

DECEMBER/JANUARY

NEWS

Happy Holidays from Mrs. Elias

The holidays are fast approaching and the cold weather sure makes us feel like winter is here! The students are busy preparing for the Christmas program on December 8th, the band concert at the high school on December 13th and collecting hats, mittens, and scarves. I am proud of all their hard work and dedication to their studies and athletics on top of the extra activities this time of year brings. I am sure they are all really looking forward to their Christmas parties and festivities the last week we are here in December as well! I encourage our families to spend more time playing board games, watching movies, talking and reading. I challenge you all to take a break from the screen time. If we have learned anything from the past year and a half, it would be that spending time together is priceless!

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Important Dates/Items to Remember:

- The Christmas Program is scheduled for Wednesday, December 8th at 6:30 P.M. Student dress for the concert should be nice clothes you would wear to church. All students should be in their classroom by 6:10 P.M.
- We will use the following guidelines in determining whether students go outside or stay inside during winter weather for recess: **Please have children wear coats to school!**
 1. If the temperature is above 32 degrees, students will go outside.
 2. If the temperature is between 25 and 31 degrees, wind chill will be considered before a decision is made to go out or to stay inside.
 3. If the temperature is below 25 degrees, students will remain inside.

WHAT'S NEW?

You can now access the lunch menu on Teacher Ease as well as the website. So, when you are checking lunch balances and student grades (3rd -8th grade) you can view the menu, too!



December Music News



Hello!

The Christmas concert is right around the corner! The concert will be Wednesday, December 8th at 6:30 P.M. Students should report to their classrooms by 6:10 P.M. If the students arrive earlier than 6:10 then they must wait with their parents in the gymnasium. Masks are required for all. Students are asked to dress nicely for the concert. Please no jeans or hats. We are looking forward to singing for you. Can't wait to see everyone at the concert!

Musically,
Mrs. Pfizenmaier



News from the Resource Room

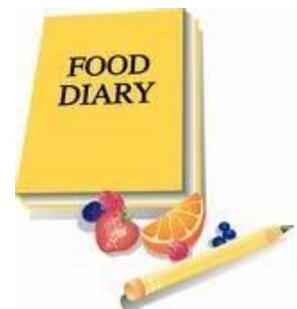
Happy December! As the days grow shorter of sunlight, students are still radiating sunshine within my classroom. I am so proud of all of my students for persevering through learning new skills that can be challenging with a positive attitude. Students in my classroom are working on sounding out unfamiliar words using digraphs, blends, and consonant/vowel patterns. Some students are working on creating a story about their favorite animals by using facts and opinions and applying writing strategies they have been learning. Our latest novel of Magic Tree House Stallion by Starlight was just completed and I loved being able to see students apply comprehension strategies throughout the story and during end assessments. To see the light bulb turn on and shine when a student is able to apply a skill they learned is truly incredible and is my favorite part of teaching. I am looking forward to all of the winter themed fun activities students will complete with me this month. I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and takes time to have fun engaging in winter activities and relax with loved ones.

Miss Lykken

News from Coach McKinney

The 2021-22 school year is flying by! The Thanksgiving break was much needed for everyone! We are quickly approaching Christmas break...and we all are looking forward to that. Hope everyone has a great holiday season.

In 8th grade Health, we are continuing with our nutrition chapter. The students will take part in a food log project. This project will make us aware of the food we consume on a daily basis. We are looking forward to it.





In PE, we are excited to have the Skatertime program here. The younger ones are learning what it's like to be on skates and the older ones are continuing to get better and enjoying games on skates.

The boys basketball and cheerleading seasons are off to a great start. The kids are learning and getting better every day. They will finish with the conference tournament in December so be looking for information for that. Stay safe everyone and

GO LIONS!!

Mr. McKinney

Kindergarten News

We completed our Clifford unit. The students had fun taking Clifford home and doing some great activities with Clifford. Thank you to the parents who helped the students write in the journal and to make this unit a memorable one. It has been exciting to see so many students have fun with Clifford through the years!



Kindergarten will be working on color words in the months of December and

January. We will not only be recognizing our color words, we will be spelling them, too! We will be having a color words test...hopefully the students will pass with "flying colors"! ☺ As these new concepts are introduced, I ask that the parents reinforce these skills at home. Also, please continue to work on the sight words, as well as reading all the little readers that are sent home through the weeks. It is so exciting that the students are beginning to recognize their sight words in other sources of reading, other than just in the reading curriculum! They are learning to sound out words, as well as starting to read sentences! Keep up the great reading, Kindergarten!



With Christmas quickly approaching, December will be a busy month for everyone! The Kindergarten class has some decorating to do! I will be setting up a small Christmas tree and ask that each student bring in a small, preferably non-breakable ornament to help decorate the tree.

The students have been preparing some very fun songs for our Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 8th. We hope to see all families at the concert!

We look forward to our Christmas party on Thursday, December 16th. Thank you to the parents who will be planning a fun party for us! We will be having a gift exchange this year – boys bring a \$10.00 gift for a boy and girls bring a \$10.00 gift for a girl. In addition, please label your child's gift "To Boy" or "To Girl", and with their name so we know who the gift is from. Please have gifts at school by Wednesday, December 15th. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

The Kindergarten class wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mrs. Dike



L.G.S. Families,

Christmas is a time of giving, sharing and celebration. Please help the 1st Grade class complete our annual "act of kindness" project. Each year I choose a way to teach my students to pay it forward. This year our project will be collecting food for the Kendall County Food Pantry. If each family could donate one or two items we could fill quite a few bags!

We plan to organize, sort items and pack bags in class. I will deliver the bags to Kendall County Food Pantry the week of December 13th.

If you would rather not shop and feel comfortable sending in a cash donation I can purchase items for our bags. You can send money in an envelope marked "Food Pantry" I will purchase items needed. Thank you!

Items we could pack in the bags:

- Gently used coats
- Water bottles, juice boxes
- Canned items (soup, veggies, fruit, tuna, chicken, tomato sauce, peanut butter, jelly)
- Can openers
- Sugar, flour, cooking oils & spices, butter, ketchup, mustard
- Cereal, Rice, Mac and Cheese, Pasta, Pancake mix, Instant Potatoes
- Snack pack jello & pudding, fruit cups
- Baby food, diapers, pull ups, baby wipes
- Shampoo, conditioner, toothbrush, toothpaste, body wash, deodorant, shaving cream, body lotion, soap/liquid soap
- Laundry detergent, dish soap, Hand Sanitizer

Please send donations to the
1st Grade classroom!

- All donations are due by Friday, Dec. 10th.
- First Grade class will organize and pack the bags in class on Tues. Dec. 14th.
- I will deliver our donations mid-week.



Thank you in advance for your help!
Mrs. Jacobson and the 1st Grade Class



News from 2nd Grade

Happy December from Second Grade!! November was a whirlwind of turkey facts, turkey drawings, and turkey dinners that we read and wrote about. Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday, so I enjoyed reading to the students about this special time of the year. We also shared about what we are thankful for. I know I am thankful for LGS and our community. Our students and their families are such a blessing. Thank you for supporting your student and our school!

We recently started Unit 3 in Reading, and we are almost finished with our first reading book. This first half of the school year has been filled with so many fun stories that we have shared together in reading groups, with a partner, flashlight reading alone, and listening to on CD. Our confidence as readers is growing! Our math skills are also growing... to numbers up to 1,000. We have been adding and subtracting two-digit numbers and learning about place value as we prepare to add and subtract three-digit numbers. In Science, we are studying plants and animals. We have enjoyed researching the parts of a plant, learning where plants and animals live, and finding out how they get their food. Second grade is jam-packed with education, and we are working hard to squeeze it all in!

Mrs. Mathre

3rd Grade News



Hello 3rd Grade Families! I can't believe how fast the month has gone by! We did so much in November. One of my favorite activities was starting our ice cream math! Ice cream math is a way for students to get comfortable and fluent in their math facts. Three days a week, students take a quick, timed test of multiplication problems. Once they pass each level, they get to move on to the next level and add a scoop to their ice cream bowl. At the end of the year, we will have an ice cream party! There is so much to look forward to next month, and I can't wait to share it all with you!

In December, we have many fun activities planned. In math, we are continuing to work on multiplication and division! Third grade has been doing such an amazing job working on their math facts. In reading, we will also be taking our second unit test soon. I am very excited for science this month because we will be planting seeds in the classroom. I know this will be tons of fun for everyone! We also have the Christmas party and our Christmas stations coming up.

Finally, our Christmas party will be held Thursday, December 16th. Mrs. Andersen and Mrs. Delaney will be attending. I know it will be so much fun! Thank you for your continued support, and I can't wait to see what December brings!

Miss Hennessy

News from Fourth Grade



Hello Families, Happy December! I can't believe how fast this school year is going by! We have a lot of things to look forward to in December like our Christmas music concert and our Christmas party. Thank you to all the families who volunteered to help out with the party. We spent some time drawing self-portraits and coloring stockings to hang up in the hallway! We are finishing up our unit two in reading and are getting ready to take our unit two test. In math, we are working on multiplication and perfecting our previously learned skills. I am looking forward to the fun month of December and all of the events that are happening!

Miss Vande Hei

Holiday Greetings from 5th Grade

Hello LGS families! It is officially December, and the weather has gotten pretty chilly! We have been really busy in 5th grade the past month! We have been learning how to add and subtract decimals in math, how shadows are formed in science, and about the first explorers to discover new places around the world in social studies. We are just finishing up our second reading unit, so we will be taking some time in December to focus on our writing skills! Our read aloud we are currently reading is, *Ground Zero*, by Alan Gratz. This book highlights the struggles many faced on the day of 9/11, as well as the struggles families in Afghanistan face while living in a time of war. Moving into December we have lots of fun activities planned, including making decimal snowmen, scavenger hunts, and much much more! Stay warm! :)



Miss Sztapka

Christmas Greetings from Mrs. DeGraaf's Class

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving break, and we are all ready to finish this year strong!

In 6th grade, we are starting a reading unit where we will study theme. We will be reading different stories and learning how authors use different techniques to teach lessons and morals. We will end our unit writing a story with a specific theme. In science, we are studying the atmosphere. In Geography, we will finish our unit on Central America. We are currently studying the history of different countries located south of our equator. Your student will memorize the different countries as well.

In 7th grade history, we just finished the American Revolution and will be diving into how our country formed post revolution. Specifically, we will study the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

In 8th grade, we are finishing up the Progressive Era. Students are learning about how some Presidents in that era shaped the laws. We are currently learning about how women and minorities changed voting laws. After we finish this chapter, we will be moving on to how America became a superpower. Definitely exciting!



We have a few dates you will want to put on your calendar:

December 8th- Christmas Music Concert

December 10th- Santa Shop and all school movie (Walk-a-thon prize)

December 17th- Christmas Party for Junior High- **gift exchange notes to come home soon.

December 17th- AR book/test due/ end of quarter

News from Miss Zielske's Room

I can't believe November is over. I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving break!

In English, all students have been improving their ability to punctuate complex sentences correctly and use a variety of different sentence lengths in their writing. Seventh and eighth grade even learned how to write a compound-complex sentence. Sixth graders started their Genius Hour projects, which involve researching a topic of their choice. They will typically work on these projects once a week in class. In December and January, each grade will be alternating Shurley English units with argument writing units. Students will learn how to develop claims, evidence, and explanation of the evidence without using feelings or emotions toward the subject. Seventh and eighth graders will dive a little deeper and learn about counterarguments and rebuttal. We will be doing several class activities that focus on different types of argument writing that include having to read articles and gathering information before a claim can be made.



Students in seventh and eighth grade are continuing to use different reading strategies in their stories. In December, seventh grade will be reading a Chicago Bears-inspired play called *Brian's Song* and comparing it to the movie version. Eighth grade will be taking a break from their reading textbooks to do a novel study of *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. They enjoyed their mini-research project on Victorian England topics to help give us background on the novel. The next AR book is due by December 17th. You can continue to order books from book order on the Scholastic website. My classroom code is L7RLL. If you order online, I am guaranteed free shipping, and the books are a little cheaper.



Hope you all have a wonderful Christmas season!

Happy Holidays,
Miss Zielske

Holiday News from Mrs. Heap's Room

Wow! I can't believe that it's December and the holidays are just around the corner. We have accomplished so much already, but of course, we have so much more to cover before the end of the year. Math classes are working on a variety of topics. Sixth grade is beginning a geometry unit and will continue in the math curriculum by working with ratios and percentages. Seventh grade is working with percentage problems and will progress to solving inequalities. Eighth grade is graphing linear equations and will be solving absolute value equations and solving and graphing inequalities. Additional math practice on IXL.com is available to students anywhere there is an internet connection. If you are having trouble logging in at home, please contact me and I will help you get connected.

Science classes have started new units. Seventh grade students are beginning a unit on cells and heredity. In December, students will present their Cello-O Jell-O projects to other classrooms in the school. After the presentations, they will focus their attention on studying heredity. Eighth grade is finishing the chemistry unit. They will conduct several experiments related to pH and then begin a new unit on Sound and Light.

Our Christmas party is scheduled for Friday, December 17th, which includes a movie, snacks, and a gift exchange (spend about \$10). The movie takes place in the morning with a break for treats around 10 AM. As the event gets closer, we will send out a Sign-up Genius invitation for treat donations.

Our first community service project in the junior high will be collecting donations for a local charity. The "Mitten Tree" will be located by the office door. Students can bring in new hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves to decorate the tree until December 17th. If you prefer, you may also send in loose change or a few dollars and I will go shopping for extra items before I make the final donation on December 17th. Let's see if we can pile up the winter items and make a huge donation this year!

I would like to wish all of my students and their families a relaxing and enjoyable holiday season. It is truly a blessing to work with your students each day!

Mrs. Heap