



March News 2023

Greetings Downsville Families,

For PBIS this month we are focusing on **being respectful**. This includes being respectful to self, peers, grown ups, and property. We gathered for an all school Tiger Team meeting to talk about this and kick it off. Each class will select a student of the week who is modeling what it means to be respectful.

It has been a snowy winter! We have had so many weather closures, that any additional closures will need to be remote learning days for Downsville Elementary. You may have already heard from your classroom teachers and seen a **remote learning packet** of materials in their folder. In the event of any closures, we will send a communication and the expectation will be for students to complete this packet. It can just stay in the folder until it's needed. Students should work on it if we are closed and turn it in to their teacher the next day. The activities are designed to be completed mostly independently, and not include new material. Please see me or your child's teacher with any questions.

The Downsville PTC met this week and then visited the school to kick off their **Read a Thon fundraiser** and hand out books. I'm so thankful for our PTC and all of the support they give our school. I like the read a thon fundraiser because it's good for kids and good for PTC so everyone wins. Please consider helping your child collect pledges for this important fundraiser.

Attendance is extremely important in elementary school. Often, classroom experiences can't be replicated. Children who miss do miss out on activities and experiences. Please make sure you call if your child will be out of school for any reason. Please see the **attendance flyer** that accompanied your child's report cards.

We continue to focus on building reading, math, and writing skills and work on reaching our building goals. It was nice to see some growth in the STAR assessments. Students in grades 3-5 will be taking the **State of Wisconsin Forward Assessment** after Spring Break. All of the work every day prepares the students for success on these assessments.

Students should bring the **BIG 5** to school every day. This includes a coat, hat, mittens or gloves, boots, and snowpants. We have limited items to lend out and we will go outside most days. Thanks for your help with this. With warmer temperatures, items often get wet and an extra pair of gloves or mittens are a great idea. Have an enjoyable Spring Break!

Mrs. Drout



Important Dates:

- March 8 - Report Cards Go Home
- March 9 - Book Give Away!
- March 10 - Student Council, 8:15 a.m.
- March 13 - 17 - NO SCHOOL - SPRING BREAK**
- March 21 - Science Olympiad Practice
3:30-4:45 p.m.
- March 23 - Yearbook Orders Due
- March 24 - Student Council - 8:15 a.m.
- March 31 - Outdoor Club - 8:15 a.m.

- April 3 - Literacy Family Night
Camp Read-a-Lot 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
- April 4 - Science Olympiad Practice
3:30-4:45 p.m.
- April 7 - **NO SCHOOL - Vacation Day**
- April 10 - **MakeUp School Day Return to School**
- April 11 - Science Olympiad Practice
3:30-4:45 p.m.
- April 14 - Student Council Meeting, 8:15 a.m.
- April 15 - Science Olympiad Competition, 8 - Noon
- April 17 - PTC Meeting
- April 19 - UW Madison "Wonders of Physics"
Presentation - 9:00 a.m.
- April 21 - Outdoor Club Meeting - 8:15 a.m.
- April 24 - Music Concert @ River Heights
K - 1 - 5:30 p.m.
2 - 5 - 6:30 p.m.

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The Kindergarteners have been very busy growing their reading muscles by really studying vowels in their words. They were very excited to hear all the rhyming words in many of the Dr. Seuss books we read last week by listening to the word parts. We have also been studying how objects move with pushes and pulls even if the pull is gravity.

Fun in First Grade



We are 100 days smarter, blossoming scientists and full of kindness and love from the "Queen of Hearts" and her "Love Fairy"! We have had an AMAZING second trimester and look forward to our last few months as first graders!



Happy March everyone!

As we welcome spring in a short few weeks, here are some things to look forward to in our classroom.

Our Flat Stanley projects will finally be sent out after a short delay to those families that returned an address slip and are asked to be returned by April 7th.

We will also be taking a field trip to the Chippewa Valley Museum on April 27th to pair with our Social Studies unit on history (more information to come after spring break).

As we enter into the warm and wet season of Spring, please send rain boots and extra socks/pants for your child in case of accidents out at recess.

I am looking forward to ending the year strong in our classroom and cannot wait for the activities we have in store these last few months!





Third Grade

We have been working hard and efficiently in Third Grade! We started learning about fractions in math and have been playing a few new math games to help us practice our fractions! In Literacy, we have started Unit 6, with the essential question being about making decisions. We have been able to use the knowledge we already have to create great discussions during our Literacy time as we learn through different activities and lessons. Social Studies has been a blast as we have been reading about landforms and what kind of landforms we see around our state and what we see in other states. It is so exciting to compare and contrast our own state to others around us and build our knowledge! Students also recently enjoyed the Valentine's Day Party by handing out their Valentines to classmates while enjoying a sweet treat! It was such a positive activity that all of the students were able to participate and share together. The snow and ice rink have been a blast these past months with being able to skate with the High School boys hockey players, but I think my students and myself are excited for warmer weather!





Students in fourth grade have just wrapped up their battle of the books competition. Our Peaceful Pineapple group of Brailey, Karl, Saidie, and Izzy competed in the state battle and we are now excitedly awaiting the results.

The fourth graders are learning about fractions in math. They can find equivalent fractions, add and subtract fractions, and multiply a whole number times a fraction. They can also change an improper fraction into a mixed number.

In literacy we are reading stories about Challenges. We read President Reagan's union address after the space shuttle challenger disaster and learning how he encouraged our nation not to give up on new explorations just because tragedy struck during the challenger launch.

In social studies we are learning about Wisconsin history. We learned how the fur trade was the first business in Wisconsin. We are looking forward to go to the Mabel Tainter in April to see Les Fils du Voyageurs (The Sons of The Voyageurs) Les Fils du Voyageurs is a male vocal group consisting of seven members singing and recreating, while dressed in authentic costume of the period, an historical recount of the French fur trade era of the 1600's through the 1840's.



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Fifth Grade News!

So many things are happening in Grade 5 in Downsville!

We are continuing our work in fractions, this unit looks at multiplying and dividing fractions.

In Social Studies we are still learning about the 13 colonies and how we became the 50 states of the United States of America.

In Science we are still exploring mixtures and solutions.



Our Literacy has us beginning an opinion essay about a technology of their choice and learning about technology innovations that affected the Industrial Revolution.

And the month of February we got to work with our buddies twice!

Can't wait to see what the month of March brings us!

Counselor News

The Wisconsin Forward Exam will be starting soon for grades 3, 4, and 5. Here are some helpful tips:

- Get a good night's sleep
- Eat a healthy breakfast
- Get to school on time
- Stay Focused
- Think positive
- Do your best
- Read test directions and questions carefully
- Answer every question



In SEL classes, we have been focusing on Empathy and Kindness. We will be transitioning soon to the Second Step Child Protection Unit. This unit focuses on different ways children can be safe. A letter will be sent home with more information about the lessons. You can also access information on www.secondstep.org using the following activation codes:

Kindergarten: **CPUK FAMI LYGK**
1st Grade: **CPU1 FAMI LYG1**
2nd Grade: **CPU2 FAMI LYG2**
3rd Grade: **CPU3 FAMI LYG3**
4th Grade: **CPU4 FAMI LYG4**
5th Grade: **CPU5 FAMI LYG5**



Please access the MARCH Library newsletter:

Here is the link for the February newsletter:

<https://www.smore.com/jgz9n>

Jessica Graham (She, Her, Hers)

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MUSIC NOTES!



Mark your calendars for Monday, April 24th!
River Heights Elementary Gymnasium!

Our Downsville musicians will be showcasing skills and songs we have been learning in music this year.



K-1 will be performing at 5:30 p.m. where we will be "Going on a Picnic" featuring songs about all our favorite foods and more.



Grades 2-5 will be performing at 6:30 p.m. where we will be going back to the 50's for some classic Rock and Roll.

More information coming soon - hope to see you there!

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OUTDOOR CLUB! - Hello everyone and happy March!

A quick update for Outdoor Club as we wind down our year with the final few meetings.

Working up to Earth Day on April 21st, we will be having more frequent meetings split between 4th and 5th grade. Please have your child listen to the announcements to hear which Friday they will be meeting.



HAPPY EARTH DAY

For the 4th grade members we will be working to design an all school assembly with each student contributing with either a poster, poem reading, or part in a reading skit.

For 5th grade members we will be designing lessons to teach to the students in K-3rd grade. Thank you all for your continued support in keeping Outdoor Club going this year and we look forward to a strong end to the year!



Art News



Student art has been hung at the CVTC building in Menomonie for the district Spring Art Show.

Students featured in the show will be notified via their report cards.

If you get a chance, stop in and view the wonderful creations of some talented Downsville artist!



MENTAL HEALTH PANEL + MOVIE SCREENING

KEN BURNS PRESENTS

HIDING YOUTH IN MENTAL PLAIN ILLNESS SIGHT

A FILM BY ERIK EWERS & CHRISTOPHER LOREN EWERS

Menomonie High School Lecture Hall
1715 5th St W, Menomonie, WI



FREE EVENT

March 30, 6:30-7:30pm

MMS E-CYCLING DRIVE

Celebrate Earth Day by getting rid of electronics in your house!

Friday, April 21st
in the
MMS Drop-Off
Line
12:30pm - 2:30pm

Acceptable Items and Prices

Projection & wood console TVs \$35
CRT TVs and monitors \$20
LCD TVs and monitors \$15
Small-scale servers \$10
Laptops & Chromebooks, & Desktop computer towers \$10
DVD, VHS, Blu-ray players, VCRs, DVRs, & tablets \$5
Satellite receivers, routers, & modems, & desktop printers \$5
Keyboards, mice, computer speakers, hard drives, & flash drives \$1

All proceeds go to the
**Menomonie Middle School
Positive Behavior Reward Fund**




Happy Spring Break


Enjoy your family and friends! Relax, refresh, and renew. Please enjoy some of these activities to do over the break. It will be coming home in your students folder the week before spring break. Return it to school and receive a small prize of completion.

Love, Mrs. Holcomb

Spring Break Reading Bingo

Name: _____
Teacher: _____

READ wearing sunglasses	READ by a window	READ using a flashlight	MAKE a picture about a book you read	READ to someone on the phone
MAKE a puppet to retell a story you read	READ to an adult	READ instructions for playing a game	READ to a family member	GO to the public library
READ after playing outside	READ to a stuffed animal		READ while eating a snack	READ twice in one day
WRITE a story about what you read	READ at the park	READ laying on your back	READ in the backyard	READ sitting in a comfy chair
READ while wearing a hat	READ on a sunny day	READ sitting at the kitchen table	LISTEN to someone read a story to you	READ a book about an animal



Spring Break

Happy Memory Booklet

The one thing I really missed about school was...

Favorite Activities

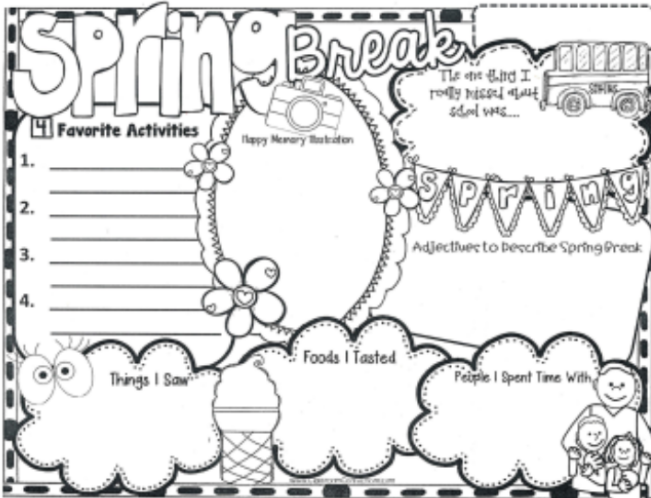
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Adjectives to describe Spring Break

Things I Saw

Foods I Tasted

People I Spent Time With





CAMP



READ-A-LOT



Monday, April 3, 2023



5:30-7:00P.M.

DOWNSVILLE ELEMENTARY

5:30-6:00 Supper

6:00-7:00 Station Rotations



Downsville



Please fill out and return by Tuesday, **March 21st**
Camp Read-A-Lot-Family Night

Family Name: _____

Number Attending: _____

