

Messages from Mittineague



News from Rooms 1 and 4:

Brrr! We think winter has finally arrived...please send your child to school with jackets, gloves and hats. We do try to go out for recess as often as we can. Our first graders have been very busy this past month. In reading our genre is Fairy Tales and Fables. As a class we have been reading different fables and discussing the morals, or lessons, that they teach us. We will be reading some classic fairy tales this month as well as some of our favorite holiday stories. In math we are learning about many ways to make numbers, fact families, and working with our math facts to 20. Students should be able to fluently add and subtract to 10 and use strategies to add and subtract through 20. In social studies we will be doing a variety of activities focused on different holiday celebrations around the world. Next Friday, December 14th will be our holiday concert. There will be two performances one at 9:30 and one at 11:00. Please remember to return your green slip indicating which concert you will be attending. We look forward to seeing the students in their holiday best for the show. On Friday we will also be sending home our trimester one report cards. Please sign and return the envelope only on Monday, December 17th. As always thank you for your continued support. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or concerns. You can reach us at gerardi@wsps.org or hogan@wsps.org

If we do not see you ~ Have a Happy Holiday...We wish you the best in 2019!

News from Our Nurse:

Staying healthy during the busy holiday season can be challenging. There things you can do to help keep your family healthy during the holidays and winter months. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has helpful Holiday Health and Safety tips for families at <https://www.cdc.gov/family/holiday/index.htm>.

The fluoride program began on Friday, 11/30/18. Students can still be added to the program. Please contact the nurse for a permission form If you would like your child to participate. The program is of no cost to you and has shown to be beneficial to promoting dental health.

There is a new Health Services tab on the district website. Visit www.wsps.org and under the Families and Community Heading you can find the Health Services tab. This contains useful health information and forms.

Donations of gently used clothes, especially pants, are always welcome! Thank you to all who have donated! It is greatly appreciated!

For your Calendar

December 11 School Banking

December 11 After School Chorus

December 14 Band Rehearsal 7:30

December 14 Holiday Concert 9:30 & 11:00

December 14 Report Cards

December 17 Elementary Band WSHS 7:00 PM



News from Room 2:

As the first trimester comes to a close, it is a great time to reflect on the growth that our class has accomplished so far. I am amazed at the scholarship the class has demonstrated, and as I write their report cards, I am very proud of the marks they've earned. When you get the report card, keep in mind that we use a standards based system (that means no easy to comprehend letter grades). On each standard, your child will receive a 4,3,2,or 1. At this time in the year expect to see a lot of 2s. That means that your child is making progress on the standard with teacher support. A 3 would indicate that your child demonstrates the standard independently (this is our end of the year goal). It is unlikely that you will see any 4s at this time (indicating that your child is performing significantly above grade level). If your child has earned any 1s, that is an indication that they are just emerging on a given standard, and even with teacher support are not yet demonstrating an understanding.

The report cards are wordy, and difficult to decipher. I believe that you'll find my comments are the best way to gauge how your child is doing in the classroom overall, and if they have any areas of weakness, I will give some helpful suggestions of ways you can help them improve. If you find that you have questions about the marks, please feel free to email me at any time.

As far as a classroom update goes, we've continued to be very busy in Room 2. In math the third graders have been really focused on learning a variety of strategies for multiplication. Over the December break, we will be challenging third graders to study their multiplication facts, and come back with some solid fluency. The second graders have started delving into subtraction. We've used a variety of models including the hundreds chart, place-value blocks, and part-part whole diagrams to understand how subtraction works.

In our literacy studies of reading and writing, we've been focused on informational texts. We've mastered an understanding of text features, and we now know both how they help us in reading and how to incorporate them into our writing. Recently we've begun our final informational text project, where students are choosing an animal of interest and conducting research to create an informational book all about their animal.

In social studies, we've just begun our unit on traditions. This is perfect as it goes along with the holiday season. We are taking time before the break to study different holiday traditions around the world.

Holiday Concert Notice

This Friday, December 14th will be our annual holiday concert. We are following a new format this year to eliminate the over-crowding and lack of seating that we have each year for this event. This year, we will have two performances; one at 9:30 and a second at 11:00. The timing is tight, but Mr. Rovero has to get back to his other schools. Please remember to send back your choice of times so we can have enough chairs set up.

- All guests must enter through the main office.
- All guests will exit using the gym doors.
- All children will leave the gym in a line with their class.
- There will be no sign out sheets in the gym. Any parent wishing to sign out their child must follow the normal procedure in the office.



PTO

The next PTO meeting of the year is scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, 2019, from 5:00-6:00. We hope to see you there!

Thank you for all of your support with the holiday raffle! It is great fun to hear who won the prizes each day!

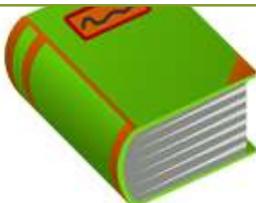


Word of the Week
thoughtful

Showing consideration for others

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Creative thinking inspires ideas,
ideas inspire change..."



Contact
Information

Email:
teacher@wsps.org

School Phone
413-263-3327

Address
26 Second Street

Website:
<http://mittineague.wsps.org/>