



Dalton Elementary Newsletter



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January 2009

- ☺ I Noticed You Awards
- ☺ Coloring Page
- ☺ Hip Hop

It is hard to believe that it is the end of the second marking period already. Report cards will be distributed on January 29th. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's program or progress, please contact your child's teacher. Communication between home and school is very important to the success of all of our students.

As we have just completed the third through fifth grade English Language Arts exam and mid-year reading assessments in all grades, I am very proud of all of our students. They have been working hard in the classrooms as well as doing a terrific job building peace in our school.

The EXCEL construction project is ongoing, and if you have been in the building recently I am sure you have seen signs of that. We are currently undergoing renovations to some of our bathrooms and in the future, we will have windows replaced in several areas. The completed drop-off loop has already been very beneficial. In order to have the loop work effectively, we do ask for you to keep the following things in mind. As you are dropping students off, please pull up to the curb on the right before letting anyone out of the vehicle. Please remember that it was designed as a drop-off or pick-up area, not necessarily for parking. We do realize that you may need to enter the building to sign your child in or out. If there is no parking available in our visitor spaces, you may park in the loop for a very short time. We do ask that if that occurs, you do not park on the curved area of the loop as it makes it very difficult for vehicles to get by. We appreciate your cooperation.

Ami Hunt
Elementary Principal

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Happy New Year

Kindergarten

P

Pajama Day in Kindergarten

The Kindergarten Team

As a culminating activity for the letter p week, the Kindergartners wore their pajamas to school and enjoyed a pizza party. They all had a particularly perfect day participating in plenty of other fun activities related to the letter p and its sound.



HIP HOP

From Todd Isaman

We are very lucky to have been chosen to be involved in a great program called HIP HOP (Healthy InPut Healthy OutPut). The childhood obesity rate has more than doubled for pre-school children aged 2-5 years and adolescents aged 12-19, and it has more than tripled for children aged 6-11 years. At present, approximately nine million children over 6 years of age are considered obese. This is a great opportunity for each family to take a look at how they are doing in their goal of living a long and healthy life. Every child in the entire elementary school has received a Fit Kit which is sponsored by the Livingston County Department of Health. In the Fit Kit there are items that students can play with to stay active as well as great information about how to keep themselves and their family healthy.

For 4 weeks the students are asked to track their physical activity time, fruits and vegetable servings and their screen time (TV and computer) usage. At the end of the 4 weeks each student will hand in their tracking sheet and the class with the best results will receive another prize from the Livingston County Department of Health. The students started this project on January 16th and will finish on February 12.

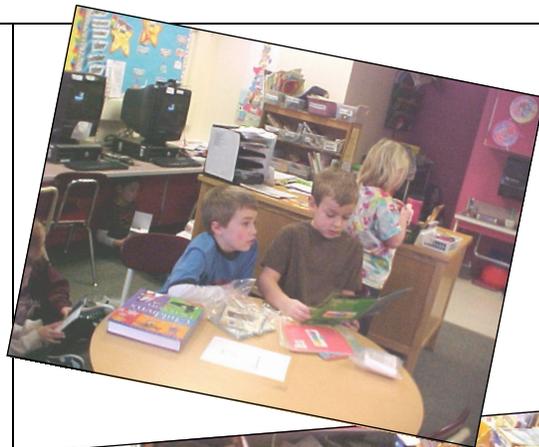
First Grade & Second Grade



Team Up for Reading

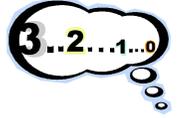


The students in Mrs. Downey's second grade class and Mrs. Beachel's first grade class have been meeting every Wednesday afternoon as reading buddies. They are split up into groups of two or three and each child reads a book that they have been practicing. The goal is to provide the students with another way to improve their reading fluency. They have worked on reading with expression and making sure to use a clear voice. All of the students are really enjoying their time together and look forward to "Reading Buddy Time" each week!



Second graders have been busy reading up a storm. The children's fluency is strengthening and we are focusing on comprehension skills as well. After the children do their nightly reading with you, please ask them a few questions. They could also ask you some questions and see if you get them correct. Thanks for your support.

The children are doing a great job with their addition with regrouping. They still need some practice with their addition math facts. It would be great if you would review their addition facts with them a couple nights a week. This really makes a huge difference!!!!



We really enjoyed the performance of Charlotte's Web. We are so lucky to have these performers come to our school.



It would be a great idea if you could send in an extra sweater or sweatshirt for your child to leave at school. They could use it during these cold winter months. Thanks!!

Lisa Downey

Jill Wood



Braving the Cold

If your going outside in the cold, stay safe—and warm. Make sure you have a snack before going out. The calories will give your body energy in the cold weather.

Protect your face with sunscreen Even though the idea of a sunburn in January can seem odd, snow can reflect up to 85% of the sun's ultraviolet rays.

Dress warmly using layers of clothes. Try to wear wool or other fabrics, cotton won't keep you warm. Dress in long underwear, a turtleneck, and a sweater and coat. Add more layers depending on the temperature. Waterproof pants and jackets are great top layers.

Don't forget warm socks and boots to keep your feet dry and a hat and warm gloves to top it off.

Remember: When being cold becomes unpleasant, it is time to go inside.



WINTER



Native American Celebration



Fourth grade classes held a Native American Celebration in the evening and during the school day, upon completing our unit of study. Children were able to display their Native American projects they completed. Family, friends, and other grade levels were able to view all displays and ask questions about their projects. Projects ranged from birch bark canoes to long-houses and False-Face masks. Guests in the evening were able to try Native American food which included Iroquois Strawberry Drink, corn bread, and Three Sisters Soup. A great time was had by all sampling Native American food and viewing all projects. We would like to thank everyone who was able to attend.



A Glimpse of the Past

Mr. Joe Christiano and Mr. Sam Maggio brought in their personal collection of Native American artifacts. Fourth grade students were enthralled to learn that the artifacts presented were all found in our area! Students enjoyed touching arrow heads, primitive tools, and beads. The most popular item was a stone carving; that legend says touching it makes wishes come true!



Fourth Grade

Keshequa Central Teachers' Association Scholarship Dinner Advertisement

Keshequa Central Teachers' Association Annual Scholarship Dinner

Friday, January 30th

4 PM until 6:30 PM

Nunda MS/HS Cafeteria

Eat In or Take Out



Meal includes:

Beef on Weck– Coleslaw-Salt Potatoes-Brownie

Adults: \$7.00

Children under 10: \$5.00

***All proceeds directly fund student
scholarships.***

Girls' Varsity Basketball 6 PM

Boys' Varsity Basketball at 7:30 PM

Keshequa vs Mt. Morris

Fifth Grade

Students in 5th grade were able to put their creative skills to use when Merry-Go-Round Playhouse recently came to their classrooms. Tables were turned when the actors told students they were not going to watch a play, but instead perform the play! Parts - including narrator, actors, lights, sound, props, and stage crew - were quickly assigned and then students went to work. Their performance of "Lewis and Clark" was a hit!

Merry-Go-Round
Playhouse



Healthy Livingston HIP HOP Facts & Tips

FUN FOOD FACT:

Did you know that it takes 550 peanuts to make one 350 gram jar of peanut butter? Peanuts and peanut butter are tasty ways to reach our daily protein requirements. Two tablespoons of peanut butter is one serving from the Meat and Beans food group of the Food Guide Pyramids.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY:

Who doesn't love music? Why not crank your tunes or plug in your iPod and get moving to the beat. Whether you are dancing, walking or jogging to your tunes, it's a great way to get your heart rate going.



News From the Art Room...



"Because the curriculum can never cover all the specific content that students should know and understand about art, the purpose of a curriculum should be to focus on the processes of learning, giving students...a set of critical tools for investigating art, the self, and the world."

... Marilyn G. Steward and Sydney Walker, *Rethinking Curriculum in Art*

The elementary art room always tries to follow the wise advice of the above Steward and Walker quote. January finds the weather cold, but the art room is warm and very busy as usual. Everyone is working hard on their art projects. Our Kindergarten classes just finished their abstract line designs and soon you will see them displayed in our hallway galleries. They are now working on a four project shape and color unit. First grade is learning how artists use the different shape categories to make artistic designs and thus, are using geometric shapes to make geometric creature designs. Second grade is learning about symmetry in artistic design from African American Visionary Folk Artist Minnie Evans, and will be creating symmetrical Patriotic Faces in the Foliage. Third grade is learning about Claude Monet's Impressionism techniques for their Cartoon Caricature Project. Monet learned to draw by making political caricatures. Fourth grade is learning about the versatile art of Pablo Picasso and his cubism style. Apparently Picasso is a favorite of our new President Obama too. Our 4th grade students will be making their own cubist faces based on his work. Lastly 5th grade is working on creating graphic line name designs using either a warm or cool color combination. And 5th Grade Art Club members are continuing to work on their ceiling tile projects. We continue to be as "busy as bees" here in Dalton too!

* Please remember our Dalton Fine Arts Festival is coming up this May 19th. I would love to have community members display their art work along with that of our students. Please contact Mrs. Strathearn at 476-2234, ext. 1140 with questions or if you'd like to display your work.

Some artistic words of wisdom:

"There are painters who transform the sun to a yellow spot, but there are others who with the help of their art and their intelligence transform a yellow spot into the sun."

... Pablo Picasso

"We must include the arts in the education of all students if we want our children to be prepared for the challenges of life and work in our global society. The challenges of today, and most certainly of tomorrow, require the abilities, skills, habit, and knowledge that education in the arts is uniquely able to provide."

... Kent Seidel, PhD, Commissioned by the Association for the Advancement of Arts Education



WOULD YOU LIKE EMAIL NOTIFICATION

If so,
just go to the Current Events link on our website
and sign up today.

www.keshequa.org



I NOTICED YOU BUILD PEACE AWARDS!!

DOMINIQUE CURRY
ADAM CURRY
HANNAH WOOD
BECKY TYLER
TRAVIS COTTON
ZACH PRIAL
BRENDEN WHITE
BRENT BIRD
DOUGLAS WAITE
REESE POWERS
JOSH FARNSWORTH
CHAD CURRY
ANNIKA MCEVOY
MAGGIE YOUNG

OLIVIA HOWELL
PAYTON POWERS
CHASE ELWOOD
KATHRYN GELSER
ANDREW PATTERSON
MADYSON SIMMONS
CAITLIN OBRIEN
PAIGE MCKERROW
CODY VANDORN
AIDAN CRITTENDEN
DENA E RATHBUN
ALEXIS ETHRIDGE
MACKENZIE CLAUD-
POWERS



"How do you tell when you run out of invisible ink?"