



# Little Eagles School Newspaper



ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-24  
ISSUE NO. 5/APR-MAY

Together Achieving Educational Success

## A Letter from the Principal

*By Kristin Musselman, Tyrone Elementary Principal*

To the students, staff and parents of the Tyrone Area School District:

As the 2023-24 school year comes to a close, I find myself feeling joy and excitement as we celebrate the closure of this school year and look forward to the new experiences that await us as we transition into new grade levels.

This year, we have encouraged our students to **S.O.A.R.** in all areas of their day. I am proud to say that TAES has a wonderful group of students that exhibit these qualities on a regular basis by being Safe, showing Ownership, Achieving success and being Respectful. I want to thank the students at TAES for working hard this school year academically, socially and emotionally. Our students have been celebrated throughout the year for demonstrating these positive behaviors and will continue to celebrate in the final days at the annual carnival event and raffle drawing. Our students always enjoy spending time with their friends and teachers during these fun opportunities.

Our teachers and staff members have also **SOAR**ed this year. They have spent countless hours planning and preparing lessons and engaging activities to ensure that our students have received the best education, as well as the social and emotional support that they need from time to time. We are blessed to have a group of individuals that care so much about our students.

I would also like to thank the families of TAES. We are blessed to have families that are truly devoted to our school district and our students. We know our families have spent many evenings and weekends assisting students as they completed assignments and prepared for upcoming assessments. Thank you for the dedication you continue to show toward your students and our school district.

As summer break rapidly approaches, I would like to wish you and your family a happy and healthy break. I hope that your family can find time to rest, relax and enjoy many summertime laughs together! We look forward to seeing you back at the Elementary school in August.

## “Moving on Up”

*—by the Fourth-grade Team*

The fourth-grade students have middle school on their minds.

Recently Mr. Kimberlin, the middle school



counselor, brought a few fifth graders over to the elementary school to share some thoughts about the transition from elementary to middle school. Topics ranged from schedules to lockers to lunch options. The fifth graders did a fabulous job of giving a snapshot into the daily life of a middle schooler.

Then, the fourth graders went to the middle school to take a tour of the facilities and to have a question-and-answer session with Principal Mr. Cowher and Dean of Students Mrs. Fleck. This was very informative, and the fifth-grade teachers were welcoming of their “new recruits.”

The fourth graders shared some of the things they are most excited about. Some responses include:

*“I am excited to get to know my new teachers and see how the school is different.” – Avery L.*

*“I am looking forward to moving around and going to different classes.” – Hazel H.*

*“Getting your own locker will be cool.” – Nate L.*

*“Playing wiffle ball in gym will be fun.” – Maddox M.*

*“I am looking forward to the next chapter of my life. Middle school will be a fun adventure.” – Marlie H.*

From the fourth-grade teachers, we wish nothing but the best for our students as they reach this new milestone in their school careers. We are all very proud of you and can’t wait to hear about your adventures. We will miss you!

**August 22, 2024**  
**PreK-12 Students Return**

## TAES Welcomes Author Visits—submitted by Miss Musselman

During the 2023-2024 school year, the students at TAES had the opportunity to welcome three different authors to our school. In November 2023, Mrs. Jenna Rice, a former Tyrone Elementary teacher, visited for the day to talk to all students about the writing process. Mrs. Rice spoke about becoming an author and using the inspiration around you to get started. The students enjoyed hearing, "Hank and the Baby," her newest book about her children and their family dog.



In May, the fourth graders celebrated the end of PSSA testing with a special activity with author Alan St. Jean. All fourth grade classrooms worked through a 3-day virtual writing escape room. The teachers and students listened to videos provided by the author and followed his directions to write a piece of literature. To finalize the project, Mr. St. Jean visited the school to discuss the project, read some stories and answer questions. Through a partnership with IU08, each student was given one of Mr. St. Jean's books, as well.



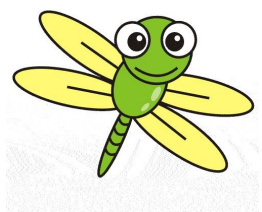
Finally, Mr. Steve Metzger visited the elementary students during the final weeks of the year. Mr. Metzger, a former preschool teacher from



New York, shared his love and experience of writing with all of our students through grade level presentations. Our students loved hearing him read his books and were so excited to see that they had previous knowledge of many of his titles. Mr. Metzger also stayed for an evening event with families where he provided more information on the process of becoming a published author.

## Preschool Visits PSU Arboretum —by Mrs. Miller, PreK teacher

This April and May, preschool students learned all about plants and insects. At the end of the unit, we went on a field trip to the Penn State University Arboretum. On the field trip, the students participated in activities as well as explored the garden. We learned about garden plants and planted a seed, discovered the limestone cave and learned about animals that live underground. We also learned about some of our native plants and insects.





# First Grade Festivities

By: First grade teachers Mrs. Ciampoli and Mrs. Neumann

May was a super busy month for First Grade at Tyrone Elementary! We were lucky enough, thanks to our amazing PTO, to be able to explore three different places. We visited Cresson Lake Playhouse to see the production of "Finding Nemo Jr.," visited Burgmeier's Hauling Recycling Center, and went to the Everett Railroad Company.

First Grade celebrated their hard work by participating in a countdown of the 13 Days Till Summer! The students truly enjoyed having themed days with different reading, writing, math, and science activities. Our days also lead us to be outside a little more enjoying the weather, with opportunities to work together with our peers both in our own classes, as well as friends from other classes. Ask your child which day they enjoyed most!

As we wrap up the year, we are sad to leave our friends, but we are so thankful for the time we spent together and the relationships we built and grew in first grade! Have a great summer.



## Kindergarten Activities

—by Mrs. Bock, Kindergarten Teacher

Spring has been a very busy month in the kindergarten hallway. We ended April with Ag Safety Day. Students from Mrs. Hoy's Ag classes came over and offered safety classes for Railroad Safety, Water Safety, ATV Safety, Lawn and Hearing, Fire Safety and more. It was a busy day filled with meaningful activities, fun and even a free t-shirt for each child.

On May 10th, kindergarten made the trip to the Cresson Playhouse to watch Finding Nemo Jr. It was a great field trip. The children enjoyed the intimacy the small theatre offers and were enthralled that the actors were children.



The last 10 days of school offer fun activities each day including Art Day, Chalk Day, Bubble Day, Stuffed Animal Day, Ice Cream Day, Disney Day, Glow Day, Game Day, Beach Day, Movie Day and more. The children and teachers enjoy finding out what will be happening the next day as a teacher pops a balloon announcing the next day's activities each day at the end of recess.

It is exciting to see how much the children have learned all year as the teachers finish up final assessments for the year. We wish all families a safe summer!

## End of Year Activities for Third Graders

—by Mrs. Chiocco, Third Grade Teacher

Third graders finished the year with a slew of wonderful experiences! Students were fantastic and gave it their all for the first year of track and field. They did the same for their PSSAs!

We also had such a fun time at Fort Roberdeau while they got to learn about history, science, and problem solving.

We hope everyone has a wonderful and safe summer. Please know your teachers look forward to you saying hello and you always have a place in our class! Keep up that amazing effort our future fourth graders!



# Using Imagination in Art

—by: Mr. Fernandes, Elementary Art Teacher

Elementary Art students at Tyrone use our classroom as a ship of the imagination, finding strange places and creatures that help us to learn about art.

As the 2023-24 school year drew to a close, almost all students across all elementary grade levels contributed to a communal art project. Communal art is created by the ideas of many individuals.

Throughout the year, we studied architecture, kinetic artwork, myths, and much more. For the end year communal artwork, our ship came across an enormous castle with mechanical legs, walking across the imaginary landscape. With its legs covered with cooled lava, seaweed, and trees, the castle had seen a lot as it roamed. Closer inspection revealed that the castle was deserted and had been wandering on its own for a while.

Where had it been? What had it seen? Students worked together to answer these questions with this project.

The instructor made a simple cardboard castle with mechanical legs, then students created bricks to complete it. When creating the bricks, students made each one a miniature artwork depicting something they imagined the castle had seen on its long journey.

The final artwork is 5'6" tall and has thousands of student-created mini artwork bricks covering it. It joins many other communal artworks from past years in our art room, as a symbol of artistic expression of wonder and imagination.

Communal art is fantastic for students because it teaches acceptance of and respect for the ideas of others and helps students develop a sense of community.

Be sure to check out our Elementary Art website for more pictures and project information.

<https://sites.google.com/tasd.us/taes-art/>





# STEM is Fun

—by Mrs. Zupon, Technology Teacher

Paper Mache! Moving Cars! Homemade Arcade Games! Oh my! These are just a few of the many things that have been keeping us busy in STEM during the months of April and May! To help celebrate Earth Day and promote recycling, each grade level participated in a STEM activity that incorporated recycling and/or reusing recycled material to create something new!

Kindergarten kicked off the unit with paper mache Earths. We had a messy-blast using recycled newspaper to paper mache balloons! We covered them with green and blue tissue paper and each child was able to take one home after they dried. During first grade, we demonstrated how tires are recycled. We crushed Cheerios to represent tires, mixed them with water and Plaster of Paris and created a new road. For second grade, we tied in a story they read demonstrating the problem with plastic bags. We learned how to create bracelets out of plastic grocery bags.

3rd graders were able to create cars out of recycled water bottles and used balloons to try to fuel their movement. They had to problem solve how to attach all the parts to make the car go as far as possible. Lastly, in 4th grade, we created arcade games out of recycled materials that we were able to take home and play! We had everything from skee ball games, basketball games, Plinko, ring toss and Ping Pong tables.

STEM has been a busy place full of messes, building, learning, persisting through challenges, smiles and fun!



## Learning Plant Lifecycles

—submitted by Mrs. Walk, Second Grade Teacher



Do you know the life cycle of a plant, what plants need to grow, and the parts of a plant? Second graders were able to answer these questions

after their visit to Mrs. Hoy's Agricultural class at the High School. Students engaged in three different activities while visiting the Ag department. They learned about the parts of a plant by labeling and coloring a plant diagram. In addition, they participated in a sorting activity to learn the life cycle of a plant. The best part was when they were each able to replant a Marigold plant for their mother, grandmother, or someone special. Second grade teachers and students thank Mrs. Hoy's class for giving us this opportunity.

# Get Outside and Be Active

—by Mrs. Mills, Elementary School Nurse

Childhood obesity is a serious health issue in the U.S. that affects 1 in 5 children and adolescents. Some children are affected more than others with factors such as behaviors, genetics, and taking certain medications. Social and community factors also play a role like access to affordable food and beverages, safe places for physical activity, and supportive school environments.

Being overweight can contribute to diabetes, cancer, heart disease, stroke, sleep apnea, asthma, high blood pressure, and osteoarthritis.

Solutions to childhood obesity is physical activity, healthy eating, less screen time, and a full night of sleep. Physical activity is a great way to improve overall health and wellbeing as well as combatting obesity. Children and adolescents should get 30-60 minutes of physical activity a day. Eating healthy allows for good habits throughout life and aids in protecting against disease. Less screen time promotes outside play



and exercise. For children ages 6-12, 9-12 hours of sleep is recommended and for children ages 13-18, 8-10 hours is recommended. Advantages of a full night of sleep include better mood and temperament, improved physical health, enhanced memory, and restored energy.

Children who have good healthy habits have fewer school absences, higher academic achievement, higher self-esteem, and fewer behavioral problems. Encourage students to go outside and play or participate in sports and activities. Educate the importance of healthy eating habits and good sleep routines.

