

## SUMMIT LANE SCHOOL

### FEBRUARY 2018 END OF MONTH REPORT

#### KINDERGARTEN

The Kindergarten Students have been reading about Presidents, the Olympics and Valentine's Day. They have continued learning to identify and write uppercase and lowercase letters as well as letter sounds for Ff, Bb Aa and Dd. We have continued learning about complete sentences, a simile and verbs in the past tense. We have also learned new sight words and CVC words. In Math, the students learned "more addition and subtraction." In science, we learned about weather, temperature, and how the sun warms the earth. All kindergarten students enjoyed our school play, "Willy Wonka Kids". We also went on two field trips, the Levittown Public Library and the Outdoor Learning Center at the Levittown Memorial Education Center.

#### FIRST GRADE

First graders have been busy improving their addition and subtraction skills with daily Math Sprints and with *fun4thebrain.com*, developing personal narrative writing connected to weekly anchor text topics, and meeting famous Americans by reading biographies and Scholastic Newspapers. In science and social studies, students have been engaged in various dental health, hygiene, and career activities including: reading informational texts and a Scholastic Newspaper about teeth, viewing various media, making related projects and writing about lost teeth.

#### SECOND GRADE

How do second graders learn about fossils? They create them! The second graders enjoyed a fun-filled activity on creating fossils and observing what the scientists observe when studying them. Play-dough was used in place of mud, and the children were able to imprint dinosaurs, shells and plant material into their fossils. After they dried, the children observed how the scientists can use the imprint of something to learn more about it. It was an interesting way to bring this topic to life, and the children enjoyed making their own fossil creations.

#### THIRD GRADE

In celebration of Presidents Day, the third graders researched different presidents and recorded facts about what they learned. The research involved using encyclopedias, informational text and the computer. When finished, the students created their own portrait of what they think their president looked like. The third graders learned some great facts about American History in the process. It was a wonderful research project and their work is proudly displayed in the 200 hallway. The third graders are beginning to learn about fractions, comparing them, placing them on number lines and finding equivalent fractions. They are enjoying this new math concept very much. We continue to encourage reading at home every night, exploring a variety of genres such as poetry, historical fiction and fables!

## FOURTH GRADE

February was an exciting month for fourth grade, as many activities took place in the school. Students enjoyed PARP week as they participated in Super Readers, attended Barnes and Noble Night, and listened to a read aloud presented by secret readers who were from the military. As a culminating activity, the students participated in an assembly presented by an author and illustrator who emphasized the importance of writing and imagination. The students also attended an assembly about teamwork presented by Sparky from the New York Islanders. Students participated in various activities that showed them the importance of teamwork. Finally, the month wrapped up with an assembly about Abraham Lincoln. Students learned about the history of Abraham Lincoln's life and were able to participate in a question and answer session after about any lingering questions they had about Lincoln's life. Much fun was had by all!

## FIFTH GRADE

February was a busy and exciting month for fifth graders at Summit Lane! One highlight of the month was PARP week, which included each student receiving a free book and the chorus performing at Barnes and Noble Night. In addition, Mr. Avena, principal of Wisdom Lane School, read to the fifth graders and gave the students a great introduction as to what to expect at middle school with plenty of time for questions and answers. Our fifth graders are participating in a new program, "Too Good For Drugs". This is a 10- week program given by our social workers teaching the students about the dangers of drugs and how to make good decisions.

The Islanders and their mascot, Sparky the Dragon came to visit Summit Lane and gave an assembly focusing on team work. The students were also treated to a fabulous assembly about Abraham Lincoln in honor of Presidents' Day. A historian and impersonator of Abraham Lincoln gave a very informative and engaging presentation about the life and times of Abe Lincoln. We took a field trip to Mangoes Mexican Restaurant where we learned about Mexican history, dance, and culture, while eating quesadillas and playing games. At the end of the month was the school musical, Willy Wonka. The students worked very hard on the production of this play and the whole school enjoyed the show!

## ART

In February, Summit Lane Kindergarten students are working with primary colors/Mondrian, while our first graders and second graders are designing heart paintings with line designs. Third and fourth graders are having fun with weaving and fifth graders are working on posters for the Town of Hempstead Recycling Poster Contest.

## MUSIC

All instrumental and vocal performing groups have begun to work on music for the Spring Concert. New students have been recruited for all of the choruses, and instrumental students who have recently met proficiency goals are joining band and orchestra. Student registration forms and payments for the April NYSSMA Solo Evaluation Festival were collected. Online registration is currently being completed by both music teachers. Mrs. Giordano gave extra help during recess periods for the fifth grade student participating in LISFA (Long Island String Festival Association). Final arrangements were made, including preparing the student for the required seating audition.

fifth graders' music class selections for sixth grade were collected and sent to the Wisdom Lane and Salk guidance departments. Both music teachers assisted students with class selection decisions.

Mrs. Wade continued after-school rehearsals for the Theater Arts production "Willy Wonka" as well as with parents to finish painting and building sets and sewing costumes. The Playbill was produced and tickets were distributed for the show. Mr. Squillaciotti rehearsed and performed with the students in Willy Wonka. Performances were held on the last day of the month and the first day of March.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The students in Mrs. Dano's and Ms. Grillo's classes began the month working on volleyball. Grades K-2 used beach balls to strike and keep the ball up in the air. They worked in groups and learned how to volley with each other and then over a net. The students enjoyed the game of "Clean up the yard". Grades 3-5 worked on the skills of the forearm pass, set and serve and concluded the unit learning how to play Newcomb and use rally scoring.

All PE classes also participated in a unit together on Chinese Jump Rope and utilized the new Smart Board in the All Purpose Room to discover some new routines. Students were instructed on basic jumping patterns, rope levels and game play etiquette. Grades K-1 worked in small groups and practiced their jumping patterns as a whole class while grades 2-5 worked more independently following the rules of game play. Grades 3-5 recorded their progress each class to build up to the creation of their own jumping pattern.

In honor of the Winter Olympics each PE class participated in a short unit on curling. Students were taught the proper technique for delivering their "stones" (bean bags or scooters), as well as a few basic rules, some curling vocabulary and how to keep score.