



Western Wayne School District
EverGreen Elementary

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT—December 2023



The Holiday Season is the season of giving, love, and kindness. It is a time for spending time with family, friends and loved ones. It is also a time to share random acts of kindness.

Create a new tradition this year. Make it part of your holiday preparation to get together and do something special for someone else. There are many people whose loved ones live too far away or they are in the military and they are unable to be with them this holiday season.

There are so many different things that you can do, here are but a few "Random Acts of Kindness":

- Help a friend in need
- Donate toys
- Send letters to the soldiers
- Carol for your neighbors
- Donate food to your local food pantry
- Donate pet supplies to your local pet shelter
- Rake leaves/shovel snow for someone
- Fulfil an Angel Tree request
- Give holiday treats to the fireman, postman and any other civil service person.
- Make cards for people in a nursing home and deliver them in person.



Happy Holidays

Mr. Pidgeon

**Words
from the
Principal**

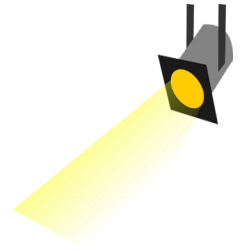
Inside this issue:

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: Mary Beth Grandinetti

Educational Path/College(s): Western Wayne Graduate and Lock Haven University Graduate

Years in Education: 20

Why I joined the educational field: I have always loved working with children. Those “aha” moments are my favorite things about education.

Favorite:

Movie: Forrest Gump

Book: The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe

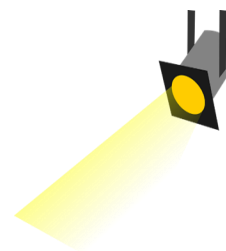
Sport(s)/team(s): College football/Notre Dame

Interesting fact: I actually have two different Bachelor's degrees. I have a Bachelor's degree in Health Science and one in Elementary Education K-6.





EG Spotlight



Name: Emily Lawrenson

Educational Path/College(s): Slippery Rock University with a dual major in Early Childhood Education and Special Education

Years in Education: 0 years; a 2023 graduate (began substituting at the NEIU learning campus beginning in 2018, and substituting in public schools shortly after)

Why I joined the educational field: I enjoyed going to school each day from kindergarten throughout high school. I felt supported by my teachers, encouraged, and welcomed into every classroom. This made me want to join the field of education in hopes of giving upcoming generations new opportunities, and to be treated the way I was throughout my education.

Favorite:

Music genre: country music

Food: chicken alfredo

Sport(s)/team(s): baseball/softball, football, volleyball, basketball.

Teams: baseball – Boston Red Sox, football – Detroit Lions

Interesting fact: I originally went to school as a Biomedical Sciences major to pursue a career as a geneticist. After becoming a substitute teacher, and seeing things from a teacher's perspective, I realized my passion was for special education.





ES

The students continue to work so hard. We are well into the second quarter and the progress each and every student has made is impressive. They are all actively participating in class and continue to ask questions when unsure of something.

We want to wish a very Happy Holidays to all our Western Wayne families.



Pre-Kindergarten



The Pre-Kindergarten students have begun compiling Alphabet Binders. They have created pages for the letters Mm, Ss, Rr, Tt, Pp, Cc and Aa so far this year. Each page has a unique picture to help them remember the letter sound. These binders are a great resource to help practice letter recognition and letter sound production at home.

In Math, the students have been exploring numbers by counting on, matching numerals to groups of objects, and using one-to-one correspondence. They are learning to tally using popsicle sticks and practicing writing the tallies on white boards.

The students have been enjoying participating in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) activities. This month after reading variations of the book The Gingerbread Man, the students will be constructing and decorating gingerbread houses. They will also be building traps that will hold tiny gingerbread men using an assortment of materials.

Kindergarten

Our Kindergarten classrooms are full of excitement and holiday spirit this month! Holiday stories and Christmas carols can be heard in every classroom. Their precious faces light up as we count down the days until Santa arrives.

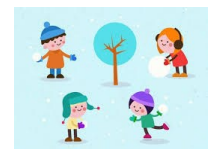
Phonemic awareness, phonics, and writing skills are being worked on daily in class. The children are reading more words and sentences. Remember to practice letters, sounds, and sight words nightly.

In math, the kindergarteners are exploring addition. They are listening to story problems and finding how many in all. The students are also learning to give an explanation of a mental image.

Please remember to review the work that comes home in the Daily Folder, practice sight words, and read with your son or daughter every evening. Encourage your child to do some writing at home with a reminder to try to print the letters correctly.

With the arrival of winter, please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for cold weather. A warm jacket, hat, mittens, and boots are necessary each day for school.

We wish everyone a very Happy Holiday Season!





1st Grade

We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. The students continue to work hard on telling time, shapes, and addition facts. We have also begun Rocket Math. Students are to be practicing their addition facts so that this will increase their fluency.

In reading, we have completed our second unit. Please continue to read with your child nightly. As they are becoming better readers let them read more to you.

We have been continuing to work on our handwriting. We have been reinforcing letter formation as well as neatness and spacing. Please remind your children at home the importance of neat handwriting as well as checking their homework to make sure the letters are made correctly.

We would like to take this time to wish everyone a safe, healthy, and happy New Year!



2nd Grade

Happy December! We hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with his or her families and friends. We are gracious to everyone who could come out to parent teacher conferences in November. Communication is very important between everyone to help the children grow.

With our reading series Journeys we are excited to start Unit 3. Unit 3 is titled Tell Me About It! In this unit, the students will be working on reading stories that teach how people and animals help each other, different ways to enjoy music, how schools are different from each other, different ways to communicate, and why it is important to follow rules. Students will be continuing to work on their fluency and accuracy each week.

Students in writing will be working on informational stories. Some of their writing will be responses to the stories in our reading series. Other times the students will be making teaching books for the other students to read. We will be focusing on teaching the students about a topic they know a lot about. Students will be working on writing a table of contents, using nonfiction text features, and having their stories in the correct order.

Mathematics we are continuing to add two digit numbers with regrouping. The students are learning different strategies to help them add together numbers. Students are working on their fluency with their math facts using Moby Max daily. This is allowing students to work on addition, subtraction, multiplication or division facts based on what facts they know.

We would like to continue to remind everyone to read each night for at least 15 minutes. Read a variety of types of stories including fiction, non-fiction, fables, and fairytales. Students benefit from all different types of stories and will be using the strategies and skills they are being taught in school.

We want to wish everyone a great holiday season!

3rd Grade

The third grade teachers want to thank the parents who were able to attend our parent/teacher conferences. The third grade team enjoyed meeting with each of you.

We are currently beginning our third unit, Lesson Learned, of our Journey's reading series. Students will be learning that instead of concentrating on past "mistakes", they are encouraged to focus on good things that come about because of past events. By reading about this topic, students will understand that people can learn important new lessons from past experiences.

In Math, we are making our way through our curriculum. We continue to work more with multiplication. We will use place value strategies and the associative property to multiply by multiples of ten. Third graders will also solve two-step word problems involving all four operations and assess the reasonableness of solutions.

Our Project Lead the Way science program has got our students super excited! They love the different activities and discussions. Our focus has been animal life cycles and then we will be diving into environmental changes.

The third grade teachers appreciate all of the time our parents spend reading nightly and practicing math facts with our students. This practice goes a long way not only in third grade but throughout life.



4th Grade

The fourth-grade team would like to thank all parents for attending parent teacher conferences. Your outstanding support and dedication to your child’s education is greatly appreciated. Journey’s, our reading curriculum continues to challenge comprehension and prepare students for the state assessment in the spring. It’s necessary for students to continually go back and check their work and site evidence of conclusions. We ask that parents make a routine of going over the Refrigerator Page that is sent home weekly. This allows you to have rich conversations and make connections to the classroom, while preparing your child for the weekly assessment.

In Envision Math, we continue to move through standard algorithms, while still focusing on place value, decomposition, tape diagrams, area, perimeter, and basic facts. Math fact mastery is the key to unlock fluent math thinking. Please review multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction facts, regularly. If you’re in need of any resources or ideas, please reach out to your child’s homeroom teacher.

Thank you for helping your child practice consistent homework habits.



5th Grade

There is so much to look forward to this time of year. As we continue to improve our writing skills we are working on opinion/persuasive writing. The boys and girls will be writing essays to convince their readers to believe in an idea or opinion.

In math, the fifth grade students are becoming very proficient with multi-digit whole number and decimal fraction operations. As we progress through decimal multi-digit multiplication and measurement word problems the students will understand the connection to division. Therefore, the students will move from multiplication to division of multi-digit numbers and division measurement word problems.

Please take the time to look through your child’s reading book. We are in Unit 3, learning about the American Revolution. After our seafaring adventure with John Adams, we will be reading about King George and his part in the American Revolution. From this story we will be introduced to Molly Pitcher. Finally, we will learn about a Patriot spy from Philadelphia.

We thank all parents for the support and encouragement that you have given your children throughout the year. As 2023 approaches, remember that together we can help our fifth graders achieve their personal best. Remember: **WE CAN’T HIDE OUR WILDCAT PRIDE!**



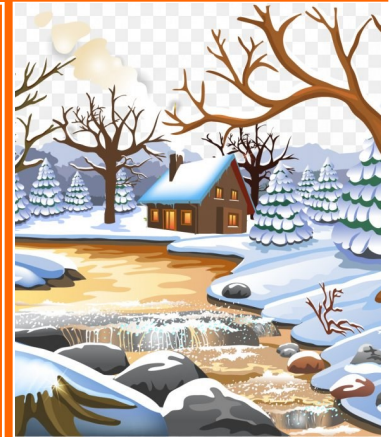


Title I

The Title I Program has a website where parents can access many different items. On the website, parents can access the following information:

- ◆ A general description of the Title I Program, including a link to the Common Core State Standards
- ◆ Title I teacher contact information
- ◆ Calendar of Title I events
- ◆ Parent information such as monthly principal reports and right-to-know procedures
- ◆ A monthly Title I newsletter
- ◆ Title I Parent Policies, including the District policies as well as the school policies
- ◆ Student and parent resources, including links to online sites as well as a link to the State Parent Advisory Council, which offers tips, pamphlets and videos for how to help children with reading

You can access this website by going to ww3.westernwayne.org. Click on “Departments,” then “Title I.”



ENROLLMENT

Early Intervention	14
Pre-Kindergarten	67
Kindergarten	68
First Grade	77
Second Grade	82
Third Grade	68
Fourth Grade	94
Fifth Grade	<u>83</u>
	553
Outside Placement	<u>+ 1</u>
Total	554