



Western Wayne School District  
**EverGreen Elementary**  
 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT—November 2016



**Thanksgiving**  
**A Time to Reflect and Be Thankful**

For many of us, the meaning of Thanksgiving usually includes feasting, four-day weekends, football games, floats, family reunions, or a forerunner to Christmas festivities. The “first Thanksgiving,” however, was neither a feast nor a holiday, but a simple gathering.

The meaning of Thanksgiving has undergone numerous transitions. Over the centuries, families added their customs to the Thanksgiving celebrations, preserving that which they held most precious.

Words  
from  
The  
Principal

- **To gather in unity**– It is refreshing and invigorating when people come together, in celebration of a common purpose. It is a reconciliation of differences as well as a time of healing. In sharing our victories as well as our struggles, we find strength and hope.
- **To teach the young**–In stories retold, each generation brings purpose and significance to the richness of their heritage.
- **To prepare the heart**–In gratitude, we humbly reflect upon all the gifts (family, friends, health) that saturate our lives. By “giving-thanks” we choose to extend ourselves and give to others less fortunate. Out of the abundance of our hearts, we are able to offer our resources to help others.

From AllAboutHistory.org

This a great time to take a moment to reflect and be thankful for what we have (family, friends, health, housing, and food on the table) and think about how we can help others.

There are many families experiencing hard times especially with today's economy. We can take this opportunity to show our children acts of kindness by doing something to help other families.



- Donate food to local food drives, church pantries, etc...
- Donate clothes to local organizations for families in need
- Donate your time and help out at your local soup kitchen, or senior center
- Or any other way that you can support and serve your community

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all that you do for children.  
 I look forward to seeing everyone at Parent/Teacher Conferences.



Miss Faliskie



- Give a flower Eat lunch with someone new
- Listen with your heart Visit a sick friend
- Clean a neighbor's walk Offer a hug
- Give an unexpected gift Make a new friend
- Pick up litter Say “hello” Open a door
- Plant a tree Help carry a load Share a snack
- Cheer up a friend Thank a teacher or mentor
- Read to a young child Lend a hand Do a kind act daily
- Leave a thank you note Offer your seat
- Cycle courteously BE TOLERANT Let another go first
- Bake cookies to share Give a compliment
- Help a student make friends Donate your gently used items
- Give a balloon away Lend a pencil Respect others
- Celebrate something new every day Do a favor
- Encourage a friend Use a reusable water bottle
- Walk a dog Forgive mistakes Smile at someone

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The students in Mrs. Hughes’s and Mrs. Driscoll’s classrooms are off to a great start. They are learning the importance of following the classroom rules and treating each other with respect and kindness. Active listening is encouraged daily. Students are also learning the importance of sharing with their friends.

In class the students are practicing identifying the days of the week and months of the year, basic colors and shapes, letter recognition, letter sounds, sight word recognition, number recognition, counting and simple addition. They are having so much fun learning and are working so hard!

We are looking forward to a great year!

Early Childhood Learning Support



The Pre-Kindergarten students have embraced the season of autumn with great enthusiasm!

Children have been enjoying our new Eureka Math Program as they learn about matching, sorting, counting, and adding! Be on the lookout for our math newsletter with ways for you to provide support and make connections at home.

Our study of the letters of the alphabet is in full swing! We are making a special Alphabet Binder as we create a project for each letter. We began with learning Mm and its sound /m/ is for mittens! Then we worked on Ss, /s/, for scarecrow and straw. We will continue with all the letters of the alphabet!

The arrival of the cool mornings provides an excellent opportunity to develop a sense of independence in our Pre-Kindergarten Students by being able to put on their coats and zip them up. Continue practicing taking them off without the sleeves turning inside out!

We look forward to meeting parents at conferences in late November, and the children are looking forward to the Thanksgiving holiday to spend time with family and friends!



## Pre-Kindergarten



The kindergarteners have been busy with a bounty of activities this month! We have Thanksgiving in mind. The students have been learning about the very first Thanksgiving and what life was like for the Pilgrim families.

In reading, the children have been learning to make predictions as they listen to a story. We are discussing important details as we read and focusing on following the sequence of events in a story. Some of the stories that we are enjoying include: The Warthogs in the Kitchen, The Crayon Box That Talked, and I Took My Frog to the Library.



We are concentrating on listening for letter sounds at the beginning, middle, and end of words. We are also blending letters together to make words such as: **nap**, **tap**, and **map**. Remember to keep your child reading daily and fill out the reading calendar in the homework folder.

In math, the kindergarteners are learning about ordinal numbers, how to estimate, and the concepts of **more** and **less**.

We look forward to seeing all of you at *Parent Teacher Conferences*.  
Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!



## Kindergarten



With autumn upon us, it's hard to believe we are in the middle of the second book in the Trophies reading series, Catch A Dream. Students have been developing phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension skills that are essential for reading success. On your part, it is extremely important to take the time to listen to your child read nightly. Please continue to review all Sight Words, as well as weekly spelling lists.

First graders continue to expand their math skills daily. They continue to distinguish coins, identify shapes, write numbers to 100, interpret graphs, and memorize addition facts. We can't stress enough, the importance of practicing addition facts to 10, and counting by 1's, 2's, 5's, 10's, and 25's.

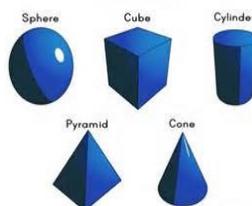
We would like to thank all the parents and guardians who took time out of their busy schedules to participate our Author's Day. Thank you for caring about your child's education. We hope you have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving Holiday.



Author's Day

## First Grade

3D Shapes



## Second Grade

We were honored when firefighters from the Hamlin Fire Department took time out of their busy day to review the importance of Fire Safety with our students. They offered reminders of how to keep ourselves and other safe and how important it is to have a plan in case of an emergency. If you haven't already, make sure to check the batteries in your smoke detectors, practice your home phone number and address and where your meeting place is outside your home.

Second graders also began Theme 2 in our reading series called Helping Hands. In this theme, children are seeing that when people work together they can accomplish their goals and that TEAMWORK is not only helpful but can also be fun.

In math we covered foundational concepts in how we think about numbers. We continued to make a ten to add within 20 and 100 and began learning how to subtract single-digit numbers from multiples of 10 within 100. Our second grade students are becoming experts with number bonds and how to RDW-Read, Draw and Write to show how we get our answers. Please continue to have your child practice their addition and subtraction facts each night. Consistent practice will help your child as we move onto two and three-digit addition and subtraction later on in the year.

We hope the behavior calendars inside your child's homework folder are helping you stay updated on daily behavior. Our goal is to provide parents with daily information so that there will be more opportunity for teachable moments on the day the behavior has occurred.

Thank you for all you do at home with your child. Perhaps one of the most important things you can do each night is to spend time reading aloud as a family. We encourage all parents to keep daily reading time a priority in your home. It is a great time to spend with your child, and will keep them on the road to reading success. Please remember to document the amount of time that was spent reading on your child's reading calendar.

We are looking forward to meeting with you on November 22nd for Parent Conferences.



The 3<sup>rd</sup> graders looked great in their costumes and enjoyed celebrating Halloween with our classroom festivities.

November has once again fallen upon us. As the leaves have changed all around us, change is also taking place in our classrooms.

We are finishing up Theme 2 of Changing Patterns of our reading series. The students worked hard to gain key skills and concepts taught to make themselves better readers. We are also practicing our reading fluency by timing ourselves for one minute to see how many words we can read so that we can do our best on DIBELS.

In math, we are finishing up our unit on time measurement, weight measurement, and rounding. We will be heading towards some algebraic concepts using multiplication. We will also be applying the properties of operations as strategies to multiply and divide. As in reading, our goal is to become fluent with our multiplication tables. Please continue to work with these facts at home. Make practice fun by having timing competitions or friendly games with multiplication facts.

In Science, we have started to explore the human body and all of the systems that work to keep us alive. Some of these systems are the nervous system, the respiratory system, the circulatory system, and more. Students are amazed to see how much is going on inside of us!

Our third graders will be learning about why people moved west to build new communities and why the immigrants moved to new communities in Social Studies. We will also discuss how the events of the Civil War changed communities and how to interpret a time line.

Our students work hard in school each day and we also ask you to help your child to remember that they need to complete his/her homework each night. Also, make memories by sitting with your child to read 15-30 minutes nightly.

## Third Grade

Fourth graders enjoyed a field trip to the Steamtown National Historic Park and the Lackawanna Valley Heritage Trail. This trip included activities such as: railroad job descriptions hunt, railroad tracks and wheel sets measurement and conversions, railroad track maintenance and safety lesson, technology walk, and river water testing. Ask your child how a "Tell-Tale" is an important piece of technology and whether or not the Lackawanna River is a suitable habitat for life, given its pH and dissolved oxygen levels! Fourth graders used place value understanding to fluently add multi-digit whole numbers using the standard algorithm. Next, they applied the addition algorithm to solve word problems using tape diagrams. Then, students assessed the reasonableness of word problem answers using rounding. Finally, students used place value understanding to decompose to smaller units once using the standard subtraction algorithm, and applied the algorithm to solve word problems using tape diagrams. Homework help videos are on YouTube! Type this into the search bar, Eureka Math Grade Four, Module One, Lessons 11-19.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bzmFg2Fl-wg>)

When students took home their Social Studies books to review the chapter, some really studied! They read the texts **closely**. Some even made vocabulary note cards! Keep up the good work, studying in the content areas. In reading, students used the strategies cause and effect, narrative elements, and summarizing to read for meaning in the theme, "Side by Side". The selections showed how characters work together to solve problems and the value of teamwork. A variety of genres was used like folktale, nonfiction, play, and realistic fiction. At the end of the theme, strategies were assessed using "cold reads" and "text dependent analysis". You can assist your children by making sure they are reading for meaning, not just reading words!

Fourth grade writers rehearsed story ideas and developed characters in realistic fiction stories, listing their internal and external traits. Using mentor texts, they planned their story arcs, wrote scenes with dialogue and movement, rewrote catchy leads and tried out different endings. Finally, they revised and edited their final drafts. Then it was off to rehearse another great story idea and start the process all over again.

The Fourth Grade Concert gave students an opportunity to express patriotism through the arts. Set design, creative writing and reading, and performing musical numbers addressed the PA standards and entertained the community.

Parent and teacher conferences were very helpful and we appreciate your participation.

## Fourth Grade

# EverGreen Elementary– November 2016

We have begun a new theme in Reading entitled, "Team Work". In this theme, students discover the importance of working together. They will see how people work together to accomplish their goals and how people and animals work together for mutual benefit. Please make sure your fifth grader is reading at home every night for 30 minutes and completing their reading log. Logs are due at the end of each month.



We have been discussing concepts such as multi-digit whole number and decimal multiplication and division during math class. Ask your fifth grader to explain these concepts to you to check their understanding. The concepts learned each day correlate with homework assigned each night. Students are encouraged to review the Problem Set we complete in class as an aide to assist with the Homework Problems. We are continuing to brush up on multiplication and division facts through Sprints. Each student has a personal goal to beat each day!

Fifth graders have been working like busy bees in their writer's notebooks! We are thrilled with the progression of skills the students are acquiring. Students have been adding dialogue, descriptive details and trying different leads and endings to make their narrative stories come to life!

We are looking forward to meeting with you at parent/teacher conferences on November 22<sup>th</sup>! Happy Thanksgiving!



Title I is in full swing and we are enjoying working with the children. The students have been learning new decoding skills with smooth blending and have been working on reading with fluency. We thank you for your continued support at home by listening to your child read his/her homework book and practicing his/her sight words. Please don't forget to sign both sides of your child's envelope once you complete the homework so your child will receive his/her stars to earn a book!

Parent conferences are scheduled for Tuesday, November 22, 2016, from 1-8 p.m. We will meet with you when you are scheduled to meet with your child's classroom teacher. We look forward to meeting with you and offering some more materials to help your child. If you have any questions at anytime please feel free to contact us at the school or by one of the emails listed below.

Melissa Daniels: [mdaniels@westernwayne.org](mailto:mdaniels@westernwayne.org)

Mary Malec: [mmalec@westernwayne.org](mailto:mmalec@westernwayne.org)



## ENROLLMENT

Early Intervention	7
Pre-Kindergarten	63
Kindergarten	84
First Grade	78
Second Grade	82
Third Grade	69
Fourth Grade	98
Fifth Grade	<u>84</u>
	565
Outside Placement	<u>+ 2</u>
Total	567

