



# November News

## 2022

The weather has turned cooler and we are well into November. It's that time of year to make sure students have a winter coat, hat, and gloves every day. Snowpants and boots are to follow soon. I have challenged the students to work on keeping their coat hooks tidy. It's a little thing that makes our school look good. I'll have a prize for the neatest coat hook class each week.

For PBIS this month we are working on being RESPECTFUL. I talked with the students on Friday about what that means. It means to respect yourself, other students and staff, things, and spaces. If we respect these things, then we make better choices when interacting with them. You can talk about respect at home too.

Good attendance is a predictor of success in school. Check out the infographic below with some important information about student attendance. It's so important in the learning journey for kids to be in school.

Mrs. Drout

## ATTENDANCE

in the early grades

**Attendance Works**  
Addressing Student Absences by Engaging Their Families  
www.attendanceworks.org

Many of our youngest students miss 10 percent of the school year—about 18 days a year or just two days every month. Chronic absenteeism in kindergarten, and even preK, can predict lower test scores, poor attendance and retention in later grades, especially if the problem persists for more than a year. Do you know how many young children are chronically absent in your school or community?

### Who Is Affected

Kindergarten and 1st grade classes often have absenteeism rates as high as those in high school. Many of these absences are excused, but they still add up to lost time in the classroom.

**1 in 10 kids** in kindergarten and 1st grade are chronically absent. In some schools, it's as high as 1 in 4.<sup>1</sup>

**2 in 10** low-income kids miss too much school. They're also more likely to suffer academically.<sup>2</sup>

**2.5 in 10** homeless kids are chronically absent.<sup>2</sup>

**4 in 10** transient kids miss too much school when families move.<sup>2</sup>

### Why It Matters

If children don't show up for school regularly they miss out on fundamental reading and math skills and the chance to build a habit of good attendance that will carry them into college and careers.

Preliminary data from a California study found that children who were chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade were far less likely to read proficiently at the end of 3rd grade.

#### Who Can Read on Grade Level After 3rd Grade?<sup>3</sup>

Attendance Group	Percentage of Kids Who Can Read on Grade Level After 3rd Grade
Good attendance in K and 1st (missed 9 or fewer days both years)	84%
At-risk attendance (missed more than 9 days both years)	49%
Chronically absent in K or 1st (missed 18 or more days one year)	41%
Chronically absent in K and 1st (missed 18 or more days both years)	17%

### What We Can Do

#### Engage Families

Many parents and students don't realize how quickly early absences can add up to academic trouble. Community members and teachers can educate families and build a culture of attendance through early outreach, incentives and attention to data.

#### Fix Transportation

The lack of a reliable car, or simply missing the school bus, can mean some students don't make it to class. Schools, transit agencies and community partners can organize car pools, supply bus passes or find other ways to get kids to school.

#### Address Health Needs

Health concerns, particularly asthma and dental problems, are among the leading reasons students miss school in the early grades. Schools and medical professionals can work together to give children and families health care and advice.

#### Track the Right Data

Schools too often overlook chronic absence because they track average attendance or unexcused absences, not how many kids miss too many days for any reason. Attendance Works has free data-tracking tools.

<sup>1</sup> Cheng, Yvoly, Romero, Morrison, Prewitt, "Engaged and Accounted For: The Critical Importance of Addressing Chronic Absence in the Early Grades," National Center for Children in Poverty, NYU, NY, September 2018.

<sup>2</sup> "Chronic Absence in Schools," Utah Education Policy Center at the University of Utah, 2012.

<sup>3</sup> Attendance in Early Elementary Grades: Association with Student Characteristics, School Readiness and Third Grade Outcomes, Applied Survey Research, May 2013.

To download a copy of this infographic, please visit [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org) © Inmate Trust (The Mother Group)



### *Important Dates:*

- November 10 Veterans Day Program - 10:30 a.m.**
- November 11 Outdoor Club - 8:15 a.m.**
- November 23-25 Vacation - **NO SCHOOL****
- November 30 End of 1st Trimester**
  
- December 2 Student Council Meeting - 8:15 a.m.**
- December 19 PTC Meeting - 5:30 p.m.**
- December 22 Special Guest Visit**  
**Book Giveaway**
- December 23-January 1 - Winter Break**  
**NO SCHOOL**



### **DOWNSVILLE LIBRARY FUN!**

The library got in the Halloween spirit with special pumpkins decorated as characters from a couple of our favorite books. We definitely had to have a Pigeon pumpkin!

And Mrs. Livingston's class decorated a pumpkin for "The Day the Crayons Quit." Kindergarten students painted a pumpkin white and each student got to choose their favorite crayon to add.



*Please access the November Library newsletter:*

The link for the November newsletter is [here](#).

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# Kindergarten News

In Kindergarten we are becoming word scientists. We are really looking closely at the letters and sounds that make up words and searching for snap words in our books.



We just finished leaves and are weather.



learning about trees and now learning about



Last month we took a very fun field trip to Ferguson's Apple Orchard and got to be a farmer for a day.



# 1

## F.I.R.S.T. G.R.A.D.E.

### Field Trips, Fire Trucks, Friends and Fun!

We were so busy having fun this fall, we hardly knew we were learning.



# 2

## Second Grade News

Happy November everyone!

I hope everyone had a great second month of school and are ready for some colder months as we approach the holidays.

Please remember that as the weather gets colder to send your students with hats, gloves, and jackets for recess and outdoor play.



This month we will be introducing a new BLOCK student into our classroom who will be teaching some lessons and helping out in different ways. We will be sending home a media release form specific to UW Stout to get permission for your student to be filmed/photographed only for the BLOCK student and their professors to learn from in their classes.

Thank you everyone for your ongoing support at home with your student's learning!

Have a great month!

Mr. Voss



# 3

## Third Grade News

We have been busy bees in 3rd Grade! We have been lucky enough to have some wonderful guests in our room! We have had Miss Amy start with us on Mondays for “strong start Mondays!”, we also have had Mrs. Cook that brought in Legos to help us tell stories and sequence events. Most recently we had a wonderful guest speaker in our room by the name of Kris Winter. She joined us for an exciting and spooky story to tell the third graders about that Ms. Wildner was even able to be a part of! We are so excited for our Halloween party coming up and have made some spook-tacular Halloween decorations to decorate our room that the students have really enjoyed creating!

On another note, we have completed Unit 1 for Literacy which was observing nature and are now continuing with Unit 2 characters’ actions and reactions. We also completed our Module 1 in Math which was properties of multiplication and division and solving problems with units of 2-5 and 10 and are continuing on Module 2 that is place value and problem solving with units of measure. We are finishing up our Science lesson on animals through time and moving into Social Studies next with communities in our country and world. We have been working on our SEL (Social Emotional Learning) with myself and Mrs. Snyder and revisiting what it looks like to be kind to ourselves and others.



# 4

## Fourth Grade News

We are hard at work in fourth grade. In our first literacy unit, we read several stories that involved people interacting with nature. We also wrote informative essays describing the behaviors and characteristics of chipmunks. We are now enjoying reading excerpts from popular plays like the “Wizard of Oz” and “Peter Pan” while we explore how we get to know characters.



In math, we are beginning our unit on multi-digit multiplication and division. We began this unit learning the formulas for area and perimeter. The students are now eager to learn the standard algorithms of long division and multiplication.

In social studies, we are learning about the regions of the United States. We made salt dough maps showing the different elevations throughout the United States.

We are enjoying being buddies with the second graders. We enjoyed helping them build decade numbers by building paper airplanes and playing a game.



# 5

## *Fifth Grade News*

The 5th graders have been rocking this first trimester! They have learned how to multiply and divide decimals in math. In reading, they learned all about how to read informational writing and fiction stories. They have also learned about the Earth and atmosphere in science, and Native Americans and explorers in Social Studies.



In addition to all of this, the students have also been working with their tree buddies. Each student picked a tree to study for the year. They started by naming their tree. Then, they journaled about their tree. The students go back to the same tree once a month and write about any changes they see. They all enjoy having this quiet time outside to reflect and write.

Finally, the 5th graders loved being able to decorate our school with their Halloween Dioramas. The students split up into groups of 6 and each student created a room of a haunted house. Then they wrote a descriptive piece of writing about their rooms.

The 5th graders will have much more to look forward to with a holiday project coming up, and the arrival of trout eggs very soon.







# Counselor News!

In November, we will be finishing our SEL lessons in Bullying Prevention. The lessons will focus on Refusing Bullying and Bystander Power. As a reminder, make sure to join [SecondStep.org](http://SecondStep.org) with the activation code for your child's grade level to get information about what your child is learning in the *Second Step* program!

- Kindergarten (BPUK FAMI LY00)
- First Grade (BPU1 FAMI LY01)
- Second Grade (BPU2 FAMI LY02)
- Third Grade (BPU3 FAMI LY03)
- Fourth Grade (BPU4 FAMI LY04)
- Fifth Grade (BPU5 FAMI LY05)



## MUSIC NOTES!

Our Downsville musicians have been working hard for our **Veterans Day program on November 10th!**



As well as preparing our singing voices, Kindergarten and 1st grade have been learning about steady beat, different ways we can use our voices, and exploring percussion instruments.

2nd and 3rd grade have been working on reading rhythms, improvisation on instruments, and body percussion.



4th and 5th grade have been learning about the different families of instruments, reading notes on the treble clef, and recorder techniques as we gear up to start recorders in November!

Stay tuned for more information for our spring concerts - we can't wait to share our music with you!



# Art News!

The students have been very busy in Art Class! First graders have been traveling through time and creating artwork inspired by ancient cultures like the Ancient Egyptians. Second graders have been creating artwork inspired by Modern Artists and styles like Jackson Pollock and his Abstract Expressionism splatter paintings! Third graders have been world travelers and learning about the Artists and cultures around the world while exploring different materials like the Huichol yarn paintings! Fourth and fifth graders have been exploring Artists and materials while getting more freedom for "choice-based" Art. All the grades have been preparing for the Veteran's Day program by creating Art inspired by the American Flag! Don't forget to check out the Online Art Show to see some of the work we have been doing on the Downsville Art Website:



<https://sites.google.com/msd.k12.wi.us/downvilleelementaryart/home>

The following students' artwork has been selected for the **Community Art Show** at the **Scatterbrain Cafe** for the month of November!

Chris Ankrum

Viola Montanye

Aubre Larrabee

Raelynn Gullickson

Miles Eldred

Hadley Fisher

Trinnity Larrabee

**Please be sure to go check it out!**

**Featured Artists of the Week:** Grace Buchholtz

Allison Ferber

Ella Buchholtz

Kinsley Lemke

Kayden Bluel

Kenia Lezama

Noah Peinovich



# Winter Wear OPEN HOUSE

Special Hours in November

Thursday Evenings  
5pm - 8pm except

Thanksgiving

Walk-ins Welcome!

## NEW Location

United Way C-3 Center  
N5729 410th St  
Menomonie, WI 54751

Get Directions Here



## Donations Accepted At

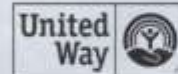
Menomonie Fleet Farm,  
2003 Hwy 12

Menomonie Public Library,  
600 Wolske Bay Road

United Way C-3 Center,  
N5729 410th Street

## Items Most Needed

Winter Coats  
Snow Boots  
Snow Pants/Coveralls  
Accessories



FREE EVENT

## Give the Gift of Time

Contact Troy Peloquin  
United Way C-3 Center  
P: (715) 231-3066  
tpeloquin@uwaydunn.org

