

Martin News

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Every day our students participate in a variety of classes that will provide them the skills to be successful in the future. Each subject has one common key component, reading! The elementary staff spend great effort in making sure that the students develop their reading abilities. Recognizing that not all students have the same reading ability teachers review test scores and work with them to improve areas of weakness. Those students that are strong readers will be challenged to continue their growth as readers.

I must admit that not everyone naturally loves to read, starting with myself. When I was a boy, I would much rather be outside playing football or baseball than reading a book. However, I did understand to do well in school I needed to read the assignments teachers gave me in order to be achieve good grades. I did do some reading for enjoyment reading Sports Illustrated, Boys Life, Field and Stream, and other magazines. Now these may have not been books, but they did help me become a better reader and I really like reading them. The key for everyone is to find something you are interested in and just to read about them.

All of us involved with our children want them to do well in school and life and we can help them by encouraging them to read. This past month has been a challenge with the weather and outdoor activities have been limited. I ask that parents, grandparents, brothers, and sisters take time to put away the video games and read together as a family. It will help develop the reading ability of the children but also provides topics of conversation. Wow, what a crazy idea I know but give it a shot and you might be pleasantly surprised!

-Mr. Waagen

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A Message from Mr. Bear- The Secret is in the Why

On 1/25, I took a group of kids to the University of Jamestown to receive instruction from UJ's art instructor, Sharon Cox. I cannot say enough good things about the University of Jamestown or Sharon as they offer this to us free of charge and even pay for our meals. I'm proud to say my oldest daughter will be graduating from UJ in May and I'm proud to say my son will be a freshman at UJ next fall. But, for the kids I take up to UJ, we're doing art.

I've never been an art person. I can barely draw letters well enough to write my name much less draw anything else -- and we'll get back to that. But, even though I'm not an art person I do understand research tells us art can be good for kids. I also know that there are a lot of 'art people' out there that can benefit from instruction which would be lost on me.

On 1/25, students were learning to draw. As Sharon says, though, she has to break them of the coloring book mindset. She doesn't want kids to draw a line around whatever they are drawing. They start by shading the dark parts. That was very difficult for kids to figure out and a couple of them refused (to eventually acquiesce).

All of us have been in that place, though. We've all been working on a project be it for work, school, or just in our daily lives where as something didn't make sense. We didn't think we could do it. For a writer, it would be called writer's block.

Having been a computer teacher a big part of my life, I am very interested in seeing how kids interact with technology. It wasn't very long ago that teachers and parents always said that kids knew how to run computers better than they themselves did. It is dis-

Pre-School

The Pre-School class was silly and energetic as usual when I interviewed them. When I asked them about who or what they love the most almost all of them said their mom but there were some other things as well including, Pokémon, Jurassic World, and of course their teacher Mrs. Williams. Their favorite things about Valentine's Day are giving, the hearts, the diamonds, candy, and one of them said batman. The easiest question was what is their favorite candy, their responses included bubble gum, strawberry candy, Reese's, hot tamales, and chocolate chips!

Student Council

This month has been a quiet month for Student Council. They have mainly been making locker signs for extra-curricular activities. However, they are currently planning High School Spirit Week, which will take place at the end of the month.



Kindergarten

Well Valentine's is coming just around the corner, so I went around asking the kindergarteners about questions about Valentine's. When asked who they love, or what they love. **Chasen and Aubree** both said they love their sister, **Eva** said her kitty, and **Coraline and Kynzlee** said they love their doggy. **Avery Jo** said she loves her mom. When asked what their favorite part about Valentine's day is, **Chasen** said he likes pranking his mom, **Aubree** said something like that but she likes pranking her sister. **Coraline** likes getting together with her family, **Eva** and **Avery Jo** both like creating their Valentine's Day boxes, and **Kynzlee** enjoys loving each other. Lastly, when asked what their favorite candy is, most of them said Chocolate or suckers and lollipops, **Kynzlee** was the only one who said anything different and that was Snickers.

1st Grade

When we went to the first graders classroom to ask the questions, they were ready to talk about Valentine's Day. They love their family or the pets they have. During Valentine's Day there are many things to do to celebrate. What they like the most is making Valentine boxes and having a class party! They were also asked about what their favorite candy was, and they all raised their hands right away to answer the question. Reese's was a main one along with skittles, twix, and dark chocolate. I'm sure they have plenty of activities planned to get into the Valentine's Day spirit!

2nd Grade

Everyone loves love, especially the 2nd Grade! In the month of February there's a lot of caring about one another and showing or telling someone you love them. We asked the 2nd graders some things about Valentine's day. We asked, who or what do they love most, they replied with family, my mom, friends, Kiara, and more! We also asked them what their favorite part of Valentine's day was. They proceeded to tell us that candy, making Valentine's boxes, and more candy were their favorite parts! And finally, what is your favorite candy?! The 2nd graders said, Twix, Hershey's, candy canes, smarties, Kit Kats, twizzlers and much more!



couraging to me to see that this is changing. Almost every kid over the age of 10 has a phone in his or her pocket. And what do they do if it doesn't work? They ask mom for a new one. Or take it somewhere to have somebody fix it. Very few kids try anymore, it seems, to try to figure things out. We've done that because we give them all these cool gadgets and they just tend to work. As a result, kids have a technology block.

I stated earlier that art is not my thing and my penmanship is horrible. I'm a firm believer that this is a block, too, just like writer's block or the technology block that kids have today. I do believe I know the solution to these blocks, though. Every task that we have before us involves two things – the doer and the doee (subject and object, I guess). I (the subject) need to write my name (the object). The block exists in the why.

Why would I want better penmanship? There are a lot of reasons people can state such as people cannot read it, it looks sloppy, and I would be a better person if I wrote better. But, the reason I cannot write better is because I obviously don't believe any of those 'whys'. And, in fact, this is why for something like this that people are so adamant that somebody with bad penmanship should have better penmanship. It reflects poorly on them if I don't believe it's important enough to change.

The same is true with art. The student (the subject) is drawing a picture (the object). But, instructed to do it differently. This gets a little more complicated because there are a billion different ways to draw a picture. There are a billion ways to perform any different technological task. In today's interconnected world there are a billion ways to do almost anything. To pick one way over another, then, is complicated because you have to figure out your why.

For some kids, school is easy. For most of those kids, what makes it easy is that a clear and simple why exists in their homework. The why that they do their homework is either because the teacher told them to or because their parents told them to. For most kids, though, when they hit junior high this changes to the frustration of teachers and parents.

Really, though, that's a positive. It might mean poor grades for a little while, but in order to do anything well, every person needs to figure out their own why. They are never going to do anything as well as they could without their own personal reason for doing it. Somebody else's reason is never enough for a person to do anything to their own full potential.

(Cont. on right margin)

Music News

Guitar lessons have started on Wednesday mornings. There are currently 10 students doing this. Students are also preparing for their Spring concert and the High School is working on songs for competition at the upcoming Music Festivals. Details of these events will be coming soon!

I do believe there is a secret to having good penmanship, drawing something well, figuring out what's wrong with your cell phone, or getting all A's. The secret is in the why. That secret is different for each of us, but as parents and teachers we can try to help kids figure it out.



3rd Grade

The 3rd grade class is always very quiet and friendly when I go into interview them. The things they love the most include their dogs, cats, horses, and their family. Their favorite part about Valentine's Day is celebrating at school and getting candy! They have a lot of favorite candies including, chocolate, sour patch kids, sour skittles, and Hershey's.

4th Grade

The 4th grade class is also very quiet and laid-back when I interview them. When asked about who or what they love the most only a couple of them said their family while the others said their ducks, their horse, their ps4 and Fortnite, and their friend on Roblox. Basically all of them said candy is their favorite part about Valentine's Day!

Their favorite types of candy include

- skittles, Hershey's, 3 musketeers,
- snickers, and baby bottle pops.

JH & Elem Bball

We have three boys playing this year: Cody Froehlich, Hayden Luck, and RyLee Kuhn. They have enjoyed the season so far and the team has been pretty successful! Their last game of the year will be on February 14 against MPB @MPB.

Elementary Girls Basketball will start practice on February 19. Any 5th or 6th grade girls should let Melissa or Mr. Wright know if they want to play.

5th Grade

The 5th graders were a great class to interview! They all love different things and have lots of favorite candies and Valentine traditions. Cheyanne and Fallon love their families, and Cheyanne also loves animals. Alex loves his dog. Chloe loves her sheep, and Mylee loves candy! Maylehe loves to sleep! Alex and Cheyanne both say their favorite part of Valentine's Day is the candy. Maylehe, Mylee, and Fallon like making the boxes. Chloe's favorite part is the sugar high, and she likes black liquorish! Cheyanne, Maylehe, & Mylee all prefer Kit-Kats. Fallon loves Twix bars, and Alex enjoys 3 musketeers! This class, a very special class, and it sounds like they will have a fun time for the duration of Valentine's Day.

6th Grade

As we get closer to Valentine's Day, I asked the sixth graders "who/ what do they love the most?". They responded by saying they love their mothers and fathers, and horses, and chickens! Next, I asked them "what's your favorite part of Valentine's Day?" They responded with relaxing, the class party, and candy. Finally, I asked them "What's your favorite candy?". (This was an easy one for them) They said Twix, Skittles, Reese's, and Dark Chocolate. **Yum!**

Senior Highlight- Lance Schrader

After high school, Lance will be going to army basic training in Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and then AIT at Fort Lee, Virginia. He will finish all that around mid November. He will be working at the recruiting office in Jamestown until the second semester of college. When that time comes, he plans to go to NDSU for something Ag related.

His favorite memory of Montpelier is probably the Band and Choir trips to Minneapolis. Lance's advice would be to keep up on your homework cause once you get behind it's a lot harder get back on track



High School Bball

Hobie, Lucas, Tao, and Lane are our four boys playing this season. Hobie is playing on the Varsity team, and Lane, Tao, and Lucas are primarily on the C-Squad.

The varsity team is having a great season and hope to make some noise in Districts and Regionals. Maybe they will even go to State!

Tao, Lucas, and Lane are continuing to earn playing time on the JV, and the JV team placed second in their tournament.

Archery

Coach Nelson has 20 students out for archery! Their first meet is scheduled for Saturday, February 16 at Medina, and they look forward to having more meets this year than in years past!

LUNCH FEBRUARY 2019
Montpelier Public School

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				Pizza 1
Chili Crisпитos & Spanish rice 4	Salisbury Steak & Mashed Potatoes 5	Drum Stick & Tater Tots 6	Chili 7	NO SCHOOL 8
Hamburger Hotdish 11	Pancakes & Sausage 12	Roast Beef & Mashed Potatoes 13	Sloppy Joes 14 	Ham, Egg & Cheese Biscuits 15
Tacos 18	Meat Loaf & Baked Potato 19	Sweet & Sour Chicken 20	Hamburger & Fries 21	Mexican Hotdish 22
Pizza Burgers 25	Popcorn Chicken & tater tots 26	Potato Pizza hotdish 27	Chicken Fajitas 28	

Pay for Hot lunch on the website: Payschools
<http://www.montpelier.k12.nd.us>



Important Dates

- Feb. 12– Bookmobile
- Feb. 12- JH Boys @Oakes
- Feb. 14– JH & HS Boys @MPB
- Feb. 15- R.E.D. Day
- Feb. 20- School Board Meeting
- Feb. 22-25- HS Boys Districts
- Feb. 26- Bookmobile/PT Conferences
- Feb. 28– PT Conferences
- Mar. 4-7- HS Boys Regional
- Mar. 6- School Board Meeting

Donkey Basketball Pics



Christmas Party Pictures



Student Council/Legislature Trip



Basketball Pictures

