

Grafton GOOD NEWS

Pre-K ~ Mrs. Pohlman

Wow, what a fun month of November! We began the month with a field trip to the QEM Fire station. We got to see the fire station, all the big trucks, visit with the ambulance workers, spray the fire hose, meet our Sheriff and get in his police car. We even got to watch the rescue helicopter fly in and get inside it. This was an amazing field trip! We had a tipi in the classroom and dressed up as Native American Indians and pilgrims. We learned how the Indians helped the pilgrims and then they had a big party to celebrate Thanksgiving. We concluded our study with our own Thanksgiving Feast. We made cornbread, butter and pumpkin dessert. We invited our family and we gave thanks for all we have. We just read the book Chicka Chicka Boom Boom and learned that all the letters can be made with straight lines and curves. We are working on making the chicka boom tree with our name. Letters are so much fun!

1st Grade ~ Mrs. Lumma

First Grade is finishing up Module 2 in Eureka Math and getting ready to start Module 3. We have gotten so good at adding and subtracting! Next, we will be moving on to measuring. We will be measuring all sorts of different items in standard and non-standard units.

We will finish using short vowels in our spelling words and will be moving on to long vowels. We will start with adding silent e on the end of words to make the vowel say its name. We will still review short vowels and blends.

Thank you to all of the families that sent in cans for the Salvation Army Food Drive! What a great way to teach your children about caring and compassion!

This month we will be focusing on trustworthiness. We talk a lot about this. It is all about doing the right thing even if no one else is around! It is about telling the truth at all times.

Don't forget that your Blues Bookworm is due on Dec 19th!!

We are anxiously awaiting Christmas and all of the fun activities that go along with the holiday! We are most excited about the elf showing up! We want Santa to know how good we are at school. We hope that your family has a magical holiday!

Kindergarten ~ Mrs. Miller

We recently completed writing letters to Santa as part of the Macy's "Believe" campaign to support the Make-a-Wish Foundation. For every letter they receive, Macy's will donate \$1.00 to the foundation up to \$1,000,000. The children were excited about helping other children have their dreams become a reality. We are anxiously awaiting his response to our letters.

Module 3 in our math series has us working with the comparison of length, height, weight and volume. We have also compared sets within 10 and numerals. Learning using a balance, plastic "junk" and all of our manipulatives made these concepts easier to grasp. Even capacity!!!

In reading, we are diligently working on blending sounds to create consonant-vowel-consonant words. We are putting many of these words in simple sentences. Did you know changing the first letter of these words can create a word family list? We do now.

Our class wishes all of you a joyous holiday season filled with laughter, peace and love!

2nd Grade ~ Mrs. Crone

Our November field trip to the Nature Institute was a wonderful success. Almost all of the students were able to catch at least one fish. Three students were especially surprised when the large fish they caught broke the cane poles that they were using! It was very exciting to see the joy that fishing can bring to everyone. We also walked through the woods and talked about many different animals and trees. We were especially interested in the sassafras tree which has three very different and distinct type of leaves.

We enjoyed the fun and exciting games at the fall festival this year. I thank each and every person who came to the event and had some great family fun with us.

We have learned all of our lower case cursive letters and are now starting to learn the capital letters. It is amazing just how professional your children are writing in cursive. I hope that you will encourage them to start writing in cursive whenever they have the chance. I hope that each of you has a wonderful winter break!

4th Grade ~ Mr. Eberlin

The 4th Grade Class is cruising along towards the end of Module 3. After mastering multiplication, the class is tackling the skill of division using place value disks, mental math, area models, number bonds, tape diagrams and the partial quotients and standard algorithms. I am very pleased with their progress.

In literacy, we have recently begun a Native American project which requires each student to do extensive research on a particular tribe. With that research, they will have to write an essay, construct a diorama, and create a Google slide presentation. So far, they are really enjoying learning about Native Americans.

I was really proud of the way the 4th grade class helped honor our community's veterans at Grafton Elementary's Veterans Day Program. They wrote thank you letters and essays, brought in pictures and veteran bios for a video presentation, made place mats, sang songs and performed a flawless play. After the program they invited the veterans back into the classroom to share with the students their military experiences.

The canned food drive concluded last week with the 4th grade bringing in well over 300 items. This is a great project that provides badly needed resources for the Grafton Food Pantry in addition to instilling a sense of community and compassion in our students.

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