



DECEMBER NEWS

2023

Here we are in the month of December! The school year is more than 1/3 of the way through and shortly after we return from the holiday break we will be preparing to celebrate the hundredth day of school! I know many families are trying to enjoy every opportunity to spend time with family and friends. This means weeknights and weekends become very busy. While we all have visions of sugar plums, reindeer and peppermint mocha invading our thoughts, our Downsville Tigers still continue to have math facts, writing goals, reading books and science experiments dancing through their heads. Please help us encourage our students to stay as focused as possible and include communication about meeting school expectations and keeping up with classroom tasks in your holiday plans....at least until December 21st!

As the weather continues to get colder, please make sure your child is prepared with winter clothing- hat, boots, gloves, snow pants, and a jacket are needed during recess. Remember to pack their shoes as they begin wearing boots to school. We want to keep our classrooms clean and healthy, so we encourage students not to wear outside boots throughout the school day.

Dr. Joe Zydowsky will be at Downsville Elementary on Monday, December 18th at 5:00pm to provide a community presentation regarding the upcoming referendum for our school district. If you would like to know more about the referendum, please join us for this presentation before our PTC Holiday Craft event.

We have so much to be thankful for at Downsville Elementary. Our staff is looking forward to seeing families throughout the month of December at several scheduled family events!

Ms. Lee



Important Dates:

December 6 - 20 - "FOOD AND FUNDS DRIVE"

Student Council Event

December 11 DOWNSVILLE SCHOOL

"WINTER CONCERT" @

River Heights Elementary Gym

5:30 p.m. - Kindergarten - 1st Grade

6:30 p.m. - 2nd - 5th Grade

December 15 Student Council Meeting

8:15 in Library

December 18 SDMA Referendum Presentation w/

Dr. Joe Zydowsky

5:00-5:30 pm- Downsville Library

December 18 PTC "Cookie Decorating Event"

5:30 - 7:00 - Downsville Gym

December 21 Winter "Book Give-Away"

Special Visitor

December 22 - January 2nd - NO SCHOOL/Winter Break

January 3- School Resumes!



Kindergarten!!

The kindergarteners have been working hard on their reading skills, measuring, and writing about how rules help us get along with others, make responsible choices, and be kind. We are also learning all about the properties of wood. We are excited for some holiday fun coming up in December.



First Grade!!



First graders enjoyed learning about long ago by studying Laura Ingalls in November. We learned through arts integration of stories, props, and clothing. We LOVED making our own butter and enjoyed eating it on crackers!

Second Grade !!



Hello everyone and happy holidays! We will soon be in December and our classroom has many exciting things happening this month! This month we will be working on our school wide goal of talking only when appropriate and waiting your turn to speak. We will be working on this goal with an incentive before winter break that all students will be able to participate in. To help at home you can remind your student to take turns in conversations and to use appropriate voices when talking indoors. Our class will also be gearing up for the winter break with our reading unit on different characters' perspectives. We will help get them excited to read with a free book drive that will be occurring the

week before break to get your student ready to read!



Thank you for all you do at home to get your student ready for school each day and happy holidays to you and your family!



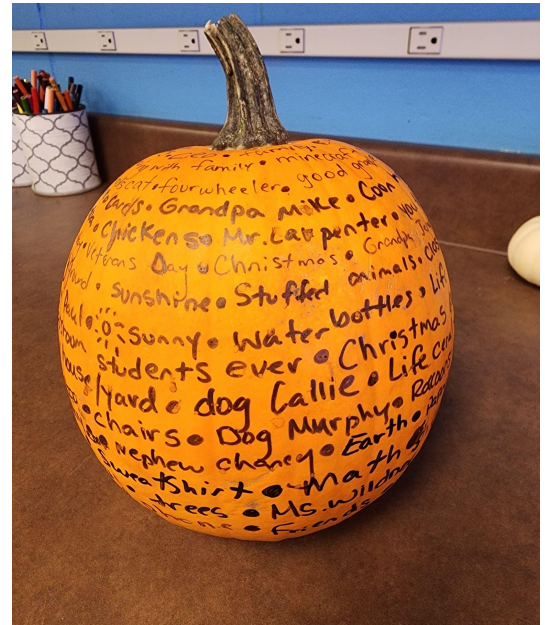
Third Grade



In Third Grade, we are focused and working hard! We are learning about government in Literacy and in Math we are continuing to learn more about multiplication and division. It is so awesome to see all of the connections students make from previous lessons to new lessons!

Having a positive mindset is another great thing we are working on as a whole group and individually. We have been doing a mindful minute everyday and we have been working on our positive self talk! We are building our confidence to set ourselves up for success in and out of the classroom!

As we are ending the month of November together, Third Graders completed a **Thankful Pumpkin**. When we had a few extra minutes, we took the time to think about something we are thankful for. It could have been as simple as being thankful for a water bottle or a toothbrush, but we talked about the different things in life we are thankful for at school and home. This was a wonderful activity, and students thought hard about finding a new thing to be thankful for each time they added to our pumpkin!



Fabulous Fourth Graders

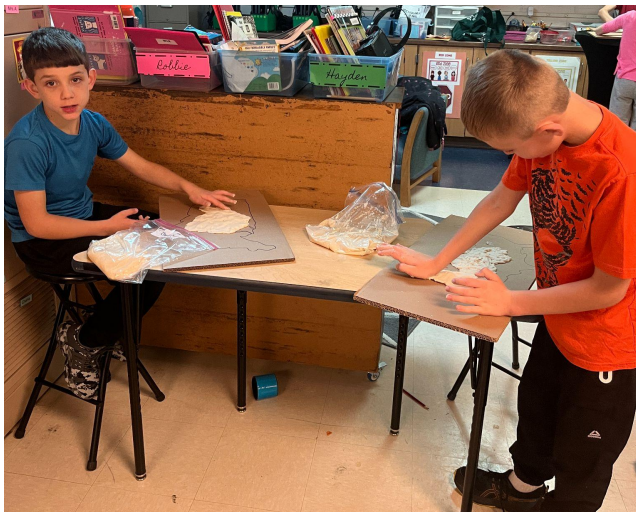
We are working hard in Fourth grade. In math we are learning how to use the long division algorithm and we are excited to begin learning how to multiply two digit by two digit numbers.

We just completed our second unit in literacy. This unit was all about characters.

We ended the unit creating character puppets that showed both physical and personality traits.



In Social Studies we are studying the regions of the United States. We kicked off this unit by making salt dough maps of the United States. We have learned about the Northeast region of the United States and how the French and Indian war impacted the region.



Fifth Grade News

In 5th grade, students have been spending a majority of time in math this year working with decimals - especially learning to divide them! We have worked so hard and it has been so cool seeing students start to understand and do it with so much ease.

One student, Karl, says, “This year so far has been quite fun, and personally I love learning math.”

Another student, Daunte, says “Decimals are the best in the world!”



Mathematicians hard at work. (Wednesday, November 29th)

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**Please access the December
Library newsletter online:**

<https://www.smore.com/49dgn>

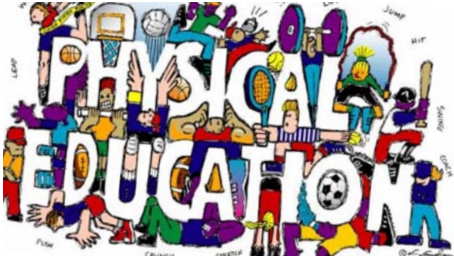
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4th graders exploring the library website!!





Mrs. Blomquist's Sideline Report for PE:

Students finished their soccer unit in November. We worked on passing and shooting with the inside of our feet, using inside and outside of our feet to dribble and played games where we learned the difference of offense vs. defense.

This past week students also started to learn about volleyball. K-2 students used balloons and beach balls to work on volleying and 3-5 students used their skills of bumping, setting, and serving in games. Below second grade students had a challenge of volleying their balloons while staying in their hula hoop.



Looking for a fun activity to do?
Take a stroll along the paths near Wolske Bay to check out some spectacular light displays.



Music Notes

amy_groskreutz@msd.k12.wi.us



LAST MONTH

In November we had a successful Veterans Day program - we loved learning about and honoring our Veterans!



UPCOMING CONCERTS

December 11th

5:15 - K-1 students arrive at River Heights Elementary

5:30 - K-1 Concert begins

6:15 - 2-5 students arrive at River Heights Elementary

6:30 - 2-5 Concert begins

CONCERT ATTIRE

All students can wear nice/dressy clothing or festive holiday attire.





Art News!

We have been busy creating in the Art room and having lots of fun! Here are some photos of student work and activities. The Veteran's Day Art display was beautiful and the kids were very proud to honor our Veterans. We are busy creating work for the upcoming Holiday Concert!



Don't forget to stop by the Scatterbrain Cafe to see our featured Artists for the month of December.

DOWNSVILLE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
PRESENTS

December Dress Up Days

- Monday, Dec. 18 Wear camouflage (special author visit today)
- Tuesday, Dec. 19 Decorative Holiday Sweater Day, wear any festive clothing
- Wednesday Dec. 20 White Out Day, wear as much white as you can
- Thursday Dec. 21 Long Winters Nap (wear your coziest pajamas)

DEC. 18, 19, 20, & 21-
2023

Food & Funds Drive @ Downsville School!

FOOD AND FUNDS WILL BE DONATED TO
THE LOCAL STEPPING STONES OF DUNN
COUNTY



Our collection begins on
Wednesday, **December 6** and
continues through **December 20.**

Our goal is to collect and fill up around
the bottom of our all school tree.



Organized by the Downsville Student Council

Most needed items include:

- peanut butter
- canned meats(tuna and chicken)
- Boxed dinners (Hamburger Helper, Macaroni & Cheese)
- spaghetti sauce and pasta
- Rice, dry beans
- Breakfast cereals
- Canned fruits & vegetables
- Canned soup, chili, stew
- Juice (no added sugar)
- Baby food
- Bath soap, shampoo, conditioner
- Toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Toilet tissue & Kleenex
- Diapers, baby wipes
- Laundry detergent
- Dish soap



A cash donation is powerful too!
For every \$1 donated, Stepping Stones
can purchase \$10 worth of food through
the Feed My People Food Bank in Eau
Claire.



Save
THE
Date

JOIN US FOR A
**HOLIDAY
CRAFT NIGHT**

18

DECEMBER

5:30-7:00

DOWNSVILLE SCHOOL
LIGHT SNACK PROVIDED

EVENT ORGANIZED BY THE
DOWNSVILLE PTC AND TITLE 1
AND STUDENT COUNCIL



Downsville School is having a special visitor who will...

- encourage reading for fun
- motivate reluctant and struggling readers
- support classroom learning
- improve writing confidence
- inspire students

It is an author:

KEVIN

LOVEGREEN!

You will have a
chance to
purchase books
from the author!
Stay tuned.

CHECK
IT OUT
↓

www.kevinlovegreen.com

Monday, December 18th

Event Sponsored By: The Downsville Sportsman Club & the Downsville School PTC



Downsville Elementary announces a...

WINTER

Festival

January 26, 2024



SAVE



-THE-

DATE

