



Upcoming Events

Wednesday, November 18th Early Release Day 12:30 PM

Wednesday, November 25 - November 27 - Thanksgiving Break

Mrs. Secunde's Second Grade Class

Hola from second grade, we're super excited with all the going on's in our classroom since the beginning of the school year.

All the second graders at Line went on a hike on land held in trust by the Francis Small Heritage Trust. Mr. Zach was our trail and wildlife educator. After the hike he held a tutorial on different animals found in Maine and facts about their habitats. He'll be back in the winter to take us on the same hike using snowshoes.

Our class has been working on various learning targets in all subjects. One for writing is using big, bold words - adjectives to describe feelings or items in our writing. Our class took another hike on the school's trail and found one item to write a "What Am I?" descriptive piece. They described the item and on the next page drew and told about the item. Here are a few examples: I am red, I am fragile, I am poisonous, and I am smooth. What am I? (A red berry) - Logan

I am white, I am bumpy, I am from a tree, I am medium sized, I am dry, I am dirty, I am dead, I am smooth on one side, and I smell like dirt. What am I? (I am a piece of bark) - Emily

I am orange, I am brown, I come from an evergreen, I am dead, I look like a torch, and the bottom of me is sticky. What am I? (dead evergreen needles) -Tristan

In our reading class, we've been focusing on several targets within our reading groups and in our reading centers we've been practicing activities such as : fluency, phonics word work, DEAR reading, and spelling.

At our Spirit Day Assembly, we showcased two of our learning targets for Book Character Day on Monday, October 26th: character traits and how to find evidence from the book to show how they feel and the plot of the story. In the mini lessons before reading groups, we've been reading as a class Rotten Richie and the Ultimate Dare. Students had to decide on character traits for Richie that they could support from the book, such as nervous, afraid, successful, etc. Then as a class, we broke it down into beginning, middle, and end: showing the problems of the story, and finally the solutions.

We enjoyed dressing like our favorite book characters and sharing some traits with the school.

Mrs Wescott's Class

We have all been hard at work unpacking our first trimester targets!

In reading, we have been finding the character traits, setting, rising actions, climax, falling actions, and theme in literary text. This is used to help us learn to create story arches to write our narrative stories.

In math, we have been working on geometry (lines, line segment, rays, parallel and

perpendicular lines, types of angles and triangles, regular polygons, quadrangles and more) Other topics have included rounding to any place value, orders of operations and multiplication (factors, multiples, composite numbers, facts 0-9 and multiplying 2 digit by 2 digit numbers.)

In science, we have learned about heredity and traits that are passed down.

Finally, in social studies, we have been focusing on Economics and are preparing for our Economics Fair on November 12th from 3:30-8 (during parent teacher conferences). Students will be making something to sell so they can learn about goods and services, supply and demand, saving, spending and donating money!

We wanted to take a minute to thank the parents for all of their support; it really helps with our learning!

Until next time, room 42

Art News from Ms. Bovie

Greetings from the Line School Art Studio where the students learn about the tools and the techniques necessary to create fine art work.

The school year began with a unit on self-portraits for all students in kindergarten through fifth grade. We looked at self-portraits painted by well-known artists and reflected on the different ways that the artists portray themselves as individuals. It became obvious that attention needed to be focused on a discussion of and practice of using correct proportions in a portrait. Third through fifth grade practiced and then drew a

portrait (of someone!) with attention to proportion.

Second and third graders have been using warm and cool color watercolors in a painting using leaf rubbings as a start. Creative rubbings were inspired by Lois Ehlert's book "Leafman". We reviewed using watercolors, waking them up, using the tip of our brush, rinsing and doing a wash with watercolors.

First graders followed their self-portrait with some figure drawing. We sketched models (the kids) who took turns posing. Great fun! They then drew and added color to a full figure person. The kindergarteners have been learning about the art room tools, correct use of paintbrushes, scissors, crayons and the glue sponge! Be sure to ask about that!

We will continue to explore and use art materials, tools and techniques to express our ideas and imagination.

Mrs. Calnan's 3rd Grade

We have been busy in Mrs. Calnan's class. The students have been working hard in math. In the unit we just wrapped up, children have been making sense of one- and two-step number stories involving all four arithmetic operations. We have learned some math games to help with making math facts more automatic. We have also been practicing math facts and other math skills by using IXL and Skoolbo on the iPads. These apps allow students to practice skills both at school and at home. Any practice of math facts and other skills at home will help to improve your child's math skills.

In science, we have been studying living things. All living things have 5 things in common. Ask your child if they can tell you what the 5 things are. We have also been learning about different animals and their life cycles. Each group has been reading informational books about animals during literacy block. The

students then picked an animal to research and to make an iMovie about, using this information.

During our literacy block time we are very busy. Other than researching and learning more about animals and their life cycles, we are working on fluency and reading for meaning. During spelling time, the students have come up with lots of words that fit into the spelling pattern or rule for the day. Good job! They are great thinkers. We have also started learning to write in cursive. They are doing a beautiful job with this.

Every Monday through Thursday night there is a homework assignment. You should see the assignment written in their student planner. The student planner goes home and comes back to school every day. It is a great way to communicate with me if you need to write a quick note. Also, your child should be reading at home every night. Reading can be compared to riding a bike. The more you practice, the better you will get. So read, read, read!

I am very excited about the new school year and what lies ahead. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to write me a note, call the school, or email me at debracalnan@rsu57.org.

Mrs. Proctor's Grade 1 New

It has been a busy week in Room 47! We began our nutrition study with Miss Cassie from the SNAP program. This week we got to learn about and taste sweet potatoes. We also had a visit from the Cromwell Center who worked on awareness of disabilities. We ended our week and our pumpkin life cycle unit with some pumpkin exploration. We estimated the number of seeds, measured and weighed it, and identified its parts. Then we roasted and enjoyed the seeds

with some cider and a Halloween story. It was great!

Music Notes – Mr. Abbiati

This has been an exciting start to the school year in music class. You may have heard your child talking about Quaver. That is the name of our new music curriculum. Actually, it is called Quaver's Marvelous World of Music and is completely online at quavermusic.com. Every student has been given a login username and password for Quaver that will allow them to access the content on any computer that has an Internet connection. Once logged in, there are many creation tools, listening stations, games, and activities to do. Motivated students can even create songs in one of the creative (QGrooves, QComposer, QStrum, or QBackbeat) and enter it in a contest to win points that can be used to change their avatar or their personal music room. Many of the classrooms (grades 2-5) have also been doing their assessments in class using the Quaver iPad app called QStudent. Learning music has never been so fun!

I would also like to mention that the concert for grades 1 and 2 will be held at the Massabesic Middle School on December 22 at 6:30. More information will be coming out soon. If there are some especially crafty (in the good way) folks out there, I could use some help with the set for the concert. There are some rather specific things that need to be made. If you want to be a part of this and help out, please contact me through the school or my email - josephabbiati@rsu57.org.

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.



Line School Beacon

November 13, 2015

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.

Some students are doing really well reading at home. We have just started a reading at home contest where all students can be winners. Those that read at least twenty nights in November will earn a special prize at the end of the month. I would like to see more participation on the

students' part. The more practice your child has with reading, the better reader they will become. Look for something new in December to encourage your child to read at home.

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 week. You should have received your time, but if you aren't sure please let me know.

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

A Few 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 are unable to obtain warm winter gear for your children, please contact Mrs. Ransom or Ms. Lokken as soon as possible.

For many, the holiday season can be a difficult financial time. The town of Limerick has a Giving Tree and we also encourage

parents to apply to the Bruce Roberts Toy Fund for help with providing gifts for your children. If you would like more information or want an application for these programs, call Mrs. Ransom or Ms. Lokken as soon as possible. The deadline for application is December 4th.

As we come into cold and flu season, please keep the following guidelines in mind when determining if your child is well enough to attend school:

Students must be well enough to participate in all aspects of the school day, including gym and recess. Students will not be kept indoors for recess or allowed to miss gym class without a doctor's note.

Students must be fever-free (temperature of less than 100*) WITHOUT the use of fever reducers such as Tylenol, Motrin, etc.

Cough drops are not allowed at school due to the risk for choking.

If medication is needed during the school day, please contact the nurse to make arrangements. ALL MEDICATION MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE SCHOOL BY AN ADULT AND A PERMISSION FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT PRIOR TO MEDICATION BEING GIVEN AT SCHOOL.

Students are not allowed to carry or self-administer any medications, with the exception of asthma inhalers and emergency epinephrine when proper documentation is on file.

Ms. Knight's Grade 5 Class

Thank you to everyone who helped make Soctober a success! We collected over 300 pairs of socks! Just a reminder that the Line School Tag sale is Saturday from 9-2. We hope to see you there. We have just finished our nonfiction unit in reading, and are excited to begin our mythology unit. We are working on fractions in math, and the Constitution in social studies. We have been following our class pet, Horace, while he is globe trotting through Southeast Asia. We have been checking in with his Tweets, daily. For more information about what is happening in Ms. Knight's 5th grade, please visit our website at www.knightowls45.weebly.com

Mrs. Cutter's Kindergarten Class

As we approach the holiday season in kindergarten we have one thing on our mind!! SAVE THE TURKEYS!!!! We have gone to great lengths to save turkeys by disguising them. We feel like heroes and have come up with some great disguises!! Here are some ways that our turkeys have been saved.

I saved a turkey by disguising her as Cinderella. -Sirel

I saved a turkey by disguising her as a princess.-Lillian

I saved a turkey by disguising him as a hunter. -Ryder

I saved a turkey by disguising him as a pumpkin. -Nicholas

I saved a turkey by disguising him as a biker. -Kamdyn

I saved a turkey by disguising her as a fairy. -Chloe

I saved a turkey by disguising him as Batman. -Dylan

I saved a turkey by disguising her

as a baby. -Ellie

I saved a turkey by disguising him as a soldier. -Thomas

I saved a turkey by disguising him as a deer. -Landen

I saved a turkey by disguising her as a witch. -Marissa

I saved a turkey by disguising him as a diaper. -Nathan

I saved a turkey by disguising her as a gumball machine. -Evelyn

I saved a turkey by disguising her as tattoo machine. -Nevaeh

I saved a turkey by disguising him as Luigi. -Johnny

I saved a turkey by disguising him as number ten. -Jayden

I saved a turkey by disguising him as a robot dog. -Isaiah

I saved a turkey by disguising him as a fireman. -Dalton

I saved a turkey by disguising him as a marine. -Gavin

I saved a turkey by disguising him as Leonardo. -John