



# December 2019

## Social Emotional Learning

What is Social Emotional Learning? **Social and emotional learning (SEL)** is the process through which children and adults understand and manage **emotions**, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. Pillar 2 of the School District of Menomonie's Strategic Plan for 2019-2024 focuses on Student Social and Emotional Wellness. The Strategic Plan states: *We will assist all students to be healthy and well, so they can learn, thrive and reach their goals.*

One of our strategies is implementing a SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Curriculum. *So, what does that look like at Downsville Elementary?* The curriculum that is being implemented is a combination of Second Steps, Mindfulness and Zones of Regulation. Our Social Emotional curriculum is taught in combination through classroom, small group and guidance lessons.

Second Steps Curriculum includes lessons on Skills for Learning, Empathy, Emotion Management and Problem Solving. These lessons are implemented during Friday' WIN time. Mindfulness practices are integrated throughout the day in each classroom, Zones of Regulation assist students in identifying their emotions and include strategies for moving towards a feeling of being ready to learn..



## Hello Downsville Elementary families!

The snow and cold are here! With that, it is important for students to dress with the Big 5: Coat, snow pants, hat, mittens, and boots. If you are struggling to get these items for your student(s), please reach out to me at (715) 232-3798, Ext. 50103 or [shanda\\_henning@msd.k12.wi.us](mailto:shanda_henning@msd.k12.wi.us). I will do my best to connect you with resources to meet this need!

Shanda Henning, School Social Worker



## Important Dates

Each month we will let you know some of the important upcoming dates at Downsville

- December 11 - 5th Grade DARE Graduation  
10:00 a.m. - Library
- December 13 - 3rd Grade Field Trip - Rassbach Museum
- December 16 - 3rd, 4th and 5th grade Music Concert  
River Heights Gymnasium @ 5:30 p.m. (Time Change)  
Cookie Sales before and after performance!
- December 18 - Middle School Music Performance  
10:00 a.m. - Downsville Gym
- December 20 - 1:30 Sing-a-long, &  
PTC Book Give-a-way
- December 23 - January 1st - NO SCHOOL  
WINTER BREAK!
  
- January 2 - Classes resume!
- January 20 - NO SCHOOL - PD Teacher Day.
- January 28 - Downsville Ice Skating Party!  
3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

## *Perfect Attendance 1st Trimester!*

We had 11 students with perfect attendance for the first trimester of the year!  
What an awesome accomplishment!

K - Charlie Sol Ankrum	2 - Chris Ankrum Myranda Creaser	3rd - Frank Pogorelski	5th - Matthew Andrew Hoff
1st - Helene Marsh	Kayla Lezama	4th - Alyssa Polus	Hazel Pogorelski

**Nathan Sol**

# Here's What's Happening!

## Kindergarten

The month of November was a busy one in the Kindergarten room! We finished our Science Unit on Tree and Weather. We are now beginning a Unit on Materials. We will study wood first. We started a new Math unit on Shapes. We have been building and learning about 2D and 3D shapes. In Writing, we are being brave spellers to write about things we want to "Show and Tell". We are using our super powers to become good readers. In Social Studies, we just finished a Unit on "Long ago and Today". Our culminating activity was preparing food and costumes for our Thanksgiving Day Feast with our 5th Grade Buddies.



Mrs. Fiege and the Kinder Kids

## First Grade



In first grade we are busy reading and writing about non-fiction topics. Part of our unit included a trip to "Cafe Gullickson" where we sipped on juice and chatted about our topics we have been learning about. Who doesn't love a



good book discussion especially when your teacher is your waitress serving you juice?! We sure enjoyed this fun day!

## Second Grade

Hello families! Here is a little update on what 2nd grade is working on in our classroom and some upcoming events to look forward to. In reading we are continuing to read non fiction books and are learning how to say new vocabulary words as well as find out what they mean.

\*\*\*\*\*continued in next column\*\*\*\*\*

In writing we are beginning to create realistic fiction which is based on a real moment from our lives and made more exciting by adding fictional elements.

We have started a new science unit that will have use looking at the differences and similarities between solids and liquids. In math we are beginning a new module which will have us working with addition and subtraction within 200 and word problems within 100.

I hope that report cards reached all of you well and that you have had ample time to look over them. In the writing category you should know that a 2 is what we expect from students after the first trimester as their scores will grow over the year. Also in the "developmental spelling" or phonics category, you should know that overall we will be focusing more on writing snap words correctly in class and steps are being taken to change the way we monitor student progress on the phonics abilities. If you have any questions about your child's report card, I would be happy to explain any part to you.

Finally be on the lookout for a note about a winter party we will be having in our class and what I may need from families to provide if able. Thank you all for your support this year and Happy Holidays!

## Third Grade

Hello families! Your children continue to amaze me. We will be writing poems and reading nonfiction texts to learn about new and familiar topics.

Multiplication continues to expand students' minds in math. On December 13th, we are going to the Rassbach Museum to learn a little more about Menomonie. I'll see you at the music concert on December 16th.

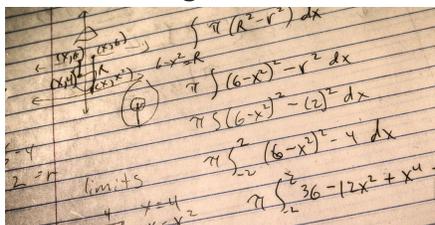
Ms. Repinski



## Fourth Grade

We are staying busy as usual in fourth grade! We have started our poetry units in both reading and writing. We are discussing the different characteristics of a poem and learning how to write our own.

We have started working on division in math and how to display our thinking in multiple ways. Ask your child to show you an array, area model or the standard algorithm method!



We also began our energy unit in science. We are looking forward to our Battle of the Books battles starting next month and our holiday concert in a couple weeks!

Mrs. Minnich

## Fifth Grade

In Math, we are using strategies to multiply multi-digit numbers from millions to the thousandths.

In Reading, we are studying Arguments and Advocacy.

In Writing for 5th Grade, we are doing our own feature articles.

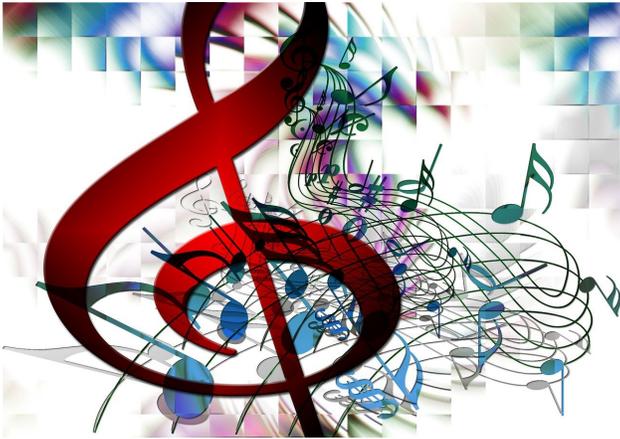
In our 5th Grade Science, we are going to start learning about Mixtures and Solutions.

Something special in 5th grade is that we finished our D.A.R.E. lessons with Deputy Becca. To get ready for graduation, we are writing our final essays to share with you what we have learned.

Written By Kasidy Lawson



Downsville students and staff had a great learning experience with author, Kevin Lovegreen!



## *Grades 3, 4, 5, Winter Concert*

*The Downsville Elementary Winter Concert is coming up on Monday, Dec. 16th for 3rd-5th grade classes, in the River Heights Elementary gym. Please plan to have your student(s) wear a nice outfit. (Think nice dinner or church attire). Most grades will have some movement, so please consider this when choosing what to wear.*

*The dress rehearsal will be during the school day at 1:30 pm, and the concert will be at 5:30pm at River Heights Elementary. You are invited to come to the dress rehearsal if you are unable to make it to the evening concert, just remember that it is still a rehearsal.*

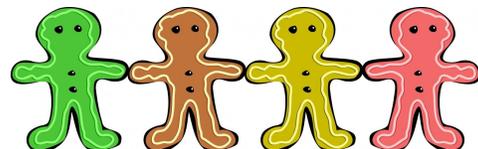
*Call time for all students will be at 5:20 pm in the River Heights Elementary library (if you could make sure they've had bathroom breaks before this, that would be appreciated).*

### **PTC NOTE!**

**The PTC will be holding a “Baked Goods Fundraiser” on December 16<sup>th</sup> before and after the 5:30 p.m. 3-5th Grade Winter Concert at River Heights. We will be providing containers for “mix and matching of goods” for \$5/container.**

**What a great way to get some seasonal baking done! All funds will go to support our children’s education, trips, etc. Your donations make a great impact on our ability to continue to support our school and community.**

**Thank you for your support!!**





# Holcomb Highlights

Dec. 2019

Would you like to spend more time together with your family? Do you want your kids to build their math & reading skills? Don't forget the power of



## BOOKS and GAMES

for that engaging Christmas gift idea.

I would like to encourage the GIFT of family time together, to help your child practice & build math & reading skills. (See the 2 following resources)

The Learning Adventure Continues...  
With Downsville Students In Mind.  
Mrs. Holcomb

### WHAT IS FAMILY LITERACY?

Family literacy is how a family interacts with literacy materials (text, words, illustrations, etc.). Family literacy can be practiced by reading books before bedtime, writing each other letters, playing word games, singing songs or cooking together while following a recipe. Below are ten ways to improve family literacy.

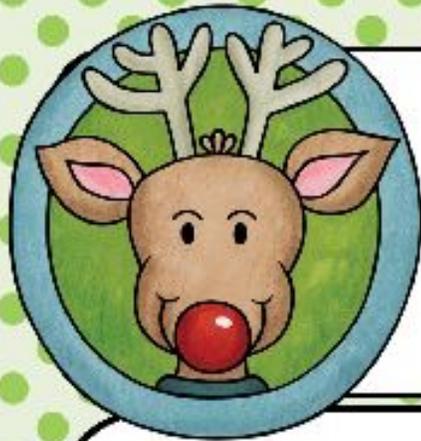


- 1.** Read, read, read! Read books, magazines, newspapers and digital print!
- 2.** Ask your child about what they're reading. Ask questions before, during and after reading.
- 3.** Write notes, e-mails, texts or letters to each other each day.
- 4.** Sing songs together. Make up new songs too! The sillier the better!
- 5.** Cook together. Teach your child how to follow a recipe.
- 6.** Tell family jokes.
- 7.** Play board games and word games together. Have a family game night.
- 8.** Keep a family calendar. Make family to-do lists, and grocery lists. Write down wishes/goals for each season.
- 9.** Visit the library or bookstore together. Check your local library for weekly read aloud classes.
- 10.** Create art projects together. Display family artwork.

### Games to Promote Mathematical Thinking

Game	Skill(s)	ELC	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Buzzzle (Fat Brain Toys)	Spatial reasoning, critical thinking, problem-solving	x						
Count Your Chickens (Peaceable Kingdom)	Cooperation, counting	x						
Hi Ho! Cherry-O (Hasbro)	Counting, number recognition	x						
Chutes and Ladders (Hasbro)	Number recognition, counting	x	x					
GeoMagic Mosaics (Fat Brain Toys)	Geometry, patterns	x	x					
Inchimals (Fat Brain Toys)	Measurement, addition, subtraction	x	x					
Race to the Treasure (Peaceable Kingdom)	Patterns, counting, orientation, coordinates	x	x					
Imagination Patterns (MindWare)	Shapes, patterns	x	x					
Trouble (Hasbro)	Number recognition, counting	x	x	x				
Tiny Polka Dot (Math for Love)	Counting, numeracy, logic	x	x	x				
Set Jr. (SET Enterprises)	Classification, pattern recognition, justification	x	x	x				
Clumsy Thief Junior (Melon Rind)	Addition		x	x				
Sums in Space (da Vinci's Room)	Addition, subtraction		x	x				
Sum Swamp (Learning Resources)	Addition, subtraction		x	x				
Zingo 1-2-3 (Think Fun)	Counting, addition, number recognition		x	x				
Mobi Kids - Numerical Tile Game (MOBI)	Mental math, operations		x	x	x			
Rush Hour Jr. (ThinkFun)	Logical reasoning		x	x	x			
Mancala	Counting, strategy		x	x	x	x		
Blokus (Mattel Games)	Spatial reasoning		x	x	x	x	x	x
Otrio (Marbles)	Spatial reasoning, logical deduction		x	x	x	x	x	x
Qwirkle (MindWare)	Spatial reasoning, addition, categorization			x	x	x	x	x
Battleship (Hasbro)	Coordinate graphing			x	x	x		
Zeus on the Loose (Gamewright)	Addition, landmark numbers			x	x	x		
Crankity Brain Teaser (Fat Brain Toys)	Problem-solving, critical thinking			x	x	x		
Set (SET Enterprises)	Logical and spatial reasoning, visual perception			x	x	x	x	x
Wits and Wagers Family Ed. (North Star Games)	Estimation			x	x	x	x	x
Rack-O (Winning Moves Games)	Probability, subtraction				x	x		

Game	Skill(s)	ELC	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Clumsy Thief (Melon Rind)	Addition, money				x	x	x	
Clumsy Thief in the Candy Shop (Melon Rind)	Addition				x	x	x	
Head Full of Numbers (Learning Resources)	Operations, math facts, equations				x	x	x	x
Rush Hour (ThinkFun)	Logical reasoning				x	x	x	x
Ticket to Ride (Days of Wonder)	Addition, probability, spatial reasoning				x	x	x	x
Farkle (Play Monster)	Mental math, reasoning, estimation					x	x	x
Kingdomino (Blue Orange)	Multiplication, strategy, spatial reasoning					x	x	x
Mastermind (Pressman)	Deductive reasoning, permutations					x	x	x
Mind Your Numbers (Kitki)	Operations					x	x	x
Mobi - Numerical Tile Game (MOBI)	Mental math, operations					x	x	x
Monopoly Classic (Hasbro)	Operations, money					x	x	x
Proof! (The Master Theorem Games)	Mental math, operations, flexible thinking					x	x	x
Qwixx (Gamewright)	Probability, strategy, reasoning, addition					x	x	x
Krypto (Krypto)	Operations, statistics						x	x
Manifold: An Origami Puzzle Game (Gamewright)	Spatial reasoning, transformations						x	x
OverUnder (Gamewright)	Estimation						x	x
Phase 10 (Mattel)	Sequencing						x	x
Prime Climb (Math for Love)	Primes, factors, multiples, and # relationships						x	x
Scrabble (Hasbro)	Strategy, point analysis, scorekeeping						x	x



# District Elementary Library Newsletter

Jessica Graham  
jessica\_graham@msd.k12.wi.us



## Phone Hand-Me-Downs

If you are thinking about giving a child your old phone, please consider the following:

- Clear everything off the phone
- Download some kid friendly apps
- Consider tracking the phone using a phone monitoring app
- Discuss expectations ahead of time
- Limit screen time

For more information, please visit:  
[tinyurl.com/givephonetokid](http://tinyurl.com/givephonetokid)

## Give the Power of Choice

Whether your child is a reluctant reader or a voracious one, consider giving them a gift card to a bookstore or buy a magazine subscription. This way, your child gets to decide what they want to read!

**The elementary  
library staff would  
like to wish you a safe  
and happy holiday  
season!**

## What's Flying Off the Shelves

Our Readers Just Can't Get Enough Of...

Downsville: You Choose and Amulet Series, Books on Dogs and Hunting, Piggy and Gerald Books

Knapp: Dog Man and Amulet Series, Piggy and Gerald Books, Creepy Pair of Underwear

River Heights: Piggy and Gerald Books, Fly Guy and Minecraft Books, Books by Raina Telgemeier

Wakanda: Diary of A Wimpy Kid Series, Ology Books, Weird But True Books, Playaways

Oaklawn: Narwhal and Jelly Series, Dog Man Series, Origami and Holiday books, Babysitter's Club Graphic Novels





# EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL

NO MORE CLIPPING. ALL YOU NEED IS YOUR SMARTPHONE.

The NEW and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online.

LOOK FOR THE NEW LABEL:



## HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:



### BUY BOX TOPS PRODUCTS

You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products throughout the store.



### SCAN YOUR RECEIPT

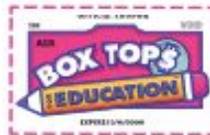
Use the app to snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.



### EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL

Box Tops earnings are identified and automatically updated at BTFE.com.

You do not need to clip or send Box Tops labels to school.



## BOX TOPS CLIPS ON PACKAGES

Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store as packages transition to the new Box Tops labels. **You can still clip these and send them to school.** Please make sure each clip has a valid expiration date.



**BUY**  
BOX TOPS PRODUCTS



**CUT**  
OUT THE BOX TOP FROM EACH PACKAGE



**SEND**  
YOUR BOX TOPS TO SCHOOL

SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BOX TOPS APP AT [BTFE.COM](http://BTFE.COM)

THE ALL-NEW BOX TOPS IS HERE! DOWNLOAD THE APP:



**AS STATED ABOVE:** *You can still clip the box tops from packages and continue to send them to school. We will be sending them in one more time this year! Thank you for saving to help our school!*

# PICTURES WITH SANTA

Santa Claus will be stopping by the  
Downsville Community Museum

**Sunday, December 8th, 2019**

**11:00am until 1:00pm**

Bring your kids and your cameras

We will have hot beverages and snacks

