

Ranch View Review



Volume 31, Issue 2

January 25, 2017

From the Desk of Principal Salness

Happy New Year! As we move into 2017, it seems appropriate to take time to reflect on the successes of our year thus far and celebrate exciting events and changes to come in the new year. Good things continue to happen at Ranch View!

Points of Pride:



Outdoor Classroom Continues to Support Learning:

Our outdoor classroom continues to provide innovative and inquiry-based learning opportunities for students throughout the winter months. Our weather station is now operational. Sensors placed on the roof send information to our office receiver which is then relayed to students via our student meteorologist report each morning. Students are observing changes in plants, animals, sun/moon locations and the effects of the water cycle on our landscape. Bricks purchased by families in the fall have been delivered and were installed when weather conditions permitted. An additional brick sale opportunity will be made available in the spring for those of you who want to leave a lasting legacy in our outdoor space.



STEM Education Makes a Difference:

For a second year in a row, select fourth and fifth grade students participated in the First Lego League Competition this past December. Students received recognition for their work in building and programming robots, successfully completing course challenges, presenting research related to the interdependence between humans and animals and their ability to demonstrate teamwork. All teams demonstrated GRIT during this challenging competition!

Data collected via the Pear Institute/Harvard School of Education survey instrument affirmed that participation in our STEM program had significant positive impact on students' mathematic skills, social emotional learning and self-esteem. The Pear Institute provided the following summary finding about the Ranch View STEM program. *"Quality programs like yours can enhance 21st Century Skills through engagement with STEM learning, and this experience may better prepare students to cope with increasingly complex life and work environments."* Specific data related to our after-school STEM program was presented to the Board of Education on November 7th. Visit the district website to access the full presentation. Phase II of our STEM program will begin in mid-February. Information on how to sign students up for this next phase will be forthcoming!



Maker's Market Family Night:

Want to learn more about STEM and experience components of coding, robotics and circuitry? Then mark your calendars now for our STEM- Maker's Market family event on March 23rd. During this hands-on learning event, families will experience a variety of STEM-related activities led by student instructors. Additionally, *STEM Engineering*, an outside provider of innovative STEM-based learning programs, will be in the gym that evening providing additional activities and insights into the world of SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MATHEMATICS and ENGINEERING. Look for opportunities to sign up to participate in this exciting event via a signup.genius.com email invitation coming in February.



PARCC Assessment:

Scores from the 2015-2016 school year have been published. Ranch View continues to demonstrate high performance in the areas of literacy and math, as our scores fall among

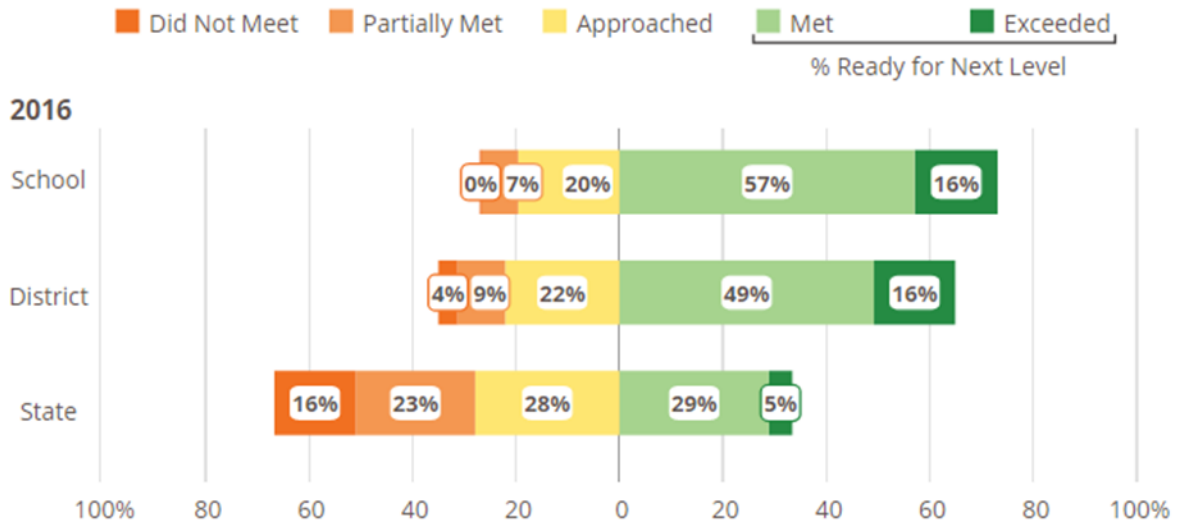
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Continued... From the Desk of Principal Salness

the top performing schools in district 203 and are well above state averages. Our 2016 reading and math scores increased by 3% and 6% respectively over 2015 scores! Other celebrations include that our Special Education students as well as our English Language Learners showed significant increases in reading and growth in math achievement. Please visit the Naperville 203 website for specific information on interpreting your child's scores and the Illinois State Board of Education website to view the updated Ranch View School Report Card. PARCC testing for the 2016-2017 school year will occur from April 17-28th.



Changes to our Playground:

Ranch View's large playground will be replaced over the summer of 2017. Representatives from several vendors have provided proposals and the top two-three designs will be displayed at Open House on February 2nd for your vote. The designs highlight cooperative play opportunities, innovative equipment, increased utilization and flow within the footprint, shaded areas, and additional large motor activities to support physical fitness. Additionally, Home and School fund raising efforts will be utilized to support social/emotional skills and cooperative play in our outdoor spaces. Painted games on our blacktop area, friendship benches, a peace path to support conflict resolution, new signage and much more are in store for our playground area. Monies raised during our annual Saddlefest event will support these new initiatives.



New Leadership:

As reported in December, new leadership will be coming to Ranch View in the 2017-2018 school year. Mr. Boger will be moving on as Principal of Scott Elementary School. Mrs. Salness has been reassigned as Principal of Mill Street in the fall of 2017. Parents representing a variety of student subgroups will be participating in the selection process to begin in February. Communication regarding the selection process will be forthcoming from the district office.

There are exciting changes ahead. Thank you for your continued support and engagement in our school. Parent involvement is a key factor in Ranch View's success!

Mrs. Salness

Thank YOU!

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Ranch View Student Services Team: Deb Cohen, Robin Graefen, Debbie Joyce, Stephanie Gallagher, Erin Freeding, Mary Jo Powers, Anne Specht, Linda Mullins, & Annette White



How to Help Your Child with Test Taking

Do's	Don't's
Do encourage your child. Praise him for the things he does well. If he feels good about himself, he will do his best.	Don't be too anxious about a your child's test scores. If you put too much emphasis on test scores, this can upset your child.
Do make sure that your child attends school regularly . Tests do reflect your child's overall achievement. The more effort and energy your child puts into learning, the more likely he/she will do well on tests.	Don't judge your child on the basis of a single test score. There are many other factors that might influence a test score.
Do provide a quiet and comfortable place for your child to study at home. Create a study schedule to help your child study a little bit each day.	Don't " cram " the night before. This will increase anxiety which interferes with clear thinking.
Do make sure that your child is well rested on school days and especially the day of a test. Children who are tired are less able to pay attention in class or to handle the demands of a test. For optimal school performance, most 6- to 8-year-olds need 11 hours of sleep, and 9- to 10-year-olds need closer to 10 hours.	School attendance is important for future success. Students who were absent 10% of school days in Kindergarten and 1st grade combined, scored 60-100 points lower on standardized tests in 3rd grade.
Do review tests with you child and discuss any wrong answers with your	
Do make learning fun - get creative! Play a short and relaxing game instead of enforcing a stressful cram session. Involving siblings and grown-ups will also make learning fun instead of fretful.	
Eat a healthy breakfast .	

Tales from the



Ranch View Learning Commons

by Mrs. Mougette

Read to Succeed is back! Starting January 9th, your child will need to record their reading minutes to earn a free ticket to Six Flags Great America. Logs are due February 13th. Lost your log? Click below

<http://www.naperville203.org/cms/lib07/IL01904881/Centricity/Domain/18/Copy%20of%20StudentReadingLog.pdf>



The Spring book fair is just around the corner. We will be partnering with Anderson's Book Shop for "s'more" reading fun in February. Join us for our Happy Camper Book Fair.

Fri 2/17 8:30am-11:30am students only
Tues 2/21 8:30am-2:00pm students only
Wed 2/22 8:30am-2:30pm students only
Wed 2/22 2:30pm-4:30pm open to all
Thurs 2/23 4:30pm-8:00pm open to all
Fri 2/24 8:00am-11:00am open to all

Hands-on Learning

The 4th and 5th graders are busy designing and printing a 3D town to be used by the younger grades to practice programming small robots. Stop by the robotics tables during Open House and check it out.



Reminders: Library books that are returned to the classroom book cart are not considered returned until they are scanned back in at the RLC desk. When we have days off school, your child's book may not have been returned to the RLC before the automated computer email is sent saying the book is overdue. Sorry for any inconvenience. Just ask your child if they returned their books - thanks!

READ-DISCUSS-LEARN-GROW!

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HOME & SCHOOL Ranch View Elementary School

From the President of H & S, Jill Wroble

Happy New Year! May the beginning of 2017 be a healthy and pleasant start for our Ranch View community. While the academic year may be half over, the work of our dedicated volunteers is never done. All our events and fundraisers would not be a success without the tremendous efforts of volunteers like **you**.



We hope you had a chance to visit the book fair during the October Parent/Teacher conferences which was wonderfully orchestrated by *Carrie Tilton and Joann Niececki*. Please remember to visit our Anderson's **Book Fair** the week of February 20th here at Ranch View and enjoy this season's theme 'Enjoy S'more Books - Happy Campers'.

ALL OUR EVENTS
AND FUNDRAISERS
WOULD NOT BE A
SUCCESS WITHOUT
THE TREMENDOUS
EFFORTS OF
VOLUNTEERS LIKE
YOU.



Our fundraising efforts led by *Stacie Quigg and Jen O'Sullivan* were very successful with the **Charleston Wrapping Paper sales** as was our **Art to Remember** run by *Stacey Maulsby and Sandy Neuenkirchen*. Ranch View raised a great deal of money in our first few months of school. Thank you to all!



The sound of children laughing could be heard throughout Ranch View during our Autumn and Winter classroom parties. Thank you to *Jen O'Sullivan, Jie Su and Lynda Cabrales* as well as all our **Room Parents** for creating these memorable days for the children. We still have one more party this year! Our Valentine's Day party is scheduled for February 14th.



Volunteers *Kim Kedziora and Stephanie Fiore* successfully hosted a fantastic **Roller Skate Night** in November. Thank you to them and to all the families who participated and reported what a fun evening it was. Let's also thank our volunteers who work many of our monthly fundraisers: *Heather Tritt* with **Restaurant**



Nights, *Melissa O'Shea and Anne Grzymajlo* for **Manna Cards** and **Staff Appreciation Donations** and *Ellie Laneville and her committee* assisting with the **Health &**



Safety Vision and Hearing Screenings.



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HOME & SCHOOL

Ranch View Elementary School

Continued... From the President of H & S, Jill Wroble



Looking ahead.....save these dates! Our next major Ranch View events are **Science Fair** on March 2nd and **Saddlefest**. On March 11th Ranch View heads West for some rootin'- tootin' fun! This will be an exciting and fun-filled day for all of the students and their families! Don't forget to visit our **Silent Auction** on the stage to see what goodies we have available. Thank



you to *Audrey Minor and Laura Bahula* and their team for their efforts in creating this memorable day, as well as *Patty Cerney and her team* for all of their hard work soliciting donations to make our Silent Auction a success. Remember to bring your smart phone because mobile bidding will be up and running!

The **Ranch View Review** is an invaluable tool for our community to keep up on current events at our school. I would like to thank *Michelle Clark* for her

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endless effort editing this important publication. Michelle is looking forward to new volunteering opportunities and mentoring a new Editor for the Ranch View Review. Will it be you? This is a great opportunity for someone who wants the flexibility

of doing volunteer work from home. If you enjoy using Microsoft Publisher and editing, this may be the perfect volunteer position for you. Let us know if you would like to participate as the new Ranch View Review Editor/Designer!

If you are interested in getting involved in any of these exciting programs and committees, please feel free to contact me at 630-776-6942 or ranchviewpresident@gmail.com.

OUR NEXT
HOME AND
SCHOOL
MEETING IS
SCHEDULED FOR
MARCH 7TH AT
7:00 PM.

Our next Home and School Meeting is scheduled for March 7th at 7:00 p.m. This evening, we will vote on the Executive Board slate for the 2017-2018 school year. All parents are part of Home and School and welcome to attend. See you there!

Jill Wroble

RV H&S President

ranchviewpresident@gmail.com



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Special Projects/Fundraising

Clothing Label Sale

The **Clothing Label Sale** is ongoing. Personalize your own waterproof and laundry-safe kids clothing labels at oliverslabels.com/ranchview ! 20% of the sales will go to Ranch View! Laundry safe labels eliminate the use of messy markers and keep clothes and shoes organized and coming home. The clothing label sale is a new fundraising event held by the Spirit Wear Committee this year.



The **Saddlefest T-Shirt Sale** is coming. Watch for the order forms for t-shirts that have been created for the 2017 Saddlefest.

Saddlefest Silent Auction

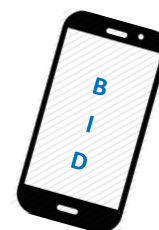
The Silent Auction Committee is busy making sure this is the best auction yet! We have lots of surprises for you and hope to see you on the school's stage March 11th from 11-2 during Saddlefest. Please note the auction ends before Saddlefest does in order to distribute items to the winners. You do not need to be present to bid or win, but items are local pick-up only, either March 11th or the following week. If you have friends or family who would be interested in shopping with us, you can share the following link with them: <http://saddlefest.gesture.com>. The site will go live March 4th.



In fact, please share, the more bidders, the more money we make for our school to continue to fund the activities and projects that Home and School works diligently to provide for each and every student. There are many new features with this new mobile bidding company, but our favorite is the Auto Bid feature. You can put in your highest amount and Gesture will bid for you up to that amount.

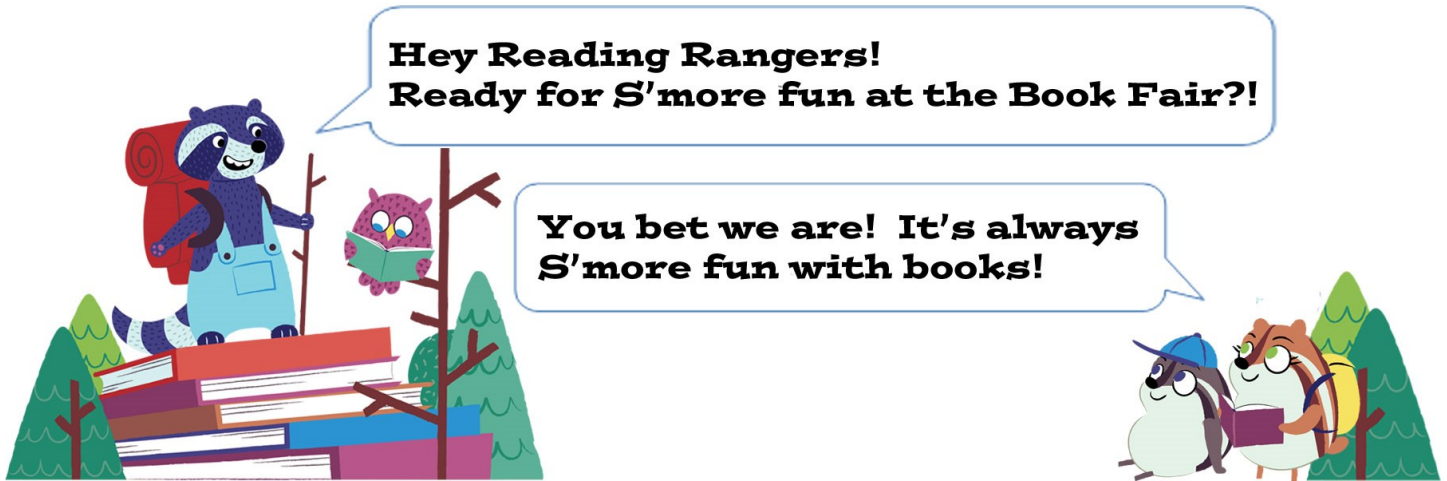
We can take donations right up until auction day (but earlier is preferred!), so if you have a business and would like to provide a gift certificate or item, please contact Patty Cerney or Erika Jensen at ranchviewsilentauction@gmail.com or 630-901-6066 for more information.

Bid Early! Bid Often! See you March 11th!



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Special Projects/Fundraising



Spring Book Fair: February 17th – 24th

Save the date for Ranch View's Spring Book Fair! Anderson's Bookfair Company (ABC) will stock our fair with an incredible selection of engaging books for every reading level and interest. We also made a special request to stock more of the books you love the most, including bargain books and science-related books for all the budding scientists preparing for the Science Fair in March!

More details about our fun wilderness reading adventure and exciting activities will be coming soon. Keep a lookout for announcements in Home and School Happenings emails and your child's backpack mail.

Interested in volunteering at the fair? Make sure to submit your contact information through the Ranch View Elementary website's 2016-17 Volunteer Signup form to receive notifications of our volunteer opportunities.

Book Fair Schedule:

	Students (Cash Only; Max \$20)	Open to All (Cash, Check, CC)
Friday, Feb. 17 th :	8:30am – 11:30am	~
Monday, Feb. 20 th :	School Closed	School Closed
Tuesday, Feb. 21 st :	8:30am – 2:00pm	~
Wednesday, Feb. 22 nd :	8:30am – 2:30pm	2:30pm – 4:30pm
Thursday, Feb. 23 rd :	~	4:30pm – 8:00pm
Friday, Feb. 24 th :	~	8:00am – 11:00am

Questions? Feel free to email your book fair related questions to Joann Maciaga and Carrie Tilton at ranchviewbookfair@gmail.com.

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News from the ELL Room by Ms. Jill Stoner and Mrs. Walsh

Bonjour! Hola! Labas! Assalaamu alaikum! OLÁ! Li ho bo!

**Namasthe! H,ej! Guten Tag! Geia sou! Dzień dobry! Buna
Kon'nichiwa こんにちは Nǐ hǎo你好 வணக்கம் Vanakkam! Merhaba!
Kamusta! હેલો HĚlō! हॅलो HĚlō! హలో Halō! 여보세요
Yeoboseyo! Marhabaan!**

Greetings from the ELL Room!

We are so happy to welcome four new ELL students to Ranch View since Winter Break. Welcome to Yan dos Santos Rodrigues, Karol Ramirez Figueroa, Fernando Ramirez Figueroa, and Christian Burgos! We are so proud to have 25 languages spoken in the homes!

We are currently administering the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0, which is a language proficiency assessment given annually to assess each of the four language domains of Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. The purpose and use of this assessment is to help students and families understand students' current level of English language proficiency along the developmental continuum. It also provides teachers with information they can subsequently use to enhance instruction and learning in programs for their English language learners.

Upcoming Holidays to Note:

Soellal: January 27- January 29

In South Korea, Soellal is one of the largest holidays of the year. Soellal celebrates the lunar New Year. It is a time to pay respect to ancestors, but it has also become a mechanism of keeping families together. Soellal emphasizes family closeness and happiness.

Chinese New Year - Year of the Rooster: January 28

Chinese New Year, also known as Spring Festival in China, is the most important traditional holiday in China. Chinese New Year's Day is **the first day of the Chinese lunar calendar**. The date is different each year on the Gregorian (internationally-used) calendar, but is always between January 21st and February 20th.

Chinese traditionally celebrated the start of a new year of farm work, and wished/prayed for a good harvest. This has now evolved into celebrating the start of a new business year and wishing for profits and success in various vocations.

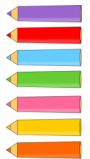
Wishing you happiness,

Mrs. Stoner and Mrs. Walsh



Art News by Mr. Arndt

The Art Room is bustling with creativity and hard work. Kindergarteners have started work on their first clay sculpture. The students began with basic hand-building techniques, forming the clay into flat shapes and then cutting the clay into a snowflake shape. I will fire the sculptures in the kiln and the students will then paint them. These will be completed and sent home in the coming weeks. First grade students are also working on a clay project as they create a pinch pot. The students expanded upon their skills with more hand-building and pinch techniques. These sculptures were fired in the kiln and are now in the process of being painted. Second grade students have been hard at work on a self-portrait that will be on display at Open House. The students utilized the camera app on the iPads in the art room to reference their own faces. The students then used pencils to draw their self-portraits and worked hard to get skin tones and hair colors as accurate as possible. Third grade students have been working on observational drawing and increasing their realistic drawing skills. Each student selected an animal of their choice and used visual references to look at and draw from. They then created a realistic habitat for their animal, while learning about foreground, middle ground, and background to create depth in their project. They then worked on a variety of coloring skills to complete their projects. These drawings will be on display at Open House. Fourth grade students are completing a unit on perspective drawing. These drawings create the illusion of foreshortening and depth showing a figure falling in the picture. These brilliant drawings will be on display at Open House. Fifth grade students are beginning a unit on grid drawing. Each student is provided with a canvas where they are learning about drawing proportionately using a grid system. The students are then selecting a cartoon character of their choice as a subject to draw and eventually paint. **Please stop by the art room during Open House to see our amazing Ranch View art gallery!**



Thanks,
Mr. Arndt

P.E. News by Mr. Blondell

Updates for P.E.

Happy New Year!

In PE, we have kicked off 2017 with one of the students' favorite units: Floor hockey! Students in kindergarten through second grade are working hard on developing their basic skills of stick handling, passing, and shooting. They will finish the unit with offensive and defensive strategies that will help prepare them to play full games down the road.



The third through fifth grade students have just finished their basic skill review and are now starting their big hockey tournament. This is one of the most exciting events of the year. The kids look forward to it. Not only is it fun and competitive, it teaches them all about the responsibilities of teamwork and sportsmanship.

The newest addition to our floor hockey unit this year is our partnership with the Chicago Wolves. The Wolves generously donated two gifts to our students. First, the students will be competing in their tournaments while wearing Chicago Wolves hockey jerseys. They provided us with both home and away jerseys to distinguish opposing teams during gameplay. Each student at Ranch View will also be awarded a floor hockey completion certificate. Included with the certificate is one free ticket to a Chicago Wolves home game of your choice. [Please see here for information about District 203 Night](#) at the Chicago Wolves game on February 26th.



Now that winter is here, please help your children remember to bring their gym shoes to school. When they wear their boots to school, please pack them in their backpacks so that they can change into them before P.E. class. This will ensure that they can safely participate in all of our activities. Safety is one of my top priorities. Students will need to do an alternative activity if they forget their shoes. Thank you for your help with this matter.

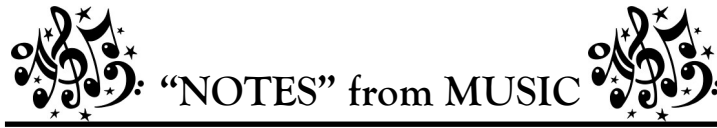
Lastly, third, fourth, and fifth grade students will be starting their rock wall unit in a few weeks. This will be their full-climb unit involving harnesses. Please consider volunteering for these P.E. classes. The students have so much fun, and it works the best when we have a lot of parent volunteers. I will send out volunteer information as soon as the dates are set.



Thank you and feel free to contact me at any time (mblondell@naperville203.org)!

Mr. Blondell

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MUSIC CLASSES:

Mrs. Sass has returned to Ranch View from her maternity leave. Mrs. Sass is grateful for the time that she was able to spend with her new baby boy and her family. She is back at "The Ranch" and excited to be working with her students again.

DISTRICT MUSIC ASSEMENTS:

- **Kindergarten:** Kindergarten does NOT have a formal district music assessment
- **1st Grade:** First grade does NOT have a formal district music assessment.
- **2nd Grade:** Second grade DOES have a district music assessment. To prepare for that, the students are singing songs, playing instruments, and responding to the music through movement. Their District Music Assessment covers Form, Pitched and Unpitched Instruments, and reading basic one-measure Rhythmic Patterns.
- **3rd Grade:** Third grade DOES have a district music assessment. To prepare, the students are learning about rhythmic note values and the pitches on the music staff using the treble clef. The students will begin playing the recorder in late January to help them read music and better understand pitches and basic rhythms. Students will read and perform basic melodies on the recorder for their District Music Assessment.
- **4th Grade:** Fourth grade DOES have a district music assessment. The students are using music technology to compose a piece of music that contains specific elements of music. The assessment will cover the elements of Form, Dynamics, Tone Color, and Music Texture.
- **5th Grade:** Fifth grade DOES have a district music assessment. Their assessment is cross-curricular in nature. It combines their background knowledge from social studies with their American Music History unit. The students are working on an American Music History Unit covering Patriotic Music, Spirituals, Jazz, Blues, and early Rock-N-Roll.

"SPRING SING" THIS SCHOOL YEAR:

The ALL-school Music Program, "**Spring Sing**" will be **Thursday, May 4th, 2017, during the school day.** (*Additional details regarding which classes will be performing at which times will be sent out in a "Talk 203" closer to the Spring.*) All general music classes will participate in this program by singing and/or playing instruments to demonstrate the musical concepts that they have learned.

CHORUS:

Chorus is a singing opportunity open to 5th graders. Spring Chorus will begin mid-March. Information packets will be given to 5th grade students closer to that time.

BAND/ORCHESTRA:

If you have questions about BAND, please contact the band teacher,

Mr. Brad Frendewey at bfrendewey@naperville203.org

If you have questions about ORCHESTRA, please contact the orchestra teacher,

Mrs. Shawnita McClure at smclure@naperville203.org

Best Regards,

Mrs. Sass

Vocal/General Music Teacher and Chorus Director

hsass@naperville203.org

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Kindergarten

by the Kindergarten Team: Mrs. Sheridan and Mrs. Kolbe

Reading Workshop

During read alouds and whole group instructional time, our focus is using inferencing skills to better understand the characters in a story. We use the 5 finger strategy when retelling stories. We also are continuing the strategies of using pictures and sounding out words during guided reading instruction. Moving forward, we will begin to look at non-fiction genre.



Writing Workshop

During writing, we are focusing on creating super sentences which include uppercase letters at the beginning, spaces between words, and punctuation marks at the end. We are encouraging details using words and details in illustrations. We are writing narratives and how-to's.



Math

We are understanding the concepts of addition and subtraction. We continue to practice math fluency daily. During instruction and independent practice, we are looking to see how your child is demonstrating the following math practice standards:

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.



Science and Social Science

Our focus for science is forces and interactions — pushes and pulls. We investigate this by doing experiments in the classroom. We are looking at famous people's contributions to our society. We are continuing to learn how to be successful members of our school community.



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FIRST GRADE FUNDAMENTALS by Mrs. Crocket, Miss McGovern, & Mrs. Meluch

Reading

First Graders will delve into the world of fiction this trimester. In this unit, students will think more deeply about the look, sound, and purpose of fictional stories. The students will enhance their understanding of traditional tales, fables, fantasy fiction, and realistic fiction by comparing and contrasting characters, events, author's message, and story elements. The students will also explore how dialogue and illustrations can be used to enhance meaning and comprehension.



Continue reading with your child every day. We can really see the growth they are making in their reading and comprehension skills. Great work and thanks for helping to make their reading lives successful.

Writing

Our focus for the upcoming months in writing will be opinion writing. First graders will learn that opinion writers write with lots of reasons, and they support those reasons with details. The unit culminates in writing book reviews. Students will work on the essentials of persuasive writing: making claims or opinions, supported by examples and explanations for those reasons. Students will be constantly revising to make their claims more powerful and convincing.



Math

First graders will be learning about place value. They will be counting, reading, and writing numbers to 120. As the unit progresses, students will understand that each digit has a particular value: hundreds, tens, or ones. The students will learn strategies to represent teen and decade numbers. We will continue to learn new approaches to add within 20, then advance into adding two-digit numbers and a one-digit number ($54+6=$), as well as, adding two-digit numbers by a multiple of 10 ($17+10=$) within 100. As in all of our other math units, students will be expected to explain their reasoning in a variety of ways.



The Weather Outside is Frightful ...

Chilly Weather is here! Please remember to send hats, mittens/gloves, and a warm coat each day. If the wind chill is zero or above **we will** go outside for recess, so please make sure your child is prepared for cold weather. If there is snow on the ground, students must wear boots and snow pants in order to play in the snow. PLEASE, label all of your child's outerwear. We have no way of knowing whose black snow pants are whose... or gloves or hats or mittens or boots! We really appreciate your help with this.



Conferences Are Coming!

We look forward to meeting with you in February to discuss your child's progress. Be sure to sign up for a conference!

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Second Grade Notes

by Mrs. Marci Dill,
Mrs. Alexandra Morrow,
Miss Eman Suleman,
& Mrs. Sara Wszolek

Dear 2nd grade families,

Happy New Year! We hope that you enjoyed your winter break. We are getting ready to start 2017 with new resolutions and goals for success at home and in school! In this newsletter, we will highlight our academic plans for January as well as some reminders and school mission information.

Math:

We are moving into Unit 4: Subtracting 2-digit numbers. In this unit, students will meet the following targets: solve one-step word problems within 100, solve two-step word problems within 100, add and subtract within 20, and apply and explain appropriate strategies for addition and subtraction within 200. At the same time, your child will also work with the 8 standards for mathematical practice which include: making sense of problems and persevering in solving them, reasoning abstractly and quantitatively, constructing viable arguments and critiquing the reasoning of others, modeling with mathematics, using appropriate tools strategically, attending to precision, looking for and making use of structure, and looking for and expressing regularity in repeated reasoning.



Reading:

When we return from winter break, we will bring our fiction reading unit to a close and move into unit 3: reading nonfiction and informational texts. In this unit students will read and study three types of nonfiction (reference, biography, and literary). They will develop an understanding of various forms, features, and purposes of nonfiction. Students will understand the structure, layout, and text features associated with each particular type of nonfiction writing. They will enjoy the aesthetic features of nonfiction texts while appreciating the clear and accurate information and presentation of facts. Nonfiction reading often leads to inquiry, and students will develop passions for locating information, finding answers to questions and wonderings, and deepening their understanding about the nonfiction topics they are reading and learning about. Students will learn and apply specific reading skills and strategies that will enable them to discover facts, identify big ideas, and learn new information about the topics they are reading about.



Writing:

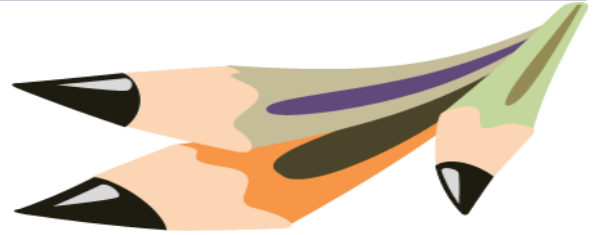
We will take the first week or so to wrap up our opinion writing unit. When we bring this unit to a close, we will move into an exciting Superhero writing unit. In this unit students will create a superhero to send on an adventure. During this unit we will focus on narrative writing with an emphasis on revision. From there, we will move into Unit 3 which focuses on information writing (lab reports and science books). During this unit, students will participate in a shared class science topic. They will conduct an entire experiment while being encouraged to ask and record questions, along with design and conduct multiple trials of a simple experiment. Provided with a four-page lab report booklet, students will take notes using words and drawings, generate their hypotheses, explain their procedures and develop their conclusions. Students will internalize the scientific procedures and writing process. Students will feel like experts in writing real-world lab reports. They will be able to independently design and conduct an experiment, and they will record their processes on the lab reports using domain-specific vocabulary. Finally, they will write their own informational book that teaches readers about a well-known topic.



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Ranch View Review

Continued... Second Grade Notes by The Second Grade Team



Social Science:

We are continuing with social science and continuing to focus on how and why communities change. Specifically, we are looking at Naperville Then vs. Naperville Now and how our community has changed over time. Students are beginning to understand that change happens when people interact with each other and their physical environment. Some of our guiding questions have been: What is change? What is the relationship between change and our physical environment? How does change affect people's needs and wants? What are the effects of change on people? During this unit, the students will travel through time, learning from the Potawatomi Indians, Joseph Naper, and the settlers. It is sure to be exciting information!



Mission Strand for December/January – Collaborative

Worker. How can you help your child be a collaborative worker at home and at school? Here are some ideas:

- ◆ Setting the table as a family
- ◆ Putting dishes away with a sibling
- ◆ Cooking/Baking with mom or dad
- ◆ Playing team sports
- ◆ Sorting and putting away laundry for the family
- ◆ Building a project with mom or dad
- ◆ Recycling as a family
- ◆ Caring for the family pet
- ◆ Deciding on dinner as a family
- ◆ Cleaning up the playroom with your siblings

REMINDERS:

Cold Weather – As the weather changes, please be aware that we will go outside for recess unless the temperature falls below zero. With this being said, please be sure that your child is prepared! Please understand that sweatshirts are not enough! We should see clearly labeled coats, gloves, hats, and scarves. On snowy days, your child can bring an extra bag for snow pants and boots as needed!

Upcoming Event

JANUARY 26 , NAPER SETTLEMENT FIELD TRIP

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

“Developing GRIT through the Power of YET”

SEL Learning Targets

- I can handle making mistakes.
- I can manage anxious mistakes.
- I can manage anger.
- I can finish tasks.



Ranch View Review

Thinking Third Grade

by Mrs. Julie Groves, Mrs. Laura Meath, & Mrs. Chris Hayman, and Ms. Diane Krause

Students are starting to comment to the class when they notice a certain task is requiring GRIT. Students are also realizing that they are accountable for their actions, words, and work ethic, and they may have to use GRIT to make the best choices. As teachers, we are helping students understand that using GRIT is a skill that will help them throughout life. In addition, weekly classroom Social Emotional lessons reinforce Common Core Social Emotional Standards. Recently, students have been practicing picking up social cues from others and responding with empathy in situations of conflict. Also, they are practicing being self-aware by noticing physical cues in their bodies and labeling that emotion.



Thinking about Our Reading -- We are wrapping up our Fiction unit. When reading a piece of fiction, students are able to think about character traits, point-of-view, theme, and mood; and, they notice how characters change. When reading, students should not just be reading the words to find out what happens. Instead, they should be adding their own thinking to interpret the details the author gives about the characters and the story's message. Feel free to have a nice conversation with your child about their Independent Reading at home regarding the above



concepts. Also, we studied four types of figurative language: simile (She is as cute as a button.), metaphor (He was a monkey on the climbing wall.), personification (The wind picked up my hat and tossed it away.), and idiom (It's raining cats and dogs). Students worked on identifying these in text and are beginning to be able to explain what these phrases mean.

Thinking about Our Writing -- Students are working on an informational piece. The students do a great job being experts on their topic and will have the opportunity to share their expertise. Students' self-evaluation using a rubric plays a part in their understanding of progress they are making in meeting third grade writing standards. Researching skills are a part of this writing process. Non-fiction text structures, such as cause/effect, similarities and differences, and problem/solution, are increasingly evident in student work.



Thinking like a Mathematician -- We completed a unit on Measurement, Time, and Data. Students measured weight, mass, liquid capacity, and distance. The time portion of the unit had us practicing time to the minute as well as figuring out elapsed time. Finally, students worked with data shown as bar graphs, line plots, and pictographs. Our current unit is fractions. Students are expected to identify a fraction on a number line, compare values of fractions, and be able to solve real world fractions as we continue to discuss the 8 Math Practices while we work on problem-solving math tasks. Using formative assessments as our guide, we have created groupings of children for differentiated instruction through using Integrated Math Tasks each Friday.

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Ranch View Review

Continued... *Thinking Third Grade* by the Third Grade Team

As always, students have the goal of fluently knowing multiplication and division facts through the 10s by the end of third grade. Less practice is spent on facts during math class as we focus on different units. Therefore, practice time at home is essential for students who do not know each fact 'in a snap.'



Thanks to the parents who have volunteered to play weekly math games. Third graders are loving the chance to work with a volunteer and do something a little different during math class. Please go to Signup Genius for this opportunity to work with students. There are still many spots open!



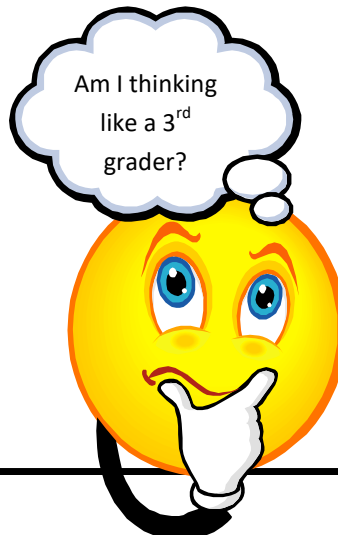
Thinking about Science— The Light unit in Science is in full swing. This unit built upon concepts that we talked about in our Solar System unit. We are learning about properties of light by doing hands-on activities. Concepts are: learning the path of light, identifying light sources in the classroom, and learning what light does as it hits smooth or rough surfaces. We also observed how our eyes adjust to light and realized that we need light to see. In February, we will move back into the Social Science Unit of Middle Ages, and we will learn about the systems of a community during that time period.



We are halfway through the Learn Not To Burn Lessons. These lessons are really for the whole family, as students should be talking to their family about fire prevention and emergency procedures at home.

We look forward to seeing you for Student-Led Conferences in February!

Third grade... a lot to THINK about!



Ranch View Review

News for Our Amazing 4th Graders

by Mrs. Jamie Ferro, Mr. Jerry Jay, Mrs. Melanie Pace, and Mrs. Chris Roy

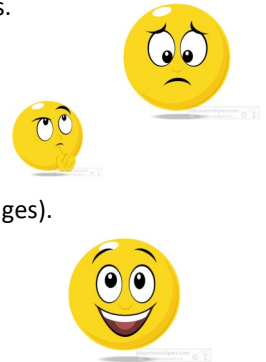


Now that we are halfway through the school year, we are looking forward to conferences coming up in February. The conference dates are February 23rd and 24th. Preparation has already begun, and the students are excited! Spring conferences will be student-led, which means that student attendance at the conference is required. EPortfolios will be used to showcase strengths and areas in need of growth. Students are collecting evidence to self-reflect on their progress for this trimester and set goals. Be on the lookout for additional information regarding conference scheduling so that you can witness your child's rigorous academic growth for yourself.

Open House is Thursday, February 2nd. You will have the opportunity to visit your student's classroom. This is a time for your child to boast about their incredible learning environment. Being a fourth grade student and coming to Ranch View to learn each day is their job. Think of this as your child's "Bring your family to work day".

Each week, our fourth graders continue to improve their Social Emotional Learning (SEL) skills. Fourth grade students are currently working through Unit 3 "Emotion Management" of the Second Step SEL Curriculum. The SEL learning targets are:

- I can describe what happens in my brain and body when I experience strong emotions.
- I can identify and name strong emotions when they occur by using a personal signal.
- I know situations that may trigger my strong emotions (anger, anxiety).
- I can use the "calm down" steps in response to strong emotions.
- I can apply calming down strategies to situations I'm faced with (i.e. academic challenges).
- I can use assertive language to help me get what I need.



In February, our students will move into Unit 4 "Problem Solving" of the Second Step SEL Curriculum.



On February 28th and March 1st, the DuPage Children's Museum will be at Ranch View, providing an opportunity for our students to explore "Wheels, Levers, and Pulleys." "Mr. Illinois", John Lynn, who will present "The Illinois Primer", an hour long presentation on March 13th where students are immersed in everything that is Illinois. Mary Browning from the Naperville Police Department will present the "Be Smart, Be Safe" program in April. Students will learn rules for personal safety, suspect identification, and Internet safety.



Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered their time for our book talks through Sign-up Genius. All of the books selected are from the "Battle of the Books" list. If you haven't seen this list, it's a great place to get book recommendations. The students are excited to have their parents read to each of our classrooms, and we look forward to these talks every two weeks.

Ranch View Review

Grade 5

By: Mr. Pinelli, Mrs. Porter, and Miss Shabel

Reading: We have begun our intensive study of nonfiction reading. We will begin with focusing in on the various text structures common in nonfiction pieces. By identifying the text structure of a reading piece, we will be able to better comprehend and take notes on what we are reading so that we can continue moving forward with our written responses to reading as well as orally sharing out understanding with one another.



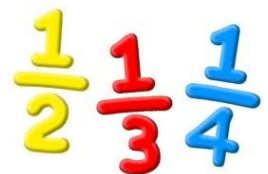
Writing: In 5th grade at Ranch View, all students are working on improving our informational text writing to help us in all curricular areas. We have researched and written about the American Revolution and are now working on applying our improved writing skills on a self-selected topic. Then, we will move forward into research-based argument writing.



Physical Science: Our second science unit is about matter and how it is present everywhere, even though we can't always see it. Also, we will be conducting experiments that help us to understand that matter may change state but the total weight of matter is constant. We will investigate a variety of materials and identify their properties, as well as mix two or more substances to determine if we can create a new substance.



Math: In the coming weeks we will move into working with decimals again. This time we will be working towards mastery of multiplying and dividing decimal numbers from thousands to hundredths. It will be important to not only be able to employ the standard algorithms to identify the solution but also to be able to explain how and why the algorithm works. As always, we'll continue to review the concepts that we have covered in working with fractions so far this year. Students are now able to work with all four operations with fractions and mixed numbers in equations as well as in real-world word problems.



Ranch View Review

Academically Talented Classes by Georgie Lukas

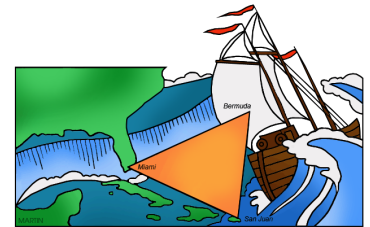
Project IDEA (PI)

In **Project IDEA**, fourth and fifth grade students are working on nonfiction units. In nonfiction reading, students learn about the text structures, organization, text features, central idea, and author's message. Students research in books and websites.

Fourth graders investigated mysteries, such as, Big Foot, Bermuda Triangle, Terracotta Army, Pompeii, and more. Now fourth graders are preparing for a



Greek Mythology "Living Museum". PI students will dress as gods, goddesses, and story (myth) tellers to present to all of the third grade students. Models of the ancient civilization will also be presented.



Fifth graders researched various topics in American history. They also read historical fiction books that aligned with their topic to understand how the historical facts may have affected lives. A research paper was their product. On the lighter side, fifth graders will be presenting fairy tale plays to first grade students.



Honors Math

Honors Math students are working together to increase their math skills and apply the skills to solve problems. Students begin to understand that math is everywhere in their world. In third grade, students are working on multiplication and division skills. Fractions will be their next challenge. While fourth graders are knee-deep in fractions and decimals, fifth graders are applying their math skills of percentage, data, ratio, money, fractions, and decimals in the stock market.



Our work can be fun, but it requires higher level thinking and grit. Students are faced with the questions: Is my work quality or is it just good enough? What kind of reputation do I want?



Ranch View Review

Calendar of Events

2016-2017 School Year:

January

Monday, January 30th: Performance Series Winter Score Parent Report sent home



February

Thursday, February 2nd: Ranch View Open House

Monday, February 13th: CogAT testing for all 4th graders & select 3rd & 5th grade students for academically talented identification

Tuesday, February 14th: Valentine's Day classroom parties

Friday, February 17th: **Half-Day Attendance/Teacher Institute**

Monday, February 20th: **No School** - President's Day Holiday

Thursday, February 23rd: **No School**; Parent/Teacher Conferences, 5:00-8:30 PM; and Book Fair

Friday, February 24th: **No School**; Parent/Teacher Conferences, 8:00 AM-Noon; and Book Fair

March

Friday, March 3rd: **No School** — County Institute Day

Tuesday, March 7th: Home & School General Meeting, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, March 8th: Kindergarten Preview (8:30 AM and 10:00 AM)

Saturday, March 11th: Saddlefest

Thursday, March 23rd: Maker's Market Family Event

Monday, March 27th-Friday, March 31st: **No School - Spring Break**

Monday, April 3rd: Classes resume

April

Tuesday, April 4th: Home and School General Meeting 1:00

Tuesday, April 11th: Spring Picture Day—Inside

Friday, April 14th: **No School**— School Holiday

Monday, April 17th: PARCC Testing window begins

Tuesday, April 25th: Fifth Graders visit Kennedy



May

Monday, May 1st: Spring Performance Series Testing window begins

Monday, May 1st: Teacher Appreciation Week begins

Thursday, May 4th: All-School "Spring Sing" Program

Friday, May 5th: Half-Day Attendance/Teacher Institute

Wednesday, May 10th: Ranch View Review Articles Due

Thursday, May 11th: Home and School Volunteer Lunch 11:20-12:20

Tuesday, May 16th: Retirement Reception

Wednesday, May 17th: Ranch View Review Posted

Wednesday, May 24th: Field Day

Thursday, May 25th: **Last day of student attendance (if no Emergency Days are used)**

Ranch View Rangers: Partnering to Build True Grit!

G-Goal Attainment R- Resiliency I- Integrity T-Twenty-first Century Skills

Greatness Requires Internal Toughness

