



Little Eagles School Newspaper



ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-23
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Together Achieving Educational Success

TYRONE ELEMENTARY WELCOMES NEW DEAN OF STUDENTS

—by Miss Kristin Musselman, Tyrone Elementary Principal

The Tyrone Elementary family is happy to welcome Mr. Christopher Perry as our Dean of Students. Mr. Perry is a 2012 graduate from Penn State University and in 2019, he completed a Master's program in Reading and Mathematics. Currently, Mr. Perry teaches 5th grade math and social studies at Tyrone Middle School. Prior to coming to TASD, Perry taught at both Huntingdon Area School District and Altoona Area School District.



Mr. Perry and his wife reside in Duncansville with their 2 year old son and their dog, Baron. The Perry family is anxiously awaiting the birth of their second child in January 2023! In addition to spending time with his family, our new Dean enjoys traveling to National Parks and golfing.

As the Dean of Students at the Elementary School, Mr. Perry is looking forward to "Making a positive impact for the students, teachers and staff members." In his new role, Perry will work closely with the PBIS team to plan school-wide celebrations and events. In addition, he will track attendance and discipline for the Elementary building.

Below are two truths and a lie about Mr. Perry. Can you guess which statement is incorrect?

- Mr. Perry is an avid Cleveland sports fan.
- Mr. Perry's favorite food is salad.
- Mr. Perry is afraid of open water.

January 2023

01/16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Weather Make-Up #1 School Open/In-Session
01/19	Second Marking Period Ends
01/26	Elementary Report Cards Distributed



Tyrone Area School District is proud to be a part of the @GIANT Feeding School Kids Round Up program! When parents and community members shop at GIANT and MARTIN's stores between January 1 and February 28, they can round up at the check-out register to support public school district efforts to eliminate childhood hunger. The GIANT Company will match all donations up to \$250,000. In addition to round up at the register, customers will be given the opportunity to donate non-perishable goods for students through the Fill a Plate program, which will run from January 20-30 at the MARTIN's store in Bellmeade.

Learn more at: [Community | GIANT](https://community.giantfoodstores.com)
(giantfoodstores.com).

Clothing Needs

—by Mrs. Mills, Elementary School Nurse

Since winter and cold weather are upon us, please make sure that students are dressed appropriately for their school day. Warm clothing, coats, hats, and gloves, as well as suitable shoes for winter are all important items for physical comfort. Students will still go outside for recess (weather permitting). It's also a good idea to keep a change of clothes in your child's backpack or school locker, as unforeseen incidents (lunch spills, mud, tears/holes, etc.) sometimes occur. We have a limited supply of children's clothing in the health suite and accept donations of gently-used items in elementary child sizes to keep on hand in the health suite.



Kindergarten Updates — by Ms. Ditty, Kindergarten Teacher

This time of year is always an exciting time for the students in the Kindergarten hallway. Our students are impressing us with their growing skills in academics, as well as classroom procedures.



Our students have demonstrated confidence in routines and expectations as they adjust to the classroom for the first time in their learning journey. The children have enjoyed learning about the SOAR expectations. One of the highlights of each morning in our hallway is during the morning announcements when we find out what class earned the golden tray! You can often hear chanting and clapping from the winning classroom in the morning. Our Kindergarten students are often spotted holding up their quiet Eagle beaks in the hallway as they learn and practice walking in line. The children were also very excited about their very first experience with the SOAR store and have been working hard to earn their SOAR tickets. We've noticed the children counting their tickets often and keeping track of how many they earn.

Along with the growth in navigating the rigorous school day for the first time, our students enjoyed reflecting on what they are grateful for during the holiday season. We talked about being thankful and about pumpkins and farming. We also worked on a pet research project for writing and are working on shapes in math. We have been completing weekly assessments as part of the Savvas Program and the children have come very far when it comes to turning pages, learning how to circle answers and working on following multi-step directions! We are so proud of how far they have come!

Students have also been showing compassion and kindness by utilizing the buddy bench at recess. Children are always keeping an eye out for their peers when they are sitting on the bench. It is a truly beautiful experience to watch as a student goes up to a friend on the buddy bench and invites them to play!

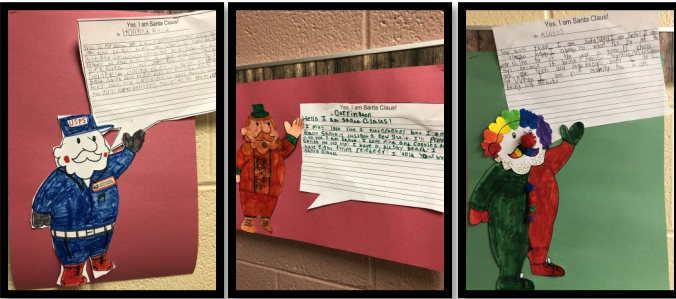
Our students are learning and growing each day and we are so thankful to get to help and support them!



Thankful for Family-School Connections

By: Miss Weaver for the Second Grade Teachers

During the holiday seasons, the second-grade team partnered with families for some amazing projects. The first project was a giant turkey feather that students took home to their families. Their job was to decorate the feather, while also listing the things they are thankful for on it. It provided students and their families an opportunity to talk about thankfulness in their own lives. The second-grade team was impressed with how great the feathers looked when they made their way back to school– and finally, into the board room for the rest of November!



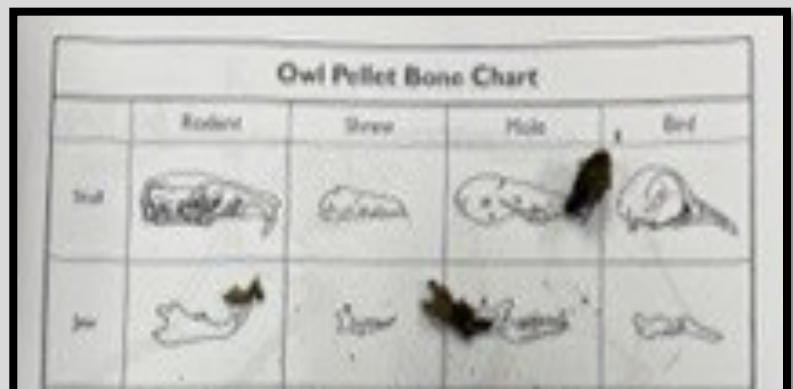
The second project was called “Santa’s new suit” and was displayed in the second-grade hallway during the month of December. This project also turned out amazing!

We are so thankful for the connections these projects brought forth and are so glad to have such wonderful families with whom to work.

Dissecting Owl Pellets

Submitted by: Mrs. Black, Mrs. Neumann and Mr. McElhinney, First Grade Teachers

First grade has been busy learning about PA animals, animal adaptations, and animal habitats. Students learned about the basic needs of living things, how animals use camouflage to help them blend into their habitat, and the life cycle of living things. This tied in well with our reading unit where students were learning about how living things change and grow. Perhaps their favorite part of this unit was learning about owls. Each class learned facts about this creature, watched an owl produce an owl pellet (eeeew), and got to get scientific by dissecting an owl pellet. After dissecting the pellet each child used a chart to distinguish what exactly the owl ate. This is sure to be one of their favorite memories of first grade!



Honoring Our Veterans

—by Mrs. Nadolsky, 4th Grade Teacher

This year when school was closed for Veteran's Day, we wanted our students to focus on the "why" of this special day. In the days leading up to the holiday, fourth grade took the opportunity to learn about Veteran's Day through videos, informational texts, and sharing stories. As a result, the students gained an appreciation for the sacrifices that these heroes made for all of us. To show our gratitude as a grade level, we handmade cards which were delivered to Hollidaysburg Veterans Home for the veterans to enjoy on their special day! Fourth grade, subsequently, received a very kind note of thanks from the residents.



Making Music Post-Pandemic

By: Mrs. Hall, Tyrone Music Teacher


The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent restrictions certainly brought a "new normal" to Tyrone Elementary. Every aspect of our school community was changed, and the special subjects department was no exception. In music class many activities were no longer feasible. Singing with masks on while six feet away from peers became the standard, and "circle time" and passing games were a thing of the past. The recorder curriculum was put on hiatus. Teachers had to adjust and get creative! Technology became more vital to the curriculum, and music making continued--just in a different way!



Our current school year arrived without pandemic restrictions. Seating arrangements are normal and students are no longer required to mask up, so singing freely is back in session! The recorder was added back to fourth grade's spring curriculum, and students are moving around the music classroom, using instruments, working in small groups and pairs, and generally experiencing more freedom! Movement is an essential element of elementary general music, students are now able to express creativity and be comfortable in their music making.

While the pandemic's challenges were certainly frustrating, many positive effects resulted from the struggles. New music technology resources were developed for use in virtual and hybrid learning, and these resources continue to be valuable even after restrictions have been lifted. Teachers of all subjects strengthened their skills, and students are increasingly technologically savvy. In music at TAES, a subscription to a service called *Music Play Online* is an incredible tool that was first explored during the pandemic, but it remains in use today. Like all subjects and classrooms, music at TAES has been forever changed by the effects of COVID-19. We are all thankful for the ability to once again, make music freely and in person!

What's Your Resolution for the New Year?



2023 RESOLUTIONS

Name _____ Age _____

IN 2023

I want to continue _____

I want to try _____

I want to stop _____

I want to visit _____

MY GOAL FOR THIS YEAR

Third Graders Enrich Earth Science Knowledge

—by Mrs. Enck, Tyrone Elementary 3rd Grade Teacher

During this marking period, we studied earth science and students have enjoyed recognizing landforms in their environments. During the autumn season, the surrounding hills are teeming with breathtaking colors. Students learned that, here in Tyrone, we live in a valley of the deciduous forest ecosystem.

Since a landform is a feature of the earth's terrain, third graders learned that there are four main categories: mountains, hills, plateaus and plains. For prerequisite knowledge, they had to learn about plate tectonics and the types of movement that creates mountains.

Many labs were involved, but the plate tectonic lab was also delicious because it involved combining icing and graham crackers and students demonstrated types of plate movement. They learned that tectonic plate movement can create mountains and hills when they are convergent. Finally, the students made a connection with the initial science unit of weather processes because over millions of years weathering and erosion creates landforms like valleys and canyons.

As we progress through the Earth Science units, third grade prepares to learn what they can do to reduce air, land, and water pollution as well as how the environmental impact we have as humans affects species in our ecosystem and other ecosystems.

As we encourage our third graders, don't forget to look around in your environment as science creates the terrain we call home.

Landform fun facts:

It took 6 million years for the Colorado River to carve out the Grand Canyon.

The highest landform on Earth is a mountain: Mt. Everest in Nepal.



Pictured above are students in Mrs. Enck's class creating models out of playdough to demonstrate their understanding of landforms. Can you guess which ones they formed?

Meet the New Faces at TAES!

Ava Focht

Miss Focht joins TAES as a long-term substitute in kindergarten. Here are some facts about Miss Focht:

- She has a Bachelor of Science in Elementary and Early Childhood Education (Penn State University).
- Miss Focht was actually born on her parents' wedding anniversary! She enjoys watching Pittsburgh and Penn State sports, and is left-handed—which she thinks is cool because most people are righties.
- In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, crafting, singing, outdoor activities and spending time with family and friends.



Makenna Betar

Miss Betar is joining TAES as a second-grade teacher. Here are some facts about Miss Betar:

- She has a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education (Penn State University).
- She loves all kinds of animals and has recently gotten a pet snake!
- In her spare time, she likes to dance, read, and spend time with her family and friends.



Adria Jeffery

Mrs. Jeffery joins TAES as a long-term, learning support substitute. Here are some facts about Mrs. Jeffery:

- She has a Bachelor of Science in Counseling (Clarks Summit University) and a Master of Education in Special Education (Grand Canyon University).
- She is a huge sports fan who loves Penn State Football, Steelers Football, and the Olympics. She is also a soccer coach for the Tyrone Varsity Girls' Soccer Team.
- In her spare time, she likes to garden. She starts her own seeds and grows four different types of fruit, a variety of cooking and medicinal herbs, and around 30 different vegetables!



Erica Schopp

Mrs. Schopp is joining TAES as a long-term, learning support substitute. Here are some facts about Mrs. Schopp:

- She has a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education (Saint Francis University).
- She LOVES cotton candy or anything cotton candy flavored!
- In her spare time, she enjoys crafting.

