



**Western Wayne School District**  
**EverGreen Elementary**  
 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT—April 2024

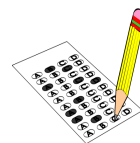


**Words From Mr. Pidgeon, Principal**

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 test 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.

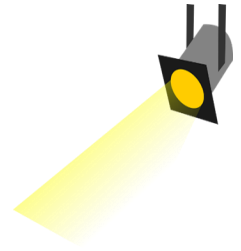
Mr. Pidgeon

**Inside this issue:**



Mr. Pidgeon .....	1
EG Spotlight .....	2&3
ES .....	4
Pre-Kindergarten ..,	4
Kindergarten .....	4
1st Grade .....	5
2nd Grade .....	5
3rd Grade .....	5
4th Grade .....	6
5th Grade .....	6
Title I .....	7
Enrollment .....	7

## EG Spotlight



Name: Colleen Kloss

Educational Path/College(s): Bachelor of Science in Elementary and Early Childhood Education from College Misericordia and Masters of Elementary Education from Wilkes University.

Years in Education: 19 years

Why I joined the educational field: I always enjoyed being around children and I had the opportunity in high school to teach children and found joy in watching them learn a new skill.

Favorite:

Color - Purple

Ice Cream – Chocolate Moose Tracks

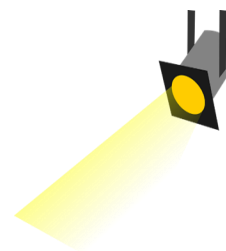
Sport(s)/team(s) – New York Giants

Interesting fact: I was inducted into the Misericordia Sports Hall of Fame for my accomplishments in playing College Basketball. I am currently 6<sup>th</sup> all time in scoring with 1,283 points scored in my four collegiate years at Misericordia.





## EG Spotlight



Name: Elizabeth Barbone

Years working at Western Wayne: 19 years

What I enjoy about EverGreen Elementary: The people that I work with are the best!

Favorite:

Music genre: - Classic Rock

Sport(s)/team(s) – New York Mets

Place to visit: The Beach—anywhere

Interesting fact: I enjoy spending time with my family, especially my 2 beautiful grandsons. I like sitting around a campfire in my backyard with good friends. I love travelling with my husband.

LIFE IS BETTER  
around the  
  
CAMPFIRE

ES



Well, spring is in the air! The birds will be chirping and all the beautiful flowers will be blooming once again. We are finally in the last quarter of the school year! It has flown by so fast.

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. We are so very proud of them all!

PSSA testing will begin at the end of this month. Our students are ready! Let's all encourage them to do their best!!!!

### 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 wonderful! 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.

In Science, we will be wrapping up our Weather: Factors and Hazards unit. Students have explored, collected, and classified data related to three factors that affect weather: precipitation, temperature, and wind. They contrasted weather and climate, relying on the three factors in their descriptions. Students explored different types of weather hazards, including those in their region. They designed a solution that reduces the impact of a flood. Although we love Science, we will be returning to Social Studies when the fourth quarter begins.

As always, we continue to concentrate on fluency practice. Please make sure your child is reading 15 to 30 minutes daily to ensure they are making gains. Reading together can be a fantastic 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

Fourth graders had a chance to learn about changes in the media, community, forests, animals, and inventions in their reading unit called, “Change It Up”.

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. Ask your student if they know the correct usage of your and you’re, there, their, and there, and the difference between where and wear! 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. Line symmetry was identified as well as the classification of triangles, and quadrilaterals. Fact mastery cannot be emphasized enough! Please utilize the resources sent home with your child to practice their facts in 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 wrapping 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 take a few minutes to check out our new ParentTalks Reading Series Videos available on the home page of the Western Wayne District website. There are six short videos (about two minutes in length) that offer some helpful tips for how to help your child with reading at home. We hope you find them both enjoyable and useful!

Please mark your calendars for the annual Title I Awards Night to be held on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. 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	20
Pre-Kindergarten	67
Kindergarten	70
First Grade	77
Second Grade	80
Third Grade	67
Fourth Grade	96
Fifth Grade	<u>83</u>
	560
Outside Placement	<u>+ 1</u>
Total	561