



# What's Happening Now.....

Fall Edition 2022

## Pre-K Three News



Prek 3 is off to a great start. All the children have been busy making new friends and learning new routines. The children have been enjoying going to a movement group with Ms. Kathy and Ms. Gigi on Fridays. On Thursdays, Mrs. Donnelly comes in to share a story and craft, centered on feelings/emotions. Last month we talked about sharing, fire safety and apples. We enjoyed learning each other's names during our circle by playing games and singing songs with our names in them! During centers we made apple prints and fire trucks using shapes. This month we will be busy with all things fall! We are starting out with fall leaves. We added leaves and acorns to our sensory table and we are learning new songs about leaves. In art we made sponge painted fall trees and will be making a leaf collage. We will end our month with all things pumpkin!

## Pre-K Four News



PreK 4 has adjusted to the new school year by making new friends, learning new routines and exploring all centers in the classroom! We are excited to start specials classes, such as social skills with Mrs. Fradette, library with Mrs. Kelleher, movement with Gigi and Kathy and, music with Mr. P. This month we are busy investigating all signs of autumn! From apple paintings to leaf rubbings and from going on a leaf hunt and getting our hands messy in pumpkins, we love fall! We are also excited to continue our Book Buddy take home bag this month. This overnight reading bag has sparked excitement about reading at home - and this month we have "mouse" going home from "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie". Happy Reading!!

## Kindergarten News



We are "o-fish-ally" underway in Kindergarten. The children have done a beautiful job transitioning into our BES community, and they are working hard on learning routines both in the

classroom and throughout the school...going to the cafeteria is a big deal! Within our Kindergarten day, we are reviewing the letters of the alphabet along with their corresponding sounds...we are learning our first Kindergarten snap (sight) words...we are drawing and labeling something that really happened to us in writing...we are learning about communities...and we are working on numbers 0-5 in Math! We are a busy bunch! We cannot wait to see how much they learn and grow. We are so proud of our Kindergarteners...they are "jawesome"!

### First Grade News

**Reading Workshop-** Students learned procedures for participating in their new classroom community, reading independently, and working with partners in our first reading unit: *Building Good Reading Habits*. They practiced good reading habits - habits for reading long and strong, habits for solving hard words, and habits for working with a partner. We will soon begin our new unit: *Word Detectives*. Students learn how to be a word detective and how to decode tricky words in their books with new and exciting strategies. They will be faced with a new mission every day to strengthen their reading strategies!



**Writing Workshop-** We are finishing up our *Small Moments Unit*. Routines and procedures were taught and reviewed. Students wrote small moments: stories from their lives with small, clear focus, tremendous detail and elaboration. We will begin our "Authors as Mentors" unit soon as we continue narrative writing. Students will be studying various authors to learn different craft strategies that they can incorporate into their own writing.

**Math-** We are wrapping up our first unit: *Fluency with Addition & Subtraction within 20*. Students have been learning different strategies! We have been focusing on doubles facts and students have become masters of the doubles!

**Science-** We have been studying the moon and the moon's habits! We are exploring the sunrise and sunset times everyday in hopes of understanding the phenomena "Why is it sometimes light out when I go to bed?" We have been doing lots of exploration with the moon and sun!

## Second Grade News

Our classroom friends are having a great start to their year! We are working hard with transitions and honoring our personalized 'Classroom Charter,' which reminds us how we want to feel in our classrooms. In addition to our charter, students use the RULER's Mood Meter to recognize their feelings throughout the day.

In writing, students are working on *Small Moments* in their lives. The writers are adding lots of elaboration, strong leads and endings, and personalizing their writing with juicy vocabulary!

In reading, our readers are working on reading independently for longer periods of time. During this time we are jotting down important lessons the authors teach us, tricky words, and even what strategies work best for us. Be sure to ask us about our classroom read alouds!



In science, our scientists have traveled to the science lab for some inquiry based learning. We're currently learning about matter and investigating which objects absorb or repel water.

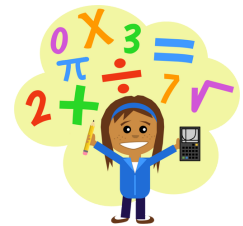
Thank you for sharing your little ones with us. We're so honored to be their 2nd grade teachers!

## Third Grade News

**Reading Workshop** - We just started a character study unit. Students will be reading books in a series to discover how characters can change over time. They will learn to use evidence from a text to support their thinking.

**Writing Workshop** - Our persuasive writing unit will focus on opinion writing. The children will learn to write a thesis statement and how to support their opinion with reasons, details, and examples.

**Math** - Our new math unit introduces the big third grade topic of multiplication. Students will use a variety of strategies to understand the concept.



**Science** - We continue our study of weather. Students engage in multiple learning activities, both hands-on and multi-media driven, to formulate patterns of weather across location. They learn the difference between weather and climate and create models to support their claims about how to reduce the impact of natural hazards with evidence.

## Fourth Grade News



**MATH:** The current unit focuses on Place Value, Estimation and Comparison of multi digit numbers. Having a solid foundation in these concepts is vital to the understanding of future mathematical concepts.

**SOCIAL STUDIES:** Fourth graders have been talking about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. They have learned about the three branches of government and the concept of checks and balances. We are also learning how a bill becomes a law.

**READING:** We are working in Book Clubs, reading realistic fiction. Students are learning routines and expectations so they can push their thinking about literature to higher levels. As a class, we are reading a novel entitled *The Tiger Rising*. Ask your child what kind of character Rob and Sistine are. Start a discussion by having them explain whether or not they think Rob and Sistine should let the tiger go.

**WRITING:** Students are learning how to write powerful realistic narratives with characters. Specifically, they are learning strategies to make powerful leads and endings. Students are including transition words, action, feelings and dialogue to show a problem and solution in their story.

### Fifth Grade News

**Reading:** Our new fifth graders jumped right into reading fiction chapter books and they are tracking story elements and taking notes on themes and bigger ideas. They have been meeting with their book clubs to discuss these concepts.

**Writing:** Students have been taking memories and putting them on paper by writing a narrative of an account they took part in. They include several elaboration techniques, reviewing mentor texts providing feedback to their peers to strengthen these narratives.

**Math:** Students have worked hard on understanding place value decimals, comparing decimals and rounding decimals up to the thousandth place. They will use this knowledge to be able to complete operations (add, subtract, multiply and divide) with decimals.

**Science:** Our first science unit is on Ecosystems, and students are learning about matter and how it moves throughout a system. Students built ecosystem bottles in groups and will be observing changes over the next few weeks.



### Mrs. C's Room News



Each child is following their individual schedule making progress in their own ways. Our older friends have been focusing on utilizing our learned coping strategies in their classroom settings. Our younger friends are beginning to understand the cause/effect relationships. We are also learning to follow directions and our schedules. During SEL, all students review and practice Self Control and Coping Strategies. Most of our students can not only tell you what strategies to use when one is frustrated, but are also beginning to put those strategies to the test in the moment. It has been a nice start to the year. I am so proud of the positive transition back to school this year!

### Reading Room News

In reading K students have been learning the letters and sounds in their name! The first graders have been focusing on rhyming words (matching & producing), snap words, short vowel sounds and building independent reading strategies. Our second grade students have been building their snap word knowledge, consonant digraph/blends, short & long vowels and focusing on retelling a story with key details. For third grade students we are working on vowel teams and reading comprehension.



Fourth and Fifth grade students have been reviewing syllable types, prefixes and strengthening their reading comprehension with compare/contrast strategies. All grade levels are also building their independent strategies to help them when they find an unfamiliar word in their books! Don't forget to grab a reading challenge (outside the gym)!

Everyone who returns a completed challenge is entered into a raffle!

### BES Physical Education News



**In Physical Education all students are learning to move in a variety ways, speeds, levels, and directions. Students have enjoyed learning these concepts through many different games and activities. During these lessons students have been discussing what happens to their body during exercise and how daily exercise keeps them healthy.**

**During the month of October, students in K -2 will continue to exercise and start practicing proper throwing and catching activities. Students will practice proper throwing techniques at different stations and targets. Then they will practice these skills in a variety of throwing games. In Grades 3 – 5 students will be focusing on soccer skill and getting ready to complete the fitness testing baseline used for setting improvement goals. We will end the month with all students learning to move over, under, around, thru, and apply this on the Halloween Obstacle Course.**

**Enjoy the fall weather and stay active!**

### Art News

Mrs. Andes Artists began their year with the encouragement of "The Dot" by Peter H. Reynolds. We learned that everyone can make art! All you need to do is TRY and start with a dot! Following our dot designs, we are completing our first Art fundraiser with Silver Graphics, and the help of our PTO.



All grades will begin to learn about the importance of the Elements of Art and how lines, shapes, and colors work together to make various art designs and develop creativity. We will also learn about famous artists, art styles, and explore different materials and tools. Students will begin to collaborate with their peers to build a deeper meaning of art vocabulary and content. We are happy to explore and grow our imagination in Art!

### Library/Media News



Pre-K 4 students are enjoying a weekly 20 min “story hour,” featuring seasonal read alouds. K students have been busy practicing skills on our Chromebooks: using the Google Classroom and Seesaw platforms. Signing in on our own, and navigating independently have been our goals. First grade students have been enjoying weekly read alouds, and follow up activities on our chromebooks using Seesaw. We also love our themed digital reading libraries that we access in the Google Classroom! Grades 3-5 have been working hard diving deeper into how the library is organized so we can independently search for books and material we want to read, using the online catalog. Students have also been practicing following step by step video instructions (how to draw). This helps them practice the ever important skill of watching demonstration videos when we need to learn to do something quick! K-5 students love circulating new books every week in class & are excellent library users :)

### Music News

The year has gotten off to a great start!

K-2 is learning how to keep a beat, using different voices while singing and learning about the 50 nifty United states!

Grades 3-5 are reading music; learning the notes on the Treble Clef, and what note values are.

Also, Grade 3 will be getting their recorders soon.

Grade 4 has explored some rock and roll legends, and 5th grade has been reading rhythms and performing in groups.

Chorus is now offered during the day and has grown this year! Chorus students will be performing at the Bethlehem Tree Lighting, and Winter Concert!

Sacred Chorale  
Rock N Roll  
Jazz  
Blues  
Country



## Band/Orchestra News

Greetings everyone! Band and orchestra are both off to a great start with more people joining than ever before at BES!

Beginners are learning proper instrument assembly and maintenance, as well as first notes and notation reading.

Advanced ensembles are actively preparing for the concert mentioned below. Also, a few BES students are taking part in the Region 14 Elementary Jazz Band with MES students on Thursday afternoons!

\*\*\* SAVE THE DATE: BES Winter Concert \*\*\*

Thursday, December 15, 2022 @ 6:30 pm

This concert will featured the Advanced Instrumental Ensembles along with the BES chorus performing seasonal favorites and more!