

RDW NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2017



MS. BOOTH

Did you know...

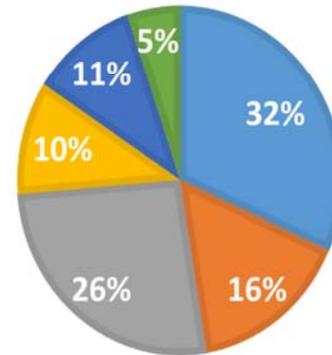
Data is an invaluable part of the School Counseling Program (SCP) at R.D. Wilson? At the end of every school year, Ms. Booth is busy collecting data on academic progress, behavioral/discipline referrals, and attendance records. Review of these records helps Ms. Booth identify "achievement gaps" and target interventions for specific students or age groups for the next school year. In addition, this year twenty randomly selected students in grades 3-5 were interviewed to assess their suggestions for the SCP (see results from a sample question below). Teachers also completed surveys for Ms. Booth to indicate continued areas of need. Combine this with pre-post test data from guidance lessons and support groups, results from the yearly Olweus Bullying Questionnaires, and data collected on program goals... and it becomes clear just how much number-crunching takes place in the guidance department!

Who knew???



STUDENTS: IF MS. BOOTH HAD MORE TIME HOW SHOULD SHE SPEND IT?

- Visiting Classrooms
- Guidance Lessons
- Individual Counseling
- Random Individual Check-ins
- Help With Academics
- Support Groups



LEARNING SUPPORT

It has been a great year! The children have worked so hard, and we could not be prouder of all the progress they made. On the right are a few websites to help students continue learning over the summer. Rather than reviewing in September, we plan to hit the ground running! We wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable summer. Thank you for a wonderful school year!

Educational Websites:

- Abcya.com (K-5th)
- Starfall.com (Pre-K-2nd)
- Funbrain.com (K-5th)
- Factmonster.com (K-5th)

KINDERGARTEN

As our kindergarten year comes to a close, we would like to take a moment to thank parents for their participation throughout this school year. Your support has been an essential part of your child's success.

During the past month students have been busy building their math, reading and writing skills. In math, they have been adding and subtracting. In reading, the students have been using their growing decoding skills to read a wide array of books. They have used their writing skills to retell story events and create their own stories.

The students have worked very hard throughout the year building comprehension skills. Please take a few moments each day during the summer to read. Ask questions about the book to check comprehension. We have spent time wondering about both fiction and nonfiction stories. Students have been encouraged to infer reasons as to why they think a character acts a certain way or infer why certain animals live in specific areas. Please continue to encourage your child to both ask and answer these

why questions to develop a deeper understanding of what they are reading.

We will be sending home a summer reading/math packet that will allow the students to maintain their skills throughout the summer months. Please take it out on those rainy days and do a page or two. This will help keep necessary skills sharp for the beginning of first grade. Once again thanks for your support and have a great summer!!

EARLY INTERVENTION



School Is Out. Yay!!! Now What? *Handy Handouts # 387* by Becky L. Spivey, M.Ed.

Here are some suggestions for summertime activities to keep your child involved in learning at home and in the community.

- Visit the local zoo –Great for language, vocabulary, writing, and reading.
- Start cooking –. Help children use their math skills to figure out how to double a recipe, half a recipe, etc. Math is easier to figure out with visual examples. Stirring and mixing develop fine and gross motor skills (for older children under supervision. Let your children help make the grocery list for the meals and go shopping
- with you in the store. Great for critical thinking and planning.
- Take swimming lessons – Great for strength, agility, gross motor skills, and spatial awareness.
- Visit your local state parks - Take a drive to your state parks. Pack a picnic, horseshoes, frisbees, bats and balls, hiking gear, and take advantage of beautiful scenery. Great for language, vocabulary, art (fine motor), gross motor, physical fitness.
- Have movie night in the backyard – Hang a white sheet on a large wall outside. Borrow a projector or go in with the neighbors and rent one (Yes, you can rent projectors!). During the movie, parents can jot down questions on note cards about the movie. Use the 5 WH- questions: who, when, where, what, and why. Great for language development and sequencing.
- Bowling – Find a local bowling alley that offers special slots of time for children to bowl. Some alleys use bumper pads to help children keep the ball in the lane. This can be a physically challenging game and is a great exercise for spatial awareness and gross motor skills.
- Scavenger hunt – Create a scavenger list specifically for your children or invite friends with families to participate. When writing the clues, keep in mind that the game is for the children, and don't make clues too difficult or abstract. Older children can come up with clues and a list of objects for their parents to find for even more fun! Great for writing, social skills, and cooperation.

- Have a great summer!

PREKINDERGARTEN

Over the summer months, it is very important to reinforce what the children have learned in pre-kindergarten and to challenge them to use that knowledge. Please read to your child daily. Use the books you read to ask questions, retell and summarize what happened in the stories. Look for letters of the alphabet and numerals throughout the day as a way to review. Sing, count, play, rhyme, talk and enjoy a walk with your child. Some great websites to use for learning

are: www.starfall.com and www.abcmouse.com. It would be wonderful if your child took some time to go over the first quarter sight words for kindergarten. They are:

A go the I
we like my said
at to

Most of all, "be safe" on bicycles, near the water and on vacation. We are very proud of all the students in pre-k. It's been a pleasure to watch them grow throughout the year. We want to thank all of the parents for all their help and support in making their child's education a success.

I wish each of you a wonderful summer vacation!

Mrs. Lunney



We cannot believe the end of school has arrived! The students have grown so much this school year and have accomplished many of their goals. We are proud of them! With summer approaching, there are many activities that you and your child can complete together to promote continued growth. Parks and playgrounds are great areas to practice building core strength, which helps in things as simple as sitting crisscrossed on the floor with ease. Encourage your child to maneuver all areas of playground equipment, and offer them as much support as necessary. Practice makes perfect! Sidewalk chalk is a nice alternative to pencil and paper handwriting skills. A fun learning activity

AUTISTIC SUPPORT

could be writing words down and having your child run to the word you read-this is great for listening and reading skills. You can help your child draw a maze that he could use to drive a car for a little added fun. If you do not have chalk, make your own! Below is a simple recipe to making chalk at home! Also, this great learning activity can include skills such as color mixing, mixing mixtures, and cause and effect. Have your child help around the house. Any daily activity is a great skills building tool for your child and can encourage communication. Homemade lemonade and cookies are always enjoyable activities. Most of all enjoy the summer with your child and create wonderful memories. We will see you in the fall!

Sidewalk chalk recipe:

2 muffin tins (or silicone ice cube trays)

1.5 cups cornstarch

1.5 cups water

* mix and divide into molds

Add 2-3 drops of food coloring as desired

Let harden and remove from molds



FIRST GRADE

As our first grade year comes to a close, we want to make sure that all of our skills, which we have developed throughout the year, stay sharp through the summer months. The best way to achieve this is through continued practice. It has been amazing to watch how our student's reading ability has flourished as the year progressed. Students have gone from reading a simple picture book to a more complex picture book or even a chapter book! This growth has occurred because we practice

reading in our classrooms on a daily basis. Please choose a time to have your child sit and read by themselves, to a sibling, or to you. Many of the students have developed a love for the following fiction reading series: **Flat Stanley, Amelia Bedelia, Fly Guy, Puppy Mudge, Junie B. Jones, Magic Tree House and Black Lagoon Adventures.** While others have decided to read more non-fiction stories. Please find stories that your child will enjoy; this will encourage them to want to continue to read.

There are websites that will grow those skills. Sites such as starfall.com and abcya.com offer students the chance to work on both math and reading skills. This year has been a great success let's keep those skills sharp while we enjoy our summer break, so when we return as second graders we are all set to go. Thank you for all of your help in making this first grade year a success. Have a great summer!

"You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives."

Clay P. Bedford

Second grade students have had a successful school year. They all made wonderful progress and grew in so many ways. Over the summer months, it is essential to review what your children have mastered. Remind your children to read daily. Remember to use the Eureka Math website to enhance your children's math skills.

SECOND GRADE

"Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new"
- **Albert Einstein**

Children this age love to be read to, however reading with independence is essential as they transition into proficient third grade readers. We are fortunate to have access to the libraries in Honesdale, Carbondale and Hamlin – we encourage you to visit those wonderful places over the summer months. Take some time to go on an "adventure" with your children and allow them to write in a journal about their summer experiences. These types of "fun" activities will promote spontaneous learning and sharpen your children's literacy skills. Most of all, "be safe" – on bicycles, near the water, on vacation.



"We give you back your children, the same children you confidently entrusted in our care last fall. We give them back pounds heavier, inches taller and months wiser, more responsible and more mature than they were. Remember that we will always be interested in your children and their destinies, where they may go, whatever they do, whoever they become. Their joys and sorrows we will always be happy to share."



We have had a great year of learning together!

As summer quickly approaches, we would like third grade students to remember to finish the school year off strong and carry those skills they have learned in third grade with them to fourth grade. Students should be prepared to hit the ground running when they enter their fourth grade classroom!

We are asking that students stay motivated to read throughout the summer months.

THIRD GRADE

Taking trips to the local library can be a perfect way to beat the summer heat. Take a chapter book on a long car ride, and keep a book handy for those rainy summer days. Non-fiction magazines, biographies, and poetry are excellent reading choices for the summer.

Students should also remember to study math facts throughout the summer. All students should be practicing their multiplication facts. The goal is for everyone to mem-

orize all facts by fourth grade. Have your child make a set of multiplication flash cards to keep handy to study throughout the summer.

Last, we ask that our students continue to practice cursive handwriting. When students enter fourth grade they will begin writing in cursive on day 1. Have your child write in a daily journal or creatively write stories that he or she can share at dinner or at bedtime.

We hope everyone has a fun and safe summer!





FOURTH GRADE

We've accomplished so much this school year. As summer quickly approaches we would like our fourth grade students to remember to finish the school year off strong and carry those skills they have learned in fourth grade with them to fifth grade.

Research shows children lose one to three months of learning every summer. They lose math and reading skills they worked hard to acquire during the school year. Then they have to work even harder to catch up in the fall. You can help prevent this

summer learning loss, (the summer slide).

We are asking that our students **stay motivated to read** throughout the summer months. Taking trips to the local library can be a perfect way to beat the summer heat. Take a chapter book on a long car ride, and keep a book handy for those rainy summer days. Remind your child to read books that they normally wouldn't choose. It can be fun to read outside of our comfort zone. Non-fiction magazines, biographies, and poetry are

also excellent reading choices for the summer.

Students should also remember to **study math facts** throughout the summer. All students should practice their multiplication facts. Make a set of multiplication flash cards to keep handy to study throughout the summer. Practicing flash cards can also be great way to pass time on rainy days or long car rides.

We hope that everyone has a safe summer.

FIFTH GRADE

In May, fifth grade went to the Lacawac Sanctuary for our field trip. The day was a success and we couldn't have done it without the help of our parent chaperones. Thanks to them, everyone had a lot of fun!

This month, fifth grade will visit the Middle & High Schools for their first taste of life as a sixth grade student. They will meet many of the teachers, as well as their new principal. It will

be a glimpse into what their future years will be like.

Although we're looking ahead, we will still be working hard in our classrooms. In math, students will learn about graphing and coordinate grids. In reading, students will read and discuss timely news stories in Scholastic News magazine. In health, students will learn about nutrition. We will finish writ-

ing memoirs in writing class.

Mrs. Vinton and Mr. Romanski would like to wish our students all the best next year! Remember to come to the Fifth Grade Awards Assembly on June 15 to give our group a proper send-off.

RDW Field Day will be held on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 (Rain Date June 7, 2017).

Students will be outside for a majority of the day. Wearing appropriate clothing and drinking plenty of water will enhance each child's safety and enjoyment. I would like to ask that students be dressed appropriately Physical Education related activities. Please send your child to school with outdoor play clothes, socks and sneakers. Students should bring a water bottle with their name on it to make sure they are staying hydrated through-

out the day. There will be opportunities for students to re-fill bottles, and there will be plenty of breaks. Please consider using sunscreen and sending your child to school with a hat to help protect them from the sun.

I hope that all of my students are excited and ready for a great field day.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me: emarion-ni@westernwayne.org

Thank you
Elizabeth Musso

The students at Robert D. Wilson have worked extremely hard over the past few months. We're all anticipating summer's arrival! While this time of year brings a change of pace, one thing that should not change is reading for 15-30 minutes every day. Without practice, reading skills that children worked diligently to achieve, during the school year, start to slip away. Here are some fun summer reading tips, brought to you by Reading Rockets, Colorin Colorado and LD Online:

Vacation at home: Check out online

TITLE 1

websites, like Smithsonian Institution Kids.

Go on an adventure: Go to the Reading Rockets website and search Adventure Pack. There you will find free themed adventure packs.

Check out favorite authors: Go to the Reading Rockets website and search the Author Interview page. Favorite children's

authors talk about writing.

Check out the library: Not only are there an abundance of books, libraries also offer fun summer reading programs and activities for children.

Go for variety: If your child reads only nonfiction, encourage him or her to try a different type of book, just for fun.

Have a great summer, and remember to put miles on the page!

