

Seventh Avenue Elementary School

Board Report

March, 2017

Mr. Stacy Murphy's Kindergarten Class

March is a very busy month for us in Kindergarten. We have been learning different strategies to help us read and write. Ask your children to use the Stretchy Snake and Chunky Monkey strategy when they read. All the children have been visiting each Daily 5 rotation at least once a week and they all love Listen to Reading. As your children read it is very beneficial to ask them questions about what they are reading; comprehension is the key to reading.

In Math we are soaring high with 2 digit numbers. We will be re-visiting Chapter 7 and 8 a bit; these are the hardest chapters of the year. We are diving into 2-D shapes and we will start 3-D shapes before spring break.

Mrs. Kate Fitzgibbon's First Grade Class

First grade has been learning all about nonfiction text. They are working on determining importance in a text. In Writing, the class has been working hard on creating opinion pieces. In Math, the first graders are beginning a unit on measurement. The students have been learning about root words and inflectional endings in phonics. The class is enjoying learning about landforms in Science.

Mrs. Theresa McBride's Second Grade Class

The month of March has been a very exciting time in second grade. The students have been learning why biographies are written and how to categorize information. In addition, they have been looking at all of the nonfiction text features that are included in biographies to garner more information to expand their comprehension. Students then took all of their learned information and were able to create their own historical biography pamphlet. Students were given resources to complete the research portion. Once their research was completed, they composed a paragraph detailing their person's major contribution. Furthermore, they were able to provide their readers with character traits using adjectives in the form of word art. Also included were fun facts about their person. As writers they are applying their knowledge of the writing process and the mechanics of writing when completing their biographies and also their how-to books. When their writer's hats were on, the students were able to determine their area of expertise and construct a step-by-step book detailing their topic. In Science, the students took on the role of a paleontologist. They constructed their own dinosaur from found "fossils" and engaged in the scientific method when trying to learn more about their dinosaur and other dinosaurs and the time frame that they existed. Their final projects were on display at the Science Fair.

Mrs. Amanda Applebaum's Third Grade Class

In third grade, we are continuing to sharpen our multiplication and division skills, especially when it comes to solving 2-step word problems. In reading, we learned about themes and morals in texts. To go along with this unit, we have been practicing a Reader's Theater of several Aesop's Fables that we will be performing for our parents this week. In writing, we have been studying different types of figurative language, including similes, metaphors, and personification. In social studies, we learned about the 3 branches of government.

Mrs. Becky Wrentzel's Fourth Grade Class

Spring is here and we are ready for sunny days and warmer weather! In Reading, we are finishing up our author study on Andrew Clements and focusing on the theme of the books that we have been reading. We enjoyed celebrating Read Across America at the beginning of the month. Mrs. Sussman did a great job putting together activities for the students to enjoy. We are excited to write our own informational books on student selected topics in writing. Several students submitted projects for the Science fair! These ranged from dissolving peeps, creating volcanos, and exploring what drinks decay our teeth the fastest. We are continuing to explore magnets and electricity in the classroom. This is a very inquisitive group of students that enjoys exploring and learning new things each day.

Mr. Joseph McAndrew's Fifth Grade Class

Seventh Avenue fifth graders were busy this past March! They mastered multiplying and dividing fractions in math. In science, they were combining materials to create chemical reactions that resulted in the creation of new materials, gasses, and temperature changes. In writing, they closed out their narrative essay unit by drafting two new creative pieces that demonstrated the skills they acquired. Lastly, in reading, they started a new book series where they were reading "The Single Shard", "Number the Stars", and "Island of the Blue Dolphins". They have been working hard and are looking forward to a restful spring break!

Ms. Emily Simperts' Sixth Grade Class

This month the sixth graders were inspired by affirmations of famous women in history. We displayed our work on the school's main bulletin board this month. They each chose quotes that inspired them. They highlighted that everyone is good at something and to always stay true to yourself. Some of the women that the students highlighted were Eleanor Roosevelt, Jane Goodall, Rosa Parks, Anne Frank, and more!

Mrs. Stefanie Maro ~ Math Support

This month some of the classes are starting to work on their Measurement & Data standards. In 1st and 2nd Grade, students are using rulers and non-standard forms of measurement to measure various objects. In 3rd grade, students are telling time to the minute.

Mrs. Stefanie Maro ~ ACE

The ACE students are working incredibly hard to prepare for the presentations of their inquiry projects. The students are close to being done their presentations and are getting ready to rehearse their presentations with partners. I am excited to see their final projects!

Mrs. Amy Sussman ~ Literacy Support

We began the month with a special Read Across America celebration day! Every class got to visit the MPR and complete a few Dr. Seuss themed reading activities! Based on the book, Horton Hears a Who - the kids played whisper down the lane or Mad Gab. Children colored pictures related to One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish. In honor of The Lorax - students planted a seed for a pea plant. A crowd favorite was Pin the Hat on the Cat. An activity with a nod to math, was measuring based on The Foot Book. A fun time was had by all! Keep an eye out for more information about our end of year Lovin' Learnin' Day!

Miss Jessica Shaw

In sixth grade, the students are becoming experts in essay writing. This will be their third essay, but each one has focused on a different format. This unit is on research-based writing and the students were given the umbrella topic of teen activism; however, each student got a choice (out of four) which topic they wanted to research. The choices were between global teen activism, woman's right to an education activism, animal rights teen activism, and bullying teen activism. The students have enjoyed this very much, due in part to having a pick in the topic. Students are learning about the research-writing process, what to include, how to gather evidence, how to distinguish what is important, and how to properly speak the audience, among a number of other things. Additionally, a journalist (Ms. Shaw's sister) came to speak to the students about the field of research-writing and what jobs can come about majoring in field such as journalism (i.e. marketing, PR, and freelance). Students wrote questions about the field and left questions for Ms. Linden to answer afterwards. It was a great experience. Students have even asked if the class could take part in a service project to go along with their research-related writing.

Discipline Summary Report

There are no disciplinary reports at Seventh Avenue School.

Drill Summary Report

A Fire Drill was conducted on March 21, 2017

An Evacuation Drill (Bomb Threat) was held on March 29, 2017.

An ASG Security Test was conducted on March 21, 2017.