



Western Wayne School District EverGreen Elementary

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT—April 2025

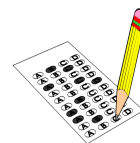


Words From Mr. Pidgeon, Principal

Most local parents of elementary school aged children know that the PSSA's (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment tests) are quickly approaching. This can be a nerve racking time for both children and adults. Parents may not know how to help their child prepare, while kids may become anxious as test taking time nears.

Some ways that parents can calm their own fears include:

- ⇒ Understand what the PSSA's are: Visit the **Pennsylvania Department of Education** website for an overview, read informational articles on the PSSA or talk to your child's teacher.
- ⇒ Understand what the PSSA's are not: Make sure that the information that you are given is correct. Don't base your understanding on what others have told you. Even parents of other children in your child's class may be misinformed. Always ask your child's teacher if you are in doubt.
- ⇒ Talk to your child: He might not be as scared or anxious as you think he is. Try not to project your text taking anxiety onto him.



Ways that parents can help their child to prepare for the PSSA's include:

- ⇒ Make sure that your child gets a good night sleep.
- ⇒ Create a relaxed home environment.
- ⇒ Serve your child a healthy breakfast. Proper nutrition will greatly help your child's concentration. Don't let him skip breakfast.
- ⇒ Show him that you are already proud of his work as a student. Tell him how smart you know he is. This will help to build his confidence.

More information will be coming home with your child as the PSSA's get nearer.

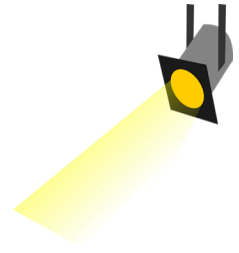
Mr. Pidgeon

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EG Spotlight



Name: Susan Schlasta

Educational Path/College(s): Associate Degree, Early Childhood Education, Keystone College
Bachelor of Science Degree, Marywood College
Master of Social Work Degree, Marywood College
Post Graduate Work, CalSouthern University

Years in Education: 21 years

Why I joined the educational field: When working for a mental health agency and communicating about shared students with a counselor, the benefits for the students and their families by providing counseling in a school setting would be greater than providing services through a mental health agency. I have found this to be true. The number of students that share similar social, emotional, and/or behavioral concerns is great and being able to join them in small groups enhance their social and communication skills. In addition, the use of books such as the “I survived...” series, the “Magic Treehouse” series, and the “Wings of Fire” are able to be used on a voluntary basis with students to support SEL.

Favorite:

Food: Just about any type of soup other than fish chowders

Color: Orange, it is a cheerful and uplifting color

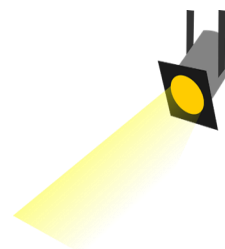
Place to visit: Florida, especially Disney and Universal; and state parks.

Interesting fact: I love traveling, especially by car. I have traveled as far as Minnesota out west, Ohio, Wisconsin, New York, including New York City, Massachusetts, Chicago, Alabama, Florida, Virginia, and every state in between. I find something interesting to do in every state I enter.





EG Spotlight



Name: Cindy Sledzinski

Years Working at Western Wayne: 19

What I enjoy about EverGreen Elementary: I enjoy being here at EverGreen Elementary for a few reasons, first I get to work with some of the nicest people around, I love working with children and seeing their growth and I live only 5 miles away!

Favorite Music/Singer: The Eagles and John Mayer

Food: Pizza

Places to visit: Anywhere there is a beach!

An interesting fact about me is that I married a man who has 9 brothers and sisters who all live here in Wayne County, and I am related to a math teacher and a Spanish teacher who teach at the high school, and a 2nd grade teacher here at EverGreen! I am so blessed to be part of this very large and amazing family!



ES

Well, Spring is in the air. The birds will be chirping and all the beautiful flowers will be growing once again. We will be celebrating Easter this month.

The students continue to work hard. They are learning so much and having fun doing it. It is amazing to see how much progress they have made over the course of the year.



Pre-Kindergarten

This month in Language Arts, the Pre-Kindergarten students will be learning about nature all around us. They will listen to stories about how plants grow, what's in the sky, our weather and the seasons. They will celebrate Earth Day with activities to help them learn about reducing, reusing, and recycling.

In math, the students will continue to learn about addition and subtraction using concrete objects. They will practice using drawings to help them solve story problems. They will also count ten objects using one to one correspondence.

Pre-Kindergarten will be observing their marigold plants, looking at the seed leaves, then the marigold leaves. They will be watching the outdoor environment for signs of spring.

The students will continue to print the letters of their first names, using the proper pencil grip and the strokes they have been practicing throughout the year.



Kindergarten



April brings a shower of activity to kindergarten! We are happy to have the wonderful signs of spring around us. Our classrooms are decorated with beautiful sunshine, rainbows, and kites, all of which were created by the students.

In our math lessons this month, the students will be reviewing addition and subtraction. They will also learn to read, write, and count numbers to twenty. We are continuing to count by 1's, 5's, and 10's to one hundred.

The kindergarteners are blossoming into "Good Readers". Their reading skills are improving each day! The children are segmenting and blending letter sounds in words, and they are learning to identify the vowel sounds in CVC (consonant, vowel, consonant) words.

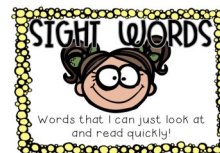
As we move forward in our reading series the amount of sight words continues to increase. Please be sure to practice reading these words with your child each night. The more they read, the more fluent readers they will become.

For Earth Day, we plan to renew our respect for our planet by listening to stories and discussing ways we can take care of the Earth.

1st Grade

We are beginning a new unit in our reading series. In this unit, we will be working on long vowel patterns. We also are continuing to review all of our short vowels, blends, digraphs, and vowel rules. Please continue to work on your sight words nightly, this really helps your child become a better reader. Thanks for keeping up with the nightly reading; it really does make a difference.

In math, we are working on time to the hour and the half hour, as well as, identifying coins. We are continuing to work on math facts to build fluency.



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 have been through more than half of our school year and we are doing fantastic! Our students have persevered with a smile on their faces and are showing great growth. We are very proud of them and we ask that you please continue to give them all of your loving support.

In Reading, we continue to make our way through our reading theme entitled "Going Places". Students are discovering the places that people and animals can go from the history to the present. Students are taking a close look at the interactions that take place during adventures. During class discussions, we talk about how we can relate to the characters in the stories that we are reading.

In math, students are working on their multiplication facts as well as learning division. 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.

As always, we continue to concentrate on fluency practice. Please make sure your child is reading 15-30 minutes daily to ensure they are making gains. Reading together can be an excellent way to spend quality time together.

Your continued support at home does not go unnoticed. Thank you for all you are doing at home to support the learning of our students. We appreciate our families and our community.

4th Grade

In their reading unit, “Change It Up”, fourth graders learned about changes in the media, community, forests, animals, and inventions.

In writing, students continue to use graphic organizers to arrange opinion writings. They had to write about topics that they felt strongly about and provide reasons with strong examples that aligned.

The correct spelling of contractions and homophones took up students’ center time. As your children if they know the proper usage of your and you’re, there, their, and they’re. Student had the chance to include homophones in their writings! Keep studying spelling lists by dividing words into syllable parts. Dictionaries, online or in print, are great resources for fourth graders!

Fourth-grade math students finished measuring and problem-solving with angles in geometry. Next, we focused on developing understanding on angle concepts including angle measurement. Finally, we worked through basic geometric concepts and drew to learn, identify, and name points, lines, line segments, rays, and angles. Fact mastery cannot be emphasized enough! Please utilize the resources sent home with your child to practice their facts withing addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. As always, if you should need anything to support your child’s education, don’t hesitate to reach out!

5th Grade

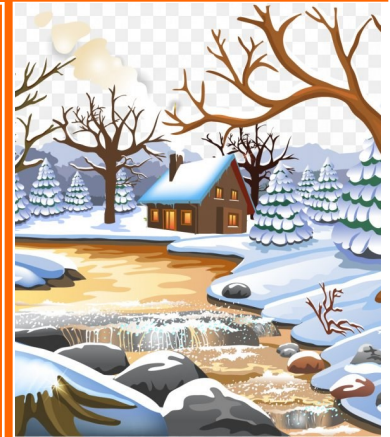
Spring is around the corner and 5th graders couldn’t be happier! There is so much to look forward to this time of year.

Fifth grade is in the midst of reading about stories that involve the visual arts, creative inventions, creative writing and interactions between humans and animals. At this same time, the students are perfecting their responses to text dependent analysis questions. Our students have been busy supporting their responses with text evidence and explaining their reasoning! In math class, we are wrajpapping up our units of study on adding, subtracting, Multiplying, and dividing fractions. We are moving on to representing and interpreting data using line plots and bar graphs!

We are ready to spring into a successful fourth quarter. We thank all parents for the support and encouragement that you have given your children throughout the year. Together we can help our fifth graders “blossom” to be the best that they can be.

Title 1

Please mark your calendars for the annual Title Awards Night to be held on Friday, April 25th! More specific information regarding this event will be sent home. We hope to see you there to celebrate all of the hard work the children have done throughout the year!



ENROLLMENT

Early Intervention	16
Pre-Kindergarten	55
Kindergarten	81
First Grade	69
Second Grade	77
Third Grade	78
Fourth Grade	64
Fifth Grade	<u>97</u>
	537
Outside Placement	<u>+ 2</u>
Total	539