

Danbury Elementary Newsletter

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Ann Holloran, Principal

Changing of the Guard

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Today marks the change in presidency. Donald Trump will be sworn in as our 45th President of the United States at noontime. In some of our classes today, we took the time to speak about the different traditions, protocols, and ceremonies that occur during the inauguration. Also, over the course of this month we have discussed, and will continue to discuss, the work of Martin Luther King, Jr. and other civil rights leaders.

One activity I noticed while doing my classroom walk-throughs was writing done by our 3rd graders at NHCS. After studying MLK and his "I Have a Dream" speech, students had an opportunity to draw and write about their hopes and dreams for our country. Here are just a few examples:

"I have a dream that someday people will think about pollution and how it will affect us and animals."--Ceili

"I have a dream that homeless people have a place to live."—Emmie

"I have a dream that everyone will come together in peace and not violence."—Lydia

"I have a dream that people will be treated how they want to be treated."—Kendra

"I have a dream that people will be nice to each other."—Shaun

As our country moves forward with our new leadership, there appears to be some discourse. May these children's words help guide us into the next chapter in American history.

Have a great weekend!



The Bertha Brown
Prize Speaking Event
January 31st 6:30pm



PE with Mrs. Frost

The manipulative skill of “Striking” has been the main focus in the Physical Education classes. Students in grades 1-5 worked on striking with a long-handled implement – Hockey and striking with a short-handled implement - Tennis. The SHAPE America National Standards include:

1st Grade: Beginning development skills are being practiced. Standards: (S1.E24.1) Strikes a ball with a (long-handled) implement, sending it forward; (S1.E24.1) Strikes a ball with a short-handled implement, sending it upward

2nd Grade: Developmentally appropriate outcomes first appear in Grade 2. Standard: (S1.E25.2) Strikes using correct grip and side orientation/proper body orientation; (S1.E24.2) Strikes and object upward with a short-handled implement, using consecutive hits

3rd Grade: Standard (S1.E25.3) Strikes with a long-handled implement (hockey), sending it forward, while using proper grip for the implement; (S1.E24.3) Strikes an object with a short-handled implement, sending it forward to a wall

4th Grade: Standard (S1.E25.4) Strikes an object with a long-handled implement (hockey), while demonstrating 3 of the 5 critical elements of a mature pattern for the implement (grip, stance, body orientation, swing plane, and follow-through); (S1.E24.4) Strikes and object with a short-handled implement while demonstrating a mature pattern

5th Grade: Standard (S1.E25.5a) Combines striking with a long-handled implement (hockey stick) with receiving and traveling skills in a small-sided game; (S1.E24.5) Strikes an object consecutively, with a partner, using a short-handled implement, over a net or against a wall in either a competitive or a cooperative game environment

Students have worked on age-appropriate practice skills, the critical elements of striking, cooperative partnership in practice and movement skills. They are currently being assessed on their short-handled (tennis) skill standards.

Students in Kindergarten have worked on the manipulative skills of catching, dribbling, tossing and catching, and beginning level of tennis racquet skills. Our Kindergarten students are emerging into great PE students and they are learning many new fun activities and skills.

In looking forward to February, we will have our Unit in Jumping and Landing and Jumping Rope. This leads up to our annual Jump Rope for Heart Event, which takes place the week before February vacation. Students Jump Rope for Heart during their PE class time. Children really have a great time with this annual event! Please look for a Jump Rope for Heart newsletter, which will be coming soon, explaining all the details for this American Heart Association Fundraiser.



Lunch Menu January 23-27, 2017

Monday
Grilled Cheese
Broccoli Florets
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Tuesday
Breakfast Sandwich
Tater Tots
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Wednesday
Spaghetti
Breadsticks
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Thursday
Beef Burritos
Refried Beans
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Friday
Gils Pizza
Carrot Sticks
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Breakfast \$1.25
(reduced \$.30)
Lunch \$2.75
(reduced \$.40)
Milk \$.35

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Second Grade Stars

It's hard to believe that we are half way through the school year! These second graders are growing and maturing every day as they are working towards third grade! We recently finished a writing project called Who Am I? With this project, the students were able to draw three pictures of an animal and write clues and an acrostic poem so that other students would be able to guess which animal they researched. To build on that, in Literacy, they are working with Miss Bennett in class on a poetry project based on different types of weather. After they are finished with their writing, they will move onto painting a picture of each weather type and then creating a book for Authors Night in the spring.

In math, we just finished Module 3 and moving onto Module 4, which is focused on addition and subtraction within 200 and word problems within 100 and different strategies they can use to solve these problems. We have been practicing how to work as a whole group as well as with a partner to build those relationships and learn how to work together and listen to other strategies. This is a longer module with 30 lessons. I will send home a piece of math homework each night that connects to the lesson that we had that day.

Next Friday is already the Prize Speaking preliminaries! We have been practicing our poems everyday but it will be very helpful to practice at home next week. The class knows their poems, but now is the fun part of slowing down and adding expression or hand motions to receive a higher score from the judges. I always enjoy hearing the students recite their poems on stage!



Volunteers

As many of you know, field trips and other activities are often scheduled for the last half of the school year. If there is an opportunity for you to volunteer as a chaperone, please know that you must go through the fingerprinting process at the Superintendent's Office prior to chaperoning. Paperwork to start this process is to be picked up at the DES office. After we receive the completed paperwork from you, we will forward it over to the Superintendent's Office. The SAU office sets aside one day per month for the processing of paperwork and fingerprinting for those who have completed the initial paperwork. The next available date at the SAU will be Wednesday, February 1, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. At that time, you will need to bring a driver's license with you. Because it may sometimes take up to a month between the time you've completed the initial paperwork and the time a background check is returned, you should begin this process as soon as possible. Please give us a call if you have any questions.

