



Western Wayne School District EverGreen Elementary

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT—February 2025



Words From Mr. Pidgeon, Principal

Writing Assignment Help

Writing assignments are often part of a student's homework. Here are some ways parents can help their children;

1. **Have your child "talk through"** his ideas on the topic before starting. Clear writing starts with clear thinking. Talking with a parent can help clarify thoughts.
2. **Encourage your child to make notes** before writing. An outline or a writing web are good ways to get organized.
3. **Offer plenty of praise.** Be as specific as you can. For example, you can say, "I really like the way you've described what led up to the _____."
4. **Don't over criticize.** Focus first on what your child is trying to say. It's helpful to point out errors now and then, of course. But if your children think you are always looking for what's wrong, they won't want to share their writing with you.
5. **Encourage your child to revise and rewrite.** Experts often say, "There is no such thing as good writing. There's only good *rewriting*." But, let your child do it. Don't rewrite it for them.

Mr. Pidgeon



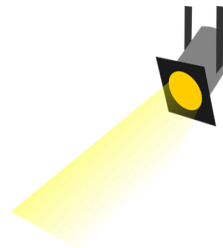
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EG Spotlight



Name: Nathan Chamberlain

Years working for Western Wayne: 3 years

What I enjoy about EverGreen Elementary:

How kind every is here

Favorite:

Music—70's Rock

Color—Royal Blue

Team—New England Patriots

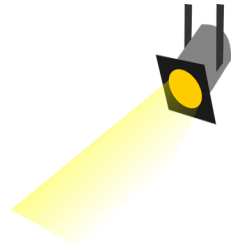
Interesting fact:

I was a Western Wayne student at the old Hamlin & Lake Ariel schools.





EG Spotlight



Name: Jill Mackarey

Educational Path/College(s): Holy Cross High School Marywood University BA and MA

Years in Education: 20 years

Why I joined the educational field:

I joined the education field because I love teaching, books, and of course meeting new students. My grandmother was a teacher/principal during her teaching career and she instilled in me a love of teaching and learning, and of course, **READING**.

Favorite:

Color: Green

Ice Cream: Chocolate Chip

Book: Harry Potter

Sport(s)/team(s): Eagles and Phillies

Interesting fact:

An interesting fact about me is that I have a Cosmetology License. So, I am also a hairstylist.



ES

It is hard to believe we are already a little more than halfway through the year. This year is flying by. We continue to work so hard every day trying to learn as much as we can. It is truly amazing to see the progress all the children have been making.



Pre-Kindergarten

In Language Arts, the Pre-Kindergarten students are listening to stories about imagination and creativity. They are learning how tools are used to examine, create, and build. They are recognizing that different types of materials can be used to construct things and are learning to appreciate the art that other people create. They will have the opportunity to continue this theme of creativity as they construct a variety of structures in our STEAM center.

In math, the students are exploring the concepts of length, weight, and capacity. They are learning to compare two or more objects. They are identifying the positions first and last. They are also learning to form the numerals zero through five.

This month the students will act as mail carriers as they deliver Valentines to their classmates. They decorated Valentine bags and labeled them with their first names. They will match the names on the Valentines they bring into school to deliver them to the correct classmate.



Kindergarten

The kindergarteners enjoyed reading about oceans and outdoor adventures. The students listened to Atlantic, an information text about the Atlantic Ocean. They learned very interesting and amazing facts about the ocean. Students also listened to Nicky and the Rainy Day a fantasy story about how a family of rabbits spent a rainy day.

In math, the children are working on simple addition and subtraction problems. We are continuing to count by ones and tens to 100 and are beginning to count by fives. Please practice counting with your child at home!

It's hard to believe that the 100th day of school is here already! On the 100th day, the kindergarteners have lots and lots of practice counting to 100 by ones, fives, and tens. Of course there is also a special 100th day of school story read in each classroom.

Valentine's Day is so exciting in Kindergarten! The children can't wait to open all of the valentine cards in their bags and read to find out who sent each one. Happy Valentine's Day to all.

Please remember to read with your child every night. Also, be sure to have your child practice reading the sight word list on the back of the Daily Folder.



1st Grade

The third quarter is now upon us. In reading, we recently began our fourth book. We continue learning about long vowels and long vowel patterns. Students are learning about silent e words as well as different vowel pairs. Please reinforce these vowels at home. Also, we continue to learn new reading strategies. Students are learning the importance of rereading for understanding, retelling a story in their own words, and identifying the beginning, middle, and end of stories. We are also continuing to work on blends, digraphs, and word families.

In math, we are continuing to focus on addition and subtraction facts to 20.

Students are learning many different skills in Science and Social Studies this year. Please encourage your child to talk about what they did in Science that week. The students really seem to enjoy this subject.

Please continue to practice your child's sight words each night. This will help them become a better reader. Also, please continue to read 15 minutes every night with your child.

2nd Grade

In math, the 2nd grade students learned to work with time and money. Students practiced counting pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters. Please continue to practice this at home with your child. Students learned how to tell time on an analog clock. Students practiced telling time to the five minutes. Please continue to have them use this whenever possible.

The 2nd graders began a new reading unit entitled, "Heroes and Helpers!". In this unit, the children read fictional and informational stories about courageous characters. The children connected these stories to their own lives by sharing ways to overcome difficulties. The students continue to work on improving their reading comprehension as well as their reading fluency. Please practice reading for meaning, smoothness, and accuracy at home.

The 2nd graders read informational articles in *Scholastic News*. They had some great discussions and enjoyed learning about their world. We discussed Martin Luther King Jr. and how this holiday came about. Please continue these discussions at home when you see their *Scholastic News*. This is a great opportunity for the students to re-read informational text.

In Science, the students are learning about the design process when solving problems. In the final two units of science, students will learn about diversity of life and the changing earth. Students will learn about life cycles of different plants and animals and what they need in order to survive.

Valentine's Day is always an exciting time for the 2nd graders because they get to celebrate all the friendships they made at school. The students love to pass out their valentines as well as look at all they receive from their friends. This activity provides the children an opportunity to celebrate kindness and friendships throughout the school!

As always, thank you for your continued support and cooperation!

3rd Grade

As this winter season is making its way forward, so are our third graders. We continue to progress in all of our academic areas. Within the past months, students have been very busy becoming knowledgeable in all they can so that they can take that wisdom and information with them to achieve success on the upcoming PSSA's.

In reading, students are leaping into unit 4 of our reading series, "Natural Wonders." This unit is filled with the wonders of nature and questions to make students think. They will be able to understand the importance of scientific research after reading the stories. This learning will also help students continue to grow in the area of opinion writing. Students will be able to mimic mentor author moves in their own writing.

In math, students are working through collecting and displaying data. They will be able to generate categorical data, organize it, and then represent it in a variety of forms. Through problem solving, opportunities naturally surface for students to make observations, analyze, and answer questions such as, "How many more?" or "How many less?" We encourage you to try some real-life problem solving at home with your child.

We have begun our journey into our Social Studies lessons. We have started by discovering that a community is a place where people live, work, and have fun together. Our county is made up of many different kinds of communities. However, all communities have many things in common, and yet each one is special in its own way.

As a reminder, we ask that your child continues to neatly complete his/her homework each night. If there is a reading comprehension assignment, please remember to have your child respond (when necessary) using complete sentences and highlight all textual evidence. Students are also required to read 15-30 minutes, and practice multiplication facts each night. With PSSA's coming up, we feel this reinforcement at home will help them do their best.

4th Grade

“All kids need is a little help, a little hope, and somebody who believes in them,” as eloquently stated by Earvin “Magic” Johnson. The fiction stories in the reading theme, *Unbreakable Spirit*, served as a fitting topic for Unit 4 in ELA. Students’ curiosity sparked engaging discussions around focus questions about the meaning of an unbreakable spirit and how it can lead to remarkable achievements. In writing, students concentrated on crafting descriptive paragraphs, friendly letters, and personal narratives.

Mastery of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division remained a priority in mathematics. Emphasizing the importance of multiplication fact fluency, we encourage parents to support skill practice at home to ensure success in mathematical thinking. In Topic 8 of Envision Math, students explored fractions through various representations, including area models, number lines, fraction comparisons, and creating equivalent fractions.

In science, we delved deeper into the structure and function of living and non-living things. Ask your child what it means to be ‘living’, and invite them to share a detailed explanation, using rich academic vocabulary to describe structure and function, and how these concepts apply to specific living and non-living entities.

Thank you for your continued support of your child’s education. As always, feel free to contact your child’s teacher with any questions or to request additional resources!

5th Grade

Fifth graders have recently begun their newest unit in writing—Informational Writing! Students will be perfecting skills such as note-taking, organizing information, drawing inspiration for mentor texts, and writing using multiple text structures. All students have been working extremely hard to improve their writing skills!

Writing has also been incorporated into reading class. Fifth graders are busy analyzing stories and writing responses to Text Dependent Analysis Questions. These questions focus on gathering evidence, knowledge, and insight from what was read.

As always, we are continuing to promote responsibility in our fifth graders in preparation for middle school. It is important that they are completing their classwork and studying for tests. Along with responsibility, we expect our students to be kind to one another. We are encouraging our fifth graders to act as role models to our younger students by showing kindness and compassion to others.

Be Respectful
Be Responsible
Be Kind

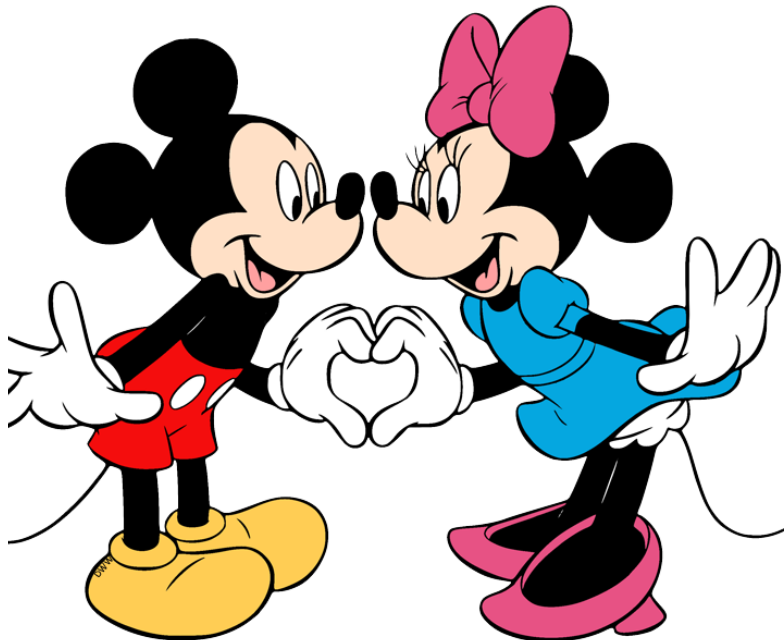
Title I

With the winter aimsweb Literacy Benchmark Assessment behind us, we thought this would be a good time to remind everyone of our Title I Local Assessments. Local Assessments are tests that are given to every student in that particular grade three times per year, once in the fall, winter and spring. These assessments help us to chart the growth of the Title I students over time, as well as to compare them to their peers.

First grade Local Assessments consist of the aimsweb Nonsense Word Fluency subtest, the aimsweb Oral Reading Fluency subtest and selected weekly reading tests. We use the Nonsense Word Fluency subtest to assess a student's ability to decode or sound out unknown words. The Oral Reading Fluency subtest measures the number of words a student reads correctly in one minute on a first-grade level passage. Finally, the weekly reading tests are a way to measure a student's ability to comprehend a grade-level story.

Second Grade Local Assessments also make use of the aimsweb Oral Reading Fluency subtest. To measure student's phonics skills, we use the Elementary Spelling Inventory. This is a spelling test of 25 words with various phonic elements. To measure student growth in comprehension, we look at each student's score on the aimsweb Reading Comprehension subtest. For this subtest, a student must independently read various grade-level passages, and answer questions about the passages.

If you have any questions about the Title I Local Assessments, please feel free to contact Mrs. Daniels or Mrs. Malec, the Title I teachers. Thank you for all you do to help your child with their reading!



ENROLLMENT

Early Intervention	16
Pre-Kindergarten	56
Kindergarten	79
First Grade	68
Second Grade	78
Third Grade	77
Fourth Grade	67
Fifth Grade	<u>97</u>
	538
Outside Placement	<u>+ 2</u>
Total	540