

Seventh Avenue Elementary School

Board Report

January, 2017

Mrs. Stacy Murphy's Kindergarten Class

Seventh Ave. Kindergarten students kept busy and warm this month reading, sequencing, and discussing winter weather and clothing. We had an author spotlight with Jan Brett reading, *The Mitten and The Hat*. We also read many books about snow, like; *Snowflake Bentley*, *The Snowy Day*, *Snow What Fun* & *Heart of A Snowman*. We created a "How To" about How To Build A Snowman. We are tying in writing and we are all gaining "The Power of The Pencil".

In Math we finished creating combinations up to 10 for addition and moved into subtraction. We are using our Math Brains and vocabulary like, (take away, minus, equals, & take apart). We are having fun with Go Math!

Mrs. Kate Fitzgibbon's First Grade Class

First graders are wrapping up their third reading unit on fiction and will begin their nonfiction unit. They are excited to begin learning about nonfiction text features. In writing, the students are working on how-to pieces and enjoying teaching their readers about something they are an expert on. In math, the first graders are learning all about place value. The class is wrapping up their community helpers unit and have learned so much about the many workers in our community who provide services.

Mrs. Theresa McBride's Second Grade Class

In the month of January, second graders have been hard at work. They have started learning about informational text. Not only have they been learning what the text features are but they are also learning how to become active readers of nonfiction text. They are asking themselves questions to activate their background knowledge and to determine what type of information they would like to gain. The distinction between answered and lingering questions has been made and a student knows that if a question is lingering, then he/she can always seek answers through additional reading. Students have taken their knowledge of text features from an informational text and have incorporated it into their writing. They have been learning the multi-step process of informational writing (planning, drafting, revising, editing and publishing). Throughout this unit, they are learning how to improve their writing by using a rubric and peer buddies. Students are about to embark on writing a biography after completing research on their selected person. In Math, students have been working hard on learning various strategies to subtract two 2-digit numbers. They are reinforcing their knowledge that addition and subtraction are the inverse operations of each other and can be used to help solve for an unknown number. They are about to commence on adding and subtracting two 3-digit numbers. Students will learn how to subtract three-digit problems using various strategies (expanded form and place value). These strategies help to build conceptual understanding, which will benefit in the development of their understanding of the standard algorithm. The students just completed their unit on Maps. They learned how to identify symbols and their meanings, as well as their placement on a map legend/key. Students used their ability to read a compass rose, which included intermediate directions, to assist them in navigating to different locations.

Mrs. Amanda Applebaum's Third Grade Class

In Math, the students completed Topics 6 and 7. These units focused on multiplication and division. In science, the class continued reading about the Solar System and Space. The class formed six flight crews and each crew "traveled" to a different planet. They brought their findings back to Earth and wrote a five paragraph informational report about the planet. Reading groups continued this month. The students answered questions about the reading using the R.A.C.E strategy. The reading groups incorporated themes from the Science and Social Studies standards. In Writing, third graders published an opinion piece on a topic of their choice.

Mrs. Rebecca Wrentzel's Fourth Grade Class

In January, we welcomed our families for Parent Visitation. The class shared some reader's theater presentations and worked on a factor activity with their parents/guardians. There were over fifty bodies in our room that day! What a great support system these students have! In Science, we have been exploring what happens to water when it freezes. The fourth graders can now explain why pipes might burst this time of year! In Math, we have started our unit that focuses on fractions. We are working on mastering simplifying and finding equivalent fractions using common denominators. We are almost finished writing our persuasive essays. Our main focus has been including transition words and mini stories in order to clearly communicate our points. We are continuing to grow and enjoy learning each day.

Mr. Joseph McAndrew's Fifth Grade Class

Seventh Avenue fifth graders were fighting the cold of January by staying active! In math, they tackled the challenges of decimal division and then turned their attention to fractions. In reading, they closed out one book group and started another. In writing, they learned about generating narrative essay ideas, how to create different types of introductions and conclusions, and how to incorporate dialogue. Lastly, in social studies, they learned about technological advancements that allowed explorers to discover new locations around the world in the 1400s.

Ms. Emily Simper's Sixth Grade Class

This month, the sixth graders finished their final argumentative writing pieces. We had a publishing party in the classroom to listen and reflect on each of their writing pieces. Students were required to make a claim about a character and support their claim with evidence and quotes. Each student did an exceptional job with their pieces.

Mrs. Stefanie Maro ~ Math Support

This month the students are continuing to work incredibly hard on their mathematics! 1st Grade is working on identifying numbers from 0 -120, 2nd Grade is working on subtraction, 3rd Grade is working on division strategies, and 4th and 5th Grade are working on comparing fractional amounts. Continue to work hard 7th Avenue

Mrs. Stefanie Maro ~ ACE

The ACE students are still researching their inquiry project. Our students have selected really cool projects like the Periodic Table, the Olympics, & Meteorology. The students will start within the next month designing their presentations!

Mrs. Amy Sussman's ~ Literacy Support

In fifth grade we started our science books! In fourth grade we began our region's unit; ask your child what region of the United States he or she is learning about! In third grade we began reading about African Americans to honor Martin Luther King Jr. First and second grades are enjoying guided reading and Daily 5!

Miss Jessica Shaw ~ Resource

In Reading, the sixth graders have been reading non-fiction books on ancient civilizations. Students were placed in book groups where they read information about significant historical figures such as Hatshepsut and King Tut, and also studied important primitive civilizations such as the Sumerians and the Egyptians. These books helped students understand how the culture today can reflect the inventions and lifestyle of the first ancient civilizations. At the conclusion of this unit, which will be this last week in January, the students will be creating posters to show the standard of summarizing important information with graphics. They will present these posters to the class afterwards.

Discipline Summary Report

There were no disciplinary actions taken at Seventh Avenue Elementary School this month.

Drill Summary Report

A Fire Drill was conducted on January 4, 2017.

A Lockdown (Locks, Lights, Out of Sight) w/ Fire Alarm - Drill was held on January 24, 2017.

An ASG Security Test was conducted on January 24, 2017.