

# DISCOVERY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

*Prepare. Engage. Educate. Empower. Inspire.*

## JANUARY 2024 FAMILY NEWSLETTER

School Hours: 7:30 - 2:00

Phone: (320)370-6180



### From Principal Holm

#### Happy New Year!

Discovery staff had a great time with students the week before winter break. Monday was pizza with the principal for the students of the month. Tuesday some of our grade levels performed reader's theater. Wednesday every grade level took part in a PBIS celebration playing Bingo. I hope everyone had a wonderful winter break.. I am looking forward to a productive year in 2024.



Click here for Discovery staff directory

## DATES TO REMEMBER

January 1 Monday - No School

January 2 - Tuesday - Return to School

January 15 - Monday - No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 17 - Wednesday- Cultural Event for families- 4:30-6:00

January 24 - Wednesday - Kindergarten Open House - 3:30-5:00

February 1 - Conferences - 2:45-7:15

February 8 - Conferences - 2:45-7:15

February 7 - Wednesday - 2 Hour Early Release - School Day ends at 12 Noon today

February 19 - Monday - No School - President's Day



*It's Time!* Kindergarten Enrollment

3 Ways to Enroll

- Attend an Open House!**

★ Clearview	Jan. 17	4:00 - 6:00
★ Discovery	Jan. 24	3:30 - 5:00
Kennedy	Jan. 24	4:30 - 6:00
★ Madison	Jan. 30	4:00 - 6:00
Oak Hill	Jan. 18	4:00 - 5:30
★ Talahi	Jan. 23	4:00 - 6:00
★ Westwood	Jan. 25	4:30 - 6:00

Also enrolling in Language Immersion
- Go Online**  
Go to [www.isd742.org/enrollment](http://www.isd742.org/enrollment)
- Visit the Welcome Center**  
Quarryview Education Center  
800 7th St S, Waite Park  
Monday - Friday, 7:30-4:30

St. Cloud Area School District 742!

[isd742.org/enrollment](http://isd742.org/enrollment) 320-370-8116 (English) 320-370-8117 (Spanish) 320-370-8118 (Somali)

Click here to enroll online.

## Lost And Found!!!!

Parents, we have a lot of lost and found clothing, coats, hats, gloves, etc. If your child is missing an article of clothing, please come in to look over the lost and found items. Also, labeling your child's clothing on the tag with initials or last name is very helpful. We will retain lost and found items until the end of December.

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## Attendance is very important for your child's success! Regular attendance is directly related to successful academic achievement.

Please let the Discovery office know as soon as possible whenever your child is absent or will be late and the reason. Discovery's phone number is **(320)370-6180**. If you leave a voicemail message, please indicate the reason for your child's absence.

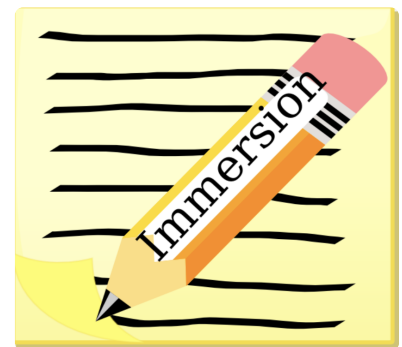
A student is considered truant (**3 full-day unexcused absences**) when we do not know the reason for their absence. When a student has 3 truant days, a letter is sent home to the parent and the County. At 5 truant days, a letter is again sent to the parents and the County.

When a student has 7 truant days, the school requests a "Truancy/Educational Neglect Petition" to be filed with the County for screening, assessment, and investigation

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## Immersion Program Information - Click this link:

<https://www.isd742.org/immersion>



## Hello from Kindergarten!

We have learned and grown so much already this year, and we are looking forward to what 2024 will bring for kindergarten!



In reading we have been exploring informational texts about community and how we can be good neighbors. As we read these texts we will continue to work on identifying the characters, setting, and events. We will also continue to practice identifying the elements of informational texts such as labels, headings, inset pictures, real photographs, and captions. You can help your student practice these skills by reading with them at home and talking about the stories that you read together! The local library is a fantastic resource for families looking for more books that are at a

kindergarten level. Taking a trip to the local library can be a fun way for your student to apply their learning and it's also a great way to spend the day as a family!

Students have now learned how to write and name all uppercase letters in the alphabet! We will begin learning the lowercase letters next and will continue to develop our phonemic awareness skills with activities such as identifying rhyming words (words that sound the same at the end such as 'mat, sat, cat') and by blending/segmenting spoken word parts.

In math we have been working hard to develop our understanding of numbers 0-5 and the relationships they have to one another. We will build on this progress by learning numbers 6-10. You can support your kindergartener's growth in math by encouraging them to practice counting forwards and backwards beyond 10. There are many fun ways to do this such as having them count groups of small objects like coins or pasta or by sending them on a counting scavenger hunt and have them count things around the house (How many cabinet doors are in our house? How many shoes are in our house? etc.). We will also be comparing numbers to 10 and number combinations to 10 (for example, 5 and 2 make 7, 3 and 6 make 9, etc.). Sit alongside them and help them practice these new skills.

We are so excited to play and learn this month! Please continue to send warm clothes with your child (labeled with their name) for them to wear outside for recess everyday. As always, reach out to your student's teacher if you have any questions!

Kindergarten Teachers

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## 1st GRADE

### Happy January!

In math, we will be moving onto Unit 3 where we will be learning skills such as solving word problems up to 20, comparing numbers, collecting and organizing data, true and/or false equations, finding missing numbers, and learning so many math vocabulary words to help explain our thinking.

We continue to ask for your help to connect school to home by writing numbers up to 120, skip count by 2's, 5's, and 10's, counting backwards from smaller and larger numbers, and ordering numbers from least to greatest. Thank you for your support!

In reading, we will be finishing up Unit 2 of our Wonders curriculum and then moving on to our writing unit where students will be writing their very own fantasy story! Then we will move on to Unit 3 where we will read about, discuss, write, and learn how we measure time, how plants grow over time, and folktales.

In Social Studies and Science we will be in the Science Lab a few days with Mrs. Walz learning about how to prevent changes to our Earth and in our classrooms learning about history.

Reminder that as Winter is officially here that we do go outside for recess as long as the temperature is above 0°F so please make sure your child has warm winter gear. If you need help with this, let your teacher know!





We wish you and your families a wonderful Winter Break and hope you enjoy some family time together! 😊

-Mrs. Burau

-Mrs. Fagerstrom

-Ms. Strahan

-Ms. Grussendorf

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## The Second Grade Scoop



We hope you had a wonderful, relaxing winter break. We're happy to have our students back at school! Coming up in January, we will be reassessing our students for winter data to measure their progress in reading and math.

**READING:** We have learned about several new genres including fables, poetry, and narrative nonfiction. With fables, we are learning what these stories can teach us, since they end with an important lesson. We have read a variety of poems and learned about rhythm and rhyme. Students are continuing to build their knowledge of text evidence, author's purpose, asking and answering questions, and problem and solution. A new reading strategy students will practice in the upcoming weeks in understanding point of view. Please keep encouraging your child to read at home **EVERY day for at least 20 minutes**. After reading, have your child tell you about the characters, setting, problem, and solution in the story. If the book is informational, have students share facts they learned after reading.

**MATH:** After winter break, we will finish the final part of unit 2- telling and writing time. Then, we will take our unit 2 assessment. The focus of unit 2 is 'Numbers Within 100: Addition, Subtraction, Time, and Money'. Some math skills you could practice at home include basic addition and subtraction facts (work on automaticity), counting a group of coins, and talking about math in everyday life (counting, measuring, shapes, etc.). Unit 3 will focus on 'Numbers Within 1,000: Place Value, Addition, and Subtraction'.

We appreciate all the work you do at home to help your child! We're ready for a busy month of learning and new experiences!

Second Grade Teachers,

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

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## 3rd GRADE



Hello 3rd Grade Families!

It is hard to believe it is the new year already! Your students have been working very hard and should all be proud of their growth thus far. In reading, we will be studying non-fiction texts focused on the Solar System. We will continue to multiply and begin division soon. An easy way to have your student work on their math skills at home is by having them cook with you and measure the ingredients.

Please continue to send warm winter gear with your student, as it is going to be cold and we will go outside for recess when we can! We also encourage your students to play. Children develop many social skills while playing, whether that is a board game with adults or creative playtime with other children.

Third graders will be taking their mid-year assessments in January. We use the data from these assessments to help meet the language arts and math needs of your child. Please encourage your child to do their very best on them so we can gain the most accurate information.

Warm Wishes,  
The 3rd Grade Team

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## 4th GRADE

Welcome back, fourth grade! We are happy to be back, and we hope that everyone had a great winter break. In reading, we will continue to strengthen skills around fiction and nonfiction. We've worked hard on multiplication and division, and will begin to work on geometry and fractions. We continue to go outside; please remember to have your child wear all winter gear. Happy New Year!



The Fourth Grade Team

-4th Grade Team

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## 5th GRADE

This month Fifth Graders have been hard at work adding and subtracting fractions in math class. During reading and writing time, we have been studying poetry. Students are now publishing their own poems! A special event that took place recently was the Fifth Grade spelling bee. Congratulations to the winner, Manal! Please keep sending warm clothes for recess. We can't wait to see the fun that January will have in store!



Sincerely,  
The Fifth Grade Team

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## STEM

"I am among those who think that science has great beauty." - Marie Curie

As the snow comes we see science and beauty all around us! I am grateful to continue to work with your students and see their minds grow. A quick view of what we will learn this month of the





**Jenny Holm**

Jenny is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters