



# Little Eagles School Newspaper



ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-24  
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Together Achieving Educational Success

## Let's SOAR on the Way to School

—By Ashton Shultz, Tyrone Elementary Assistant Principal

Did you know that February 22, 2024 is school bus driver appreciation day? At Tyrone Elementary, we work hard every day to exemplify positive SOAR behaviors and that starts even before the bell rings!

Throughout the school year, students review SOAR rules and expectations with staff in all areas of our school community – the classroom, hallways, playground, cafeteria, restroom, and the bus. In fact, during the week of February 12<sup>th</sup>, students are participating in an interactive SOAR assembly to help refresh and reenergize a schoolwide commitment to SOAR. This includes an emphasis on how to exhibit SOAR expectations on the bus. The expectations include:



<b>Safety</b>	-I will remain in my assigned seat, facing forward. -I will keep my hands and feet to myself. -I will keep all objects inside the bus.
<b>Ownership</b>	-I will be on time to my bus stop. -I will gather all of my belongings. -I will keep the bus clean.
<b>Achievement</b>	-I will listen to my bus driver's directions. -I will use an inside voice.
<b>Respect</b>	-I will be kind with my words and actions. -I will report safety concerns to the driver. -I will wait my turn to enter or exit the bus.

Please join us in helping to excite students about modeling positive behaviors. Simple conversations at home can have a huge impact and help to reinforce the importance of staying safe, taking ownership, striving for achievement, and being respectful.

Together, we can create a support system that will help all students SOAR!

### February 2024

02/06 02/07 02/08	Parent-Teacher Conferences
02/16	In-Service Day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No Classes K-12</li><li>Preschool In-Session</li><li>Daycare Open/ Sign-ups Required</li></ul>
02/19	Mid Winter Vacation No School [weather make-up, if needed]

### March 2024

03/10	Spring Forward! Daylight Savings Begins
03/27	Marking Period 3 Ends
03/28	In-Service Day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No Classes K-12</li><li>Preschool In-Session</li><li>Daycare Open/ Sign-ups Required</li></ul>
03/29 & 04/01	Easter Break: No School Daycare Closed

## Second Grade Can Regroup

—by Mrs. Savino, Second Grade Teacher

Do you recall learning to add two-digit numbers? Many adults will remember learning this process by adding the ones column and then “carrying” a ten to the next column. Students still learn this method today, but the vocabulary has changed a bit! Instead of using the term “carrying”, students are taught to “regroup”. The word regroup comes from the idea that the extra ones in the ones column are regrouped into a ten.



Second grade has been working hard the last month to learn how to add two-digit numbers. Students first learn to add these numbers by using base ten blocks. These blocks are used to model numbers and show students a visual representation of what changes are occurring in the addition process. Next, students draw pictures to show the addition process. Last, they learn the traditional addition

algorithm. Ultimately our goal is for students to be able to quickly and efficiently add these numbers together. We are proud of the hard work students have done to master this new concept!

## Third Graders Hit the Road

(The Road to the Revolution)



This marking period, our third graders learned about the events that lead up to the Revolutionary War in a unit called “Road to the Revolution.” Our students

are highly engaged and eager to learn about all of the events that lead the colonists to declare their independence. This unit ties in nicely to our writing unit where our students will write their own historical fiction, as well as help prepare them for an upcoming field trip to Fort Roberdeau that they will take near the end of the school year. They enjoyed taking a step back in time as they tried to understand history through the eyes of a colonist. Be sure to ask our third graders about what they are learning in social studies.

—by Mrs. Schultz, Third Grade Teacher

## Preschoolers Learn about Music, Movement . . . and Dinosaurs

—by Mrs. Wilkinson, PreK Teacher

The PreK wing was alive with the sound of music and laughter throughout December! Students spent the month festively decorating doors and investigating music in its many forms. They enjoyed learning about a variety of musical artists, instruments, and genres as well as even

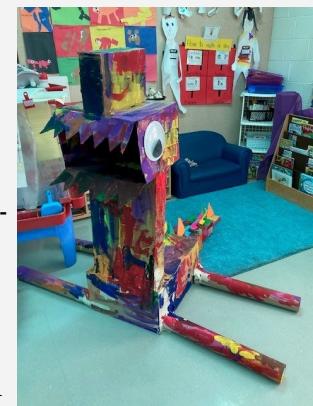
creating their own musical instruments! Students worked hard learning the words to their holiday favorites in preparation for a



Pre-K Holiday Program. Parents and families were invited to the school to enjoy an afternoon of music performed by our amazing Pre-K students. In addition to becoming rockstars, students flexed their artistic muscles by participating in a school-wide door decorating contest. Each class worked hard to create a unique door that showcased the imagination of the students. Students could be heard pointing out their contributions as they walked the halls. It was a wonderful way to connect with the whole school right before the holidays.

The new year meant a return to school and a change of scenery. In January, Pre-K has been going on an exploration of dinosaurs! We have spent the month reading books, watching videos, doing investigations, creating art, and diving deep into the wonders of dinosaurs. Students have worked hard sorting, examining, comparing, and contrasting dinosaurs as they played junior paleontologists.

If you stroll down the hallway or through many classrooms, you can see their creative minds at work as they create new dinosaurs.



## Learning About Woodwind Instruments

—by Mrs. Estright, Tyrone Elementary Music Teacher

What is the highest sounding instrument in the band and orchestra? Ask a student in Mrs. Estright's music class and they will know—it is the piccolo. Mr. Palm, Mrs. Estright's student teacher, recently taught a music lesson on two instruments that he has been playing for many years: the flute and piccolo. He has been studying music education for four years at Penn State University and has been a member of the Penn State University Marching Blue Band for four years. He was the piccolo section leader for the past three years. Students were very engaged as he played a variety of songs for them on both instruments. Students heard for themselves that the piccolo is a very high instrument indeed! Thank you, Mr. Palm, for sharing your love of music with the students at TAES!



## Breathe Better, Feel Better . . . Asthma & Important Information

—Mrs. Mills, Tyrone Elementary School Nurse

The dreaded cold weather is here and the nasty sicknesses that come with it are not fun! These two things can be a big issue for someone with asthma.

Asthma is a chronic health condition that causes the airways to your lungs to narrow and restrict airflow, making it difficult to breathe. This condition can cause a disruption in sleep, play, and other activities. There are many different “asthma triggers” that can cause an “asthma attack”. These can include allergens (dust, pollen, etc.), exercise, viral infections, cold air, or tobacco smoke. Symptoms of asthma can include continuous coughing, coughing late at night or early morning, exercised induced cough, chest tightness, audible wheeze, shortness of breath or fast breathing. Recognizing and trying to avoid the triggers is helpful in managing asthma. Proper treatment can aid in the improvement of day-to-day breathing, reduce asthma flare-ups, and reduce overall symptoms of this condition.



Physicians prescribe medications that are to be taken on a daily basis to control persistent asthma, known as maintenance medications. Rescue medications provide immediate relief of symptoms and last four to six hours. If asthma symptoms are persistent, do not rely on rescue medications. Seek medical advice for maintenance medications may be needed. Emergency action plans can be completed by the student's doctor and a copy should be given to the school nurse. Inhalers (with a physician order) can be kept in the nurse's offices for student access in time of need. If asthma is left untreated it can lead to long-term complications such as permanent lung damage.



Education is key in taking control of your child's asthma and an important step to managing their disease. Working close with your child's doctor to avoid triggers, medication knowledge and proper use, as well as teaching your child to recognize symptoms and triggers of their condition will allow your child to maintain a normal, healthy lifestyle.



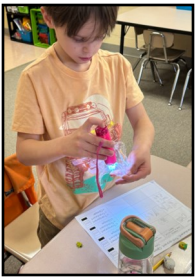
# Indoor Activities to Promote Reading and Writing Skills

Core strength activities are important for kids as they help them develop stability and control in their trunk muscles. Improving core strength improves writing and reading skills. Here are some core strength activities for kids:

1. **Bear Crawl:** Have your child get down on all fours with their hands under their shoulders and their knees under their hips. Then, have them lift their knees off the ground and walk forward and backward on their hands and feet like a bear.
2. **Bridge:** Have your child lie on their back with their knees bent and feet flat on the ground. Then, have them lift their hips off the ground, engaging their glutes and core muscles. They should hold the position for a few seconds before lowering back down. Try to roll a ball or toy under the bridge!
3. **Crab walk:** Have your child sit on the ground with their knees bent and feet flat on the ground. Then, have them lift their hips off the ground and walk backwards and forwards on their hands and feet. This movement requires strong core muscles to maintain balance.
4. **Superman:** Have your child lie face down on the floor with their arms extended in front of them and their legs straight. Then, have them lift their arms, chest, and legs off the ground, holding the position for a few seconds before lowering back down.
5. **Inchworms:** Have your child stand up straight and then bend forward, reaching their hands towards the ground. Then, have them walk their hands forward until they are in a plank position, with their body in a straight line. They should then walk their feet forward until they are back in the starting position, standing up straight.
6. **Spiderman Crawl:** Have your child get down on all fours with their hands under their shoulders and their knees under their hips. Then, have them lift their knees off the ground and crawl forward on their hands and feet, bringing their right knee towards their right elbow as they move forward, and then their left knee towards their left elbow.

# First Grade Winter Activities

*from First Grade teachers Sarah Ciampoli, Nick McElhinney, Megan Myers*



During the month of January and continuing into February, first graders learned about force and motion, along with light and shadows. Each class learned about light and how different objects can be transparent, translucent, or opaque depending on how much light comes through. Then students learned all about the different forces of motion such as push, pulls, friction, static electricity, gravity and even magnets. Throughout the new unit, students conducted experiments to test these forces and even had a chance to use Mystery Science. One favorite experiment was exploring seeing inside a cave using dark box messages. Students worked with their partner to add a message hidden inside two paper boxes and used the mini hole to read the message. Most students learned they needed a little bit of light, by lifting the lid of the box, to read the message.

Students also enjoyed another Mystery-Science lesson when they sent color coded messages to another student in the classroom using flashlights. Within the unit, students were introduced to different inventors such as Thomas Edison, the Wright brothers, and Benjamin Franklin. They were amazed to learn all about the perseverance of the inventors when they created solutions to problems, such as the light bulb and electricity. Overall, this was a fun, hands on science unit that all the first graders enjoyed.



## Penn State Field Trip —submitted by Mrs. Harris for the Fourth Grade Team

In December, fourth grade classes traveled to the Bryce Jordan Center to cheer on the Penn State girls' basketball team. As a part of this field trip, fourth grade studied the history of Penn State and basketball. Four students were chosen to participate in a contest on the basketball court. One of our fourth-grade students won the contest! It was great to see all the students support their classmates.

This field trip opened many opportunities for our fourth-grade students. They were really engaged and excited to be a part of a great experience. For some of our students, this was the very first Penn State sporting event they'd attended. Each child received a poster and a pom-pom to cheer on the girls. Many of the students expressed how appreciative they were to have had this opportunity. They mentioned how this was a great memory with their friends. What a great way for our fourth-grade students to make memories during their last year in elementary school!



## **Kindergarten's Winter Activities**—by Mrs. Colyer, Kindergarten Teacher



For Tyrone Elementary kindergarteners, December was the most wonderful time of the year! Students were filled with lots of joy as we celebrated different holidays, visited the new auditorium and joined together for the Christmas Music Assembly. We also decorated gingerbread cookies, participated in the school's spirit week and door decorating contest! Kindergarten students completed "Holidays Around the World" and learned about other countries' cultures and traditions! Classes visited Europe, India, China and Mexico and students loved getting to learn about other cultures traditions and creating a variety of symbolic crafts.

In the month of January, we've learned about arctic animals. We are excited to dive into their lives as we explore where and how they live, along with their adaptations. To kick off the winter season, our grade level created a snow globe that has all of the students' pictures inside of it. Each class is featured doing different winter activities we've discussed like snow ball fights, sled riding, building snowmen, ice skating and making snow angels. After our first snowfall, we heard stories of how students got to experience these activities outside in the snow!

We are at mid year academically, and our assessments are underway to measure and monitor academic progress. They have been busy learning technology, and this is the first year kindergarten has been using their tablets to complete reading diagnostics. It is wonderful to see all of the growth that students have made since the beginning of the year!



# **EXCITING NEWS!**