



Line School Beacon

October 28, 2016

Upcoming Events

Line School Tag Sale 11/5 9-2
Veterans' Day 11/11 No School
Early Release Day 11/16

Mrs. Eaton's Class

The end of the first trimester is quickly approaching, and the time has certainly flown by. We've moved out of review mode a while ago, and a lot of new curriculum is being introduced. The students are most excited at having started cursive handwriting. At first it seemed really difficult for them, but now they are getting the hang of it. They are doing a beautiful job. We will learn all the lower case letters first before switching to upper case letters, and I have promised them that at that point they can start writing in cursive.

We have begun science, and we are studying living things, classification, and life cycles. The students are very excited to use microscopes and look at different types of cells. We are unable to fit science in as often as I would like due to our curriculum requirements in other areas, but we manage to squeeze it in a couple times a week. The children are very curious, and we always have good discussions about the topics we're studying.

In math, we have completed

a review unit of all the addition and subtraction strategies and time, as well as an introduction to multiplication. Our second unit focused on number story problems and using arrays to solve problems. Next week we will begin a unit on numbers and operations. I know the strategies we are using are new for most parents, so please let me know if you would like to use the reference book at home or have me send home photocopies of strategy samples.

Although we have been fortunate to this date, we have already had some cold recess days and colder weather is on its way. Please make sure your child has the appropriate clothing to play outdoors at recess. The classroom temperature can vary as well. I always dress in layers so I can be comfortable at any temp.

Feel free to contact me any time with questions or concerns you may have. I look forward to meeting with all of you at parent teacher conferences this month. You should be receiving more information about conferences very soon.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving holiday! I am thankful to be teaching your child this year.

Strand News!

The 1-5 grade level strand has started out the year with focusing on mindfulness. These strategies help focus and calm the mind

making it ready for learning. The students created glitter calming jars and many rooms have calming stations.

The Strand started a multi-age thematic unit on United States landforms and landmarks in the month of October. The learning objective is to understand the difference between geological natural structures and manmade structures, as well as their impact on the region in which they are located.

Students are mixed into multi-age groups and "travel" to each region for two weeks to learn about a specific landform and landmark within that region. They also learn the environmental impacts upon these features. They are filling out information as they go and are introduced to or reviewing a few mapping targets. Students at the end of their "journey" will choose a region to further their knowledge and create a project representing either the landform or landmark.

Also in October, the students have been collecting socks for Socktober. These socks will be donated to veterans and the York County Shelter. Socks need to be turned in by October 31st. At this time we have collected 300 pairs of socks.

The Strand has recently sent out cards to veterans for the upcoming Veteran's Day, thanking them for their service. For the month of November, Strand students will be making

Thanksgiving crafts to send to Larrabe Home.

Stayed tuned for further Strand news in the future!

Notes From the Nurse

The cold weather is approaching quickly. Please be sure to send children to school with warm coats, hats, and gloves for outside recess. Once we have snow, sending boots and snow pants daily will ensure that kids will have access to the whole playground and the fun of playing in the snow with their friends!

If you need assistance with obtaining warm winter gear for your children, please contact Mrs. Ransom or Ms. Lokken as soon as possible.

Mrs. Secunde's Second Grade Class

Jambo! Welcome to our fantastic and cooperative second grade class. As in all the classes, we've been super busy learning, but having some fun activities along the way since the beginning of the year.

In writing, second graders have been telling about their lives through personal narratives, working on various targets in grammar, writing, and vocabulary. They are trying to bring their writing to life by using action and senses in their description, so readers can picture their story as it is read. In addition, our class has pen pals that they've written to and will be doing writing activities with throughout the year. The students do not know, as of yet, where their pen pals are, but will be doing a mystery hangout to find their state in the near future.

Believe it or not, most of the kids do not mind doing grammar.

We've worked on various diphthongs, vowel teams, verbs, digraphs, common, proper, and plural nouns since the beginning of the year. To make it more interesting, we do a Kahoot, Jeopardy game, or Scoot once a week to show our learning and have fun.

In math, we first reviewed a lot of what they learned in first grade. It always helps to refresh your memory! The last month has been mostly focused on addition and subtraction facts and strategies with graphing, telling time, money, and place value thrown in. We've also started to work on double-digit addition and subtraction in groups, along with some multiplication. We made a living clock outside on the basketball court so the kids could practice not only telling time, but also knowing the difference between the hour and minute hand.

Another activity that we've participated in this year is the Global Read -a-Loud with a second grade class in Wisconsin, whom we met through a mystery hangout. We are both reading The BFG and each week doing an activity that we share or do as a class, such as an interactive Padlet, Kahoot, and character trait giant.

We went on a hike in early October with the Francis Small Trust. We did a hike to the Gerry Preserve located in West Newfield. With their educators, we looked at various nature traits and brought some back that were already on the ground to use in our personal narrative writing. We will go back in the winter to hike the same trail using snowshoes.

Ms. Haberman's Kindergarten Class

I ask the children what they want the world to know about their classroom when it's our turn to do the news. The first things they almost always respond with are specials, recess and lunch. With a little more prompting about their day and what they enjoy, they reported the following:

We are keeping safe by practicing fire drills and lockdowns even in the cafeteria and at recess.

They love Bee-bots and OSMO - two new technology driven stations in literacy block.

We have many different "fun" ways to learn about letters and reading. They reported enjoying guided reading, computer, iPads, CD player books and file folder games. We have stations in math where we learn all about numbers and how they work. They especially like the "Adding Apples" app on the iPads and, once again, the Bee-bots game for math. We also have some fun file folder games that someone mentioned.

They like writing where they learn about spelling and using their imagination.

We recite the pledge every morning and the Code of Cooperation, one child even reported liking "quiet time"!

There's so much more going on here that their little 5 year old minds don't realize. I'm sure when they come home and you ask what happened at school you hear mainly about lunch, recess, and/or the special they went to that day. But I hope you're noticing some new learning going on as well. They've come a long way already. I know. I've been assessing!

I am especially hopeful that



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all your children are developing a love of learning and feel safe in and enthusiastic about coming to school.

Mrs. Burgess' Grade 4 Class

This year has gotten off to a wonderful start. We have been busy building community within the classroom.

In reading, we have been working in various groups on several different books. We are all working on increasing our vocabulary both in our work and in our daily lives.

Our writing has been focusing on creating small moment stories. We are learning various techniques authors use to create stories about everyday life and trying to do that in our writing.

In math, we have completed a unit on place value and multi-digit addition & subtraction. We are currently working on multiplication and geometry. This has kept us very busy.

We are studying weathering & erosion in science. The students are working with Mrs. Fossett in social studies on what they would like to present at the economics fair that is held every year.

We have recently completed the NWEA reading and math tests we take every year. Students have worked hard on both of these tests and now look forward to getting busy with our daily

studies. Thank you to all families for your support and helping your students get off to a great start this year!

Mrs. Cutter's Pre K Class

We are so excited to have our first group of Pre-K friends at Line school! We have been working on learning the routines of our school day and getting to know one another. We have enjoyed lots of fun activities, new books, and many awesome songs!! We are eagerly waiting for Halloween and are excited to wear our costumes!!

For Halloween Kendrick will be a vampire.

For Halloween Emery will be Darth Vader.

For Halloween Jazmine will be a Monster High Kitty.

For Halloween Wolfgang will be Patrick Star.

For Halloween Ella will be a bumblebee.

For Halloween Jacqueline will be Elsa.

For Halloween Jacob will be Olaf.

For Halloween Micah will be a toad.

For Halloween Riley will be Elsa.

For Halloween Stella will be a witch.

For Halloween Hailey will be a superhero.

For Halloween Peter will be a bat.

For Halloween Logan will be a dragon.

For Halloween Maksim will be

Darth Vader.

For Halloween Cooper will be a ghost.

For Halloween Abigayle will be Pinkalicious.

We wish everyone a safe and fun Halloween!!

News from the Art Room

The Art room at Line Elementary has been abuzz with activity. I returned from a medical leave after surgery and a broken arm. We launched right into many artistic endeavors!

Vincent Van Gogh was the inspiration for the paintings and drawings that the fourth and fifth graders created. We looked at the way artists utilized line and color to effect a feeling of mood and weather within artwork. Students used India Ink and brush to sketch out landscapes, hopefully the element of space within the picture plane was portrayed! Watercolors were used for color, the permanent India Ink line remained to show details.

Starry Starry Night by Van Gogh was admired by the third graders who used line, color, and texture in night time paintings.

The Cat at Night by Dahlov Ipcar with its silhouettes displayed many contour shapes. We used a shadow shape within our paintings. Puff Paint added texture to the work.

First and second graders

have been exploring and experimenting with color mixing. They have learned the technique of mixing primary colors and making secondary colors from those primaries! Students used their own ideas as themes for paintings!

Pre kindergarteners and kindergarteners have been exploring art materials and learning about tools and appropriate use of art tools and materials! We have explored clay, paint, and texture with rubbings. The self portraits created by the kindergarteners are wonderful!

Ms Emmons' Grade 5 Class

We have been learning about the Westward Expansion. As we gained knowledge about the Gold Rush, Transcontinental Railroad, and Trail of Tears, we have also been improving our note-taking skills. Using articles about each topic, we have recorded notes into our interactive notebooks to use for a future writing unit.

We are also working hard on our Personal Narrative unit. Our goal is to write a piece about a snapshot in our life. Learning all kinds of new writing tools, such as Show, Not Tell and Flashbacks, has been fun and definitely improved our pieces. We are getting to be better writers everyday.

In reading, we have been working on inferencing and providing evidence in our responses to text. Using sentence starters like "The author states" and "The text implied" has helped us write detailed responses. Next week, we will start to work on Figurative Language, which we could also use in our writing unit to make our pieces even better!

After finishing up our Volume unit, we have moved onto Powers of 10 in math. This has been tricky

at first, but we have demonstrated an enormous amount of perseverance and grit. With each lesson, we have become more confident in ourselves as well as understand how to multiply by 10 and $1/10$.

It has been fantastic to see the growth in knowledge already this year. It is exciting to imagine what we will accomplish this year!