

WESTERN WAYNE SCHOOL DISTRICT

🍁🍁 EverGreen Elementary 🍁🍁

Principal's Report – October 2026

Words from Mr. Pidgeon, Principal

Building Homework Skills Ways Parents Can Help

- ❖ **Help your child develop daily study goals** based on homework assignments. A few small goals that your child can attain one by one work better than one large one. This gives children a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction.
- ❖ **Be available.** Younger children need the most help. But all children need to know you are there if they need you. Be on hand to simplify directions or answer questions.
- ❖ **Do not be too helpful.** Remember, it is not your homework. So, do not do it for your child. Just advise and give your support.
- ❖ **Foster an “I can do” attitude.** Praise your child for effort when you spot something done well. Say things like: “Somehow learning new words is a snap for you,” “I like the way you organized that paper,” “Multiplication is easy for you, isn’t it?” “Lately you are finishing everything on time!”

Mr. Pidgeon



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Enrollment

Early Intervention	09
Pre-Kindergarten	54
Kindergarten	59
First Grade	66
Second Grade	81
Third Grade	70
Fourth Grade	81
Fifth Grade	71
Outside Placement	05
Total	496





Karleigh Lukasik

Educational Path/College(s): I earned my bachelor's in communication sciences and (CSD) from Penn State University in 2020, my Masters in CSD from East Stroudsburg University in 2022.

Years in Education: 5th year as a Speech Language Pathologist, 3rd year in school-based setting.

Why I joined the educational field: I started in the medical/outpatient therapy world. I learned quickly that I love the PreK-elementary population and collaborating with teachers and support staff. I enjoy being part of student's team and being able to support them in and out of the "speech room", so I made the switch to schools.

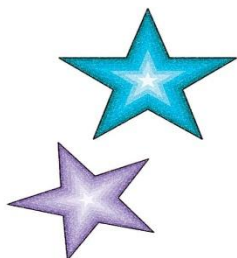
Favorite: Music genre/Singer: I love all types of music; I am a concert junkie.

Color: Green

Sport(s)/team(s): Big Eagles and Penn State football fan.

Interesting fact: I have a German Shorthaired Pointer. I'm getting married this summer.





Angolina Servino

Educational Path/College(s): College of Staten Island and Marywood University

Years in Education: This is my First year

Why I joined the educational field: I knew I wanted to be an education when I realized that even the smallest moment with a student can make a lasting difference. I have always loved working with kids and helping them learn and grow. I also really enjoy being able to support students and help them feel more confident in themselves. I especially love working with students who may need some extra help or a different way of learning. Seeing a student finally understand something they were struggling with is one of the best feelings in the world.

Favorite (Pick 3):

Movie: The Nightmare Before Christmas

Color: Purple and Blue

Ice Cream: Vanilla with Chocolate Fudge from Carvel

Interesting fact: I have been to over 15 concerts.





Gianna Volpe

Educational Path/College(s): Lackawanna College, Associate Degree in Business Administration. Business, Computer and Information Technology PK-12 Certification.

Years in Education: 3 years

Why I joined the educational field: I joined the educational field because I enjoy helping students become more confident, creative, and excited about learning. I especially love giving students opportunities to explore technology and learn through hands-on activities.

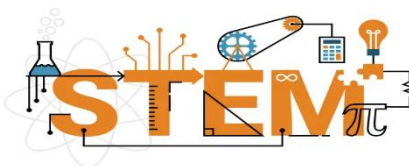
Favorite (Pick 3):

Color: Purple

Ice Cream: Cotton candy

Place to visit: Vermont or places I can ski and somewhere by the beach!

Interesting fact: Outside of school, I am a PSIA-certified ski instructor and also teach Pilates and barre classes.



What a great start to the year! The students in Mrs. Hughes's and Mrs. Lowe's classes got right back in the swing of things! We have so many new and exciting learning activities planned. The students have been doing well so far. We cannot wait to see how much our students learn this academic year!

We are so happy to welcome a new group of Western Wayne Wildcats to the pride! The children have settled in nicely and are adjusting to the daily routines. They are learning how to make friends, use manners, and take turns. They are also becoming more independent with tasks such as unpacking/packing backpacks, putting on jackets, buttoning, snapping, and opening containers during meals and snacks.

The students have been listening to stories about starting school. They are becoming great active listeners! They are singing and saying the alphabet. They are also learning to identify their first names and learn the letters that make up their names.

In math, the children are sorting objects and finding attributes that make them the same and different, identifying objects that are used together, and learning about one-to-one correspondence as we count items.

The students are enjoying learning about the variety of learning centers in our classroom. They are taking turns visiting the literacy, math, science, dramatic play, fine motor, library, building, and creativity centers. Center time is our favorite time of the day!

The Kindergarteners were off to a great start at the beginning of this new school year! They have adjusted well to the daily routine of all-day kindergarten and are learning the importance of being respectful and truthful, and how to work and play safely. Active listening and personal best effort are encouraged daily.

In Math, the students are counting, ordering numbers, and learning to print numerals. Please continue to practice these skills at home.

During Reading, our essential question is: "What makes each of us special?" Students will listen to stories, engage in discussions, and learn new vocabulary related to this topic. They are excited to expand their reading skills by identifying beginning sounds, recognizing rhyming words, and reading heart words. Please help reinforce these heart words by looking for them in the books you read with your child at home.

Encourage your child to practice printing letters correctly at home. All strokes should be made from top to bottom and left to right. Have your child practice printing his/her name by forming letters correctly. Remember, ONLY the first letter of a proper name is uppercase.



Thank you for your continued support!

Fall Harvest is officially here, and our first graders are falling right into their learning routines! In reading, we have transitioned into our new series with great enthusiasm. The children have been hard at work mastering short a and short i vowel sounds, and we will continue reinforcing these while introducing the "sh" and "ch" digraphs. Alongside phonics, we are practicing our sight words daily in class. Continuing to practice both phonics skills and sight words at home each night makes a wonderful difference in improving your child's reading fluency and accuracy.

In math, students have been building strong foundational skills by practicing skip counting by 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s. We have also introduced addition concepts, teaching students how to add using a variety of strategies such as counting on, building with blocks, and using a number line. Practicing these basic addition facts with your child at home will help reinforce what we are learning in class and support them during their daily Rocket Math exercises.

Finally, we want to extend a heartfelt thank-you to the EverGreen PTA for sponsoring our Bus Safety Program, as well as to our local Fire and Rescue Companies for visiting and teaching our students about fire safety at home and in school. These valuable safety programs mean so much to our school community, and the kids learned a great deal!

We are so proud of how hard our first graders are working, and we look forward to seeing you all again at parent-teacher conferences in November!

Hello, Second Grade Families! We have had a wonderful start to the school year. We are welcoming our new reading series “Into Reading” with grace and gratitude. Our second graders are building their phonetic skills with daily sound drills. Students are practicing decoding words, reading decodable text, being exposed to challenging vocabulary orally, and writing personal narratives.

In math students are learning different ways to add and subtract numbers. We are showing them the traditional algorithm, as well as, adding partial sums, adding using a number line, and compensation. Students will find the best way that suits them to be successful in adding and subtracting numbers.

Students learned about community helpers and citizenship in social studies. We are learning about our government, how leaders are elected, and the different levels of government. Students enjoyed learning about this process.

Second graders are working so hard in the classroom. Please continue to work on their addition math facts, weekly spelling words, and continue to read with your child. We thank you for all that you do!



Our beautiful school grounds provided a colorful backdrop for learning. Happy fall!

The third graders continue to stroll into Evergreen Elementary with enthusiasm abound during this autumn season.

We are becoming increasingly adept at exploring and navigating the online features of our “Into Reading” ~ Version3, reading series. In our 2nd reading module, “Use Your Words,” students will listen to, read, and view a variety of texts and media that present them with information about the importance of using words and how they are used to communicate and express ideas and feelings. A genre focus on letters, and poetry provides students with opportunities to identify elements of poetry and figurative language to better understand unfamiliar texts.

In math, your child is using fact families to foster their understanding of division facts within our Envision Math program. A fact family is a set of three numbers that can be used to create four number sentences, two multiplication and two division. Our third graders continue to work diligently to develop necessary fact fluency skills. Please be sure to visit the family connections section to help with strategies to reinforce your child’s learning process and for additional support services.

Our third-grade authors are working on drafting letters as they incorporate newly learned conventions. Furthermore, they are creating a writing piece to submit for the PTA Reflections contest with the theme, “What My Culture Means to Me.” The students have a chance to place amongst their peers and receive a medal in the spring. This is always an exciting, much anticipated event!

The students have also been devoting time to learning the lowercase, cursive handwriting strokes. In the meantime, please encourage personal best printing on all written assignments.

In Science, Our Project Lead the Way program has sparked our students’ curiosity. They have embraced the different activities and discussions. Our focus has been on animal life cycles. We have witnessed first-hand the metamorphosis of the monarch caterpillar into a beautiful butterfly!

Please encourage your child to read with every opportunity. Ideally, 15-30 minutes of reading daily, combined with fact fluency practice. These skills are crucial to the success of our young learners. Thank you in advance for your time, support, and interest in your child’s education. We can’t hide our

Wildcat Pride!

We have hit the ground running in 4th grade! As you know, we have departmentalized this year, and the children seem to enjoy it. We have been learning about place value, rounding, and addition and subtraction of large numbers in our math classes. Fourth graders have also been practicing literary elements, theme, elements of poetry and figurative language in Reading. In Word study the children have worked with spelling patterns for the short vowel and long vowel sounds including the vowel consonant silent e pattern and closed syllables. Social Studies has the children exploring the Northeast Region of the United States.

Happy October! We are excited to share what's happening in fifth grade this month.

Math: We are beginning our unit on decimals. Students will learn to read, write, compare, and perform operations with decimals through hands-on activities and real-life applications.

Reading: This month we have been exploring multiple texts that relate to our essential question, "What kinds of circumstances push people to create new inventions? Students have been practicing using context clues to identify word meanings, working on prefixes and suffixes, as well as finding the central idea of a text.

Science: In science, we'll explore matter. Students will investigate the states of matter, the properties of matter, and physical and chemical changes of matter.

Social Studies: Our studies move into the Civil War era, examining the causes, key events, and important figures of this period in American history. Additionally, students will work on their culminating project about the 50 states. Each student will research and present a chosen state to demonstrate their understanding of geography, history, and culture.

Thank you for your continued support at home. Please encourage your child to read daily and practice math facts to strengthen their skills.

Warmly,

The Fifth-Grade Team



Welcome back – we hope everyone had a great start to the school year!

Mrs. Daniels and Mrs. Palmer are the Title I teachers at the EverGreen School.

The Title I Program services students in grades K-2 who are eligible for additional reading support. If your child qualifies for Title I services, you will be notified by the Title I teachers.

For more information about the Title I Reading Program, please check out the Title I website. The website includes a variety of useful information, such as upcoming Title I events, information for parents, Title I monthly newsletters, Title I Parent Policies and parent and student resources. To access the site, go to ww3.westernwayne.org, click on "Departments," then click on "Title I." We look forward to working with parents and students! Happy Reading!

