



Western Wayne School District
EverGreen Elementary

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT— March 2026



Words From Mr. Pidgeon, Principal

Do you want to spend time with your children, build their reading skills, and help them to love books? You can do all these and more when you read aloud to them. Here are a few suggestions.

Read regularly:

Part of your child's nightly homework is to read. Try to read to your child or have them read to you every day.

- ⇒ You might aim for 10-15 minutes of bedtime reading for a peaceful end to the day.
- ⇒ Gring along a book and read to them during a sibling's sports practice.
- ⇒ Curl up together with a book when you get home from work.

Let them participate:

Ask your child to turn the pages while you read. Also let them finish sentences that rhyme or fill in words that they know. Go slowly so they have time to understand the story and look at the illustrations. They will enjoy read-aloud time more if they play an active role.

Be playful:

You can use different voices for different characters (a high, squeaky voice for a mouse or a deep voice for a horse). Your child will love it when you read aloud with them because it is your time together.

Mr. Pidgeon

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EverGreen Spotlight



Stephanie Hess

Years working at Western Wayne:

1 year

What I enjoy about EverGreen Elementary:

I love that no two days are the same. There is always something or someone keeping me on my toes!

Favorite:

My favorite food is spaghetti and meatballs.

My favorite color is Purple.

My favorite ice cream is Haagen-Dazs Rocky Road.



Interesting fact about yourself:

I love to read so much that I turned our guest room into a home library!



EverGreen Spotlight



Donna Weston

Years working at Western Wayne:

19 years—I am the last of the original kitchen staff still working at EverGreen since it opened.

What I enjoy about EverGreen Elementary:

I always get a laugh out of what some of the kids say. Also, I work with some of the hardest working people I know in my kitchen.

Favorite:

My favorite color is lavender.

My favorite ice cream is pistachio.

My favorite place to visit is my children.

Interesting fact about yourself:

I have been married to my husband Kevin for 34 years. We are officially empty nesters. My children, Jacob and Jillian live out of the area. So, I love to visit them whenever I can. On my farm, I have two Border Collies that keep me busy, Charlie and Rosie. We have to walk the property every day, no matter what the weather is. Summer is my favorite time of year. I spend my spare time in my garden growing fruits, vegetables and my favorite flowers. You



ES

What a year it has been so far! We have all been working so hard in preparation for the PSSAs next month. We are ready!!!!!!

We are so proud of how far every student has come thus far. It has been so nice to see their growth both socially and academically.



Pre-Kindergarten

This month in Language Arts, the Pre-Kindergarten students will be learning about growing up healthy. They will listen to stories about using their five senses, taking care of themselves, eating well, and staying safe. They will also enjoy the unique style of Dr. Seuss as they listen to his imaginative stories and learn about rhymes. They are continuing to learn about the letters of the alphabet and the sounds they represent.

In math, the students will begin to learn about the concepts of addition and subtraction. They will use real objects and drawings to solve simple story problems.

The students will continue to practice printing their first names. They have improved this skill as they have worked diligently to hold their pencils correctly, print from top to bottom, and left to right as they form the letters. They will be learning how to form the numerals zero through five as well.

As we look forward to spring, the students will be learning about the life cycle of plants. They will plant marigold seeds and watch their development on our sunny windowsills. They will watch for sprouts, stems, seed leaves, marigold leaves, buds, and flowers.

Kindergarten

Winter sure has been wild! However, spring is right around the corner. Our kindergarteners are working with lions, lambs, raindrops, umbrellas, rainbows, and kites to help strengthen their reading, phonics, and math skills.

In reading, Kindergartners continue to sharpen their reading skills. They are working on blending and segmenting words and are working on becoming fluent readers. Continue to read with them at home every day to help strengthen these important skills. Practicing irregular words, listening to your child read, and talking about the stories together will build confidence and comprehension. Thank you for supporting your child's growth as a reader!

In math, the students continue to work on sharpening their skills. St. Patrick's Day brings shamrocks, leprechauns, and pots of gold to help our kindergarteners practice teen numbers, addition and subtraction and counting by fives and tens along with other math skills.

Spring is almost here but, remember to dress your child appropriately. Hats, gloves, warm coats, snow pants, and boots are still needed for "Wellness."



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1st Grade

With the spring weather fast approaching, first graders are looking forward to many new and exciting things happening. To strengthen our reading skills, we have been learning about long vowels, blends, digraphs, and vowel teams. Please continue to practice these skills with your child at home. Sight words are also very important for your child to be a successful reader. There are now 100 sight words for the 3rd quarter. We also are continuing to have the students practice their Oral Reading Fluency. Students practice reading a passage and are timed for one minute. The students are checked to see how many words they can read in that time.

In math, we are focusing on addition and subtraction facts. We are also continuing to learn about measurement, geometry, and time.

Please continue to read with your child for at least 15 minutes each night.



2nd Grade

Second graders are reading both fiction and nonfiction stories. In the next unit, students will be focusing their reading strategies on understanding main ideas, understanding characters within a story, and cause and effect. Students will also revisit understanding dictionary skills, what are compound words and idioms. They will review synonyms and antonyms. All of these skills will enrich the students' vocabulary. Suffixes and prefixes added to base words gave students opportunities to read and spell multisyllabic words. Please remind your students to pay close attention to the ending of words to increase accuracy in reading.

In Math, we are learning about geometry and telling time. Students are learning how to identify shapes that are both 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional. Students loved learning how to draw a cube on paper. Then we moved onto time on an analog clock. Students first will learn to tell time to the hour and half hour. We will then move to telling time to the 5 minutes. This is something that is very easy to practice at home with your child.

In Social Studies and Science, the students have been learning about the national symbols of the United States of America. They have learned about the Statue of Liberty, the Liberty Bell, the Washington Monument, the Bald Eagle, and more. They really loved learning about all these different symbols. Science, the students learned about the states of matter. Students did a variety of experiments that taught them about these topics. They are excited to start our final unit in science.

We are looking forward to Earth Day. We can plant a tree to stop soil erosion, create shade, and provide clean air to breathe. Happy Earth Day.



3rd Grade

With the arrival of March third grade sets sail into Module 8 in our new reading series. In this module, students will listen to, read, and view a variety of texts which highlight inventors and inventions. Students will discover more about the way an idea, determination, support, and hard work can create an environment where absolutely anything is possible!

While continuing to focus on non-fiction, students will be offered repeated opportunities to identify author's purpose as well as central ideas. By the conclusion of the module, students will transition to narrative poetry and opinion texts as they build knowledge and skills across a variety of genres.

In math, students are working through solving a variety of real-life word problems involving counting mixed coins, making change, and rounding money amounts. We will then transition to discriminating, calculating, and comparing areas and perimeters. Finally, with spring in sight we will dive into geometry identifying critical attributes of polygons with emphasis on quadrilaterals. Students will reason about similarities and differences by comparing specific polygonal characteristics.

In Social Studies, we will continue our study of different early communities in history. Students will learn about how our country did not start out as independent and how our country was formed. Our students enjoy comparing and contrasting how things were long ago to how they are now. It is often very eye-opening and a definite conversation starter!

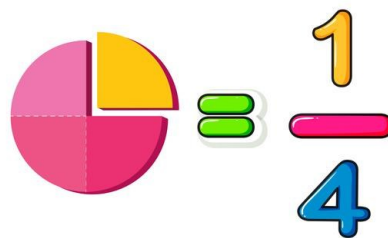
Please continue to review and revisit all multiplication facts for accuracy, fluency, and automaticity. Make a concerted effort to provide real-life learning opportunities to see many of their math skills in action. Fractions, telling time, making change, counting money, and rounding money amounts. Help create that home school connection!

4th Grade

4th graders are really enjoying our new reading series! This month we are delving into the “Arts” theme, and reading texts about music, photography, and dance. We especially enjoyed learning all about the Fab Four, also known as The Beatles. It was so interesting to learn about each band member, and how funny they really were. Listening to their creative music like “Love Me Do” and “She Loves You” was a lot of fun!

In math we are forging on with fractions. We have become experts in adding, subtracting, and making equivalent fractions. Now we are multiplying fractions and solving word problems involving fractional parts.

The Midwest states are our focus in Social Studies. Ask us all about the farming of the Midwest, or the immense amount of lakes and rivers there. We learned about big cities too, like Chicago and Kansas City for example.



5th Grade

We welcome March, and hope to leave the cold weather behind us and look forward to milder temperatures and signs of spring!

Math: In March, students will compete in Math Madness. Students will review and improve their 5th grade math skills. At the end of the month one homeroom will earn the Math Madness title. Students will also explore volume, coordinate planes, and geometry during the month of March.

Reading: In Module 6, students will listen to, read, and view a variety of texts and media that present them with information about how people create and share different art forms. As students build their vocabulary and synthesize topic knowledge, they will learn about the powerful impact of various art forms.

Science: Students will continue their exploration of Earth’s interconnected systems.

Social Studies: We are diving into studying WWII and concentrating on events such as the attack on Pearl Harbor, The Holocaust, and D-Day.



Title 1

As we progress through the school year, children’s motivation for school and homework sometimes dwindles. Here are a few tips that can sustain children’s motivation levels:

1. Show children how to set goals. Keep the goals small, reasonable, and attainable. Possible goals can be reading a book or learning math facts. Once the goal is attained, celebrate it. This will motivate children to keep trying.
2. Talk about schoolwork every day but be specific. Instead of saying, “What did you do at school today?” ask, “What are you working on in math?”
3. Show your child how to break bigger tasks into smaller ones. For example, if your child comes home feeling overwhelmed because s/he has homework in 3 or 4 subjects you can say something like, “Let’s start with reading, because that will take the longest. Then after supper, we can work on math and spelling.” This makes the task seem possible to accomplish.
4. Teach your child to be positive about work that must be done. Instead of saying, “I can’t do this,” teach your child to say, “Let me try this.”
5. Give your child the gift of your time. Although our lives are very busy, spending positive time with your child is a great motivator. Sometimes children act out in order to get attention; giving attention to positive behavior will be far more effective than giving attention only to negative behavior.

*These tips are taken from the brochure “Parents Can Motivate Children...and Help Them Do Better in School,” published by The Parent Institute.



ENROLLMENT

Early Intervention	12
Pre-Kindergarten	49
Kindergarten	66
First Grade	88
Second Grade	71
Third Grade	79
Fourth Grade	75
Fifth Grade	<u>67</u>
	507
Outside Placement	<u>+ 3</u>
Total	510