



Western Wayne School District
EverGreen Elementary

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT—February 2024



Words From Mr. Pidgeon, Principal

Writing Assignment Help

Writing assignments are often part of a student's homework. Here are some ways parents can help their children;

1. **Have your child "talk through"** his ideas on the topic before starting. Clear writing starts with clear thinking. Talking with a parent can help clarify thoughts.
2. **Encourage your child to make notes** before writing. An outline or a writing web are good ways to get organized.
3. **Offer plenty of praise.** Be as specific as you can. For example, you can say, "I really like the way you've described what led up to the _____."
4. **Don't over criticize.** Focus first on what your child is trying to say. It's helpful to point out errors now and then, of course. But if your children think you are always looking for what's wrong, they won't want to share their writing with you.
5. **Encourage your child to revise and rewrite.** Experts often say, "There is no such thing as good writing. There's only good *rewriting*." But, let your child do it. Don't rewrite it for them.

Mr. Pidgeon



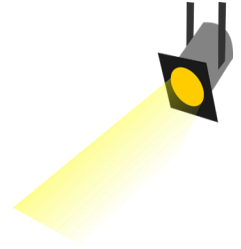
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EG Spotlight



Name: Courtney Rosenkrans

Educational Path/College(s): Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from Bloomsburg University. Master of Science in Educational Development and Strategies from Wilkes University.

Years in Education: 17

Why I joined the educational field: I've always loved children. I am the oldest out of all my cousins, so I babysat often. I've always wanted to become a teacher to foster a love for learning in children.

Favorite:

Color - Blue

Ice Cream – Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough or Pumpkin

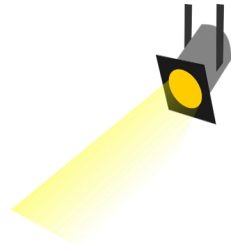
Place to visit - I love the beach! I love going to Cape May, NJ with my family each year.

Interesting fact: I love singing and performing in musical theater. I was in my first show, The Sound of Music, at the age of 12. I played Louisa, one of the Von Trapp children. My all-time favorite role was playing Belle in Beauty and the Beast.





EG Spotlight



Name: Sara Malcolm

Educational Path/College(s):

- ✦ Western Wayne Graduate
- ✦ Keystone College, BS in education
- Wilkes University, MS in online teaching

Years in Education: 17 years

Why I joined the educational field: I joined the educational field because I enjoy working with students. There are so many personalities and strengths that our students come to school with, and they are eagerly waiting for us to tap into their knowledge each and every day. I loved going to school as a child and I remember, very fondly, moments I experienced with my teachers. I especially enjoyed my teachers reading to me. I hope that I instill knowledge and determination into my students, and they remember some great lessons that we completed together.

Favorite:

Music genre/Singer: I enjoy many genres of music, but I prefer Pop music. I enjoy many of Taylor Swift's songs, but I technically don't have one favorite artist.

Movie: *The Notebook*

Food: Mom's homemade macaroni and cheese

Color: HOT, bright pink

Ice Cream: Vanilla

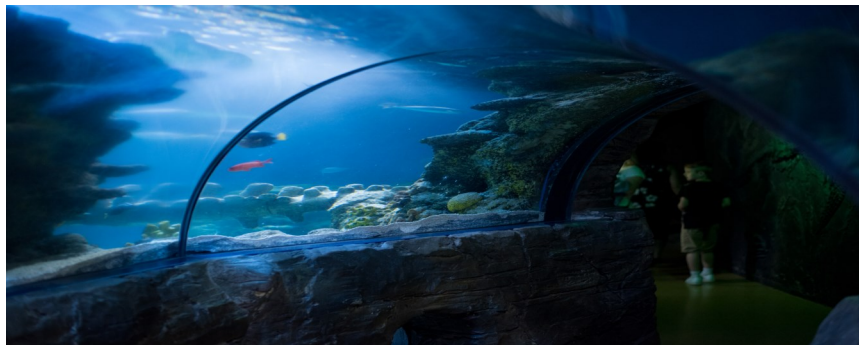
Book: *The Pact* by Jodi Picoult

Sport(s)/team(s): I enjoy watching my son and daughter play sports.

Place to visit: The warm ocean, aquariums, and zoos.

Interesting fact:

Before becoming a teacher, I was a nail technician. I studied at Empire Beauty School and acquired my nail technician's license. I did nails at a day spa for a few years while obtaining my teaching certificate. I specialized in nail art and even was an honorable mention in a national nail magazine.



ES

It is hard to believe we are already a little more than halfway through the year. We continue to work so hard every day trying to learn as much as we can. It is truly amazing to see the progress all the children have been making.



Pre-Kindergarten

In Language Arts, the Pre-Kindergarten students are listening to stories about imagination and creativity. They are learning how tools are used to examine, create, and build. They are recognizing that different types of materials can be used to construct things and are learning to appreciate the art that other people create. They will have the opportunity to continue this theme of creativity as they construct a variety of structures in our STEAM center.

In math, the students are exploring the concepts of length, weight, and capacity. They are learning to compare two or more objects. They are identifying the positions first and last. They are also learning to form the numerals zero through five.

This month the students will act as mail carriers as they deliver Valentines to their classmates. They decorated Valentine bags and labeled them with their first names. They will match the names on the Valentines they bring into school to deliver them to the correct classmate.

Kindergarten

The kindergarteners enjoyed reading about oceans and outdoor adventures. The students listened to **Atlantic**, an informational text about the Atlantic Ocean. They learned very interesting and amazing facts about the ocean. Students also listened to **Nicky and the Rainy Day** a fantasy story about how a family of rabbits spent a rainy day.

In math, the children are working on simple addition and subtraction problems. We are continuing to count by ones and tens to 100 and are beginning to count by fives. Please practice counting with your child at home!

It's hard to believe that the 100th day of school is here already! On the 100th day, the kindergarteners have lots and lots of practice counting to 100 by ones, fives, and tens. Of course there is also a special 100th day of school story read in each classroom.

Valentine's Day is so exciting in Kindergarten! The children can't wait to open all of the valentine cards in their bags and read to find out who sent each one. Happy Valentine's Day to all!

Please remember to read with your child every night, and be sure to have your child practice reading the sight word list on the back of the Daily Folder.



1st Grade

The third quarter is now upon us. In reading, we recently began our fourth book. We continue learning about long vowels and long vowel patterns. Students are learning about silent e words as well as different vowel pairs. Please reinforce these vowels at home. Also, we continue to learn new reading strategies. Students are learning the importance of rereading for understanding, retelling a story in their own words, and identifying the beginning, middle, and end of stories. We are also continuing to work on blends, digraphs, and word families.

In math, we are continuing to focus on addition and subtraction facts to 20.

Students are learning many different skills in Science and Social Studies this year. Please encourage your child to talk about what they did in Science that week. The students really seem to enjoy this subject.

Please continue to practice your child's sight words each night. This will help them become a better reader. Also, please continue to read 15 minutes every night with your child.

2nd Grade

In math, the second grade students learned to work with time and money. Students practiced counting pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters. Please continue to practice this at home with your child. Students learned how to tell time on an analog clock. Students practiced telling time to the five minutes. Please continue to have them use this whenever possible.

The second graders began a new reading unit entitled, "Heroes and Helpers!". In this unit, the children read fictional and informational stories about courageous characters. The children connected these stories to their own lives by sharing ways to overcome difficulties. The students continue to work on improving their reading comprehension as well as their reading fluency. Please practice reading for meaning, smoothness, and accuracy at home.

The second graders read informational articles in *Scholastic News*. They had some great discussions and enjoyed learning about their world. Please continue these discussions at home when you see their *Scholastic News*. This is a great opportunity for the students to re-read informational text.

In Science, the students are learning about the design process when solving problems. In the final two units of science, students will learn about the diversity of life and the changing earth. Students will learn about life cycles of different plants and animals and what they need in order to survive.

Valentine's Day is always an exciting time for the second graders because they get to celebrate all the friendships they have made at school. The students love to pass out their valentines as well as look at all they receive from their friends. This activity provides the children an opportunity to celebrate kindness and friendships throughout the school!

As always, thank you for your continued support and cooperation!

3rd Grade

As this winter season is making its way forward, so are our third graders. We continue to develop all our academic areas. Within the past months, students have been very busy becoming knowledgeable in all they can so that they can take that wisdom and information with them to achieve success on the upcoming PSSA's.

In reading, students are leaping into unit 4 of our reading series, "Natural Wonders." This unit is filled with the wonders of nature and questions to make students think. They will be able to understand the importance of scientific research after reading the stories. This learning will also help students continue to grow in the area of opinion writing. Students will be able to mimic mentor author moves in their own writing.

In math, students are working through collecting and displaying data. They will be able generate categorical data, organize it, and then represent it in a variety of forms. Through problem solving, opportunities naturally surface for students to make observations, analyze, and answer questions such as, "How many more?" or "How many less?" We encourage you to try some real-life problem solving at home with your child.

In Science, we will continue our journey through our Project Lead the Way science program for the third quarter. Our third graders will be investigating environmental changes. In this module, students learn about Earth's habitats and how these habitats support life. Students examine fossils and investigate what fossils reveal about how organisms and habitats adapt and change over time. Students identify factors that cause environmental changes and simulate the effect the environmental changes have on living things.

As a reminder, we ask that your child continues to neatly complete his/her homework each night. If there is a reading comprehension assignment, please remember to have your child respond (when necessary) using complete sentences and highlight all textual evidence. Students are also required to read 15-30 minutes, and practice multiplication facts each night. With PSSA's coming up we feel this reinforcement at home will help them do their best.

4th Grade

“All kids need is a little help, a little hope, and somebody who believes in them,” was well said by Earvin “Magic” Johnson. Fiction stories in the reading theme, *Unbreakable Spirit*, was an appropriate topic for Unit 4 in English Language Arts. Students’ curiosity led to rich discussion of focus questions on the meaning of unbreakable spirit and how it can lead to accomplishments. In writing students focused on descriptive paragraphs, friendly letters, and personal narratives.

Mastery in addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division remained to be a focus in mathematics. Multiplication fact mastery can’t be emphasized enough! Additionally, we request parents to continue skill practice at home for students to be most successful in mathematical thinking. Topic 8 of Envision Math introduced fractions representations in multiple examples such as area models, number lines, comparing fractions, and generating equivalent fractions.

In science, we continued subjects of structure and function of living and non-living things. Ask your child about what it means to be living. Allow them to provide you a detailed explanation, using rich academic vocabulary to describe structure and function and how it’s applied to specific living things as well as non-living things.

Thank you for your continued home support to your child’s education. As always, don’t hesitate to reach out to your child’s teacher with any questions or extra resources you may need!

5th Grade

Fifth graders have recently begun their newest unit in writing – Informational Writing! Students will be perfecting skills such as note-taking, organizing information, drawing inspiration for mentor texts, and writing using multiple text structures. All students have been working extremely hard to improve their writing skills!

Writing has also been incorporated into reading class. Fifth graders are busy analyzing stories and writing responses to Text Dependent Analysis Questions. These questions focus on gathering evidence, knowledge, and insight from what was read.

As always, we are continuing to promote responsibility in our fifth graders in preparation for middle school. It is important that they are completing their classwork and studying for tests. Along with responsibility, we expect our students to be kind to one another. We are encouraging our fifth graders to act as role models to our younger students by showing kindness and compassion to others.

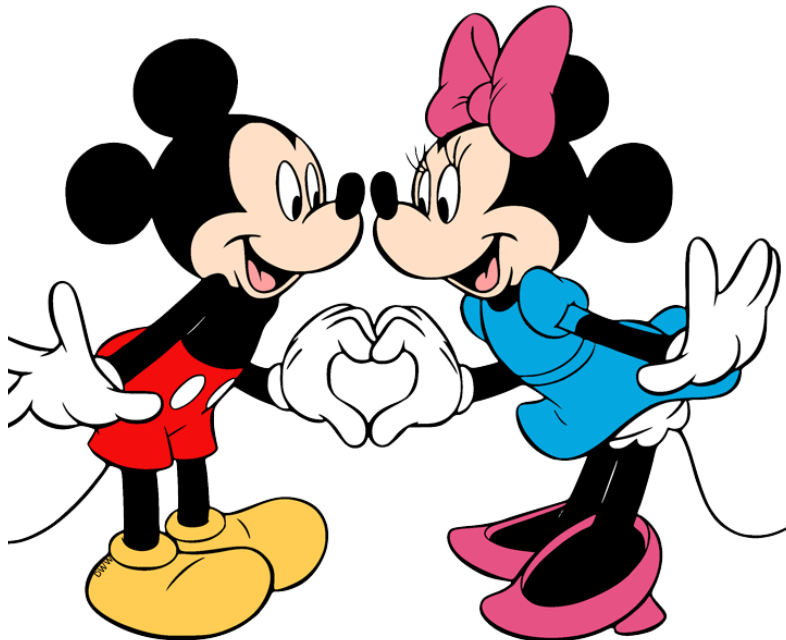
Title I

With the winter aimsweb Literacy Benchmark Assessment behind us, we thought this would be a good time to remind everyone of our Title I Local Assessments. Local Assessments are tests that are given to every student in that particular grade three times per year, once in the fall, winter and spring. These assessments help us to chart the growth of the Title I students over time, as well as to compare them to their peers.

First grade Local Assessments consist of the aimsweb Nonsense Word Fluency subtest, the aimsweb Oral Reading Fluency subtest and selected weekly reading tests. We use the Nonsense Word Fluency subtest to assess a student’s ability to decode or sound out unknown words. The Oral Reading Fluency subtest measures the number of words a student reads correctly in one minute on a first grade level passage. Finally, the weekly reading tests are a way to measure a student’s ability to comprehend a grade-level story.

Second Grade Local Assessments also make use of the aimsweb Oral Reading Fluency subtest. To measure student’s phonics skills, we use the Elementary Spelling Inventory. This is a spelling test of 25 words with various phonic elements. To measure student growth in comprehension, we look at each student’s score on the aimsweb Reading Comprehension subtest. For this subtest, a student must independently read various grade-level passages, and answer questions about the passages.

If you have any questions about the Title I Local Assessments, please feel free to contact Mrs. Daniels or Mrs. Malec, the Title I teachers. Thank you for all you do to help your child with their reading!



ENROLLMENT

Early Intervention	15
Pre-Kindergarten	66
Kindergarten	69
First Grade	78
Second Grade	82
Third Grade	68
Fourth Grade	96
Fifth Grade	<u>83</u>
	559
Outside Placement	<u>+ 0</u>
Total	559