

York Times

Luana Coppus, Principal
December 2011

Dear Parents and Families

Happy Holidays! I love this time of the year. The children are so excited and the building is filled with such anticipation. It's a great time to teach the children about caring for others and being thankful for our fortune. Take a minute to reflect with your child about showing kindness and appreciation during the holiday season.

We have several activities planned for the month. The fifth band and fourth and fifth grade choir are busy preparing for the Christmas program on December 12. This program will definitely put you in the holiday spirit! Our annual Candlelight Dinner and Dress up Day is planned for December 14. The students enjoy having a candlelight feast with their teacher. The cafeteria looks so nice and the students feel special in their "Sunday Best."

Our last day before the break is December 20. Take time to enjoy your children and the magic of the season.

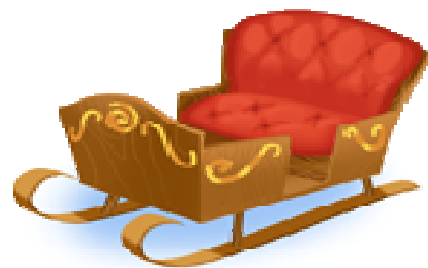
Mrs. Coppus

A LOOK AHEAD

December 2 Mid Progress Reports
December 12 Band & Choir Concert
December 12-14 Santa's Workshop
December 14 Candlelight Dinner/dress up
Marco Pizza Night
December 21-January 2 No School
Winter Break

January 3 School Resumes
January 13 End of the Semester

Happy Holidays!



News From Mrs. Mizener



BELLEVUE STUDENTS BLAST OFF

Students in Mrs. Mizener's advanced 5th and 6th Language Arts classes were able to participate in a simulated trip to the moon on Nov. 11th. This was due to a grant provided by the NPESC. This mission took place at the Challenger Learning Center in Oregon, Ohio. Students were able to act as astronauts while conducting vital experiments on the space ship to successfully land on the moon, while the other half of the students were the eyes and ears back at Mission Control. Each team did a great job and therefore our mission to the moon and back was a huge success. This program was a great educational opportunity for our students and contained a wide variety of Ohio academic content standards.



News from Mrs. Walker's Fourth Grade

Happy Holidays! The fourth graders are busy as elves this time of year! The Brown/Walker/Davies/Soule team want to wish Miss Osborne the best of luck on her graduation this December from B.G.S.U.. Miss Osborne has been with us as a student intervention specialist since August. The kids and teachers will greatly miss her and wish her the best of luck with finding a teaching job.

The students are getting into the holiday spirit this month by reading, "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," by Barbara Robinson. Students will meet the Herdman family and learn how the true meaning of Christmas changes people's attitudes. Students will also write letters persuading Santa to hire a new head "reindeer" for his sleigh. All letters will be donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation in care of Mrs. Stiles for helping to fund the children's charity.

The fourth grade teachers want to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year!

Reminder:
NO SCHOOL
December 21st
Through
January 2nd

Music and Choir News!!

Our 5th graders at York just recently finished performing their production of Let's Go to the Movies. The performance was enjoyed by all and took us down musical memory lane with songs from movies in the early 1900 to today. The 5th graders did a superb performance for their very last time here at York School. There is a lot of talent in our 5th grades!!

Upcoming is our Elementary Choir and Band Concert which will be presented on December 12 at 6:30. This concert will put you in the Christmas spirit with songs of the season. We will have a holiday bake sale as well at this concert.

The choir is presently selling Buckeye Necklaces they made as their fall fundraiser, and we will begin our candy sale in mid January. Thanks to all who support our fundraisers! Several of our Elementary choir members will be involved in a Christmas production performed with members of the community at Seybert United Methodist Church on December 10 at 7:00 pm. Everyone is invited and there is no charge for the concert.

Our 4th grade students have begun preparing for their upcoming program which will be performed on January 26 and will concentrate all on Jazz music.

Thank you to all the parents who have supported and helped out with our music activities and programs. You are greatly appreciated!!

Greetings from Mrs. LaHoski's Third Grade!

It seems like only yesterday we were meeting each other for the first time on the first day of school – and here it is, already nearing Christmas! We have accomplished a lot since that first day of school.

In Social Studies, we learned a lot about our community, by creating a time line of Bellevue's history. In Science, we had fun finding out what's right under our feet! The students explored the different kinds of rocks, minerals, and soils that can be found on and inside Earth, even right here under our feet in Bellevue!

We have come a long way in Reading, becoming familiar with many new vocabulary words and lots of strategies for becoming better readers. Understanding and using what we read is important too.

In Math, we have spent much time reviewing and improving upon skills introduced in second grade. One thing that is essentially important in many things we do in Math is having the basic addition and subtraction facts memorized. So keep practicing! Right now we are exploring and learning to use many units of measurement, both U.S. Customary units and Metric units. We will be working with perimeter, area, and geometric shapes. Also, we will soon learn multiplication! There are some cute stories to introduce the facts at first. However, as always, memorization or quick recall of the facts is important for future success in Math.

I have a great group of students this year and enjoy their good character and enthusiasm. We have lots to accomplish yet this year and I know they are up for the challenge!



Title 1 News

Paulsen's Palace

Intervention groups are doing the following:
Third grade students use a reading program called Voyager. We have been studying skills such as vowel, letter and sound identification. During reading, students have been activating prior knowledge by using personal experiences to make and verify predictions, identifying facts and opinions, summarizing text, identifying expository and narrative texts. We have also worked with multisyllabic words to help with spelling and word attack skills.

Fourth grade students have read several books like: Kids at Work, Elevator Trouble and The ABC Volunteer. Students completed activities focusing on using context clues, compare and contrast and identifying character, setting and plot events. In addition to these skills, students were encouraged to go back and use the text in order to find answers. The next skill that will be working on is summarizing and using a sequence chart to order events of a story.

Fifth grade are working on Tracing the Food Web, and Weather Extremes while focusing on answering short answer questions, finding facts and opinions and finding the main idea. Students are working hard on summarizing as well as writing a descriptive paragraph.

Pleasnick's Place

Intervention groups are doing the following:
Third grade students continue to work with the program Voyager, we have been focusing on vowel sounds, compound words and syllables in words while practicing to read fluently and answering questions that are right there in the story as well as ones that require students to take what they have read and their own personal experiences to come up with the answer.

Fourth grade students have read books entitled Monkey Business and Gems while concentrating on finding answers to "right there" questions, search and find as well as author and me. We also worked on reading graphs and charts in order to find information.

Fifth grade students continue to use the Voyager program for Reading with the focus being on taking words apart, using context clues and resources to find meaning of unknown words. Additionally students were taught that you can WIN if you know the main idea to a passage. That means they look for *who* or *what* the passage is about, the *important information* and tell it in the fewest *number* of words.

Math groups are using PALS Math where they work together in pairs taking turns being a coach and student to work on math concepts.

Title 1 Tips

Try finding ways to have your child practice math and reading without them realizing they are practicing it-make it fun! Here are some suggestions:

- have students help make the grocery list and read it to you
- put a note on the fridge, bed, in their lunch-anywhere- and have them read it. Make it something special!
- have them read and make a recipe together (this is a great time of year for that)
- look at ads have them pick out items that they would like to purchase and practice adding them up or, give them a budget for them to spend on holiday gifts for relatives while you are out shopping