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SCHOOL

**NEWSLETTER** Week of February 22, 2021

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#### **Upcoming Events:**

March 2nd - Read Across America

#### Mrs. Bush and Ms. Lane



In Mrs. Bush's class, we are learning about all the important people that help us everyday in our community. Our communities are a group of people living or working together in the same area. We go to schools, shop in the same stores, and do the same things. They also help each

other, and solve problems together. Different jobs are important to

everyone that lives in our community. In Science, we are creating a book all about penguins! We enjoyed watching the Kansas City Zoo live feed of a penguin community. They are interesting and funny little animals. We are practicing our CVC



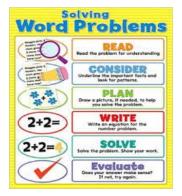
and sight words, and our full alphabet. Each letter has an animal, which we act out!

### Mrs. Martinez and Mr. Rapp

We are very excited to have some of our Fourth Grade Lincoln Lions back in the building with us, for in-person instruction! In Math, we are solving multi-step problems by using models and the operations we have practiced this year (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division). We will need to be smart Math



investigators, and keep our eyes out for the hidden questions in the word problems. Students should still continue to practice memorizing their times tables, up to 12, and practicing basic multiplication



facts. In Science, we will be moving on to learn about Plant Adaptations, and what plants need to help them grow and survive.

We are very excited to begin writing opinion pieces on topics of our choice. We are learning to support

our point of view using well-developed reasons, and

evidence to support our opinion. Students have been brainstorming a variety of topics they would like to focus on. In Social Studies, we are wrapping up our lessons on colonial education, and will soon be learning about the events that paved the way for the Revolutionary War.



### Ms. Cioffi



Ms. Cioffi's class is so excited to be back to in-person learning this week. Our theme this week was all about our home environment.

We focused on folding and sorting clothes, learning to use a knife, and talking about responsibilities we have in and around the house. It was fun to learn about everyone's favorite room in their houses, and why they liked that room. We are looking forward to

March, and all the fun and exciting things we have coming up. Rainbows anyone?



### Mrs. Havel Smith

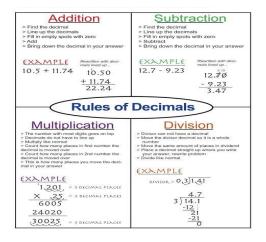


The Fifth Grade just completed their chapter on the Layers of the Atmosphere. They learned about the distances, gases, temperatures, and activity within each layer. They also learned about the Northern Lights and Southern Lights that occur in the lonosphere, which is in the Thermosphere. Next they will dive deep into the layers of the Earth as they look closer at the Geosphere.

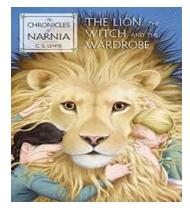




The Fifth Graders recently completed their Decimal Unit. They learned basic life skills of money, as they performed all decimal operations. The students also estimated all operations of decimals, and can reason whether their answers are correct or not. It should be an easy transition from decimals to fractions, as they already have been converting fractions to decimals, when they were learning to divide decimals.



### Mrs. Suarez



Fifth Graders are enjoying their study of the genre of Fantasy. In addition to the class read aloud, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, they are all reading their own book of the same genre, on their level. Some lively discussions have come out, as we talk about character development and themes. Even though many students have seen this movie, one teachable moment that has been rewarding is their realization that each time we read a book, or view a movie, we can learn something new from it. In the area of Writing, the students are working on answering questions from the read aloud, by rephrasing and using specific details from the

text. They have finished their graphic organizer for their second Opinion/Argument Essay, and will begin drafting that next week. They are very excited because they picked topics based on their beliefs and passions. We will take a short break from our read aloud to celebrate Read Across America next week! Remember, those who read always succeed!

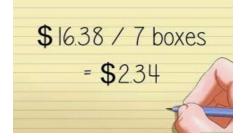
In the area of Social Studies, the students completed the mini unit on Central/Middle or Mesoamerica. They enjoyed learning about the Olmec, Maya, and Aztecs, although many were taken aback by their religion, and human sacrifice rituals. They learned the countries in this area, plus some of the islands of the Caribbean Sea. Next, they will study South America, the countries, the landforms, and the first people that lived there long ago.



### Mrs. Awadallah

In Math, we are learning about the importance of understanding and being able to compute and compare unit rates. Students are working on questions and tasks that will guide them in making purchases, according to the better rate. Last week, students joined the Fifth

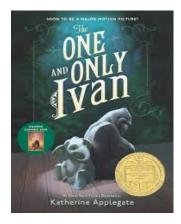




Graders in a Kahoot

Tournament! We are excited to continue with these Kahoot Trivia activities to continue engaging our learners. Please encourage your child to attend after school help sessions to reinforce any concepts they need help with.

#### Ms. Lax

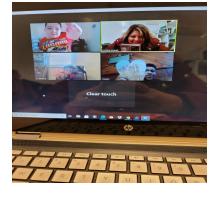


Ms. Lax's class finished reading *The One and Only Ivan*, and now we are starting *Because of Winn Dixie*. We are focusing on following characters, meaning, and point of view. We also are working hard leveling up on Raz-Kids. In Math, we are working on units involving adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators, multi-step problem solving, and the properties of addition and subtraction.

In Science, we completed an at home experiment learning about adaptations! We completed a unit on fossils, and played a fun

Kahoot challenge to test our knowledge! We have also made some pretty awesome crafts on Fun Friday! We had a celebration for Valentine's Day, and made a special craft!





#### Mr. Hayes

Students in Mr. Hayes' class are working on writing descriptive reports. All students have selected different animals to write about. Three students chose different types of bears, two chose different dog breeds, and one chose a komodo dragon. Animals



are of high interest to the students in Mr. Hayes' class.



Their natural curiosity for living things is at a peak because they are learning about multicellular organisms in Science. The reports have been a great way to integrate Writing and Science goals.

### **Ms. Carey**

In Science class, the Sixth Grade students are investigating and identifying the causes that lead to an animal species becoming endangered or extinct. The students are recognizing the importance of biodiversity, and the impact a loss of a species can have on an ecosystem.



In Social Studies class, the Sixth Grade students are learning how the economic system of mercantilism developed in the colonies, and the impact it had on the colonists. The students are recognizing the importance and profit of trade during this time period.



#### Mrs. Centrella

In our read-aloud, The Weird Watsons have finally made it to Birmingham! During the family's trip from Michigan to Alabama, we were able to learn a lot about social issues

during the 1960s in America. As a class, we had important and meaningful reflections on the mistreatment of black children in the south, due to school integration. We also discussed how during this time period, in certain states, black Americans could not travel freely on some roads, or stop at hotels and restaurants because of the color of their skin. The students had the opportunity to listen to Kenny's (our narrator's) favorite song "Yakety Yak." We are closely following our characters to see if their trip to visit Grandma Sands in Birmingham, Alabama changes them.



In Writing, the students chose argumentative essay topics. Our Sixth Graders have documented facts from credible sources, and created anecdotes to add their own personal experiences on the topics. Just this week, the students drafted their introductory paragraph, and focused on using an interesting fact, a quote, or a question, as a lead sentence. We also made sure our introduction was engaging, explained the issue, and established our viewpoint/thesis statement. We are looking forward to drafting the body paragraphs next week!

#### Goals of the Introduction

The introduction to your essay has three main goals:

**1. Engage readers:** In many forms of writing, a writer will use a catchy lead to hook readers. This can be done with an unusual detail, relevant quote, interesting fact, strong statement, or question.

**2. Explain the issue:** Readers need to know what the issue is about. You should briefly explain the issue.

**3. Establish your viewpoint:** This is your thesis statement. The statement should be a debatable opinion that explains your stance on the issue.