

Ellis School

432 Main Street, Fremont, NH 03044

1st Grade News

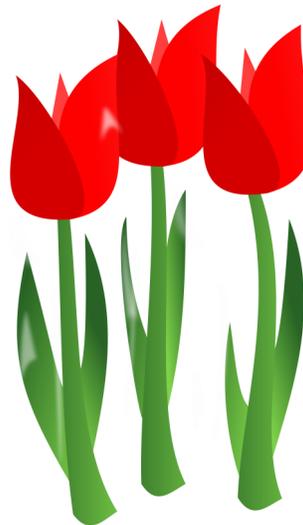
First Grade Readers

The kids in first grade are working on becoming fluent readers. When we talk about fluency, we talk about making the reading sound like talking. In first grade, it is acceptable to practice fluency with a familiar piece of text or a piece of text that has been previously read aloud. The goal is for first grade students to read grade appropriate text at a rate of 50-80 words per minute with 90-95 percent accuracy. WOW!!!

The children are now beginning to enjoy this reading challenge. Students practice

fluency during our literacy time and they see how this practice improves their rate and accuracy. All of our readers make fluency gains with practice. We discuss that Good Readers practice reading much like musicians and athletes practice their skills. Remember the goal is to make the reading sound like talking, rather than to read at a rapid rate. Please remember the importance of reading at home. Children should read or be read to every day.

From: Mrs. Coyle



Third Grade News

The Great Race, the Iditarod, is being followed with the use of a GPS subscription thanks to the PTA. The children are reading a variety of dog sled books to go along with their learning.

Math is focusing on preparing the children to take the Smarter Balance test.

Perimeter, area, and geometry are the lessons being taught. Multiplication facts are also part of the lessons. Children must have a solid understanding and automaticity to be able to move forward in math.

STEM kits have been purchased and arrived. Once again we can thank the PTA's mini-grant. These kits are geared to

natural disasters and are aligned to the common core. They are a wonderful way for the children to keep abreast of the new techniques of learning Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

From the Third Grade Team: Mrs. Gobeil, Mrs. Soares, and Mr. Glennon

March 2016

Volume 4

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News from the Nurse:

Vision disability is the single most preventable disabling condition among school-age children, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Approximately 80 percent of what children learn in their early school years is visual, so if they can't see a teacher's writing on the whiteboard, they will struggle.

I am very excited to share that we are partnering with the Kingston Lions Club to bring Operation Kidsight to Ellis School! This is a free vision screening service available to all students in grades K–6. The Lions use the Welch Allen Spot Vision Screener that can instantly detect the indication of seven major visual issues:

- Hyperopia: farsightedness

- Myopia: nearsightedness
- Astigmatism: blurred vision
- Anisometropia: unequal refractive power
- Gaze: eye alignment measurement
- Anisocoria: unequal pupil size

The Spot Vision Screener is a handheld device that works like a camera. Screenings are conducted at a distance of three feet away from the student, and utilize Wi-Fi technology to print results instantly. The Spot Vision Screener allows for all students at Ellis School to receive a comprehensive visual screening; even those with special needs who may not be able to verbalize or compre-

hend the directions required for performance of traditional screening tests.

Consent forms for screening of vision problems were sent home with all students in grades K-6. Please return your forms promptly so that screenings can be conducted in early April. Students must have a signed consent form to participate.

Please refer to the links provided for additional information, or contact Mrs. Smith or Mrs. Phelps in the nursing office.

- <https://www.welchallyn.com/content/dam/welchallyn/documents/sap-documents/LIT/80019/80019671LITPDF.pdf>
- <http://nhlions.org/healthservice/OKS%20Operations%20Manual.pdf>

Blood Drive

The Fremont Education Association (FEA) and Ellis School Support Staff are hosting a Spring Blood Drive with the American Red Cross on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 from 2–7 pm in Pettingill Hall at the Ellis School. A blood donation truly is a “gift of life” that a healthy individual can give to others in their community who are sick or injured. In one hour’s time, a person can donate one unit of blood that can be separated into four individual components that could help save multiple lives. We are

proud to be working with the Red Cross, and have set a goal of collecting 50 units of blood during this event.

We offer a comfortable waiting area including an art display by Ellis students, a refreshment table including offerings from Telly’s Pizza, Starbucks Coffee, Popovers, and other local businesses, and free babysitting!

Walk-ins are welcome, but to facilitate adequate staffing, appointments are suggested. Appointments may be made in advance at www.redcrossblood.org or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS. (1-800-733-2767)



7th Grade Language Arts—Mrs. Pipitone

Students in 7th grade language arts class are practicing their argumentative writing. Students are learning how to write an introduction that hooks their audience. The three methods taught for an introduction are describe a scene, ask a question, or tell an anecdote. Students are required to give

at least three convincing reasons to support their claim (position). Students are using elaboration strategies to improve their writing—facts and statistics, reasons, quotations, and examples. In their reason

paragraphs students must show that they are able to read a text and either paraphrase the information or give in-text citations to show where they found the quote that is shared.

In addition to supporting their claim with reasons and evidence, students are expected to acknowledge the opposing claim! Finally, they are writing a conclusion that reminds their audience their position is essential!



1st Grade RtI News

We are a 1st grade RtI group and we are doing a project to raise money for different charities. We have four groups and we are competing to raise the most money. We are working on research, persuasive writing, illustrating information, counting and tracking donations, letter writing, and group work. Below you will find four persuasive writing pieces convincing you to donate to the various charities. Donations will be accepted in 1D from 3/21–3/25/16. Please bring monetary donations to 1D and support our first grade RtI and these worthy charities. Thank

you so much.

- ◆ In RtI we have a donation for Toys for Tots Foundation. We want to raise \$50 for Toys for Tots Foundation. Toys for Tots gives kids toys. Bring your money to 1D please!
- ◆ This is for RtI. Our charity name is Cross Roads House in Portsmouth. We help the homeless. We provide shelter, clothes, and meals to those who need it. Our goal is \$100. Please donate to Cross Roads House. Please bring dona-
- ◆ In RtI we are raising money for the SPCA in Stratham. We are raising \$60 for the SPCA so we can help the animals. SPCA helps animals. They provide good companionship. Donate in 1D.
- ◆ This is 1st grade RtI. We are the Disabled American Veterans Charitable Service Trust. We are raising \$50. Our mission is to help Disabled American Veteran Charitable Service Trust raise money to help injured and wounded veterans. Please bring your piggy bank to 1D.

Bald Eagle Watch

In 2014, a pair of mated Bald Eagles chose the most idyllic of nest sites within the United States' National Capital (Washington, DC), nestled high in a Tulip Poplar tree amongst the Azalea Collection at the U.S. National Arboretum, which is operated by the United States Department of Agriculture. This is the first Bald Eagle pair to nest in this location since 1947. The two Eagles have been iconically named "Mr. President" and "The First Lady." Join us in viewing the most patriotic nest

cam in the United States, 24 hours a day.

After "Mr. President" and "The First Lady" raised one eaglet successfully in 2015, the 501(c)3 American Eagle Foundation partnered with the National Arboretum to install and stream two high definition video cameras from the top of the nest tree. The cameras are powered completely by a large mobile solar array that was designed and built by Alfred State College, SUNY College

of Technology and was partially funded by the Department of Energy and Environment.

"The First Lady" laid her first egg of 2016 on February 10th, and laid her second egg on February 14th early in the morning. Both parents will carefully incubate the eggs, and both eggs are expected to hatch about 35 days after being laid.

Can you do Eagle Math to figure out when the eggs will hatch?

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 2016						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	29	Notes:				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 2016						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Notes:	

March 2016 Calendar Template available from www.quickcalendar-template.com

Ellis School

432 Main Street
Fremont, NH
03044



Unified
Arts-

SAVE THE DATE

June 1, 2016

6-7:30 pm

“Celebration of Learning”

7th Grade News

7th Grade Math News March/April

The time between February and April breaks can be the toughest all year (for me and the students). There are fewer holidays/days off, clocks change, winter won't let go, then spring arrives and thoughts turn to the warm air, not math! In my classroom we deal with this by recognizing what makes the time difficult and coming up with a plan for dealing with it. Keeping up with routines is one of the most important, as well as using student planners to map the day/week, scheduling breaks to give ourselves down time, and asking for help when we feel off track.

During March we will be completing Unit 7 on Ratios and Proportional Reasoning. This is considered one of the most important topics for 7th grade as it has many applications in Algebra, Geometry, and everyday life. Unit 8 (Percents) will be full of real-life applications. If you find yourself dealing with percents over the next few weeks, share it with your child! There will also be a list of the most common percent conversions that I expect students to know. This is the only quiz they have to complete from memory.

I will continue to let you know when the Unit Reports are sent home by sending an email blast.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Please continue with your periodic checks on homework completion and encourage your child to get caught up if they are behind as well. As always, continue to keep in touch by note, e-mail (kkane@sau83.org), or phone (895-2511 x308). Mrs. Kane