



JANUARY 2011

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Special points of interest:

- Jan. 17- MLK Day-NO SCHOOL
- Jan. 19- Community Meeting-1 p.m.



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Eden Central School

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER.....

In Service

There will be no school on Monday, January 17th in observance of Martin Luther King Day. Teachers will be participating in a day long in service on our new mathematics curriculum.

NAEP

Students in grade 4 will be participating in the National Assessment of Elementary Progress (NAEP) on February 8th. Schools are selected to participate each year and students are either assessed in reading or mathematics. This year our fourth grade students are being assessed in the area of mathematics.

Community Meeting

Our next community meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 19th beginning at 1:00. The first grade will be hosting this event with PreK, First, Third and Fifth also participating.

An Upcoming Event

Beginning Monday, February 14th through Friday, February 18th our school will be having a *I Love To Read Week*. Students will be participating in a variety of activities throughout the week celebrating reading. More information will be coming home in a few weeks.

New Programs Being Implemented at Our School

Our teachers are participating in several professional trainings during the next several months sponsored by the Vermont Department of Education through a grant. One of these is called Response to Intervention (RtI). This is a system that integrates assessment and intervention for students school-wide. Students are assessed in reading and mathematics using our AIMSweb. Students

who are not at grade level receive additional support to develop their skills.

Teachers are also being trained in a program called Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS). Four or five school-wide rules are developed and students are given example of what each rule looks like in a variety of settings. Students are rewarded for positive behavior as individuals, as a class and as a school-wide entity. This program is researched based and is being implemented in forty-two states.

Mr. Lindgren



5/6 Team News.....

Students have been reading fables and folktales from different countries during literacy. They created passports on the computer, wrote information about their favorite fable including the moral or lesson, and had their passport stamped from the origin country of the fables. They have also increased fluency by reading their favorite folktale or fable to the class. They are now ready to begin their study of Newbury Award or DCF Award books. In 5th grade language arts the students have finished poster projects about the parts of speech and are presenting them to the class. They are about to begin

the process of writing reports on Vermont rocks and minerals. The 6th grade math students are finishing a unit on pre-algebra. They will be having an assessment on pre-algebra equations and coordinate grids. Then they will begin working on a review of multiplication and division before exploring fractions. Science classes are completing their study of geology with home projects and class work on the Discovery program. Next they will delve into a study of the human body. 5th grade math students are exploring various methods of solving

multiplication and division equations. They are using rectangular arrays and algorithms to solve these problems. In 6th grade social studies, students are building the 3-D models of Vermont mountains. The resemblance to the actual landforms is remarkable. The 5th graders have completed individual investigations about the continents. They will continue these studies to explore cultural aspects of each continent.

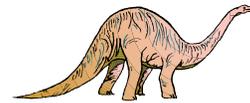
Mrs. Finlay & Ms. Goodman

PRESCHOOL NEWS.....

During the month of December, the children enjoyed our learning theme **Celebrations**. We discussed the different holiday traditions of Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanza. For our holiday party, the children created a list of ideas for food to prepare. This list is very long, creative and a bit humorous! Our list includes bacon, cookies, horse cookies, turkey, cake, chicken, gingerbread, cocoa puffs, peanut butter and jelly, cupcakes, scrambled eggs, waffles, shepherds pie and smashed potatoes! This list will serve as our

“menu” for cooking activities for the remainder of the year as we discuss the importance of healthy nutrition at the same time.

Several of our students have been patiently waiting to begin our **Dinosaur Unit**. The children created a cave in our dramatic play area and will see a digital slide show of dinosaurs in this area. In our writing center the children have been working on number journals. We have many science and art activities planned to include making a volcano, creating an archeological



“dinosaur dig” using plaster of paris, and observing and learning about fossils. A fifth-grade student will be visiting our classroom to share fossils from his collection.

We would like to thank Julie Coons for volunteering in our afternoon class last month. She made snowflakes with the children that we will hang on our window. We welcome parents to volunteer anytime!



KINDERGARTEN NEWS.....



The children in kindergarten came back to school in the new year very ready to keep on learning. They really impressed their teachers here at school. We were off and busy, busy, busy.

In the writing center people were able to practice making upper and lower case letters in shaving cream. People also practiced in their student notebooks and on white boards. Sometimes we forget that they are only in kindergarten when we look at what a wonderful job they do.

We have started learning about sharks, whales, seals, and other ocean creatures. We have read some amazing books and we also looked up sharks on National Geographic Kids on line. We saw sharks really swimming and a stingray too. People love hearing the books about sharks. We welcome any books children have at home about ocean animals.

We also have some sea creatures in our math tub. People can sort them and count them. Some children were even able to make patterns with them.

In reading we have a new computer program called Raz-Kids. The children can read the book while the works light up and a voice with read with them. It also can record the children reading stories too. (We have not started that yet.) We will continue to read with the students. This is going to be a center people can go to during center time.

We are wishing everyone a Happy New Year!!!
Mrs. Tobin

MUSIC NOTES.....



I would like to congratulate everyone on our concert last month. Students worked very hard and it was shown by such a high level of musicianship.

We are now beginning to start work on some new topics. Fifth and sixth graders are starting a unit on music in the movies. Third and fourth grades are starting to work on musical questions and answers with the goal of using their creations as a basis of an original composition. Pre-School through second graders are starting a new program called "First Steps in Music." This program was developed by Dr John Fierabend, a renown music educator. This fall I worked with him to learn how to implement and effectively use this program. Students are working on becoming a musical being. So far, students are off to a great start.

Mrs. Cloutier

We enjoyed seeing all the families, friends and neighbors at the holiday program. We hope everyone enjoyed the show.

First Grade Literacy

We have started the New Year by learning how to write a response to literature. It is a type of writing where you write about something you have read. We learned that we need to have specific parts to our response; an introduction, focus statement, supporting details, and a conclusion. We read the book, Bunny Cakes. Our response is about what Max is like as a character. We decided to write about how he is creative and clumsy in the book. In the conclusion we are writing about how we

are creative and clumsy like Max.

Second Grade Literacy

We started the New Year by writing an animal adventure story. Unlike our personal narratives, we can use our imaginations more as these stories do not have to be about anything that really happened. We don't even have to be in the story if we don't want to. To get the creative juices flowing, we watched The Bear video by Raymond Briggs on the first day back from winter break. We are trying to use all the skills we learned when writing our personal narratives to help us with this story. We still need characters, setting, plot, movement through time, a problem, and a solution. We are working on some interesting stories.

Second Grade Theme

The New Year finds us learning about the moon. We will be reading books, watching videos, and exploring computer learning materials from Discovery Science. We have already written a long list of things we have learned so far and will keep adding to the list as we learn more. Ask a second grader to tell you what they know about the moon. We are also observing the night sky, trying to find the moon. The wonderful cloudy, snowy skies make this challenging but we will continue to watch for it. We may have some cold clear nights to come. Happy 2011 to Everyone!!

Mrs. Chauvin



1st Grade News.....

Happy New Year and Welcome Back! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and were able to spend time with family and friends. I can not believe how fast the time is going. We have been in school for over 80 days now... Wow. Where does the time go? The first graders have been working hard and using all of their senses to learn. We have been smelling, tasting, listening, touching, and seeing to learn about the world around us. What does it feel like not to be able to see? The children had to make some guesses about what some things were in the room if they could not see. Then they also had to use their sense of smell to determine what was in a container. We also used some smells to see how long they would last in the room and as I am sure they would/did tell you perfume and cologne are two smells that are strong and last a long time. So, I have learned not to wear too strong of a perfume in the classroom as it is really strong and bothersome. We left the room and let some fresh air come in while we ourselves went out into the nice fresh air and when we came back in the smell was still there. Our next unit that we are connecting with our senses is the states of mat-

ter. We will be exploring and investigating what happens when we add and subtract heat from the three states of matter. They will be involved in some experiments themselves to determine what makes up each state of matter.

In math, the students have been working on some strategies to understand addition and subtraction. They have been using money, games, and time tests to work on this. It is important that they understand the concept of what addition and subtraction means. We will be continuing to work on this throughout the year. We are now moving into more computation with more of an emphasis on place value. The students have been introduced to the tens and ones and now we will be working more intensely with the concept.

Second Grade math:

Happy New Year. I hope all of you are off to a good start and a new beginning. I know in the second grade we are off and running. I have seen a great improvement in the kids and their abilities over the past year. I am proud of each one of them. They are working harder and making progress.

I am continuing the time tests for the kids as I think it is an important skill. They need to know their addition facts and subtraction facts this year as they will be going on to their multiplication facts next year and it will make it much more difficult for them to learn if they do not know their basic addition facts as they go hand-in-hand.

Since there is a strong correlation between addition and subtraction and to help the students move ahead, I have decided that I was going to move on the students to subtraction (if they are not already there). They are adjusting well and seeing the correlation.

We just finished our unit on addition and subtraction before the break and are now moving into shapes, area, and symmetry. We will be focusing on geometry for a little while. We have begun by looking at some three dimensional shapes and naming them. We have learned the terms: faces, vertex, and edges. I am really looking forward to this unit and I am sure your students will enjoy the hands-on approach to geometry as well.

I hope you have a healthy and happy new year. Thanks for all you do for your children at home. I really enjoy having them in class. They are each unique, special, and caring.

Mrs. Tague

3RD GRADE NEWS.....

There is so much going on in third grade right now! We are in the midst of our first science unit exploring Newton's Laws of Motion. We've conducted some fun experiments about force and friction. The kids love gathering around our experiments with clipboards, making predictions and recording data. We've observed some interesting surprises!

In writing, we are learning how to write a response to text. In pairs, students are writing a "framed" response to *The Story of Ruby Bridges*. Eventually, students will write a piece on their own, focusing on two character traits of a character and find evidence to support their opinion.

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day this coming Monday, we have been learning about the Civil Rights Era of the 1950s and 1960s. The students have participated in a Reader's Theater play in class called "Speaking Out for Justice: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." We will also write a class letter to Dr. King, highlighting all the characteristics we admire about him and his work.

In math we have delved into the world multiplication! The students are catching on very quickly and are ready for whatever challenges I present to them! Good for you, kids! On Fridays we play fun math

games that put the students' new skills to work and the kids have a great time doing it!

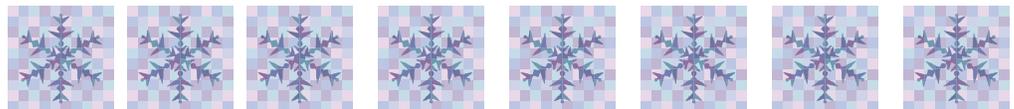
We are looking for more clean hats and mittens to keep here at school for kids who do not have them or have lost theirs. If you would like to donate hats or mittens to the school, you can send them into to me. The kids will be appreciative!!

Happy New Year!

Mrs. Allardyce



COMMUNITY MEETING
January 19th- 1:00 p.m.
Hosted by 1st Grade
Please join us



CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB
EDENSCHOOL.NET

You can view the monthly ECS Newsletter on the website.

LIBRARY NEWS.....

Happy New Year! It might be cold outside but it has been wonderful weather for curling up with a good book!

In library students have been listening to books regarding the theme of peace. Younger students have discussed what peace looks like and how we show and promote peace. The 4th grade class has been working on creating word clouds about peace. Finally, the 5th graders have been researching Nobel Peace Prize Winners.

Another focus in the library has been the Red Clover Books. This is a Vermont book program. The Red Clover Award promotes the reading and discussion of the best of contemporary picture books in nearly all of Vermont's elementary schools. Each year over 20,000 K-4 students read,

or have read to them, the ten nominated books. In April students will vote for their favorite book on the list. As we are reading these books we are also working on a variety of projects to share at our Celebration of Student Work in April. The library web site lists all of this year's nominees.

Did you know that anyone can publish a website regardless of their actual knowledge on the subject? In library, the sixth graders have been learning about using online resources. They have learned how to read URL's and distinguish between real and bogus web sites. Students have been learning to use the acronym REAL to distinguish between real and bogus websites.

Read the URL

Examine the content

Ask about the author and publisher

Look at the links

You can check out the library webpage under tech projects to see some of the sites that we have evaluated.

One of the best things you can do to help your child succeed is to read to them and listen to them read to you, no matter their age. I hope you can take the time to go on an adventure with your child through a good book!

Always Reading,

Denise Lynch

4TH GRADE NEWS.....

Writing By: Ellabea & Gabby

In writing we just finished up our Personal Narratives. These writing pieces were about special people or places in our lives. We typed up our final copies and they are on display in the hallway. We also wrote haiku poems based on the book The Fiddler of the Northern Lights by Natalie Kinsey-Warnock and did watercolor paintings to go along with them. These poems and paintings are on display in the hallway too so come check them out. Our next writing genre will be Responses to Literature.

Reading By: Jenni & Isaiah

We have been reading fiction books during literacy. We like reading these books because they are fun and interesting. After we read we write letters to the teacher with predictions, summaries and questions about the book. We will be reading historical fiction books next about the Underground Railroad.

Science By: Cora & Ethan

We just started our Solar System unit. Ethan brought in a meteor...how cool! We have been learning about the sun. Right now the sun is middle aged. In another 5 billion years it will be a red

giant. The sun is 4.6 billion years old and the sun's temperature is 15,000,000 degrees Fahrenheit. Did you know that it takes the Earth 365 days to orbit the sun? Stay tuned for more Solar System facts next month.

Math By: Lily & Dustin

We have been doing lots of multiplication during math. We play "Around the World," which is a multiplication game, to help us learn our facts. We have been making flash cards for all of the facts and so far we've learned all of our facts up to 7. We'll learn 8-12 next and then we're done. It has been lots of work learning them but we know that it will pay off.

Specials By: Monica & Ryan

P.E is fun because we are learning about basketball. In Art class we are creating iPod advertisements. Library is cool because Mrs. Lynch has been reading Red Clover Award winning books. In guidance we have been learning how to be kind to one another. Music is fun because we have been singing many different songs.

Class News By: Mariah & Riley

There is a lot of 4th grade news to report. We said goodbye to Mr. Naughton and Andrew before winter break. Mr. Naughton finished up his student teaching and Andrew is now working with Mrs. Parrett. We miss them both, but are glad that Andrew is still in the building and that

Mr. Naughton will sub sometimes. There is a schoolwide community meeting January 19th, we are not presenting, but the 1st, 3rd and 5th graders are. Right now we have 5 juicy stars, so we need to get 15 more to have a celebration. Let's go 4th graders!

Interview With Mrs. Langlois By: Charlotte & Rhiannon

Why did you want to be a nurse? "To help kids."

What is your favorite hobby? "Horseback riding."

What is your favorite food? "Chocolate."



