

Seventh Avenue Elementary School

Board Report

May, 2017

Mrs. Stacy Murphy's Kindergarten Class

We have been learning a lot about word families; all the short vowel sounds. We have been reading and writing while using our strategies like chunky monkey, stretchy snake, lips to fish, tryin lion and flippy dolphin.

In Math we breezed through 3D shapes and we are onto measurement. We have perfected counting by 10's and writing our numbers 1-20. What a Marvelous May it has been.

Mrs. Kate Fitzgibbon's First Grade Class

First grade has been revisiting nonfiction and fiction text features in reading. They are doing a wonderful job identifying the purpose of different text features. In writing, they are publishing an informational text about a wild animal. The students are on their final unit in math, 2-Dimensional geometry. They are also becoming experts on solids and liquids in science and enjoying exploring and comparing the many properties of each state of matter.

Mrs. Theresa McBride's Second Grade Class

Second graders embarked on a new unit in which they evaluated characters. They analyzed characters not only for the dialogue spoken but also for the mannerism in which it was presented and the associated body language. They also looked for inferred clues (words not specifically stated by the author) during close readings. Making these observations helped them as readers understand the characters and the story with additional depth. Furthermore, they used their background knowledge and textual evidence to support their thinking and analysis of the characters.

As writers, students had the opportunity to write opinion pieces in the forms of reviews. Their review let the reader know if the topic that they wrote about is something that they would recommend or not. (Cont'd on next page)

Mrs. Theresa McBride's Second Grade Class (cont'd)

They supported their opinion with at least 3 reasons and evidence for said reasons. The reviews were written in multi-paragraph form and required students to apply the conventions of writing. Second graders also showed their phonics growth by applying their phonics knowledge when constructing unknown words or adding suffixes

In Math, the students worked hard to synthesize their existing knowledge with newly introduced information regarding Measurement and Data. This unit emphasized how to create a graph as well as how to use the graph for information. They learned that different types of representations tell different things about the same data. When dealing with data, students were given two types of information: the first type represents the value or category; the second represents the frequency with which those values occur.

Students fused their previously learned knowledge about suffixes and applied it to words that end in /y/ (s, es, ed, ing, er, est). In addition, students learned how to recognize and construct common abbreviations (titles, days of the week, street titles, and months of the year). They finished out the month by practicing various sounds made by vowel teams. Students recognize that vowel teams have a specific sound. Knowing the sound will help them make word solving more efficient. These skills are used in reading, writing and spelling.

In Social Studies, they learned about various aspects of our government, such as the different branches of our governments, the levels within each branch and the responsibilities associated within the specific level and those that overlap the levels. Each level of government has a leader. Regardless of the branch or the level that enforces the laws, all laws are based on the Constitution. Furthermore, students explained why taxes (money paid to the government) are collected and what services are provided by the government. In addition, students learned a variety of ways to show their patriotism to our country (saying the Pledge of Allegiance, singing the Star-Spangled Banner, knowing our patriotic symbols, and celebrating patriotic holidays).

Mrs. Amanda Applebaum's Third Grade Class

The 3rd grade class worked hard on fractions in May. We learned that fractions are parts of a whole and compared fractions using several different strategies: same denominator, same numerator, fraction bars and number lines. After finalizing the unit on fractions, we are moving on to time. We will review how to tell time to the nearest minute and elapsed time. As Readers, we practiced how to use non-fiction and fiction texts to learn about the rain forest. We compared and contrasted the different layers and extended our thinking by talking about why the physical features of each layer are important to all living things located in that layer. Furthermore, the students are now participating in literature book clubs. Each student is given a role to complete as a book club member and showing the importance of citing work and being able to support your understanding with textual evidence. As writers, the 3rd graders participated in our persuasive writing unit. Students have learned to take a position, determine the audience and use reasons that would entice their audience members to change their minds. The students completed their learning of the National Government and are now embarking on Matter and Energy.

Mrs. Rebecca Wrentzel's Fourth Grade Class

We can not believe that the end of the school year is near! We are wrapping up our reading unit on nonfiction text structures. We are working hard on our end of the year project. This includes, writing an informational essay on a specific person, creating a poster, and putting our work on display through our Living Museum. The students are learning a lot about themselves as we explore the different systems of the human body in Science. We are looking forward to summer break and becoming fifth graders in September!

Mr. Joseph McAndrew's Fifth Grade Class

This past month fifth graders worked diligently, but remembered to take time to enjoy a field trip. In Reading and Social Studies, students read about the Revolutionary War, heroes associated, and how our Declaration of Independence was created and later preserved for future generations to see. In Math, they worked on learning metric conversions and in Science they learned about space through readings and labs. Lastly, they took a break from their daily school schedule and made a trip to tour historic Philadelphia & Red Bank Battlefield.

Ms. Emily Simperts' Sixth Grade Class

The sixth graders have had an eventful month! They visited the Junior High and were excited to meet their Seventh Grade teachers and walk the halls while checking out their future lockers. Longwood Gardens was another trip they took this month. The sixth graders saw wildlife and many different ecosystems while they were there. Camp Ockanickon will conclude the trips for this eventful month where they will be participating in activities like rock climbing, canoeing, archery, rope courses, etc.

Mrs. Amy Sussman's ~ Literacy Support

First graders are busy learning about nonfiction text features. Second graders have been learning about character traits and how a character can change over the course of a story. They also began their chapter books to end the year in their first literature circles. Third grade is also continuing to do literature circles with their second round of books. The fourth graders were excited to read about the different jobs dogs can do! The fifth graders finished up their college research projects and presented them to their parents for parent visitation day.

ACE ~ Mrs. Stefanie Maro

The students are continuing to finish up their group projects on creating a Road Trip across the United States. The student groups presented in front of all ACE groups at Atlantic Avenue School on Tuesday, May 23rd.

Math ~ Mrs. Stefanie Maro

This month, the students in all grades explored their geometry units. First and Second Grades worked on 2D and 3D shapes and Third, Fourth and Fifth Grades explored different attributes of different types of polygons such as triangles and quadrilaterals.

Miss Jessica Shaw

Sixth grade readers are starting their final unit that focuses on the environment. Students will be reading and performing a number of important activities during this unit, specifically applying synthesis and hypothesis generating and testing. In the introductory lessons, students read articles on-line about pertinent environmental issues in the news and wrote summaries, reflections, and new learning that can be used in the outside world. All was completed through Google Classroom. After that, students jig sawed their findings and thoughts to teach the other students about what they read. It was so informative for everybody including the teachers because everyone received a great amount of information about the issues that are being highlighted in the world of environmental news. The students are extremely interested and excited about reading these Carl Hiaasen books. It is a wonderful unit to conclude the school-year.

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 May 10, 2017.

An Evacuation Drill (non-fire) was held on May 26, 2017.

An ASG Security Test was conducted on May 10, 2017.