A Note from Mr. Llewellyn

Dear Parents,

The first half of the year is complete and we are looking forward to a great second half. I would like to update you on a couple of programs and opportunities for you to work with your child.

Elementary Math Videos

Have you had the experience when your child has come home and the math that he/she is doing looks nothing like it did when you went to school? With the help of teachers from all schools and math specialists, our county has developed a resource for parents. These on-line videos are short presentations by teachers to share strategies to solve problems in math. This resource can be found on the acpsmd.org website. Once there, scroll down and look for the “Quick Links” section and look for the link titled “Elementary Math Strategies Videos.” Strategies are demonstrated for all grade levels Pre-K - 5. Check them out. You may just learn a better strategy for solving problems than they way you learned it the first time and you will be ready to help your child.

Plastic Recycling

Once again, we will be partnering with Allegany County and Trex to recycle plastic. This year, we will be collecting plastic between February 1 and April 15. A quick way to know if it is recyclable, is to do the “Stretch Test”— if it stretches before it breaks, it is recyclable. Please be sure that the plastic that you send in is washed and clean. There will be recycle bins in several locations in the school including the front lobby. If you would like to recycle, please send in the plastic with your child.

Recyclable Items Include:

- Newspaper Sleeves
- Bread Bags
- Product Wrap
- Cereal Liners
- Food Bags
- Ice Bags
- Produce Bags
- Dry Cleaning Bags
- Packaging Air Pillows
A Note From...

Pre-K
Wow! This school year is going so fast! Pre-K is working on becoming independent! The students are starting to pack up their book bags and zip their coats by themselves. In Social Studies/Reading, we are learning all about neighborhoods. The kids are really enjoying this unit. In Science, we are learning about nature. We are also continuing to work on letters, letter sounds, counting 0-20, recognizing numbers 0-20, writing first names, and cutting skills. Please continue to work with your child on these items at home! Thank you for your continued support of the Pre-K program!

Kindergarten
Happy New Year from your kindergarten friends! We have been working hard in kindergarten as we jump into a new year. In Reading, we have enjoyed learning about Animals through some great literature. Our students are really focusing on recognizing rhyming words, and beginning and ending sounds. Remember to review your child’s high frequency words daily, we are becoming better readers with every new word we learn. In Math, we will be working on composing and decomposing numbers to 10. Keep working on recognizing and writing those numbers to 100. As we gear up for our 100th day of school in February, we will be asking our students to create a 100th day count down to the big day! We cannot wait for a day filled with everything “100!” project! More info will follow as we count down to the big day!

First Grade
First graders are settling back into the routine after the holiday break. It’s hard to believe that we will be celebrating the 100th day of school soon. Students are taking Accelerated Reader tests and working on mastering addition and subtraction facts. A big thank you to all the parents who came to our First Grade Reading Day. Parents read with their child and teachers shared ways to make Reading fun at home. Please continue to save Box Tops for Education coupons. We earn 10 cents for every box top and this money will be used to purchase items for your child’s classroom. First graders continue to work on reading fluency and learning addition and subtraction math facts to 20. Your child should read at least 10 minutes per night and practice math facts regularly.

Second Grade
Second Grade is having an awesome start to 2020! In Math, the students have been working on place value and learning different strategies to add and subtract 2 digit numbers. Our timed tests will now focus on memorizing subtraction facts. In Reading, we have been reading enjoyable works of fiction like Click, Clack Moo along with reading autobiographies like Stirring Up Memories. Continue to read with your child at home. The Book-It Program will continue through the spring. Thank you parents for continuing to help your children on their homework!

Third Grade
Third grade is keeping warm and working hard. In Math, we are studying area and perimeter. Students continue to use multiplication and division to find area and solve other various word problems. In reading, students are reading stories and writing text dependent essays. In Science, we are beginning a Life Science unit. Finally, in Social Studies students will be learning geography and maps of Allegany County.

Fourth Grade
January is a busy month in grade four. Students are using their multiplication and division skills as they continue with fractions. We are also doing a lot of reading in fourth grade and have been giving special incentives for taking Accelerated Reader tests and earning points! Keep reinforcing the importance of reading at home. Students have the opportunity to take AR tests each day to earn points.

We can’t believe that the holidays are over and that we have made it to the middle of our fourth grade year already, but we are loving every minute! Full steam ahead in fourth grade!

Fifth Grade
5th grade started their second round of book reports Jan 10. The final group will present on Jan. 31. A lot of thought and hard work goes into the projects. Thank you so much for the support from home. In math we are studying fractions. Please continue to practice your addition, subtraction, multiplication and division math facts.