

# DISCOVERY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Prepare. Engage. Educate. Empower. Inspire.

## MARCH 2024 FAMILY NEWSLETTER

School Hours: 7:30 - 2:00

Phone: (320)370-6180



## From Principal Holm

### MARCH

March is a busy month at Discovery. We finished our second trimester. Today we celebrated all the hard work and success of our students with an assembly. There were contests, prizes, games, and lots of fun!

Next week students do not have school. It is winter break from March 4-8 for all schools in District 742.



[Click here for Discovery staff directory](#)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**March 4-8 - Winter Break - NO SCHOOL**

**March 15 - Fifth Grade Kindness Retreat**

**March 28 - Pizza with the principal**

**March 28 - Report cards go home**

**March 28 - Spring picture day (optional)**

**March 29 - NO SCHOOL**

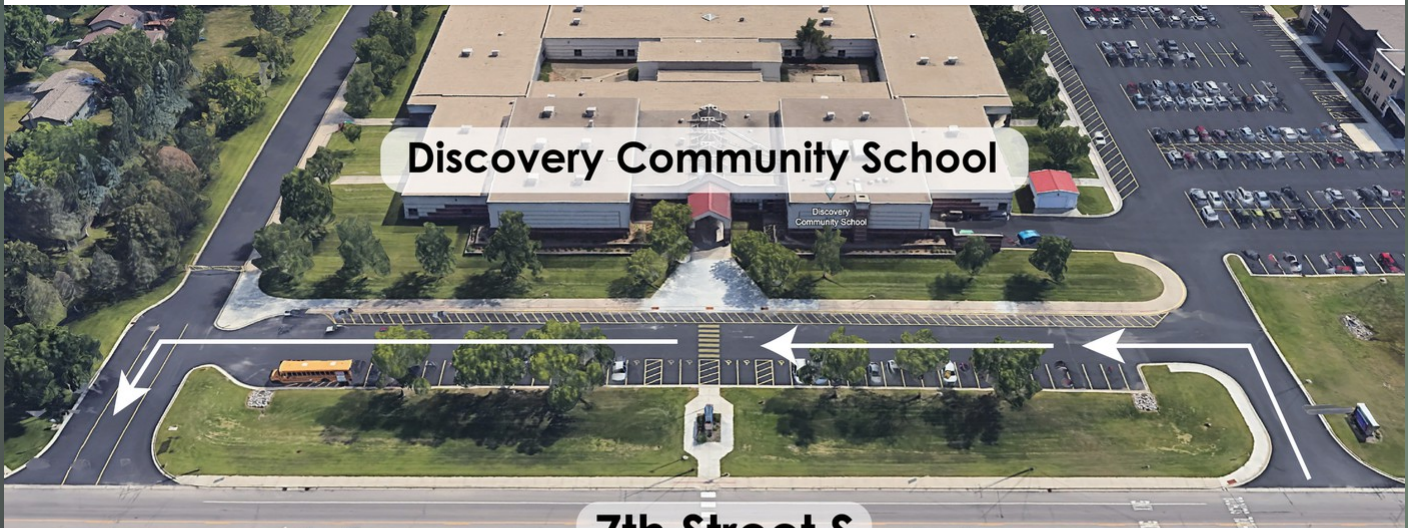


March 4-8  
**NO SCHOOL**

Enjoy Your Mid-Winter Break!

## New One Way Traffic at Discovery

Starting March 11 after winter break, Discovery will have one way traffic. Please look at the white arrows in the diagram below.



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## Hello from Kindergarten!



Happy March!

This month is full of lots of learning! In math we will start working on subtraction and addition within ten. Please remember to be practicing math skills with your child at home to get them first grade ready.

In reading this month, we are practicing how to identify key details in a text and how to sequence a story using “first, then, next, and last.” We are also having another writers’ workshop where students will have the chance to write their own story. At home continue to read with your child, practice sounding out short words, reading sight words, and letter sounds.

Please pay close attention to the weather forecasts as March weather can be unpredictable. Continue to send your student with a coat, hat, and gloves. If it snows, students will also need snow pants and boots. If your student wears boots to school, please send them with sneakers as well. Please reach out to your student’s teacher if you have any questions.

Kindergarten Teachers

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## 1st GRADE



Happy March!

We will miss you during spring break! Enjoy this time with your family and friends!

When we come back, we will begin Unit 4 in reading which has us exploring all about animals. How do their bodies help them? How do they help each other? How do they survive in nature? And so much more! While reading, we will be growing our vocabulary, asking and answering questions, visualizing, describing the point of view, finding the main idea and key details, and sequencing. We will continue to learn how to decode words with long vowel sounds to help support learning new words.

In math, we will begin Unit 5 that has us exploring tens and ones. Expanding on that, we will be adding and subtracting tens, adding and subtracting with two digit numbers, and making a ten to add two digit numbers. We will be using a 100’s chart and base ten blocks to support our learning. Have math conversations with your child and look for opportunities to add two-digit numbers in real-world situations. For example:

- If there are 24 people in the park and then 4 more people arrive, ask your child how many people are there now.
- If you have 12 crayons and your child has 6 crayons, ask your child how many crayons there are altogether.

In science, we will be using the engineering design process to make inventions that are based on an animal that help with a human need. Then we will learn about light and build a device to solve a

Spring is coming but the weather is still weird! Look at the weather each morning to decide what outdoor gear to bring to school. Thank you!

- Mrs. Bureau
- Mrs. Fagerstrom
- Ms. Strahan
- Ms. Grussendorf

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## The Second Grade Scoop



**READING:** In reading, we will be reading realistic fiction and biography texts. Students will learn about sequencing, point of view, and will review text features. Our essential questions will be: "What do heroes do?" and "What do good citizens do?" Help your student build background knowledge by discussing these topics at home.

Please keep encouraging your scholar to read at home EVERY day for at least 20 minutes. After reading, have them tell you about the characters, setting, problem, and solution in the story. If the book is informational, have students share facts they learned.

**MATH:** 2nd graders have begun Unit 4! The big focus of Unit 4 is measurement. We will use measurement tools to measure inches, centimeters, feet, meters, and use other non-standard units of measurement. Students will need to understand measurement with different units, estimate and measure length, compare lengths, add and subtract lengths, and add and subtract on a number line. We will assess unit 4 toward the end of April.

Some math skills you can practice at home include basic addition and subtraction facts (start with single digit addends), skip counting by 2's, 5's, 10's and 100's (forward and backward), counting groups of mixed coins, and naming and describing shapes.

Second Grade Teachers,

Ms. Aden, Mr. Burrer, Ms. Smith, Mrs. Street

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## 3rd GRADE



Greetings from 3rd Grade!

The first week of March is Mid-winter break and students will return on March 11, 2024.

This year's weather has been strange and it has been a little difficult to predict how to dress for recess. Please check the weather and be sure students are prepared for outside each day.

Reading: We will read expository texts to learn about science concepts. We will make comparisons to show we understand what we are reading. Students will be reading a variety of poems about inspiring people during our poetry unit. Students will have opportunities to write their own poems too! You can help your child find success in school by sharing your favorite poems and having discussions about the feeling of the poem and discussing rhyming words.

Math: We will begin learning about fractions. Ask them what they know about fractions and how many pieces are in a third. How many pieces would you have if you cut a pizza into fourths?

Warm Wishes,  
The 3rd Grade teachers

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## 4th GRADE

The month of March is upon us. Here at Discovery, that means the third and final trimester has arrived. Fourth graders will be working hard to prepare for the MCA exams that will be taken in April. In

reading, we will continue to work on reading strategies and skills such as main idea and key details, cause and effect, problem and solution, and compare and contrast. In math, we are finishing up units on fractions and decimals. After break, we will begin a unit on Geometry. We are proud of how far the 4th graders have come since the beginning of the year and are excited to continue to watch them grow!!

-4th Grade Team

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## 5th GRADE

Hello 5th Grade Families!

This month in 5th grade we have been exploring geography and island building in Science. In Social Studies we looked at European explorers and their routes to America. During Math we learned about classifying 2D shapes and how shapes can relate to one another. We have been reading expository texts during Language Arts. Students worked on practicing writing paragraphs about animals they researched as part of their writing time.

As we move into March, we are getting close to taking the MCA tests. To best help students have the most success on these exams, we are encouraging students at home to work on their math facts. These include addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts. We are also encouraging students to read 20 minutes at home each night from a book at their level. Students go to the library each week, so they should all have books at their level.

We are also looking forward to having our 5th grade Kindness Retreat on Friday, March 15th. We



is an awesome opportunity to focus on kindness skills as we transition our 5th graders into Middle School. Please watch for communication from your homeroom teacher about this event.

Please continue to have students dress appropriately for the weather. Even though we have had some warmer days, we still will have some chiller days at recess. Students should still bring a jacket for those colder days.

Thank you!

Best,  
The 5th Grade Teachers

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## Physical Education

Physical Education students are working on our rhythm and movement unit. Students are working individually and together to move to music throughout the gymnasium. We are moving in lines and using exercise balls for drumming. The songs we are moving to include the Electric Slide, Choco late', Cotton Eye Joe, Starship, Frozen, Late Last Night, and the Freeze. The students are learning their left and right side of the body, learning to move on different levels, and learning from their mistakes.



In the next few weeks, the 4th, and 5th graders will be rollerblading and preparing for track and field competitions. The 5th graders will be heading to Apollo High School in May to compete against other schools in the district. Some of the events the students will be practicing are, 60-meter sprints, 200-meter-long run, soccer punt, and running long jump.

All the students will be working on striking skills and games. The students will be learning to work alone, partnered up, and in teams for all the activities. The students will learn to use a baseball glove, run bases, strike a stationary and moving ball, and kick a moving ball.

This time of year is so much fun because the sun is shining longer and brighter. This allows all of us to enjoy the sunlight, get outside more, and soak up the Vitamin D from the Sun. If you get the chance, get outside, go for a walk, play some catch, and breath some fresh air with your family. Your lungs need it!

Have a happy, healthy, and great spring! Go out and get some FRESH AIR!!!!!!

Mr. Thoreson

Mr. Richmond

Discovery Physical Education

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## Art

Exciting News from the Art Room!

In addition, Discovery also has four frames at newly opened Gallery 742 in the District Administrative Offices. We will be changing artworks regularly, so look for notices if your artist has work in the gallery!

Such great opportunities to share our wonderful artists with our community! I'm so proud of them!

Stay creative,  
Ms. Buysse



**Jenny Holm**

Jenny is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters