



LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



DATE: April, 2018

I. LEE ROAD

A. Student/Instructional

Kindergarten

March was a busy month in kindergarten! Students celebrated Dr. Seuss Day with friends and family by reading Dr. Seuss books and eating green eggs and ham! Children participated in St. Patrick's day activities and learned how to add numbers up to 20 using a ten frame. The kindergartners are becoming phenomenal readers and writers and have been practicing their sight words, CVC patterns and writing sentences using correct punctuation and detail.

First Grade

The first graders were all smiles, and filled with enthusiasm while participating in the PTA sponsored STEAM Museum program. The children enjoyed the various hands on activities which added to their thinking, science, technology, and creative skills. It was exciting! The month has proven the statement, "April showers, bring May flowers." We can't wait for the May flowers! We continue our math fact fluency skills as follow up to our math bees last month. We are doing "sprints," using the computer lab, and our daily math lessons to build our computation skills in addition and subtraction. After finishing a unit on "measurement," the children are now learning how to tell time to the hour and half hour. With springtime, comes big strides in our young readers and writers. They are on their way and growing every day! Thank you, families for reading with our first graders each day.

Second Grade

Second graders visited the Outdoor Learning Center and learned about pollination. The students worked in groups to design a hand tool to help gather pollen. Second graders are becoming quite proficient in adding and subtracting three digit numbers with regrouping. One second grade class is researching animals and writing reports on them while the other class is doing reports on biographies. Both classes are using Pebblego.com to do the research.

Third Grade

April has been a busy month for third grade. In Reading, we have continued to focus on various comprehension skills and strategies through the Journeys' Program. This month we have spent a lot of time on understanding Story Structure. In Math, we have started working on telling time, and units of measurement for liquid and volume. We have also started working on our research for our Wax Museum-Biography presentation.

Fourth Grade

The fourth graders completed a unit on the American Revolution. Aside from studying from the Social Studies text, students completed research on Patriots and Loyalists using many trade

books, videos, and smartboard activities. They were asked to write if they were a Patriot or Loyalist and had to provide evidence for their position. In addition, we conducted research on tadpoles using the laptops. This was in preparation for the arrival of our frog embryos. The fourth graders have worked especially hard this month and should be applauded for their efforts!

Fifth Grade

For the month of April the fifth grade students have been fine tuning their writing of text based short and extended response questions. They also continue to develop their inferential comprehension skills. Including theme, main idea and summarizing. In Mathematics, the students have been busy learning to Write and Interpret Numerical Expressions as well as how to Analyze Numerical Patterns and Relationships. In Science, we have begun our study of How the Earth's Systems Interact. The students created their own Water Cycle Bags to see first-hand how the Water Cycle works. They are also busy writing a creative story based on what they have learned about the water cycle titled "My Life as a Drop of Water."

Vocal Music

The third, fourth, and fifth grade choruses have all been working diligently on the repertoire for their upcoming Spring Concert on May 23rd. Kindergarten, first and second grade General Music classes have been working on fast and slow tempos (specifically presto and largo) as well as dynamics, loud and soft (forte and piano) by listening, singing, using body percussion, and playing on pitched "barred" percussion instruments. The third grade General Music classes are working on writing songs utilizing the C pentatonic scale using quarter notes, half notes, eighth notes, and quarter rests; the fourth grade General Music classes are working on playing an arrangement of the William Tell Overture by Gioachino Rossini on pitched "barred" percussion instruments; finally, the fifth grade General Music classes are learning the history of blues and how it led to the advent of jazz, rhythm and blues, rock and roll and hip hop – and will be learning how to play blues chord progressions. Students: Grace Hoffman, Emily Kassimatis, Mary Lung, Marissa Paredes, Cecilia Rodriguez Escobar, Cami Sandkuhl, and Nicole Steiner are quite busy preparing their NYSSMA vocal solos which they will be performing this upcoming Saturday, April 21st.

Literacy Lab

This month of April has been a busy time of learning, writing and reading. We have been expanding our vocabularies with collective nouns in the fourth grade and different classifying words in the younger grades. The classes all did map skills this month. We looked at street maps, world maps and even a New York City map from 1939! We read "My Many Colored Days" by Dr. Seuss and several books by Eric Carle. Now we are getting ready to write poetry for the Spring Exhibit.

AG: dmd