



# Western Wayne School District EverGreen Elementary

Principal's Report — May 2024



## Words From Mr. Pidgeon, Principal

Younger children, however, might be frightened if they are told too much information too soon about war and death.

You know your children best, so it is best for you to decide how much detail you provide. For some children, it might be wise to explain Memorial Day simply as a time to say "Thank You" to the people who keep our country safe.

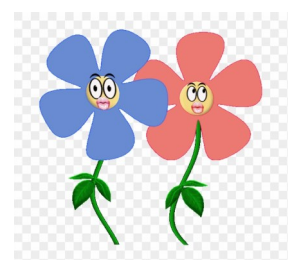
Even if they don't fully understand the holiday, children of all ages can commemorate the day. Here are some ideas for involving them:

- ◆ Decorate the graves of loved ones with flowers and flags
- ◆ Display the U.S. Flag outside your house
- ◆ Participate in community events that honor the holiday
- ◆ Visit your local veterans hospital or Veterans of Foreign War post
- ◆ Read a book about Memorial Day with your children
- ◆ Make a patriotic dessert after dinner
- ◆ Make a patriotic craft with your children
- ◆ Wear **Red**, White and **Blue**
- ◆ If you are going to attend a Memorial Day Parade, teach your children to stand and place their hands over their hearts when the flag goes by and stand and clap when veterans march past.



*I would like to also wish all of the mothers, a very Happy Mother's Day*

*Mr. Justin Pidgeon*

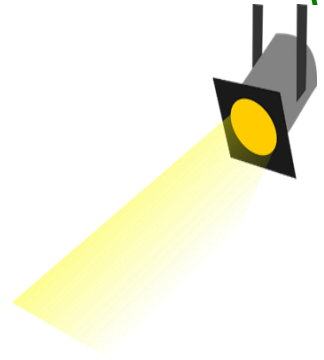


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## EG Spotlight



Name: Melissa Davis

Educational Path/College(s): Wilkes University-Bachelor of Arts in Psychology; Early Childhood/Elementary Certification; University of Scranton- Master of Science in Elementary School Counseling

Years in Education: 32 years

Why I joined the educational field: In my 8<sup>th</sup> grade year, at the RDW school, I helped Cindy Gibbs, Stacy Box's Mom, during recess. I corrected papers and worked with students. I enjoyed what I did so much that I made the decision that year to become a teacher.

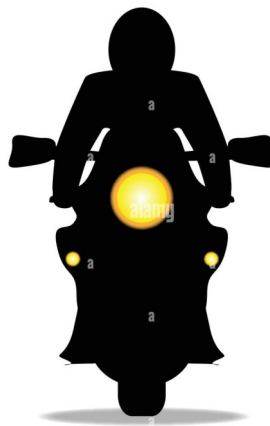
Favorite:

Food-pizza

Book-The Twelve Gifts of Birth by Charlene Costanzo

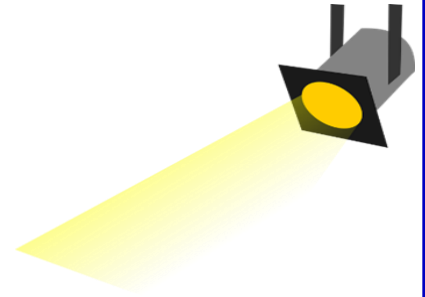
Place to visit-St. John, U.S. Virgin Island

Interesting fact: I have a motorcycle license and a custom built bike created by my husband.





## EG Spotlight



Name: Christine Yannone

Years working at Western Wayne: 4 years

What I enjoy about EverGreen Elementary: the students and staff are all amazing

Favorite:

Movie: The Notebook

Food: seafood

Book: The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah

Interesting fact about yourself: My favorite thing to do when I'm not working or busy with my own children is to get an iced coffee and go to the bookstore. I do not like shopping, but I can spend hours in a bookstore.



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## ES

Can you believe we are in the last full month of school? Where has the time gone?

We are so proud of all your children. They have worked so hard all year. They have made so much progress. It has been so nice to see their growth since the beginning of the school year.

We hope they all have a wonderful summer break!



## Pre-K

The Pre-Kindergarten reading theme this month is “Moving On”. The students will listen to stories about growing up. They will learn how to get ready to go to new places and how to feel comfortable trying new things in preparation for Kindergarten. They will also complete the final pages for their alphabet binders. The alphabet binders are a resource to keep at home to practice identifying the letters and producing the sounds they represent.

In math, the students will continue solving addition and subtraction story problems using objects and drawings. They will also be learning about patterns. They will learn to identify, duplicate and extend patterns of different types.

Pre-Kindergarten will be observing their marigold plants for buds. They planted seeds in March and have been watching their growth. These plants will go home in the middle of May.

The students will learn about bus safety to get ready to ride the big bus to school next year. They will have an opportunity to go inside a real school bus to practice sitting correctly in the seats, and to enter and exit it safely.



## Kindergarten

Our kindergarten is buzzing with excitement this month! The students have shown so much progress in their reading and math skills, and they are as busy as bees when it comes to work time.

Exploring Our Surroundings is our reading theme this month. Two of the stories the children have enjoyed listening to and singing along with are Five Little Ducks by Pamela Paparone and Come Along Daisy! by Jane Simmons.

The new sight words from the reading theme are one and little. The kindergartens are now reading and writing simple words using the vowel u (as in bus, tub, cut, run, and rug). They are now making new words by substituting the beginning, middle, or ending sounds.

In math, the students will be exploring 2-D and 3-D shapes. We will also be reviewing addition and subtraction facts. Please practice these skills at home.

Now that the weather is getting warmer and your children are spending more time outdoors, we want to remind you to set aside time each evening to read for at least 15 minutes.

## 1st Grade

As the end of the school year approaches, there are many things that are going on in first grade. We are continuing to read our reading series book. In this book we will learn new vocabulary, as well as new sight words. Please continue to work on your child's sight words every night. This is very important to their reading success.

In math, we are continuing to practice counting money, tally marks, place value, time to the hour and half hour, and adding two-digit numbers. Please keep reviewing these skills with your child at home.

Thanks for keeping up with the nightly reading. It really does make difference!

Tally	Frequency
	2
III	8
I	11



## 2nd Grade

Welcome Spring! Spring is finally here, and we couldn't be happier!

In reading, we are working on a theme called "Changes, Changes, Everywhere". Throughout this theme, students are reading both fiction and nonfiction stories about how people, plants, and animals grow and change. Remember to read 20 minutes each night to promote good reading habits and to help develop better reading fluency.

In math, students are working on graphing and fractions. Second grade students love being able to divide shapes into equal parts! We will also be laying the foundation for multiplication and division for third grade, by creating equal groups and arrays with different objects. Please continue to practice addition and subtraction facts with your child to improve their automaticity and fluency. We continue to practice here at school as well!

In writing, students will be working on persuasive writing. They will be formulating opinions and supporting their ideas, providing reasons, and using details and examples to support their claims. They will learn to state their opinions clearly and to support these ideas with evidence. This work is important in preparing them as writers for third grade and beyond.

Finally, we have finished up our science units for the year. In Social Studies we will be learning about Pennsylvania history as well as geography. Students will learn map skills to help them identify the continents and the oceans. They love learning about the state they live in.

## 3rd Grade

We are exceptionally proud of our magnificent third graders for working tremendously hard to prepare for the English Language Arts and Mathematics PSSAs. We would also like to recognize the families of these remarkable students for supporting them and being so understanding throughout the year.

In Social Studies, our third graders are becoming knowledgeable about how government works. They will study how citizens in communities work together to solve problems. Students will learn that our country has community governments, state governments, and a national government.

As always, our students continue to concentrate on reading fluency practice. Please make sure your child is reading 15 to 30 minutes daily to ensure they are making gains. Reading a story out loud with your child is a great way to spend quality time and help them accomplish their goal at the same time. You could also make it a timed game to see who could read the most words in a minute.

In math, students have been working on their multiplication facts throughout the year. Students are currently learning how the knowledge of multiplication facts strengthens their ability to solve division problems. Once a child has mastered the times tables, they begin to gain that foundation in the mathematics field. This is going to benefit them throughout middle school and into high school as well. Please help your child learn their multiplication facts each night.

Thank you for setting high expectations for your child when it comes to doing his or her best. Your support and encouragement are instrumental in your child's success.

## 4th Grade

Fourth grade reviewed and prepared for The Pennsylvania Systems of School Assessments, also known as the PSSA's. Item samplers and released items assisted the students in doing so. Using their Journeys Reading Series, they experienced rigorous grammar, decoding, comprehension, and vocabulary lessons. Students worked extremely hard on these state assessments and we are looking forward to seeing their growth in the upcoming school year.

In mathematics, Topic 12 focused on developing an understanding of decimals and decimal notation by connecting fractions and decimals. Your child worked with and compared decimals through the hundredths place (0.00). The understanding of equivalent fractions was used to add a fraction with a denominator of 10 and a fraction with a denominator of 100.

The students extended their essay writing to include different text structures. They wrote descriptive and sequential five-paragraph essays. Students also wrote Text Dependent Analysis (TDA) using evidence from both fiction and nonfiction passages. Sometimes students compared two passages to write about a common theme.

We will be traveling to the Electric City Aquarium in Scranton on June 4<sup>th</sup>. During the trip, students will learn about topics such as the food chain, the water cycle, and much more! We ask that you reinforce the pride expectations of being prepared, respectful, showing integrity, and extraordinary representation during the trip. Please review the "PRIDE" expectations with your child at home, while the fourth-grade teachers continue to do so,

every day.

**P**repared

**R**espect

**I**ntegrity

**D**edicated

**E**xtraordinary

## 5th Grade

The fifth graders are enjoying the beautiful spring weather, and anticipating all of the fun end-of-year activities to come.

We are beginning our final reading theme called "Reading Adventures". In this theme, students read about animals, caves, fossils, and mysteries! As students read selections about a broad range of topics, they will also see connections to science.

The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter Social Studies Units focus on World War I, World War II, The Cold War, and Civil Rights Movement. We will be reading about and discussing these topics using our new Social Studies book, and using primary sources and videos.

In math, we still have lots to learn before the students get ready to move on to sixth grade. In May we will be covering such topics as ratios, percent, mean, median, mode, and range. We will be calculating elapsed time, and determining the perimeter of regular and irregular figures.

In May we will be beginning our writing unit on "Fantasy Writing". Following a specific format, students will create characters that go on fantastic journeys to lands where magical creatures come to life!!



## Title I

Thank you to everyone who attended the Title I Awards Night at the EverGreen School on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>! We would like to sincerely thank all of our Title I families for practicing sight words and listening to your child read a story each night. All of those minutes add up to substantial reading time! Research has shown that reading 20 minutes a day exposes children to 1.8 million words per year!

In an age when information and entertainment are almost immediately accessible, it is easy to forget that certain items cannot be copied without permission. Copying something that has been created and owned by a certain individual or company is known as copyright piracy. Copyright piracy can include several things, such as copying or downloading books, movies, computer or video games without permission from the item's creator. Often times, copyright piracy is illegal. As our children grow up in a world with so much information at their fingertips, it's important to teach them to always check to make sure that it is permissible to copy or download items.



### ENROLLMENT

Early Intervention	20
Pre-Kindergarten	68
Kindergarten	71
First Grade	76
Second Grade	80
Third Grade	67
Fourth Grade	96
Fifth Grade	<u>83</u>
	561
Outside Placement	<u>+ 1</u>
Total	562