

THE CAT'S CORNER

FOURTH 9 WEEKS



MISSION

AT MARY C. SNOW WE....

- R**ARE RESPECTFUL
- O**WN OUR ACTIONS
- A**CHIEVE OUR GOALS
- R**AND ARE RESPONSIBLE

MEETING OUR GOALS NOW TO BECOME PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS IN LIFE.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Mary C. Snow West Side Elementary Families,
It is hard to believe that we are halfway through the 4th nine weeks. As I look back on the first, second, and third nine weeks, we accomplished many things so far such as:

- ▣ New Vision/Mission
- ▣ Removed from the Comprehensive School Improvement (CSI) List
- ▣ Student achievement from BOY to MOY
- ▣ Fully staffed school and Additional Interventionist Staff
- ▣ Curriculum Assistant Vice Principal
- ▣ STEM teacher funded through NASA
- ▣ Community in Schools Coordinator
- ▣ PTO- with successful fundraisers resulting in an almost \$5,000.00 budget.
- ▣ Chorus, Magnet, and Black History Performance
- ▣ Kickboard Incentives and Award Assemblies
- ▣ Support from outside agencies/organizations
- ▣ Yearbooks
- ▣ Lu Interactive Playground
- ▣ Arbor Day Celebration

The list can and will go on, and I couldn't be more proud! Without the support of the staff, parents and community, this wouldn't be possible!

The next month will be an extremely busy time of the year as our 3rd-5th grade students prepare to take the General Summative Assessment (GSA) testing. We will also celebrate the end-of-the-year achievements of many of our students and staff members. I know that there have been struggles academically and socially for many of our students. However, I am confident that our teachers have provided your child with the proper tools and instruction to help close some of the achievement gaps and to see growth on their assessments.

Please continue to monitor your child's grades and any other updates about the school through Schoology, Facebook, Weekly Callouts, and their communication folder. Again, thank you for your support this year, and I wish you and your families good health and positive vibes! Don't forget that I love you and that the West Side is the Best Side!

Sincerely,
Destiny Spencer
Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 17th - 21st
Military Spirit Week

Wednesday, April 26th
5th Grade Step Up Day

Thursday, April 27th
Kindergarten Round Up!

May 1st - May 4th
GSA State Testing 3rd-5th Grade

May 5th
Exceptional Games

May 16th
Capital High School
Senior MCS Alumni Walk

May 18th
PreK Graduation 9:00am
Special Education Awards Dinner
Ceremony at 5:00pm

May 19th
5th Grade Graduation - 9:00am

May 23rd
Community in Schools Meeting
"Best of the West" Talent Show

May 24th
Field Day
WV Grand Slam Day 4th & 5th

May 25th
Report Cards Go Home
LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS!

FIELD TRIPS

MY 9TH
5TH GRADE - MALIBU JACKS

MAY 10TH
GIRLS ROBOTICS FIELD TRIP

MAY 12TH
3RD & 4TH CARTER CAVES

MAY 12TH
KINDERGARTEN - CLAY CENTER

MAY 18TH
2ND GRADE KIDDAROOOS

Strategic Plan Goals:

1. Student Achievement: Students will show an average of 0.6 growth by the end of the year (2022-2023) in Successmaker Reading and Math.
2. Student Achievement: GSA scores will increase 2-4% from 2021-2022 school year.
3. SEL Goal: Students will show 5% growth by the end of the year (2022-2023) on the SEL Panorama survey for 3rd-5th grade students.
4. Family Participation: Family participation will increase at family engagement events by 2-5% by the end of the 2022-2023 school year.
5. Guided Reading: Students will increase their guided reading level by at least 3 levels (writing matching the reading level) by the end of the 2022-2023 school year.



IN OTHER NEWS

PRE-K

Preschool is learning about clothes. We decorated t-shirts using tie-dye and hand prints. They also learned the different kinds of clothes and what to wear depending on the weather. We are continuously practicing our school rules and expectations in the classroom, learning about uppercase and lowercase letters, and writing names. In preparation for Kindergarten, they are practicing: writing names, spelling their names, cutting, and letter and number recognition. They also visited the Kindergarten classroom.

Kindergarten

In Language Arts:

We are finishing up our unit on medial short vowels. Most children can now isolate and identify the vowel sound in short words such as cat, wet, mop, lip, and bug. Don't worry if your child still has occasional difficulty with 1 or 2 of these sounds - even though we are moving on, our future skill work will continue to give us lots of practice. Along with our short medial vowel sounds we are also working on long vowel sounds, introducing "sneaky e" (also called magic-e or silent-e).

In Math:

Our kindergarteners have been learning about patterns. They are learning to identify, create, extend, and transfer repeating patterns found in objects, movement and sound. They have engaged in consistent number sense routines and small group activities to build fluency counting quantities, identifying numbers, and writing numerals up to 20, and continuous refinement of their addition/subtraction skills for numbers to 10.

First grade

We are in the final stretch! Our first graders will be learning and working with 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional shapes in Math. Our theme in Reading is "Making History". We are super excited to incorporate many biographies and historical fiction throughout the last nine weeks. As a first grade team, we can not believe how fast this school year is coming to an end and how much our students have grown!

Second Grade

Hello Second Grader Parents and Guardians!

It's now the last semester of second grade and we have loved teaching your second graders this year! Your child is becoming more confident with completely working by themselves and reading by themselves. Please continue to work on practicing sight words with your child and reading with them as much as you can! There are so many fun activities and lessons that we will be learning about this nine weeks! A friendly reminder that Mrs. Groves is on Maternity for the remainder of the year.

Welcome baby Orson!

Academic skills you can expect of your second grader:

- Decoding and spelling words.
- Read and write high-frequency words.
- Working on comprehension, themes and features of a folktales and nonfiction
- Measure the length of an object by selecting and using appropriate tools.
- Draw a picture graph and a bar graph (with single-unit scale) to represent a data set with up to four categories. Solve simple put-together, take-apart, and compare problems using information presented in a bar graph.
- Recognize and draw shapes having specified attributes, such as a given number of angles or a given number of equal faces.

We are so excited to continue teaching your second grader and if you have any questions please just let us know! Let's have a great rest of the year :)

Third grade

Third grade is gearing up and getting ready to try our best on our End-of-Year Test. Then we will celebrate by going to Carter Caves to do some science. We have studied 0 - 5, and 10,1's in multiplication and will finish them soon. Please continue to help us study them at home.

Fourth Grade

Mrs. Greene and Ms. Williams are continuing to work with the students to make them productive citizens. During these last nine weeks, please remind the students that rules still apply and that they must follow the rules. We have field trips planned for the students to attend. If their behavior is not appropriate here at school, they will not be able to attend. Please return permission slips, with the money if you have not already done so. With the State of WV test coming up, we are practicing test taking strategies to prepare them for the test. During testing time we want the students to get enough rest and go to bed early. Please have your child read at least 20 minutes each day. WEST SIDE IS THE BEST SIDE!

Fifth Grade

Only one semester to go until middle school! Our 5th graders are working hard to be respectful, own their actions, achieve their goals and be responsible, so that they can become productive citizens throughout their lives. Keeping that in mind, we recently sent home an information sheet regarding our end of the year field trip. Students who earn an 80% or above in positivity on Kickboard will travel to Mallbu Jack's in Ashland, KY for a fun-filled day of indoor amusement rides, arcade games, bowling and pizza! Please be sure to read our weekly newsletters for updates AND our Powerful Partners newsletter to learn what you can do at home to help your 5th grader grow academically.

Title 1 Math

For the 4th nine weeks Title 1 Math has been working with students to prepare for end of the year testing. We are also working with classroom teachers to track the students' growth and so far, we have seen significant growth!

Title 1 Reading

We are working to provide students with an opportunity to increase reading and writing skills at their instructional level. In addition, we are getting ready for End of year CIA testing with grades 3-5 focusing on reading and consider all of the answers, narrowing down distracting answers and looking for clues in other questions. Please encourage your child to carefully read the questions before they answer them. 3-5 is also working on writing paragraphs that contain a topic sentence, supporting details and an conclusion. K-3 students are making progress in DIBELS Skills which include sounding and blending, reading sight words, and reading stories fluently. The best thing you can do to improve your child's reading ability is to read to and with them daily.

Music:

5th grade: Mr. Herrald's class is learning to bucket drum and Ms. Poindexter's class is learning to play ukuleles!

4th grade: Both of Mrs. Hanshew's 4th grade classes are bucket drumming and using all the rhythms we've learned this year.

3rd grade: Mrs. Hanshew's 3rd graders have been working on sixteenth note rhythms. We've done lots of fun songs, games, and stories to practice tika-tika (sixteenth notes)

2nd grade: Mrs. Groves's second graders have been busy in music. We've been learning about the half note and have just begun a new concept called major versus minor! We've learned that major music sounds bright and happy, while minor songs sound dark or creepy.

1st grade: Ms. Elkins's and Mrs. Handley's first graders have been practicing quarter notes and eighth notes. We read a story called "The Eucalyptus Tree." Each student got to be a character with a costume and an instrument for our retelling of the story.

Kindergarten: Ms. Rhinehart's and Ms. Legg's kindergartners have been working hard on the concept of high and low sounds and notes. We have also begun exploring xylophones and playing high and low on them!

Preschool: Mrs. Sayre's preschoolers are having fun in music playing all kinds of instruments, moving to the steady beat, and singing!

