

MOUNT SAVAGE NEWS

November/December 2024



There is lots of stuff happening in the Elementary Counselor's Corner!

We have completed Organizational and Bullying lessons. The Toolbox Program is the main focus for much of the rest of the school year in the Counseling lessons. Toolbox lessons help children learn how to manage themselves. Many "self" traits are discussed. All students are learning how their thoughts, feelings, and actions impact their daily lives and situational outcomes. Information will be sent home to families soon. Please ask and discuss with your students about the "tools" they are learning. These tools are highly effective in supporting family living situations as well. As always, feel free to contact me anytime you need assistance, have questions, or need support for your child(ren). Happy Fall Season!

AG Program - The Ag Club extracted over 250 pounds of honey from our beehives and is selling honey for \$5 or \$6 a bottle (7 and 8 oz bottles) and beeswax lip balms for \$1 each. Anyone interested in purchasing our honey can call the office or email Mr. Kline (matthew.kline@acpsmd.org) Students from the Ag Club also extracted over 400 pounds of honey for a local beekeeper as a service learning project. Our first growing period in the high tunnel is doing great and we will be harvesting kohlrabi, lettuce, spinach, beets, bean, peas, and tomatoes soon. Students will be working on some winter beehive projects after they build candy boards for all of the hives to provide emergency winter food for the bees.

SCHOOLWIDE PROGRAM

Mount Savage School has a Schoolwide Title 1 Program. This means that the federally funded instructional staff may work with all of the students in our school, and our school develops a Schoolwide Title 1 program designed to increase academic achievement for all students. A Schoolwide Program helps is to use federal funds to meet the needs of all students more effectively. Title 1 provides additional resources for our school:

- Instructional materials for our students.
- Professional development for teachers
- Information about how to help children succeed in school for parents.
- Parent/Family Engagement Programs
- Additional staffing to provide additional support for reading and math instruction.

YOUR CHILD MAY BE EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL WITH ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS



- Fever of 100.4
- Sore throat
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- New on-set of severe headache (especially with fever)
- New loss of taste or smell

TO PROTECT YOUR CHILD AND OTHERS
PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL BEFORE SENDING YOUR CHILD
WITH ANY ONE OF THE ABOVE

Pre-K News!

Ms. Skidmore and Mrs. Amy's Pre-K class had a busy few months so far in school. Buster the talking school bus visited us at the beginning of October. He taught us all about bus safety. Also during October, the Mount Savage Fire Department visited us for Fire Prevention and Safety. We toured the fire truck and learned how to be safe. Ms. Stacy and Ms. Misty from the Allegany County Public Library came for a story time. They read Halloween and Fall themed books. We had lots of fun moving and grooving to some Halloween songs as well. Lastly, we had a successful Halloween parade and party. We enjoyed dressing up and parading around the teardrop for families and also enjoyed trick or treating through the halls. We ended the day with a snack and a fall time movie. November is going to be a fun month as well. We created crafts and decorations for our veterans and will honor our veterans including Ms. Skidmore (Marine Corps) during our Veterans Day program. Ms. Stacy and Ms. Misty will be joining us again for story time and we will be having some fun with Thanksgiving activities. Thanks for reading all about the fun things happening in Pre-K.



Kindergarten has already come a long way since the beginning of the year and we are excited to continue learning!

In ELA, kindergarten will continue to work on letter sounds and learning whether each letter is a vowel or consonant. We are also reading and writing CVC words and working on tricky words.

In math, we are working on addition and subtraction within 5, and two-dimensional shapes. We will soon be learning to count, show, and write numbers 6-10, compare numbers to 10, compose shapes, and find number partners for 10. We are excited to continue learning these concepts and improve our math skills.

We are also excited to read different fall literature books and complete Thanksgiving activities!

First Grade!

Hello from first grade! The first graders have been working hard and doing lots of learning so far this year. In math, we are learning how to add within 10, make a ten to add, use a ten to subtract, doubles, and so much more. We will be moving on to the following concepts shortly: solving word problems to 20, solving compare problems, collecting and comparing data, and true and false equations. We are excited to continue to sharpen our math skills. In ELA, we will continue to work on tricky words, begin spelling words, write fictional narratives, learn new spelling patterns, identify verbs, and work on grammar! We are going to be very busy over the next couple of months! You should be reading with your student at home as much as possible to improve fluency and comprehension. We look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas break and can't wait for all the fun activities coming our way.



Second Grade News!

Happy November from second grade! We are excited to be starting many new things this month. We have entered into the world of numbers to 100. We will be adding and subtracting larger numbers, comparing numbers, ordering numbers, and studying place value of larger numbers. Keep working on basic addition and subtraction facts at home. Knowing these facts will make adding and subtracting larger numbers much easier!

In reading, we will continue to work on vowel patterns, becoming more fluent readers, and understanding what is read. When writing, students should now be consistently writing complete sentences with correct punctuation, capitalization, and grammar.

Since this is the season of thankfulness, we remember how thankful we are for you! Your support is very much appreciated.



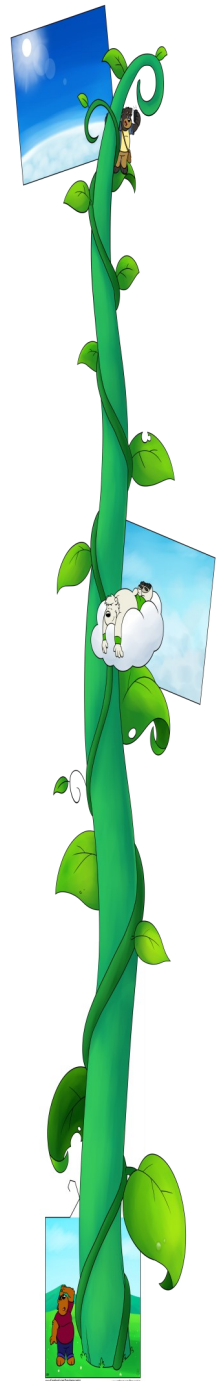
Fourth Grade has been busy during the first nine weeks. We are currently learning about the Middle Ages in ELA and working to perfect our writing skills with an upcoming opinion writing piece. Students are learning about knights, lords, serfs, and monks and how they lived during this time. We have found out that living in the Middle Ages was very different from how we live today. Students are working on going back into the text to identify key details to support their thinking and reasoning. In math, we are learning about factors and multiples and prime and composite numbers. We will be beginning our multiplication unit in the next few weeks. Please keep practicing those math facts!! In science, students are learning about energy and how energy can be transferred and how speed affects energy. We will begin our first Social Studies Unit, Worlds Collide, after Thanksgiving break. We want to wish everyone a Happy and safe

Hello, **5th grade** families!

Fifth grade has been very busy with lots of learning! In math, students have learned all about perimeter, area, and volume as well as some study of multiplication and division. Currently, students are learning all about the powers of 10, place value, decimals, and we are moving towards more discussion of fractions. In ELA, we are working on Unit 3, where students are learning about a variety of types of poetry! We are exploring poems by many different poets, making meaning of the poems by viewing poet biographies, and learning about all of the literary elements involved in poetry. Science and Social Studies have been busy as well as students switch each week between Mr. Kinser and Mrs. Louie's class to learn science or social studies. Mr. Kinser has been teaching students all about living systems including food webs and food chains. With Mrs. Louie, the students have been exploring reasons why the Articles of Confederation led to a weak government system following the Revolutionary War, which led to the creation of the Constitution. We look forward to lots of learning throughout the year!

6th Grade News:

Sixth graders attended outdoor school at Evergreen Heritage Center during the months of September and October. Three different groups of student spent the day exploring EHC by taking a hike on the property to observe water sources, natural resources, and coal mine impacts on water sources. Students also used weather instruments and played a game to learn about the water cycle. The finale of the day that was enjoyed by all was a STEM challenge focused on forces that act on boats.



SEVENTH GRADE

MATH - some classes are adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing positive and negative rational numbers. Other classes are solving linear equations. Students are working in their individualized iReady or Math 180 pathway. **ELA** - classes will be exploring the essential question from our textbook, "How do games impact our lives?" Each class will look at how sports can make people feel good and create unity among players and fans. At the same time, stories will hit on conflict, point of view, and central ideas just to name a few literary elements. All the while, they will work at improving reading and writing skills. **SCIENCE** - students will be working through the Open Sci Ed Unit 7.5 which covers Ecosystem Dynamics. Students will answer the driving question, "How does changing an ecosystem affect what lives there?" Students will learn how everything is connected in an ecosystem and how a slight disturbance could cause major changes. **SOCIAL STUDIES** - students recently completed Unit 1- Geographic Thinking in which students learned how to use the five themes of geography movement, place, region, location and human-environment Interaction to help better understand the world we live in. We have just begun our second unit, the United States, in which students will analyze maps to understand the physical features, the people, and complex environment of the United States. Students will also be learning the location of all 50 U.S. States.



EIGHTH GRADE

Mount Savage Middle School recently held student council elections. Any 8th grade student interested in being involved in leadership was encouraged to run for an office. Elected to office were , President; Kelsey Yates, Vice-President; Ripken Roque, Secretary; Harrison Ruddell, Treasurer; Kellan Wagner . These officers will be members of the Allegany County Association of Student Councils (ACASC), and they attended a kickoff picnic earlier this month at Mountain Ridge High School. Also attending are members of Mount Savage Student Council Brooke Carter, Sawyer Elliott, Samuel Patterson, Caleb Hester, and Olivia Ken-ny . Students will be participating in a number of leadership activities that will sharpen their skills in communication, teamwork, and problem solving. Reports will be given by the ACASC President, Student Member of the Board (SMOB), and Maryland Association of Student Councils (MASC) staff. Congratulations to the new student council officers.

Creative Arts

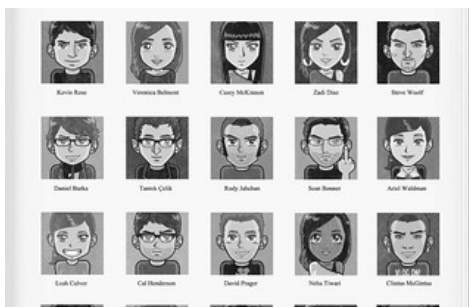
There are lots of great things happening in the Creative Arts Department. Last month our students participated in our annual Judy Carter Memorial Charity Event. This year all money raised was donated to "Savage Citizens" a charity within our school that provides food, clothing, and other necessities for Mt. Savage School students and families. We are thrilled to announce that our students raised \$1,500 for this worthy cause!!

This year, we welcome two new teachers to our Creative Arts Department. Tiffany Buskirk joins us in the art department. She is in her 6th year of teaching. She previously taught at John Humbird and Parkside elementary. Students have started to design their covers for their sketchbooks and will be starting a competition for designing the cover of the winter concert program. She says, "I am so excited to be here and can't wait to see all of the amazing talent that the students have."

Amanda Nash joins us as our new Family and Consumer Science teacher. She is in her 18th year of teaching. She taught Science and Math for 14 years at Braddock Middle School and then 3 years at Washington Middle in FACS. Students have been making bookmarks for the elementary students and chicken skirts (although we decided they were capes) for the chickens. She says, "I'm so glad to be here and that I get to meet so many new students."

Save the Date: The Winter Concert will be here before we know it. The performance for the public will be Tuesday December 17th at 7:00 pm. This concert will include all Middle School Orchestra,

MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARBOOKS



The yearbook staff will continue to take orders for this year's yearbook until Christmas break. The cost of the yearbook is still \$30 until that time.

Please make checks payable to Mount Savage