REMEMBER: For every 100 books read at home, there is a pizza party thrown for the class! ☺



BOX TOPS CHALLENGE!

It's back! The classroom to get the most box tops collected by the end of March will receive a special prize! (The prize has been decided to stay a secret until the end of the challenge.)

REMEMBER to send in as many box tops as possible with your student!

Just Something to Think About: "Your Child's ABC's"

- A- Accept your child's limitations, but do not resign yourself to future limitations.
- B- Build their confidence.
- C- Cooperate with rather than reject programs designed by professionals.
- D- Direct their attention—perhaps a little extra on your part will improve listening, understanding, and response.
- E- Expect them to require more than the usual amount of time for almost everything—make allowance for time.
- F- Forget about unfair comparisons of school progress with children of friends, sisters, brothers, relatives, and neighbors.
- G- Govern his discipline at home by that expected of siblings—permissiveness is not a kindness for your child. They will resent peers now and you later.
- H- Help them to take pride in doing those things they can do well (even if it's writing a story about garbage)
- I- Institute a regular, normal program of outside activities; maybe they can excel in other than school activities.
- J- Johnny can learn—your school will be glad to make recommendations for special help—ask how you can help too.
- K- Keep directions simple.
- L- Let your child set their own pace in new learning situations at home.
- M- Make certain that you stand ready to help them at all times.
- N- Never give up hope for possible progress.
- O- Open every possible door for development.
- P- Patience and perseverance are two attributes necessary for all parents.
- Q- Quiet—all children need some.
- R- Request and read available materials concerning your child's particular problem.
- S- Social acceptance is highly important to your child's welfare outside the home.
- T- Teach the concrete rather than abstract.
- U- Understand the importance a routine plays in your child's life.
- V- Verbalize as little as possible—quite simple—don't talk to much
- W- Watch your language, your meanings, and choice of words.
- X- X-ray your own state of mind. You will find that your child will present an ever challenging personal problem to you as a parent...and have a...
- Z- Zest for life and living that must not be denied that child. Make them have the Good Felling."

(Adapted from a paper by Mary Beth Fry.)

THANK YOU!



I cannot begin to thank all of the families for the support, willingness to volunteer, and donations for our classroom. You have made not only a tremendous impact on my first year, but your young learners education. Every moment that is spent with wide engaged eyes, is another moment that the child is going to remember for the rest of his or her life. The enthusiasm all of the children show in class stems from the support at home.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Your fourth grade teacher,

Miss Lash

Communication Form

Private Conference _____

Phone Conference _____

Student name: _____

Conference contact information:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

I have a question/concern about my child and would like to schedule an appointment that Accommodates both of our schedules.

Please Circle the Best 2 Times for meeting:

Monday mornings (before school)

Monday evenings (after school)

Wednesday mornings (before school)

Wednesday evenings (after school)

These times do not work for me, please schedule another time.