

**Board of Education Report
ATLANTIC AVENUE SCHOOL
May 2017**

Preschool

Mrs. Goodfriend

Spring has sprung in the preschool and our plantings of beans and wildflowers are going wild! This month the preschoolers learned about living and nonliving things. At the science center the students enjoyed listening to informational texts on what makes something a living thing. To reinforce their knowledge of the subject the students enjoyed creating and living and nonliving poster with pictures from magazines.

Once the students had demonstrated a good understanding of living and nonliving things, they applied what they had learned and grew lima beans and wild flowers. The students enjoyed monitoring each plant's growth as well as tending to its needs. We celebrated our successful planting with a Mommy and Me Tea. The students sang songs and discussed how they grew their plants. They were very proud to present their wildflowers to their moms at the tea!

What a fun filled month!

Kindergarten

Mrs. Doyle

The school year is quickly coming to an end. We are still watching how tall our sunflowers are growing that we planted in April. This month we continued our writing unit on opinion writing and began writing letters. We started off our community walking trips with a walk and tour of the Haddon Heights Fire Station. The students wrote thank you letters and will be mailing them during our walking trip to the Post Office. We completed our last 2 chapters in math on 3 dimensional shapes and concrete graphs. We have ended our month with our preparations for kindergarten graduation!

Grade 1

Mrs. Grace

First graders are enjoying counting down the days of school. They have celebrated summer birthdays, participated in entertainment day, and even shared their favorite authors and stories on buddy reading day. The last few weeks of school will be jam packed with fun activities and the children soaking in the last few weeks as a first grader. It sure has been a great year in first grade! The children have grown leaps and bounds and are ready to take second grade by storm.

Grade 2

Mrs. Ellis

Second grade has been buzzing- literally. This month, the students learned about insects and raised milkweed bugs and painted lady butterflies in the classroom. They identified reasons insects are important to the environment, and compared the life cycles of various organisms. A real beekeeper visited and demonstrated how to care for bees and collect honey, and he described how bees live and work together in a hive. Second graders are now much more observant and appreciative of the critters living all around us.

Grade 3

Mrs. Corder

In Reading, Mrs. Corder's third grade class just completed several biographies. The students identified achievements and special qualities of the subject of the biographies. They also noticed how other people influenced the lives of the subject. In Writing, the students are finishing up their persuasive paragraphs. They included reasons and examples to prove their point. The students learned to directly address their audience in their writing. The third grade mathematicians have been using sides and angles to describe 2-dimensional shapes. They recently planted potatoes in the school garden and had a lesson about the history of the potato from one of our parents, Mrs. Farruggia. We are grateful for all the support from all of our parents.

Grade 4

Mrs. Ruffalo

Fourth Graders have been busy being the researcher, author, editor & publisher of their nonfiction informational textbooks on the Human Body Systems. Students selected from the following systems: Muscular/Skeletal; Brain & Nervous; Circulatory; Respiratory; Digestive. Their hardcover books will remain on display in our hallway for review. Thank you.

Grade 5

Mrs. Baals

These United States citizens are learning a lot about the start of their country! After studying the thirteen colonies, then then learned about what caused the American Revolution and studied key events and individuals from the war during social studies class. They enjoyed watching some of the Liberty Kids episodes that connected to the lessons as well. In reading, students are immersed in text that connects to the American Revolution and they are reading biographies of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin, in addition to short text about The Declaration of Independence, The Battles of

Lexington and Concord, and Heroes of the Revolution. Students are using all this knowledge to write an informational book about the American Revolution in writing class. This week, as a culminating activity, we visited the brand new American Revolution Museum in Philadelphia before heading over to Red Bank. Students enjoyed seeing their learning come to life through the different interactive exhibits in the museum. They even impressed their tour guide with how much they already knew!!

Grade 6

Mrs. Costello

The sixth grade readers are exploring environmental issues in reading groups through fictional texts focused on environmental awareness. Along with this theme, the writers are exploring world issues of interest to them that they would like to research and raise awareness through essay development. The scientists are exploring populations and ecosystems and recently enjoyed a visit to Longwood Gardens to observe various flora and fauna interacting in various ecosystems. The mathematicians are busy crunching calculations to display and analyze data sets. The sixth graders are looking forward to many fun end-of-year events, activities and celebrations as they culminate their days at Atlantic Avenue Elementary School.

Reach One

Mrs. Gallimore

Ladybugs, beetles and bees, oh my! Reach 1 dove deep into the dirt in May learning all about bugs and insects. From "The Very Quiet Cricket" to "The Very Busy Spider" ending with "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" using picture identification boards students explored the bug theme labeling or pointing to the items when prompted. Students worked on vocabulary and sequencing skills as they learned about the butterfly life cycle. Reach 1 students were very excited to give their homemade gifts to their mom's for Mother's Day!

Reach Two

Mrs. Grasso

REACH 2 has been focusing on the life cycles of various insects/plants during the month of May. We studied the life cycle of a butterfly and hatched our very own butterflies in the classroom! We also learned about the life cycle of a plant and planted seeds and watched them sprout. We visited the local flower shop, Freshest flowers to see how flowers are used for decorations and gifts. We purchased flowers for our mothers for Mother's Day. We're so proud of the progress that our students are making!

Literacy Specialist

In the month of May, students have continued their hard work in reading as the weather gets nicer! The first graders have been celebrating their reading and writing progress with a wide variety of topics during guided reading. 2nd graders just finished up a unit about poetry where they learned about alliteration, rhythm, rhyme, and different forms of poetry. In 3rd grade, the students have been busy reading biographies and focusing on their subject's achievements and character traits. The human body system research project is underway in 4th grade, and their informational books are very creative! 5th graders are learning about the American Revolution through guided reading books and biographies about Franklin, Washington, and Jefferson. End of the year fluency, sight word, and comprehension assessments are underway, and the students of Atlantic are showing how hard they have worked this year! Remember to keep up the great work over the summer!

Math Specialist

During the month of May, the first graders began their study of geometry, specifically how to sort and describe two-dimensional shapes and how to identify and describe three-dimensional shapes. The second graders also studied geometry, with a focus on naming two and three-dimensional shapes, and how to show equal parts of shapes. The third graders discovered how to describe and classify two-dimensional shapes. In fourth grade, the students measured angles and solved problems involving angle measures. Lastly, the fifth graders completed their unit on comparing and converting measurements.

New students this month - 1

Number of students who have left this month - 1

Number of students referred to Child Study Team - 0

Number of students suspended - 0

Fire Drill - 5/1/17, 5/19/17, 5/19/17

Panic button - 5/1/17

Security Drill - 5/25/17

Mr. Chris Ormsby

Principal