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The Findley Focus

Findley Elementary School's Monthly Newsletter

December, 2011

Volume 1, Issue 4

All you need is love! - John Lennon and Paul McCartney

Mark your calendars...

December 13th: Fourth and Fifth Grade Fine Arts Night

December 21st: Pajama day!

December 22-30th: NO SCHOOL, Winter break



Findley Faces

December brings us another opportunity to introduce you to some of the faces you might see in the Findley Hallways. This month, we are checking in with the Kindergarten and First Grade teams .



Tanya Campero, Kindergarten Teacher:

What is the best part of your job? *The students are so excited to learn!*

I love to see how excited they get when they begin to learn to read. What is your favorite winter activity? Going sledding!

Kari Osborne, Kindergarten Teacher:

What is the best part of your job? *Seeing the light go on and the kiddoes learning so much! There is a lot of growth hap-*



pening and it is so fun! What is your favorite winter activity? Snow shoeing with my family.



Susan McDermott, First Grade Teacher:

What is the best part of your job? *Teaching the foundation for the rest of their education...and the cute stories they tell!*

What is your favorite winter activity? *Watching my kids sled the hill behind my house, while I am warm inside.*

Lori Nelson, First Grade Teacher:

What is the best part of your job? *Seeing students so excited about learning!*



There is a lot of growth in first grade. What is your favorite winter activity? Bundling up to take long walks. I have snow shoes this year, so I am anxious to try them!

Rest, Relax, and Read!

Where has the year gone?! I am so proud of all the Findley students for their efforts and constant positive attitude toward learning. The first part of this year has been a busy one, with lots of learning. Please ask your students where they are at on their class's data wall. Students are monitoring their reading and math growth from the pre-assessment to the post-assessment. Observing students understand where they started and how much they learned has been a pure joy!

Please take time to enjoy having the kids at home over the break. Find time to rest, relax, play some games, and of course read. If your child can read 20 minutes each day over break, the teachers will thank you! It's always hard to come back from a long break, but knowing the routine of reading was continued will make it that much easier for everyone to get back into the swing of school.

Have a great break – rest, relax, and read!

-Mrs. Owen



A fourth-grade artist hard at work preparing his sculpture for the December Fine Arts Night.

Findley Fourth and Fifth Grade Fine Arts and Family Night

Fourth and fifth graders will be showcasing their learning and hard work in Music and Art classes during their Fine Arts Night on **Tuesday, December 13th**. Each grade will perform a production they have been rehearsing in

Music class. Every student will have artwork displayed as proof of their learning and dedication in Art class. New this year, students and their families will have the opportunity to participate in a bookmaking activity. Also new, families will be able to have their photo portrait taken! Please be on the look out for more information on this exciting celebration of the learning happening all around Findley School!



Conversation Corner

In this part of our newsletter, you'll find some questions and conversation starters for families to use when talking to their children about what is happening at school.

Kindergarten: Practice those snap words on Wednesday nights! Read your take home book each night and send your student with warm coats, hats, and gloves each and every day.

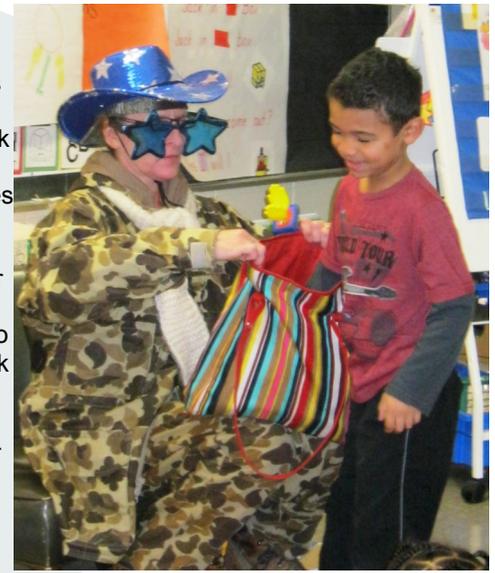
Second Grade: 2nd grade has been exploring air in Science. Ask them about their parachutes and what sort of materials worked best and why.

Fourth Grade: Help your fourth grader with their math facts over the holidays, we are beginning division when we return! Remember that snowy afternoons indoors are a great time for reading!

Third Grade: What tradition do you celebrate in your families? Third graders are expected to explain that a tradition is a custom or belief passed down from generation to generation. Talk to your third graders about what family traditions you celebrate in your household. In math we are just finishing up our first multiplication unit. Students should be able to multiply numbers through 12. Students are considered fluent in multiplication facts if they can say the answer within 3 seconds. Fluency in multiplication takes time, please work on this with your third graders. Practice is the key!

Fifth Grade: If you know a fifth grader, ask them about the vessels they made after learning about explorers in Social Studies! Did theirs float? Challenge them with a fraction or two!

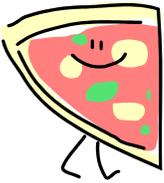
First Grade: First grade continues to work on addition and subtraction story problems. Ask your child how he or she knows if it is an addition or subtraction problem. In reading we are focusing on Text to Self connections. Ask your child about the characters, setting, problem, and solution when you are reading at home. Thank you for sharing your children with us. It is a joy to watch them grow and learn!



Kindergartener Teagen O'Brien claps along with Silly Bill, a visitor to Findley who helped students with syllables.

Respectful Behavior is Celebrated at Findley!

A Student of Respect was selected by each classroom teacher for the month of October. They were treated to pizza with the principal! Be on the lookout for these faces of respect on posters around the school very soon!



All students who were referral-free during the month of October celebrated with popcorn and an educational video with their classmates!

All students celebrated our school's count-up to 10 referral-free days with an extra recess!

Wow! Respecting self, others, property and learning is happening in so many ways at Findley School!



Findley Elementary wants to thank all of the families who attended the literacy night and flu clinic. Many families made a night of it by starting off with a flu shot then followed by playing a game of Apples to Apples or Bananagrams along with a healthy snack. Every child was able to show off all of their efforts in the area of literacy and leave with a new book. Thanks for making reading a priority for your child!

Thank You!

We are a PBIS school!

Positive Behavior
Intervention and Supports

RESPECT Self

RESPECT Others

RESPECT Property

RESPECT Learning

Notes from Nurse Cynthia: Kitchen Safety for the Holiday Season

- * Never leave a hot stove unattended.
- * Cook on the back burners and turn handles toward the back.
- * Make sure children are able to follow directions and have enough coordination before allowing them to handle knives or hot items.
- * Don't allow children to wear loose fitting clothing when helping.
- * Young children should not take hot foods out of the oven or microwave.
- * Don't let children too close when draining foods cooked in boiling water. Scald burns are the most common type of burns among children
- * The most important safety precaution in the kitchen is close, attentive supervision. Simply being in the same room as a child is not necessarily supervising!

Have a safe and happy holiday season!
Nurse Cynthia

