

Mispillion Elementary School

Terrapin Talk

Teresa Wallace, Principal

November 2022 MP2



Jodi Messick, Asst. Principal

A Title 1 School



Principals' News

Attendance in school is very important to your child's learning. Please be sure to have your child in school on time every day. At 7:15am your child's learning begins. After 7:35am, your child is late to school. Reading is the first subject taught for the day.

If your child has to be absent, please either send in a parent note within 5 days or a doctor's medical note to be sure it is not marked as unexcused. If there are any questions the attendance policy is on the

district website or contact the school. Thank you for working with us to be sure your child is successful in school.



Nurse Notes

The weather outside can affect the temperature in the classroom. Be prepared for chilly days. We discourage students from wearing their coats in the classroom. Please dress in layers: wear a sweater or sweatshirt that

you can put on if you are chilly or take off if you are hot.

It's important to have gloves, a hat and a coat to protect your body from the cold when you are outside.

Healthy children learn better





Reading: We have had a great start to the year! Students are gaining important reading skills in phonics as they study for their weekly spelling tests. Also, each week's spelling list has important high frequency words for your child to read and spell. Students are working on transferring this knowledge to both their reading and writing. Students are working on their reading comprehension skills by responding to their reading each day.

Writing: This marking period students will learn more about book reviews, informative writing and opinion writing.

Math: Students will be learning fact strategies for single digit addition and subtraction as well as closed and open number lines.

Science: We will be learning about light and sound in Science.

TIPS FOR A GREAT READER: READ! READ! READ! Every night for at least 20 minutes. Review FRY sight words each night. Practice reading and writing your weekly spelling words.

MATH TIPS: Practice math addition and subtraction facts up to 10.



Second grade

Reading For the past month, students have been focusing on the life cycles of tadpoles and butterflies. As we move away from this, we will start to read fiction chapter books. Students will be examining the structures of fiction novels. Students will use texts to analyze multi-meaning words. Some of the stories we will be reading are A-Z Mysteries: The Kidnapped King, Cam Jensen and the Mystery Writer, and four different Native American Books.

Writing During this marking period, students will be working on various writing pieces, including opinion, narrative, and descriptive. Students will be encouraged to produce simple and compound sentences using different parts of speech.

Math Students have moved through counting and grouping discrete objects by place value, to measuring length with trains of unifix cubes, to creating their own measuring tapes marked in intervals of 5 and 10 cubes, and finally to adding double digit numbers on an open number line.

Moving forward, we are starting to focus on strategies for multi-digit addition and subtraction within the range of 0-100. Beginning with emphasizing the number line to encourage students to develop the strategy of using "skip jumps" based on multiples of 5 and 10. Next, students will continue to use the number line to add and subtract 2 digit numbers. Students will then focus on addition and subtraction but using the base ten structure. Finally, students will begin graphing using data.

Science

Students have been exploring the properties of materials and matter! Next, we will explore geography learning continents, bodies of water, and landforms.



3rd & 4th Grade News



Third grade

Reading So far we have read the following books together: Owen Foote, Money Man, Fudge-a-Mania, and The Constitution of the United States. We are currently working our way through non-fiction books and learning to find facts about the different topics. We will be moving into the following books: The Congress of the United States, Soil, Minerals, Rocks, and Soil, Magic Tree House Fact Tracker, Twisters and Other Terrible Storms, Because of Winn Dixie, and Red Kite, Blue Kite.

Writing Students are currently working on writing written responses pertaining to what we are reading in class. Soon, we will be moving into opinion writing and informative writing.

Math We are currently in unit 2 of our math curriculum *Bridges!* This unit focuses on basic multiplication. Students are exploring ways to find answers to multiplication problems using the following strategies: repeated addition, skip counting, drawing

pictures, and the multiplication chart. They are working through many word problems and learning to pull information from them as well. After that, unit 3 focuses back on multi-digit addition and subtraction. Not only will they learn strategies for adding and subtracting 3 digit numbers, but they will also focus on rounding and estimating.

Science Students are working on Mystery Science Animals Through Time and learning about fossils, environmental changes, survival, and natural selection.

Social Studies In our civics unit, students learned about the difference between rights, privileges and responsibilities. They also learned about The Constitution and The Bill of Rights.

Reminders

Please continue to read at home each night with your child and practice spelling their Word Study words. Our Word Study (spelling) lists are not long, but are becoming more challenging because they are vocabulary words from our books.



Fourth grade

Reading Fourth grade is reading Love, Amalia. As we move through the book we have been looking at parts of a story. We continue to weave those into our daily diary entries about each chapter. Our next book will be Blood on the River where we will dive into learning all about the Jamestown Settlement.

ELA We are currently working on our first research project of the year. Students chose a natural disaster and are completing a writing piece. After, we will read our next read aloud My Life in Dog Years and write our second opinion piece.

Math Students are working on the early stages of two digit multiplication and division with remainders and will then move into equivalent fractions, introducing decimals and then into both fractions and decimals. Please continue to work with your student on their basic multiplication facts as well as start with their basic division facts as this will help them with the concepts we discuss in class.

Social Studies Students will be introduced to "Thinking About People and Places from the Past" We have learned about primary and secondary sources and will be using this information to discuss the perceptions and misconceptions of information learned.

Reminders

Please be mindful of the weather. We will go outside for recess as long as it isn't raining or snowing and below 35 degrees. Have students bring a winter coat, hat and gloves just in case we do go outside.



*5th Grade News**



Fifth grade We are a quarter of the way through our 2022-2023 school year! Below are some of the standards that we will cover this upcoming marking period.

Reading

We are currently reading our non fiction books. These books include: Animal Cells, Plant Cells, Volcanoes, Oceans, and The Sun.

We have already read Plant and Animal cells and worked on comparing the two different cell types.

Once we finish with our non-fiction unit we will begin our next mystery novel titled The Westing Game.

We are continuing developing our fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary skills during our shared reading block.

Science

Concepts:

- Ecosystems
- Food Web
- Water Cycle
- Earth Systems

Social Studies

Concepts:

- Geography
- Civics

ELA - Writing

We are currently working on our compare and contrast unit, taking the information we learned in shared reading about cells and applying it to our writing.

We are moving to the history of science, where we will be reading about the Flu of 1918 and the Wright Brothers.

We will end the marking period by reading The Watsons Go To Birmingham and then will be writing a civil rights research paper.

Math

- Unit 2

-Students will be able to add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators using a variety of strategies such as: clocks and money, the use of double number lines, and using story problems to solve.

-Students will also utilize least common multiple and greatest common factors to compare fractions, add and subtract fractions, and simplify fractions.

- Unit 3

-Students will study skills and concepts related to place value, from reading, writing and comparing decimals to rounding and examining decimal patterns of multiplying and dividing numbers by 10.

-Students will use these skills to convert within a measurement system

-Students will use whole number strategies and their place value understanding to add and subtract decimals to hundredths

-At the end of the unit the students will focus on division and solve long division problems

Reminder

The weather is starting to get colder outside! We will still be going outside for recess as much as possible, so please dress your child accordingly and send them with a jacket. Water bottles are permitted in classrooms, with refill stations at various locations around the school. If you would like to send your child with a water bottle of some sort please do so and they can refill it as needed throughout the day!



Happy Holidays!

School Closed 12/22 -1/2

Related Arts



Character Education - In Character Education, all students will learn important life skills that will support their academic, social/emotional, and vocational success. Using evidenced-based curriculum and activities from Mind-Up, students will receive weekly lessons. The Mind-Up curriculum teaches students about the different parts of the brain and how it connects to their learning and emotions. Students will learn about mindful coping strategies that help to regulate our brain's functioning. Topics of kindness, respect, honesty, caring, and integrity will be discussed and practiced throughout the year. In the spring, students will focus on career exploration and goal setting to start planning for future success. Career lessons will focus on student's strengths and interests while making connections to the world of careers and professions. If you have any questions, feel free to email us at sgronau@msd.k12.de.us (1st, 2nd, 3rd) trichey@msd.k12.de.us (3rd, 4th, 5th)



Physical Education In Physical Education we are doing our best to stay physically active for the duration of all PE classes. Throughout the year students will learn the skills, rules and tactics in multiple sports and we will use them to play small sided games. Parents, please make sure your child is prepared for Physical Education class by wearing their sneakers on PE days. If you have any questions please feel free to email me at jharris1@msd.k12.de.us



Library Hi, Mispillion families! I am Ms. Weiler, the Library teacher. In Library class, the students will be exploring fiction and nonfiction books, understanding their differences, as well as learning about the wide array of genres that fall under both. The students will also be learning about the Dewey Decimal System and how nonfiction books are shelved in the Library. I can be reached at aweiler@msd.k12.de.us

PR.I.D.E.

- P - Practice Safety
- R - Responsible Choices
- I - Inspire Others
- D - Do your Best
- E - Express Respect



Music- In music this marking period we will be focusing on learning musical concepts through singing, moving, and playing instruments. So far in first and second grade, we have learned how to read, write and perform quarter notes and eighth notes. In third, fourth, and fifth grade we learned how to read, write and perform quarter notes, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes. We are moving on to begin melodic concepts now, learning to hear different intervals. I look forward to continuing the development of our musicianship and understanding of music. If you have any questions, feel free to email me at cpurse@msd.k12.de.us



Art Students are learning about the Elements of Art: Line, color, value, shape, texture, space, and form. Starting in November students will be learning about several different artists and specific time periods that were important parts of art history. Students will also learn about current artists and how their art is an important part of our present day. We are preparing for class each day by learning 7 good habits. Our first habit is **Be Proactive**. If you have any questions, feel free to email me at kgirton@msd.k12.de.us

WINTER SPIRIT WEEK

DEC 19 **MON** **GRINCH DAY**
Wear green

DEC 20 **TUES** **#HAPPY HOLIDAYS**
Wear your favorite holiday gear (hats, shirts, socks, etc)

DEC 21 **WED** **UGLY SWEATER**
Wear your ugliest sweater

WINTER BREAK DEC. 22 - JAN. 2



Mispillion Elementary School
311 Lovers Lane
Milford, DE 19963
Phone: (302) 424-5800
Fax: (302) 422-3469