

Northern Tioga School District

*Kristopher A. Kaufman
Superintendent*



District Update
February 2024

www.ntiogasd.org

Clark Wood Elementary School

From the Principal:

Hopefully we will see the weather even out and be able to get back on a regular schedule. Keeping our students safe will be and has been a top priority. Please encourage your child to check out the lost and found table as we are getting quite a few items. As we move closer to PSSA testing, you may see an uptick in homework activity. Please continue to encourage your children to do their best at completing their assignments. Together, we will continue to help our children be successful

School Wide Positive Behavior Program:

- R- Respect Everyone
- A- Act Safely
- M- Make Responsible Choice
- S- Show Pride

Student Council:

Student Council honored the Clark Wood tradition of celebrating our 100th Day of School by having students and staff dress like they were 100 years old! It's always a fun day full of wrinkles and chuckles.

We are also teaming up with the Positive Behavior team to celebrate Valentine's Day. We are asking students to "Share a Cup of Kindness" by coloring and decorating a coffee mug printout with kind words, inspiring quotes, or a thoughtful shout out to a friend, family member, or teacher. Our cups of kindness will be displayed on the bulletin board in the cafeteria.

Title 1 Reading:

Let your love of reading grow this month. Sweeten your day with a good book.

Valley Youth Initiative: Victory Highway Wesleyan Church

We would like to thank the Victory Highway Wesleyan Church for your generous donation of hats and gloves for our students. Thank you for your donation. We are grateful.

Upcoming Events:

- Thurs. Feb. 22 – Circus at Williamson High School
- Fri. Feb. 23 – Circus at Clark Wood
- Tues. March 5 – CW Talent Show
- Tues. March 19 – CW Spring Concert (GR. K-1-2)

Classroom News:

Music/Band:

Hello there! I'm Mr. Zach Lepley and have become the new music student teacher with Mrs. Heather McClaren here at Clark Wood. I'm currently a student at Commonwealth (Mansfield) University where I've studied music education for the past four years with my primary focus being in instrumental education and percussion. I've played in numerous ensembles while at Mansfield including their concert wind ensemble, jazz band, marching band, percussion ensemble, orchestra, and more. I'm originally from Middleburg Pennsylvania and graduated from Midd-West High School in 2020. Having just completed my first week I can safely say that I've had a blast getting to know the students here at Clark Wood Elementary and am grateful for the opportunity to teach here and work closely with Mrs. McClaren as I take my next big step in becoming a professional educator!

Kindergarten:

We February is a busy month for us. It brings not only the excitement of Valentines, but we will also celebrate the 100th Day of school.

In math class, we will explore addition and subtraction. We will use manipulatives to help make the concepts of addition and subtraction concrete and easier to understand. The goal is to add and subtract within 10. We will also strive for fact fluency with addition and subtraction facts up to 5. A big challenge, but the kiddos are so proud to do it. In addition to the addition and subtraction activities, we continue to build on our counting skills. Children are asked to count to 100 by ones as well as tens. Children are also asked to begin counting from any number in the sequence other than one. For example, start at 76 and count.

For reading we are working on unit 6. The topic is "Weather for All Seasons." Our new sight words include is, little, she,

was, and with. We continue strengthening our skill of blending letter sounds. Children are working hard at reading at home to complete reading logs. Reading each day with your child is important.

First Grade:

Our 1st grade student of the month is Joevin Surine. He has been working very hard with reading and is excited about learning each day. He is a good friend and always polite. His spunky personality is contagious...he makes others around him smile. We are very proud of Joevin!

Our students celebrated the 100th day of school on Feb. 5 by dressing like a 100-year-old person and sharing their collections of 100 things. We did several other fun activities on this day as well.

We are preparing for Valentine's Day. Our students have each selected a "secret valentine" from their class and will make something special for that person. We will reveal ourselves to our secret valentine on Feb. 14. Students are encouraged to make a Valentine box/holder to bring to school for the Valentine's Day festivities. We are exchanging cards with our classmates and will have a snack time as well. If you are sending in a snack, please be sure it is individually packaged so that it can be taken home if not eaten at school.

We are hoping that February doesn't bring as many snow day interruptions as we experienced in January. Continue to monitor the weather and send your child with the appropriate winter attire.

Please read each night with your child. He/she should have a February book-it calendar to complete as well as their nightly reading log.

Second Grade:

There's a lot happening in Second Grade! While we have been learning about continents, oceans, rotation, and revolution of the globe learners have also discovered why February is sometimes longer than others. In a Leap Year February will have 29 days instead of the typical 28 because it takes the Earth $365 \frac{1}{4}$ days to travel around the sun each year. Every four years those $\frac{1}{4}$ days add up to make a whole extra day. 2023 is not a leap year so we will save that extra $\frac{1}{4}$ day towards the next one happening in 2024.

Maple syrup has been a topic of learning in February. After learn-

ing about boiling down sap to make maple syrup, students took a field trip to Patterson's Maple Farm near Sabinsville to see the process in action. Now, that is some sweet learning!

Second Grade recently celebrated the 100th Day of School. Soon we will be gearing up for a Valentine's Day celebration We will also be learning about President's Day. In writing, learners have finished learning how to correctly form all lowercase and halfway through the capital cursive letters!

During math class, learners are modeling and recording addition and subtraction with and without regrouping! These are life skills that learners will need their whole life.

In reading class, learners have been writing with their senses using adjectives. They are also reviewing prefixes and suffixes and identifying the author's purpose. Additionally, learners have been writing about things they see in the sky.

Congratulations to Lillianah VanSkiver on being selected as the Student of the Month. Lillianah has made a lot of progress already this year. Her self-confidence is blossoming and she is learning to become a leader.

Third Grade:

Math (3): In February, the students get to study very practical skills that can be applied outside of school. They start by reviewing how to tell time. Then they learn elapsed time. This is a tough concept but they are taking it in stride. Coming up, the students will be learning how to compare money and make change.

ELA (3): We are finishing up Unit 4, where we examined character's thoughts and actions in relation to the message or theme in the story. Students loved to discuss the theme or the message/lesson they learned from each story we read! Soon we will jump into Unit 5 where we explore author's "arguments" using claims and evidence appropriately to support their point with validity. We have also begun working on our test-taking skills by working on sample PSSA assignments. Those tests are coming up in April, which will be here before we know it!

Science (3): We are currently learning about the properties of matter. The students will conduct an investigation on various classroom objects to compare their properties. Later this month, we will be

studying motion. The students will have the opportunity to build a machine that demonstrates potential and kinetic energy.

Social Studies (3): We are venturing into the land of Native Americans! We are going to be looking at various tribes and how they were able to use the land respectfully in order to ensure survival. We will also continue to look at maps, where various tribes lived, and the routes they took across modern day United States.

Fourth Grade:

Welcome to the Fourth Grade Corner of the District Newsletter! Our Clark Wood Fourth Grade ELA students explore many exciting topics! These topics include text structures, plot elements, making inferences, using context clues, utilizing text features, identifying types of conflicts, noticing different viewpoints, and the facets of biographies and autobiographies. Each week students also have a designated spelling and vocabulary list. These vocabulary words come from our weekly story. The weekly story is used to teach reading comprehension skills! Lastly, students will continue working on citing text evidence to prove the answers to fascinating questions. To support your child from home, please practice their spelling and vocabulary words!

Our Fourth Grade world of math zeroes in on place value, operations and algebraic thinking, fractions, data and measurement, and geometry. To support math students at home, please spend time practicing multiplication facts. Math fact fluency allows students to learn more complicated concepts much more easily!

Fourth Grade Science focuses on many interesting topics. Students discuss the difference between facts and opinions, delve into the various scientific investigation tools, explore animal adaptations, dive into the properties of matter, and much more. We have so much fun!

Fourth Grade Social Studies is centered around our wonderful state of Pennsylvania. Students learn about early settlers and the events that led to our modern world. We will take a field trip to Harrisburg this year! In anticipation of our trip, we make many connections between our lessons in class and what we see and hear while visiting the Capitol Building.

Fifth Grade:

5th grade Math classes are having fun with FRACTIONS! We

have started with the basic conceptual understanding of fractions and mixed numbers. Once we have mastered the foundational skills for manipulating fractions, we will use that knowledge to perform basic operations with them – addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. In an effort to further prepare for the PSSA tests in May, we have begun using our COACH books to review concepts that we have already covered this school year. Our next unit of study will be Algebraic Thinking.

5th grade Social Studies classes are wrapping up our unit of study on the Native Americans and will begin our unit on the early European explorers. We will learn about the types of goods that were traded among the continents, as well as the methods of travel between those continents. We are working our way toward the discovery of the Northwest Passage, which led Europeans to the Americas. After that, we will examine the 13 original colonies of the United States.

In 5th grade ELA, we are looking at how the author writes arguments to support claims using valid reasoning and relevant evidence. The students will be working on a text dependent analysis essay on "Video Games are Good for Kids "or "The Danger of Video Games". In grammar, we are learning about verbs and then we will move on to adverbs.

In 5th grade Science, we just finished the Physical Science Unit on Electric and Magnetic Forces. Our new Unit is on Environmental Science, and we will be learning about how plants and animals survive in an ecosystem.

Sixth Grade:

Sixth Grade Math has begun the Geometry Unit. They will know how to identify a polygon, names shapes with sides up to ten, tell whether it is regular or irregular, and identify triangles by their sides and angles. We will then move onto perimeter and area of quadrilaterals. Volume of cubes and rectangular prisms will be included. They will practice using the formula sheet that is available to them on the PSSAs. This unit will conclude with drawing nets and the surface area of triangular prisms, cubes, and rectangular prisms. The final unit will be Data and Statistics before PSSA testing.

Sixth Grade Social Studies is now learning about Canada. We will comparing physical features, culture, government, and daily life of those living in Canada to those living in the United States.

5th and 6th Grade have completed their final fundraiser to raise money for the trip to Buffalo on May 22. Pizzas will be delivered the week of February 19th.

Sixth Grade attended a presentation by Camp Cadet on Wednesday, 1/31. Interested students should complete the paper-work to participate in the summer camp.

Students of the Month:

Kindergarten: Emery Gee; First Grade: Joevin Surine; Second Grade: Lillianah VanSkiver; Third Grade: Charleigh Balfour; Fourth Grade: Eliyas Hall; Fifth Grade: Kayleigh Costellic; Sixth Grade: Emersyn Harkenrider

Clark Wood Student of the Month: Emersyn Harkenrider

Emersyn Harkenrider is a 6th Grade student at Clark Wood Elementary. She is the daughter of Mike Harkenrider and Stepmom Stephanie Harkenrider of Nelson. During school, Emersyn participates in Chorus, Art Helpers, Student Council and helps the Kindergarteners with breakfast. She is a joy to have in class. Emersyn exemplifies all of our RAMS expectations! Outside of school, Emersyn enjoys hanging out with friends and family and listening to audio books. Most of all she enjoys playing with her dog, Lucy. Keep up the great work and congratulations Emersyn.

Westfield Area Elementary School

Kindergarten:

The kindergarten classes at Westfield have been very busy. The students have met most of our sounds and are blending them together into words. We are working on identifying the characters, setting, and the problem in our stories. In math we are working on addition and subtraction to 5. They are doing great, and we are so proud of them! Along with our regular work, we have some special days to celebrate coming soon. We are looking forward to Valentine's Day, Groundhog Day, Chinese New Year, and President's Day! The students will work on our next family project – a heart and add all the things that make them happy.

First Grade:

First Graders at WAES have been busy learning to solve for the

unknown number in word problems. The 100th Day of school was filled with lots of counting activities. Observations were made on size and capacity. In reading, students continue to learn lots of skills to help them become better readers. There are so many long vowel rules to remember! All students have been asked to spend at least 15 minutes a night reading. Practicing is the best way to increase fluency and confidence. Read, read, and read!!! Students can take AR quizzes to earn rewards in the classroom and around the school.

Second Grade:

2nd Grade at WAES has been busy! Our little engineers have been applying their social skills, problem solving abilities, and their reading, writing, and math skills during our recent stem week! We integrated stem and our “week 6” reading from unit 3. Students learned about fictional bridges like The 3 Billy Goats Gruff and non-fiction bridges like The Golden Gate Bridge. They enjoyed reading different versions of the 3 Billy Goats Gruff and seeing how the details changed since they are made up tales. Did you know in one version they were even rockabilly goats?! They also enjoyed learning about real bridges and what makes them strong. We learned how bridges started as simple beam bridges and engineers have made improvements over the years and developed truss bridges, suspension bridges, and even movable military bridges! Then our 2nd graders tried their hand at building bridges of their own. Working in partners can be a challenge, especially when things don’t work the first time, but it gave us a chance to work out frustrations, apply problem solving skills, and learn to compromise!

Fourth Grade:

4th graders at WAES are enthusiastically working at becoming proficient (and beyond) on the grade-level standards. The students are currently working in reading and English on strategies to interpret fiction and nonfiction reading/writing. In math, they are working on creating, comparing, adding, subtracting, and multiplying fractions and mixed numbers. In social studies, the students are investigating the early times and life in Pennsylvania. In science, we are exploring different ecosystems and how they impact each other. This school year is flying by!

Fifth Grade:

Mrs. Bieser's 5th grade math has been practicing adding and subtracting unlike fractions. We worked through many real-life problems as well as played games to practice. Our big culminating activity was creating a cooking show. We used fractions to work out a schedule, create a shopping list, find deals at the grocery store and double recipes for the show.

In Social Studies we are learning about the first 13 colonies. We are putting ourselves in the shoes of the colonist and finding out the real struggles they would have endured. We read, *The Dreadful, Smelly Colonies*, by Elizabeth Raum which put a lot of daily life for colonists into perspective.

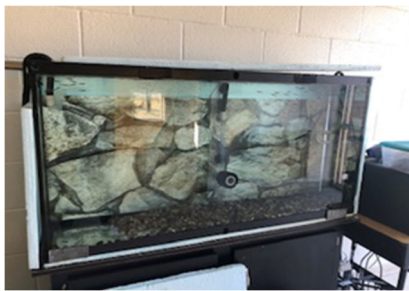
In Mrs. Kulish's ELA class the students have been reading and studying stories focusing on point of view. Students have been learning strategies, completing graphic organizers, and typing essays to answer text dependent analysis questions. We will be looking at examples of text focusing on the theme of the story during the upcoming month.

In science class with Mrs. Kulish, students have been studying the levels of ecosystems. They will be completing activities on each of the biomes.

Students are looking forward to our Valentine's Day celebration. They will be creating boxes for their valentines at home and will bring them to school for our celebration. They are excited to see the creativity of their classmates.

Sixth Grade:

January was a busy month for sixth grade classes at WAES.



Students were able to watch their rainbow trout eggs develop into alevin and now progress to the fry stage. The fish are now swimming freely in our hallway tank and require daily feedings. Checking in on the fish has become part of the morning routine for several of our upstairs friends.

The new year also brought a variety of new experiences in our sixth-grade classrooms. In reading class, students have been discussing the elements of drama by com-

paring different versions of *The Prince and the Pauper*. Geography classes have been completing a group project exploring geographic, historical, and fun attractions across the country of Canada. Science classes continue their study of the solar system and enjoyed organizing a Google Slides Presentation to record key information about each planet. Despite the snowy weather, math classes were also able to wrap up their algebra unit.



Music:

WAES General Music is continuing on-track with their lessons on musical expression. Students are expanding their musical vocabulary, with key words such as *largo*, *presto*, *piano*, and *forte*, as well as working on some classroom instruments! 5th and 6th grade are working on guitars; 4th and 3rd, ukulele; while K-2nd are working mostly with singing and hand instruments.

Grades K, 2, 4, 6 and 5th and 6th grade choirs are going to be starting on their concert music shortly for their May concert, and they can't wait to share their music with the community!

Art:

5th grade has been exploring FORM through clay! Clay is a fan favorite! We began by creating basic pinch pots. Students needed to know the steps in creating one well so that they could use future pinch pots to create other cool things! Our next adventure was creating clay kid cuties (character cups)! They're made by forming 2 pinch pots, scoring and slipping the bottoms, and joining the bottoms together to create a bust! We talked about some differences between factory made and handmade items, celebrating the uniqueness of (sometimes lumpy) handmade organic goods. We talked about form and function, and what would you put in this little dish- earrings/rings, pocket change, pencil shavings from a hand sharpener, candy, gum! So many possibilities, and what goes in them depends on who the cup is for. Students practiced using tool sot make faces in clay, explored how to attach ears, and brainstormed ways to make their tops interesting. We looked at and chatted about illustrations, noting they didn't need to

look real to be fun- whimsy was the goal! We later applied these skills to a reversed concept- clay shakers!



2nd MARKING PERIOD, HONOR ROLL:

4TH GRADE—HIGH HONOR ROLL

Natalie Hurd, Treyvon Pierce, Aria Rice, Dmytro Shunaiev, Kayleigh Whitsell.

4th GRADE—HONOR ROLL

Chase Ackley, Cooper Carl, Branson Cole, Avery Dibble, Allie Donaldson, Darrell Fuhrer, Breyson Fuller, Joseph Graves, Risley Howe, Thomas Hurler, Ellsa Johnson, Hunter Kilburn, Emiley Kline, Emily Koester, Avery Mead, Tucker Pierce, Noah Stevens, Airianna Whittle, Zayanah Wilson.

5th GRADE—HONOR ROLL

Darwin Ballard, Jaxson Bieser, Colin Bogsch, Hudson Brown, Paul Buterbaugh, Keana Campbell, Cruz Catherman, Kovin Cooper, Jeremiah Doan, Jade Goodling, Styles Herman, Heaven Houghtaling, Aydriannah Outman, Aden Pierce, Kaylee Potoeski, Sara Potter, Cole Riley, Zander Rowan

Madilyn Simonds, Kolbie St. Peter, Brylee Watson, Payton Webster, Makenzie Wescott, Lauren Williams, Seneca Worthington.

GRADE 6—HIGH HONOR ROLL

Daisy Bish, Zoey Bloom, Claire Hess, Carrigan Kemp, Aiden McFall, Nikita Parslow, Jude Walker, Travis Webster, Jaelyn Young.

GRADE 6—HONOR ROLL

Alaina Abbott, Jacob Ackley, DaleAnn Bisel, Kaelynn Cole, Azaria Dennis, Mia Druetto, Joshlynn Gardner, Joshua Kies, Chase Kolesar, Caleb Laing, Bently Lee, Corbin Schaar, Richard Short, Lileigh Stahli, Ashlynn Watkins, Khloe Young.

R.B. Walter Elementary School

From the Principal:

Dear Parents and Guardians,
February brings the question, “Will spring be early or late this year?” I really hope that the warm weather comes early for us! Here at RBW, we have started our “One School, One Book” project. As a united school we are all reading the book, *Lemonade Wars*, by Jacqueline Davies. We kicked off our school wide project with an assembly and every student received their own copy of the book! To make our experience even more interesting we have “masked” guest readers for each chapter! The “masked” readers will reveal themselves at the end of the book! We will be sending home an activity packet, that is aligned to our book. Please work through this packet with your student at home. I encourage you to discuss the book and reread it with your student.

As always, my door is open, please don’t hesitate to reach out anytime.

Your partner in education,
Kathryn Slavinski
Principal, R. B. Walter Elementary School

Upcoming Events:

- 2/22 Circus @ WHS Gym, 6:30 pm
- 2/23 Circus @ Clark Wood, 6:30 pm
- 2/28 Warrior Pride Day
- 3/26 Kindergarten Registration

Title I:

R. B. Walter Reading Specialists: Mrs. Rudinski, Mrs. Vasco and Mr. Dinan.

We are into the middle of the school year and students have been exposed to many reading skills by this time. The best way to learn these skills and “Cement” them in place is to use them. The best way to use them is to read – a lot!

Children most often choose a book to read based on the cover illustration. That book cover may grab their attention with its bright colors and wonderful artwork, but it is not a good indicator of the book’s level.

Whether it is from the school library, a town library, book fair or book store, here is a simple method for helping your child choose a book that is on his/her level. It is called the, “Five Finger Method.”

Once your child has chosen a book, open it up to a page with an average amount of text or words on it. Then, have them read it to you. As they read, put up or fold down one finger every time they have difficulty with a word. If you get to five fingers on that page (five words the child could not read on their own), put that book back and choose another. This method is used to choose a book for your child's independent reading. If a child and parent are reading together a more difficult book would be just fine. Enjoy the time spent with your child!

Kindergarten:

Kindergarten at RB Walter celebrated their 100th Day of School! We stacked 100 cups, ate a yummy snack by grouping objects by 10's, completed Lego

structures using 100 Legos, and so much more! Our favorite activity was creating a project at home with our families to show and share with our class. We didn't let our fun end on the 100th day of school but continued into the

101st day of school. We dressed like dalmatians and of course did some fun learning activities about the number 101. In math, we are just finishing our unit on comparing numbers within 10. Students enjoyed using manipulatives such as counters and cubes to show numbers that were less than, equal to, and greater than. In ELA, we continue to work on building, reading, and writing sentences using our sounds that we are beginning to master. Blending sounds and reading words has been



a great tool in helping us to read and comprehend stories. Please continue to read daily with your child at home. Remember that the weather is frigid and we love to go outside when we can. Please dress your child appropriately.



First Grade:

First grade is headed into Unit 4 of reading very soon! This is when our fab firsties begin reading their reading story on their weekly tests independently. Although we are scaffolding to help prepare them for this there are things you can do at home to help! Here are some quick tips:

1. Read, read, read to them.
2. Have them read, read, read aloud to you.
3. Talk about what you are reading. Ask your child questions about what you read and what they read to work on their comprehension skills.
4. Review sight words consistently.

Second Grade:

You will always find the second-grade students at R. B. Walter busy learning! They thoroughly enjoyed writing a personal narrative about their adventure on a snowy day! The students did an outstanding job and were very proud of their final product!

They were just as excited about math as we ventured down the path of addition and subtraction strategies. We are working on finding many ways to add and subtract to 1,000!

Reading always brings about some interesting topics that often blend into the social studies and science curriculum. Our students have been focusing on and exploring what makes parts of the world different from one another, and what causes the different ways the Earth looks on its surface. Cause and effect and comparing and contrasting have been the skills associated with the learning of these topics.

Fourth Grade:

Valentine's Day is quickly approaching and the excitement is in the air. We will be having a small party and exchanging valentines. The cold and ice continues! Please remind students to dress appropriately for the weather with boots (or extra shoes), socks, hats and gloves for recess.

In math, we are finishing up whole number operations with multi-step problems while moving into geometric concepts related to area. Soon we will be exploring numeric and nonnumeric patterns, input and output systems, and function tables. Toward the end of the month we will be applying our understanding of factors and multiples to dive deeper into mathematical operations of fractions. We will be learning some awesome divisibility rules!

The students have been working on completing RACES organizers to be able to complete TDA writings. They are getting really good at finding text evidence to support their answers. In class, we are working hard at analyzing stories to gain a deeper understanding of the author's point of view and looking at the roots of words to figure out the meanings of unknown words. The students are excited to be reading "The Lemonade War" at home with their families. We will be reviewing the chapters read each week.

In Science, we are finishing ecosystems and food webs. The kiddos have created terrariums and posters teaching our schoolmates why it is important to protect our ecosystems as well as how humans can positively impact our local ecosystems. They've also learned that food chains all begin with the sun and have created their own food chain showing the transfer of energy from one organism to another. We are moving into a detailed unit about the Water Cycle where we will discuss the steps of the cycle and how they repeat themselves, how clouds are formed, cloud types and what they mean, instruments used to help forecast the weather, and the differences between cold fronts and warm fronts, as well as high and low pressure systems. We will learn that all storms begin at a front. Students will make cloud projects to learn about the various cloud types.

Fifth Grade:

Punxsutawney Phil says an early spring! In Reading we are working on theme and making predictions. In language arts the stu-

dents are working with different types of punctuation. Students are also preparing for the upcoming PSSA'S. In Math, fifth graders have been adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions. In science, students are studying how scientists use skills such as observing, inferring, predicting, classifying, and making models to learn more about the world. In social studies, students are learning how the different European countries paved the way for the American colonies. Students are researching a European explorer and the importance of their exploration. Happy Valentine's Day from fifth grade.

Sixth Grade:

February is here, and we are slowly getting closer to spring. In math class, sixth graders are continuing to learn all about algebra, ratios and proportions. In the coming weeks, they will create a visual display of what they have learned in algebra. Students also continue to work hard earning Study Island Blue Ribbons and Exact Path trophies. They should be proud of their progress!

In ELA, it is all about TDA and fine tuning our reading skills. Our writing contest has come to a close and we are anxiously awaiting the results. Looking ahead we will focus on poetry and learning the meter and rhyme scheme of poetry and analyze the meaning and focus of the poem. Throughout this process we will look at the students' favorite songs and apply the newly learned skills to their song. We are working hard and enjoying little breaks like the last Flapjack Friday. Thank you to all who were able to attend.

In Science and Social Studies, we are working through a new unit on matter. We will explore the states, changes, and even do some work with atoms and heating them up. Students have started the annual Fish Art Contest. This is an international competition that goes along with our Trout in the Classroom program. In that process we have received our eggs, and they are almost to the swim-up stage where we will begin feeding them. The students are very excited and ready to watch them grow!

Physical Education:

Humans have a lot of muscles in their bodies. While all muscles are important, perhaps the most important muscle is the Heart. That is why the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is making Febru-

ary, the “American Heart Month” for 2024. The heart beats consistently, never taking a break. Even when it is resting, it is still beating. It has a very important job to do. One, of which, is to supply our muscles with oxygen. That is why it is imperative to keep it in good working condition. Ironically, one of the best ways to achieve this is to periodically make it work harder (in a positive way). In other words, exercise. It is recommended that a person does so on a regular basis. That is one of the reasons we have Physical Education in the school curriculum. Young people are generally healthy, and we want to keep them that way. The goal is to get students moving and make exercise an important part of their daily schedule. Many of the activities in Physical Education are chosen to elevate the students heart rate. They include tag games, team games such as soccer and basketball, cooperative activities, and skill development. Recently, our primary students have been doing “Parachute Activities” and “Rockwall Climbing”. The older students have been participating in “Team Handball” and “The Line Game”. Hopefully everyone reading this is finding time to incorporate exercise into their schedule as well. Your heart will appreciate it.

Among many responsibilities, one of them is to provide oxygen to muscles. Oxygen is carried in blood. Without oxygen, muscles would cease to work. When a person is physically active, their muscles demand even greater amounts of oxygen. So as a result, a person will most likely recognize an increase in both heart rate and breathing rate. Many young people will tell you that their heart is “Beeping” fast or that they “lost their breath”. To help the heart function at its best, frequent exercise is recommended.

Art:

The R.B. Artroom has started two new projects. Our fifth graders have begun a printmaking project. Students are denting Styrofoam to be able to make 11 prints inspired by the Pop Art movement that featured Andy Warhol. They are also learning how to sign and number prints as professional artists/printmakers do. The second project is a fourth grade one in which we are taking inspiration from the great Dr. Seuss. Students take Seuss' There's a Wocket in my Pocket and change the sentence to tell a new story of image. Ex: "There's a Snushzoom Munching on my Mushroom." After the student change the sentence, they must then create a character and an environment where the sentence plays out. We discuss words like proportion, scale and texture as

we design our new unique characters. - Mr. McKee

Music:

Kindergarten and 1st grade students have been enjoying reading and singing “I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly,” and will be moving on to learning about form in music by singing and moving to “Rig-a-Jig-Jig.” 2nd grade students have been enjoying singing and dancing to “Shoo Fly” and learning about conducting. 3rd grade students will be singing, dancing, and learning a xylophone accompaniment to “I Don’t Care If the Rain Comes Down.” 4th - 6th grade students have been creating music on various music-making websites, and thoroughly enjoying it! 1st - 4th grade students are also beginning to prepare for spring concerts, so stay tuned for concert dates!

Cowanesque Valley High School

CV is so very proud of the musical accomplishments of our students. Two students, Vlad Chuiko and Judah Mummert, recently qualified and attended the PMEA District 8 Band Festival hosted at Troy Area HS. These music festivals provide excellent music students with the opportunity to learn challenging music in a few days with a guest conductor. Additionally, students get to meet and work alongside other music students from neighboring counties.

Judah scored high enough at District Band to qualify for Region Band in February. At Region Band he will have another audition to qualify for States! Good luck Judah and congrats to you and Vlad!



Band students from both CV and Williamson who attended the festival.

CV students Vlad and Judah with their band director, Mr. Wert.



The 2024 PMEA District 8 Band posing before their concert.



PA's 68th District State Representative Clint Owlett and CVHS students.

State Representative Clint Owlett Visits CVHS

Clint Owlett visited high school students at CVHS during their lunch period. Mr. Owlett came to discuss proposed Bill #1929. The bill targets rural communities and the challenges students 16 years of age and older face when acquiring a driver's permit. Mrs. Sickler, a CVHS High School teacher, sent Mr. Owlett an email in November because of her concern regarding the number of students who graduate without a driver's license. Because of the distance and limited hours of operation, many families are unable to access the DMV offices in Wellsboro and Coudersport. CV students shared their personal experiences and support for Bill #1929 which proposes driver's permit tests to be done at local schools. A reporter from local news channel WENY, Max Coven, also interviewed students Jayden Koehler and Aeyona Dennis, along with Mrs. Sickler, and released the footage. Breaking barriers for rural students are a critical step forward creating opportunities for students to enter the workforce and become independent, productive members of our communities.



WENY reporter Max Coven interviews, Jayden Koehler & Aeyona Dennis.



Jayden Koehler & Aeyona Dennis with WENY reporter Max Coven.

Cowanesque Valley's 2024 Everyday Heroes:



Nathaniel Boyer



Madeline Millard



Carter Ackley



Ashley Woodring



Logan Hamilton

Senior High Student of the Month: Vladislav Chuiko

Vladislav Chuiko is the Cowanesque Valley Senior High Student of the Month. Vlad is the son of Mr. Dmytro Chuiko and Mrs. Galina Karpinskaia of Westfield. Vlad is a wonderful young man who is kind, hardworking, and helpful to others. Vlad is curious, reaches out to learn new things, and asks for help when he needs it.

Vlad is in the band and participated in District Band in January as a trombone player. He will be attending the Susquehanna University Honors Band Festival in February as well. He has learned 3D modeling and printing using Tinker CAD and other CAD pro-

grams. He enjoys coding and hopes to take computer science classes next year. Outside of school he enjoys biking, hiking, fishing, and boating. His future career will involve some type of engineering or computer science.

Junior High Student of the Month: Parker Tarbox

The CV middle school chose Parker Tarbox as their February Student of the Month. Parker is the daughter of Megan Carson and Scott Tarbox of Middlebury Center. Parker was chosen as the student of the month because she answers questions with thoughtful responses, comes to class prepared, works hard, and is always polite.

When Parker is not in school, she loves to draw, write, and decorate things. She enjoys decorating her room. Parker also loves spending time with her family, including her two brothers. She also enjoys going shopping with her friends and hanging out with her friends in general.

Parker's favorite subject in school is English, and her favorite thing about the middle school is the rotating schedule. Parker is most proud of her grades and has been on the high honor roll for the first two marking periods of this school year. When Parker is an adult, she wants to move to the city and plans on becoming a cosmetologist.

Williamson High School

High School Student of the Month:

Chandler Southard has been selected as Williamson's student of the month by the Business, Technology, and Culinary Arts department. This junior is the son of Mike and Gina Southard of Elkland. He works at the Big M and is an avid gamer in his free time. At school, he enjoys history courses such as MU Government and African American studies. This makes sense as his future plans are to either become a history teacher or a historian. His instructors say that Chandler is an extremely conscientious and dedicated student who is quiet, focused, and is always prepared for class. His behavior is exceptional. Chandler is a teacher's student—one who is present, organized, and accomplishes tasks independently and as assigned. Keep up the great work and congratulations, Chandler!

Middle School Student of the Month:

Williamson Middle School's student of the month for January is eighth grader Landen Hurd. Landen is the son of Stephanie Lower of Elkland. Landen is an outstanding student who is dependable and hard working. Landen is a member of the Williamson Warrior Chorus. He enjoys spending time with family and playing video games. In the future he hopes to become employed in the food industry. Congratulations Landen!

Middle School 8th Grade Science:

Williamson 8th grade science class experienced a distance learning experience through the Keystone Elk Country Alliance. Students were taught by a conservation educator about Elk in Pennsylvania. Students learned about the history of Elk in Pennsylvania, studying populations of elk in Pennsylvania and were able to compare structural features of Elk and how they compare to white tailed deer. The Keystone Elk Country Alliance sends an Elk trunk that includes bones, antler sheds, and a pelt for students to study during the experience. This program is available at no cost to students K-12. Visit Experienceelkcountryside.com for more information.

Family Consumer Science:

The Foods classes baked 15 dozen cookies for a great cause! Mrs. Rentschler's Foods classes backed cookies for a fundraiser held to support the Moving Wall, a replica of the Vietnam Wall Memorial, that will be coming to Williamson High School July 10-15th. Cookies were sold at a Purse Bingo and were a huge hit with those in attendance. Thank you to all who purchased and supported this fundraiser.

Upcoming Calendar Reminders:

February 2024							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Comments
				1	2	3	2 – Act 80 - 3 Hour Early Dismissal/Professional Dev.
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	16 – Snow Make Up Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	19 – President’s Day Recess
25	26	27	28	29			
March 2024							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Comments
					1	2	7 – Snow Make Up Day
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8 – Snow Make Up Day
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21 - Act 80 – 3 Hour Early Dismissal/Prof. Dev. – End of 3 rd Marking Period
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	22 – Professional Dev. Day
31							29 – Easter Recess

Community Corner

Knoxville Public Library:

- Wednesdays: 10am *Hours: Tuesday-Friday– 9am-6pm*
-Preschool Story Time Saturdays– 9am-4pm
- Tuesday February 13 & 27:
- Crafting Circle, 12 pm: Bring your own craft
- Tuesday February 27:
- Card Class: 4 pm

Elkland Area Community Library:

- Tuesdays in February,
12:30pm-7pm
-Free Blood Pressure
Screening
- Fridays, 10:30am
-Preschool Story Time
- Saturday February 24:
-Free Blood Pressure Screening: 8am-3pm

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday	12:00pm - 7:30 pm
Tuesday	12:00pm - 7:30 pm
Wednesday	8:00 am - 4:00pm
Thursday	12:00pm - 7:30 pm
Friday	8:00 am - 4:00pm
Saturday	8:00 am - 3:00pm

Bostwick Perry Memorial Library:

- Saturday February 17 *Hours: Saturdays- 10am-2pm*
-Your Choice of Craft
- Sunday February 18
-Coffee with Seniors: 2pm



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