

SCS News

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December 2018

Principal's Corner



Though it's been but a few short weeks since Thanksgiving break, our staff and students have been cramming in as much as possible as the excitement of the Christmas season looms upon us. Working with children certainly heightens the delight and joys that accompany this time of the year, especially the smiles, anticipation, and pure joy that fill the students. As we take the opportunity to celebrate and spend time with our loved ones, may that same excitement and delight fill your spirit and guide you through a peaceful, delightful, memorable Christmas season!

Mrs. Mathieu



November Students of the Month

Lily Mills, Leah Berry, Bryce Langley, Isabelle Langley, Jacob Hope, Hana Bissonnette, Austin Day, Gage Grover



Student Swim & Skate Dates

If you have signed your child up for the swim/skate program through the North Country Rec Center, the dates are as follows:

January 4, 11, 25

February 1, 8, 15

Merry Christmas



News from Pre-K / K

Our classroom has been as busy as Santa's workshop! We started the month learning about Polar Opposites: Antarctica and the Arctic. We learned which animals live in each place and how they've adapted to living in cold climates. We did several experiments to learn about those adaptations, such as wearing a "polar bear paw" mitten made of zippered plastic bags and shortening, then sticking both our hands in the snow. The students were amazed that the hand in the "paw" stayed nice and toasty while the other hand got cold. We also learned about the waxy coating on a penguin's feathers repelling the water. Ask your child to tell you more about what we did. In Math, we've been practicing how to count, read, and write the numbers 11 to 20. In Language Arts, we finished up the last of the CAPITAL letters in our Handwriting Without Tears books. We're reading holiday books by Jan Brett and writing about events in the stories. We've also had a lot of fun unwrapping a book and reading a Christmas story each day just for pleasure. Reading is "snow" much fun!

Mrs. Hemon

News from Grades 1 & 2

The month of December always seems to fly by! In Math, we have been busy learning many new skills. Second grade continues to practice adding numbers to 100 with and without regrouping. We have now continue to learn how to subtract numbers from 100 with or without regrouping. This has proved to be a little more challenging, but we have persevered through and are doing terrific! First graders have continued to use different strategies to practice addition to 20. Many students have started to become fluent with their doubles facts. We have now started learning different strategies to subtract from 20.

Language Arts groups continue to be both appropriate and challenging to students. Students are in a routine of what they should be doing during this time and even with the upcoming holiday are using this time appropriately. In the classroom, we read various different versions of the "Gingerbread Man", have written our own gingerbread stories, did a gingerbread science and experiment, and will have a gingerbread treat on Friday at our holiday party.

In Science, we have been learning about the three states of matter. We performed many mini experiments to learn more about this. Many students were surprised to learn that a solid didn't have to be hard or that you could turn a liquid into a gas.

This week we started our holiday craft. Students have really taken their time on the project and are excited to complete it and bring it home to their families. I hope that you have a relaxing and wonderful holiday!

Mrs. Ricker

News from Grades 3 & 4

Third and fourth grade practiced some engineering design during our most recent science unit, improving a play dough process. Students had some experience learning about material properties and mixing together some different amounts of those materials to test the results. Then, we considered all that we had learned and thought about what variations might make sense to make to improve the basic process. Finally, we tested those out and made some batches of play dough in our efforts to make a high quality play dough.

We have started another, longer term quest: to achieve multiplication fact fluency! Every day we will be taking a Mad Minute timed test. These can become quite a (friendly) competition between students, so don't be surprised if your child comes home and mentions the need to practice. Please help them out! One way to achieve quicker mastery is through practicing with family members, and there are quite an array of choices. Watching multiplication videos on you tube, reciting the tables out loud, quizzing facts while you are busy getting supper or driving on an errand, or just writing them down are just a few.

Book Report #2 is due to be presented January 30th, 2019, and students are busy reading their books. Thank you for your support with these projects!

Have a wonderful Christmas vacation, and enjoy some special family time!

Mrs. Hodge

News from Grade 5

Many fifth grade topics are coming to a close as the year 2018 comes to a close:

- Division (dividing by 2-digit divisors)

- Grammar--parts of speech (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, conjunctions, and prepositions) culminating in the creation of a board game
- Life in the original 13 Colonies--why people came, ways of life, slavery, economies, and governments
- Earth-Sun-Moon relationships

New topics on the horizon for 2019 fifth graders will include:

- Multiplying decimals
- Reading a new novel, *Riding Freedom*, and taking a look at the genre of books known as historical fiction
- The American Revolution--prepare to act out some precursors to this conflict
- Stars--their formation, characteristics, different types, and constellations

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!!!!

Ms. Wonka

News from JH Science

Students in sixth grade are creating a cell analogy project with their understanding of cell parts and their functions. They recently had a lab with visiting teacher, Mr. Frizzell. He instructed them on the function of a cell membrane using a tea bag. The students learned about the importance of osmosis and diffusion.

Seventh graders are learning about the Earth's atmosphere. To better understand thermal energy, the students are popping popcorn three different ways. Radiation is shown by the use of a microwave, conduction is shown by stovetop popping, and lastly convection is shown by the use of a hot-air popper. Mr. Frizzell also visited grade 7 and did an experiment on making frost.

Students in eighth grade are finishing up a unit on motion. They have learned about terms such as velocity, acceleration, momentum, and speed. Mr. Frizzell brought his cars and knowledge to help support the students in this topic. The students were able to experiment with how acceleration can actually be a negative number due to deceleration.

Mr. Kennedy

News from JH ELA & Social Studies

Hello from the Junior High students!

In Language Arts and Social Studies students have been working towards completion of projects and long-term writing assignments. Their class time has also included a word of the day, spelling lessons, and reading. They should be finishing up their novels before vacation, and starting new ones when we return next year!

I wish you all happy holidays, good health, and good times!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mrs. Stebbins



News from the Media Center

In computer class for grade 5, students are busy learning Microsoft Word; Grade 6 students have work quite a bit in Excel and are moving on to Word; students are finishing Excel (tables and charts) and will be reviewing Word and PowerPoint.

Our "Hour of Code" was a lot of fun on December 3rd. Students did coding in their classrooms and the computer lab. We will continue to code in the lab in between computer application lessons.

Keyboarding students are trying out the "Mavis Beacon Typing Program", which not only teaches them the keyboard, but also transcription and dictation with a few games thrown in for fun!

I hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Mrs. Placey

News from JH Math

In our sixth grade math class we have been working a lot with decimals and estimation. We are expanding our knowledge of multiplication to multiplying with decimals. To implement this mathematical concept to the holiday season students are creating their own Holiday Sweater. Students are given a budget and requirements for their sweater. They will be taking what they have learned about multiplying decimals and using that when renting materials to construct their sweater. In the upcoming lessons, instead of dividing with remainders students will be learning to divide with decimals.

To conclude our unit on area, students created and built scaled gingerbread houses, everyone did really well and enjoyed this project. We are now working on equations. Not only one step but two step equations with decimals. In upcoming lessons, we will be working a lot with fractions and the different operations/rules.

In our eighth grade class we are working linear equations, students have been introduced to the slope of a line and how to figure it using the formulas. For project that corresponds with slope and slope intercept form students created a work using negative, positive, no slope, and undefined slope. We will continue our work with slope and slope intercept form in the upcoming week.



Ms. Saari



Title I News from Mrs. Stebbins

This month, the students have been hard at work completing projects and practicing skills in order to become better mathematicians and readers. The Kindergarten students I work with continue to enjoy alphabet practice in the afternoon. December was 'Holiday-themed', which made practicing all the more fun. Two of my morning writing groups have been working on finishing up their narrative writing projects and the other two have been finishing up their narrative stories. Moving forward, I want to start informational writing very soon. For more information about their writing projects, be sure to check out the school website! There is a written description of what their project entails. 😊

Title I News from Mr. Kennedy

I continue to go into the classroom to assist students with their learning, whether it's helping upper grades with math and language or younger grades with their learning in a variety of subjects. Students in Kindergarten are learning about manners and caring for one another. First graders are receiving help with their math lessons. I also help 7th graders as they learn about negative exponents and scientific notation.

News from SAP

Students in grades 3-5 recently completed the Life Skills Program, during which they learned ways to improve self-esteem, strategies for making difficult decisions, and ways to solve problems.

In sixth and seventh grade, students did Project Alert for 10 weeks. They learned short and long term effects of smoking, discussed peer pressure, and ways to say no. Students also learned ways to advocate for themselves and ways to stand up for themselves by learning refusal techniques. They also did a lesson on dealing with stress and ways to relax. Further, we discussed communication skills, social skills, and learned about the tricky messages that advertisement companies utilize to try to encourage smoking.

Mrs. Crossley

News from SAU 7 Office of School Wellness

BRIDGING MENTAL HEALTH & BASIC NEEDS BY BUILDING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

What are basic needs?

Basic needs are things that are needed in order to survive and be mentally and physically healthy.

They include elements like shelter/housing, clothing, food, water, safety a sense of belonging, and love.

What happens when basic needs are not met?

When families are unable to meet basic needs, youth can experience negative behavioral, social, and academic outcomes. For example, food insecurity is associated with impaired social skills and academic performance in youth. Poverty has been consistently connected with low academic achievement. Youth who face homelessness and poverty are more likely to experience mental illness.

How can schools work with community partners to promote mental health and wellness in students whose basic needs are not being met?

The priority for these students should be connecting them with services that help to meet basic needs. Mental health supports alone are unlikely to achieve desired outcomes if students are struggling to meet basic needs. To help these students, schools can serve as an access point or "one stop shop" for meeting both mental health and basic needs. Partnerships with community organizations and providers that can help youth and families meet basic needs are essential. For more information visit www.samhsa.gov or reach out to the Office of School Wellness.



Calendar of Events

JANUARY 1, 2019
No School- Happy New Year!

JANUARY 7, 2019
School Board Meeting, 4:15 PM

JANUARY 8, 2019
Gr. 5-8 STAR Testing

JANUARY 9, 2019
Student of the Month @ 2:50 PM

JANUARY 14, 2019
Gr. 5-8 RtI Session # 2 Begins

JANUARY 15, 2019
Gr. K-4 STAR Testing

JANUARY 17, 2019
Quarter 2 ends / Grades close
5:30 PM Family Night

JANUARY 18, 2019
No School- Admin Day

JANUARY 21, 2019
No School- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

JANUARY 24, 2019
Quarter 2 Report Cards distributed

