

Wildcat Newsletter

Mary C Snow West Side Elementary School

Principal's Corner

IT'S GROW TIME!!!

Our students and staff have been working so hard as we are headed into the holiday season and ending the second nine weeks. The fall months have been busy and we have a lot of celebrations. We celebrated Red Ribbon Week and College and Career Exploration week. We had 260 families attend Family Night, our Book Fair made a profit, we had our first PTO meeting with parents. Preschool had a parent celebration where there were fun activities for parents and students to interact. Our PTO helped setup a donut table for conferences, and most importantly, we are seeing academic growth with out students. The months of November and December will be just as busy with lots of activities and academic growth!

Communication is essential and we strive to connect to our students, parents/families, and community each day. We will continue reaching out to you with weekly gobo-calls and text messages, and Schoology updates. We also encourage you to visit our school website (mcs.kana.k12.wv.us) and follow our Facebook Page (Mary C. Snow West Side Elementary).

As a reminder, Kickboard is what has taken the place of Class Dojo. In Kickboard, students can earn points for meeting the classroom/school expectations daily. At the end of the week, the student with the most points in each class gets to be the Student of the Week. The Student of the week then gets to visit the school store.

Schoology is used for academic and general communication. Please ask your child's teacher for access codes to these programs, so that you can keep up with how your child is doing in school.

Please remember to keep your child at home if they are sick or have symptoms of a cold, covid, or the flu. If you do keep your child at home because they are sick, please notify the school and/or the classroom teacher. Remember, you have 5 parent excuses that you can use at your discretion. Even if you've already used your 5 excuses, please notify the school.

Please have your students here on-time. The tardy bell rings at 7:30 a.m. and instruction begins promptly. We encourage you to have your students here at 7:15 a.m. so that they can eat and be ready to learn at 7:30.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school at (304) 348-1902.

The West Side is the Best Side! 

Sincerely,

Destiny Spencer

Upcoming Events

11/22-26/21

- Thanksgiving Break
Schools and Offices CLOSED

Thursday, 12/2/21

- LSIC Meeting @ 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, 12/2/21

- Magnet Music Concert @
Cultural Center @ 7:00p.m.

Wednesday, 12/8/21

- NO SCHOOL for students
Professional Learning Day

Friday, 12/17/21

- End of 2nd Nine Weeks

12/20/21-1/2/22

- Christmas/Holiday Break
Schools and Offices CLOSED

Monday, 1/3/22

- School resumes
3rd Nine Weeks Begins

Friday, 1/7/22

- Report Cards go home
Awards Assembly

Monday, 1/17/22

- Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday
NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, 1/18/22

- NO SCHOOL for students
Professional Learning Day

Friday, 2/4/22

- Midterms

Classroom News

Preschool

In preschool we have been using Creative Curriculum to learn through exploring, investigating, and dramatic play. This quarter our focuses have been on Balls and Tubes/Tunnels/Waterpipes. We had a lot of fun learning the different names of balls and the sport associated with each ball. We also practiced throwing and kicking different size balls. The songs with our ball unit are going to be missed because they were so catchy and fun to sing.

While learning about Tubes/Tunnels/Waterpipes, we had two tunnels on the playground for the students to crawl through. We pretended that the tunnel was going through a mountain as it went under the play tower on the playground.

We have introduced half of the letters of the alphabet. The preschool students are making good progress identifying these letters and writing their first name.

We learned through our PATHS lessons when we get upset, we can do the "turtle." 1. Stop 2. Take a deep breath, go in your shell if you need to 3. Say how you feel.

We love seeing the progress and hard work from our preschool students.

Thank you, students and parents, for your hard work. The West Side is the Best Side!

Kindergarten

In Language Arts, the kindergarten classes are in full force with guided reading groups. Our goal is to have all students knowing their uppercase and lowercase letter names, consonant and vowel sounds, and our high-frequency sight words. All of the students in the class will receive daily reading instruction, both in large group and small groups and at centers. Literacy activities are planned according to the instructional needs of the students.

In Math, this month we will continue working on counting with one to one correspondence, writing numbers 0-10, and orally counting by 1's to 100 and by 10's to 100. Kindergartners are also learning how to read the numbers from 0-20 when they are in random order. Patterning, comparing sets (greater than, less than, equal), identifying 2D/3D shapes, sorting and classifying objects, composing/decomposing numbers from 0-10 using ten frames for math skills.

First Grade

We hope you all are doing wonderful and we have loved watching your first grader grow and learn this year! One

of our favorite things is watching them sound out words by themselves and being able to complete independent work by themselves.

This second semester we will be learning about subtraction strategies to 20. We will be learning about place values such as: the numbers from 11 to 19 are composed of ten and one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight or nine ones. We will continue to work on high frequency words such as walk and what. Write words with letter combination patterns such as words with the silent e like *lake* and digraphs such as ck in *duck*. We will continue to work on writing complete sentences with correct capitalization and punctuation. We will read aloud first-grade books with accuracy and understanding. We will be reading tons of informational text, poetry, and realistic fiction books in class. We will be making observations to construct an evidence-based account that young plants and animals are like, but not exactly like, their parents.

We are so excited to continue teaching your 1st grader and if you have any questions please just let us know! Have a marvelous day!!

Second Grade

We have been working hard on adding with regrouping and reading numbers to 1,000. In reading we have been working on contractions and finding the main idea. As always, we are working on following school rules. Please check Kickboard to see how your child is doing. Both teachers want to thank all of the families who sent in supplies for our Halloween Party! We appreciate you!

Third Grade

Third grade has been learning about informational texts, realistic fiction, how to close read, and much more in reading. We have read *Patterns in Nature*, *Weird Friends* and *Wolf Island*! In math, we are learning all about multiplication and division including different strategies to solve problems! We enjoyed Halloween activities including painting pumpkins, candy corn math, pumpkin science and of course dressing up and candy! We are looking forward to seeing parents at our parent-teacher conferences and continuing to learn!

Fourth Grade

Fourth Grade has been working real hard. We are continuing to strive to make them productive citizens. In Math we have been working on multiplication, 2-4 digit numbers being multiplied by a number. We have been studying Poetry in Reading. Some students are beginning to write some poetry on their own. Kickboard is helping out a lot. Students are now beginning to get in control of their behavior and taking on various Leadership roles in the classroom.

Fifth Grade

Our 5th grade Wildcats are currently working hard to master multiplication facts and the steps for Long Division, as well as researching for and creating a travel guide for a foreign country as part of our final unit project in Reading. We've been invited to a concert at the Culture Center in mid-November by Sterling Elliot, the Cellist who performed at our school recently. Also coming up, we will be starting a STEM program to teach our students more about Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Lastly, our LIFT program will be starting up soon which teaches our students about leadership, the justice system and professional life skills.

Special Education

Mrs. Fryson, Ms. Lynch, Ms. Katie, Ms. Peace and Ms. Metzger would like to shout out all their students for their progress this past nine weeks, it has been wonderful to see such growth already. Please be on the lookout for meeting notices coming home in the coming days and weeks, sign and return to school. Please encourage your students to practice their reading skills, and math facts each night.

Title I Math

Title 1 Math is continuing to reinforce basic math skills each day to students K-5. Primary students are working on number recognition and basic math facts. Intermediate students have been working very hard to master multiplication tables. Both primary and intermediate students must be studying each night to be successful in the activities we are doing now. Hopefully we can master these skills and move on to the next set of skills.

Title I Reading

Mrs. Douglas, Mrs. Rankin, and Mrs. Duffy are continuing to work each day in Grades K-5 classrooms for small group reading intervention. The focus is on increasing your child's reading and writing skills by using the Guided Reading format, which uses leveled books that are based on individual reading assessments. This past month, the team attended the Kanawha County School's workshop on how children best learn to read, as well as training on how the new Savvas reading program and Guided Reading format use these reading strategies to increase reading fluency, reading comprehension, and writing skills.



Support Services

Our goal is to provide students with knowledge and skills to help them become successful leaders of tomorrow. This team effort also requires us to keep our parents informed of the resources and services that are available to our communities and families to assist in reaching this goal. AWARENESS is the term the Social Services Team is using to sum up this quarter. Students celebrated Red Ribbon Week with lots of fun activities to promote a drug-free future. They also participated in CFWV College Application and Exploration Week by discussing various colleges and careers. During after-school students are receiving an hour of Additional Skill Building, homework help Monday-Thursday with a classroom teacher along with participation in various enrichment activities such as Engaged Writing, Art, and Tai Chi. We are also mindful that the Cold and Flu season has arrived thus promoting good hand washing as the best prevention for spread of germs that cause disease. Vaccinations are available at school for the flu with a completed parent consent. With approval of COVID-19 vaccinations for children ages 5-11, vaccine clinics are being planned for elementary schools and in the community. Attendance incentives are on the rise, our students do their best when they attend school regularly and we want to express our appreciation for their efforts.

Related Arts

Art

Currently in Art students are working on holiday crafts. They are sponge painting, print-making, and painting.

Music

Hanshew

Mrs. Hanshew's K-2 classes are working on various songs and Orff instruments (xylophones). Her 3-5 classes are working on drums and xylophones.

Schuda

Mrs. Schuda's K-2 classes are working on ostinatos (repeating patterns) and learning Christmas songs. Her 3-5 classes are working on Christmas songs for a Christmas concert.

Tucker

Mr. Tucker's 4th & 5th grade classes are working on ukuleles and Christmas music for a Christmas concert. Mr. Tucker would also like to congratulate the following students for making All-County Chorus: Jaideona Brown, Taraji Harris, Diamyn Knox, and Ka'Viana Sampson.

Gym

Mr. Dutton is working on Basketball skills and jump-rope in Physical Education.