

School Street School

February 3, 2012



February Calendar

6-8 - Kindergarten Registration
16 - Early Dismissal
17&20 - School Closed



March Calendar

22 & 23 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
30 - End of 3rd Marking Period

Kindergarten Registration

February 6, 7, 8, 2012

The Boonton School District will be holding kindergarten and Grade 1 registration for students entering kindergarten or 1st grade in September 2011. Registration will be held at School Street School, Boonton on February 6, 7, 8, 2012. Children entering kindergarten must be 5 years of age on or before October 1 and children entering 1st grade must be 6 years of age on or before October 1. Parents wishing to enroll their children should present the following documents at this time: Original Birth Certificate, Proof of Immunizations and Proof of Residency i.e. copy of a lease, tax bill, current utility bill, along with a current driver's license. Parents wishing to pick up enrollment forms early may do so the week of January 30, 2012.

Children currently enrolled in School Street School's kindergarten program do not have to register for 1st grade.

Early Dismissal Schedule

Grades 1 - 3 8:00 -12:45

Kindergarten AM 8:00 -10:05

Kindergarten PM 10:40 -12:45

Preschool 8:00 -12:30

CLASSROOM NEWS

Mrs. Baseil - This week in Bridges to Learning we learned a new poem by Robert Lewis Stevenson entitled "Happy Thought." This short poem goes like this:

Happy Thought

The world is so full of a number of things,
I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings.

Students agree that the world is full of great and beautiful things. After brainstorming a list of the wonderful aspects of their own life, students illustrated posters to correspond to the text in this meaningful poem.

We also brainstormed a list of "O" words---not such an easy task! Our "O" list includes: October, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, optimistic, organic and original (thanks Dylan!), ostrich, owls, orangutan, oval, octagon, President Obama, out, on, of, off, open, organized, odd, oxygen, option, and opportunity! Please encourage your kindergartener to complete their "optional" O homework this week, and of course, continue to applaud their efforts.

Dr. Chiodo -This week in OT we are using the theme of Groundhog's Day as our main theme.

Younger students will be focusing on cutting, coloring, and writing their names on various groundhog activities including making books, posters, and postcards. Older students will be writing and typing about what they will do with either the additional weeks of winter, or with an early spring.

Mrs. Kelly - Gr. 3 - In math, we are now working on 0-9 multiplication facts and continuing work in fractions. In reading we just completed *Fantastic Mr. Fox* and as a culminating activity the class made "WANTED" posters of the crafty Mr. Fox. A big thank you to our "mystery reader" Dillon Kelly, who took a break from his Princeton studies to read to his aunt's class. A big Yankees fan, Dillon read Jorge Posada's children's book, "Play Ball". Dillon was a big "hit" with the students.

Grade 1 - The first grade classes have been so busy practicing math facts, completing various writing projects, reading and learning about blends. We can't believe that January has come to an end and February is already here! In addition to all our classroom lessons, we are working hard to read 21 books for the Running Start Reading Challenge. Some children have completed their second challenge this week. Keep up the good work and remember to bring in two sneakers every day. As of January 27, 2012, the four first have read a grand total of 1,700!

Last Friday the children were treated to a special assembly by the Blue Sky Puppets. They learned songs about friendship and acceptance. The puppets taught the children how to use peer mediators to help them solve problems that they encounter. The children were very attentive and really enjoyed the show. Thank you again, Ms. Pourki and PTA.

This Friday the first grade classes will be participating in a Pajama Day to raise money for Fighting Children's Cancer Fund. Children brought in a \$2.00 donation to wear their pajamas to school. It is also Wear Red for Heart Awareness Day. We are looking forward to a sea of RED throughout School Street School.

The first grade classes have booked our 2012 Field Trip, too. We will be going to see Henry and Mudge at the Papermill Playhouse on Friday, April 13, 2012. On the way home from the play, we will be stopping at Turtle Back Zoo for part 2 of our field trip adventure. We are all very excited for our upcoming trip! Parents, please remember to send in the field trip permission slip, as well as the field trip payment, for your child. We need to receive all permission slips and money by February 15, 2012 in order to purchase our tickets.

Please keep practicing math facts, sight words and READ every day!

Ms. Kovall - Gr. 3 -This week students in room 208 have been working on different types of problem solving strategies in both reading and math. We have been practicing extended constructed responses and multiple choice type problems. In writing students continue to use their creative writing skills to create stories from various prompts.

Mrs. Wieland - The children are hoping for good news from the groundhog tomorrow! We'll see!

LA/Reading: The children continue to practice self-questioning skills, sequencing events, word awareness, consonant blends, digraphs, the use of endmarks, recalling story details, comparative and superlative adjectives (ex: big, bigger, biggest), identifying possessive nouns, and making inferences and predictions when reading. Answering questions, using RAFT, is something that is on-going through the year.

Math: The 2nd graders are so excited about their growing multiplication skills! They know 0, 1, and 2. They are soon going to be studying the 5 times tables, so look for that soon in their homework binders!

1st and 2nd graders continue to practice their addition and subtraction skills, number sense, and they are also finishing up telling time.

Mrs. Hame - Spanish - Kindergarten: This week we learned the color blue/azul. The children talked about things that are blue, traced the words, and made a booklet with things that are blue. I started collecting some of your child's work for showcase; being held this Spring. You will get to see these books at showcase.

First Grade: We continued to read vocabulary words for family members and finished drawing our family picture.

Second Grade: This week we continued identifying family members by creating a drawing of our own family. We labeled each family member in our family portrait. You will get to view these and take them home during Showcase; being held in the Spring.

Third Grade: This week we identified family members by working in groups and playing family bingo. Please check your child's backpack and see how well they did on their Family vocabulary test.

Mrs. Davis - Gr. 3 - In reading we finished our novel on Year of the Panda. The class completed a reading response journal to go along with the book. We concluded our unit with a special Chinese buffet.

In writing we created a grade level chart of strong adjectives to use in writing. All of the third graders worked in cooperative groups to add synonyms to a chart using a weaker word. At the end of the activity the students chose 3 of the words from each chart to add to their personal writing binder.

In math we began a unit on fractions. We are using fraction tiles to compare and find equivalent fractions. We are also working on our math facts from 0-9.

In science we are working on a unit on vertebrates. The students will begin doing animal research.

Mrs. Wolk - Gr. 2 - This week the students of Room 209 wrote an essay explaining what makes someone a best friend. Their writing will be featured out on the bulletin board for the month. They all agreed that a best friend is someone who cares for them, talks to them when they are sad, or plays with them during recess. In math, we learned to check our two-digit subtraction problems by doing the inverse operation (addition). In Foundations, we are continuing to learn about r-controlled syllables (ur, ir, and er). Since some of these words are tricky, the children are learning that sometimes a dictionary is the best way to check their spelling. Many congratulations to S.K. for being voted Second Grade's Student of the Month for January!

Mrs. Theiller - Preschool - This week in Language Art one of our activities was Mystery Word. The children look at a picture, say the name of the picture and decide what the initial sound for that word is. Two other pictures are displayed under the first picture, the children decide which picture begins with the same sound as the first and put their name under it. In anticipation of Ground Hog's Day, we read stories about groundhogs and looked for our shadows.

In Math this week, the children played math memory. In this activity, each child is paired with a buddy. The teacher puts 2 - 5 shapes on a "memory board" and uses an attribute of the shape as she names it (*This is a green trapezoid, I am putting it right here*). The children turn and name all of the objects to their memory buddy to help them remember. The teacher covers the memory board, removes, adds, substitutes or makes no change to the board. The teacher uncovers the board. The children turn to their buddies and say what has changed.

Mrs. Flynn - This week in Room 104, we have been learning about Groundhog's Day. Students enjoyed listening to stories, and making their own pop-up groundhog. In Math, we began our unit on graphing. Students enjoyed working on the big classroom graph and discovering favorite foods, sports, and musical instruments.