

INSIDE ERVING

Phone: 1-413-423-3326

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MARCH

Monday, March 1, 2010

School Council - 3:30 pm

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

"Savings Makes Cents"

PTO - 6:15 pm

Friday, March 5, 2010

End of Second Trimester

Sunday, March 14, 2010

Daylight Savings Begins

March 16, 17, 18, 2010

Parent Conferences - K-6

1:15 pm Dismissal

Saturday, March 20, 2010

Spring Begins!

BAND NEWS

Due to the fact that play rehearsals will soon be after school, we will be having Band during the day on Fridays.

Starting after February vacation, and continuing until after April vacation, there will be no Band on Thursdays.

This schedule will begin on Thursday, February 25 and continue through Thursday, April 15.

After school Band will resume on Thursday, April 29.

Please let Emily Samuels know if you have questions or concerns. Thank you.

MCAS SCHEDULE

Although March 22 is a few weeks away, please note that MCAS begins for English Language Arts. We also ask the parents/guardians to be careful not to schedule medical appointments during the testing dates. This year the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has implemented a new process in which the scores will be available for school personnel only to get some preliminary results by June. The Department now understands that it is important for schools to have this information early enough to adjust curriculum to meet the needs for all the students. Getting the results late in the summer or early in the fall is counterproductive. The following schedule is in place for this year's MCAS:

March 2009 MCAS Schedule for ELA

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	March 31	April 1	April 2	April 3
	Grade 4 Long Composition	Grade 3 ELA	Grade 4 ELA	Grade 3 ELA
	Grade 6 ELA	Grade 5 ELA	Grade 6 ELA	Grade 5 ELA
April 6	April 7	April 8	April 9	April 10
Grade 3 ELA	Grade 5 ELA	Grade 4 ELA	MAKEUP for all grades	Grade 4 ELA
Grade 6 ELA	Grade 4 Long Composition Makeup	MAKEUP for all grades		MAKEUP for all grades
April 13	April 14			
MAKEUP for all grades	LAST DAY OF ELA MCAS TESTING			

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

It is hard to believe but the month of February has passed and March 1 begins on Monday. Given the unexpected snow day this week also shortened our February days as a school. As usual the week is filled with important events for parents/guardians and the students.

Both the School Council and the PTO will meet next week. The School Council continues to work on the School Improvement Plan's 2009-2010 school goals. The following goals are being addressed:

Goal 1: This goal is to create an English Language Arts professional development plan for teachers and implement the ELA curriculum to help increase student skills in ELA at all levels.

Goal 2: This goal is threefold. First, an effort will be made to educate the faculty, parent community, and students on energy efficiency and environmental concerns. Secondly, the staff will encourage reducing, reusing, and recycling materials at the school and at home. Thirdly, the school will create community programs that expand awareness of environmental concerns through service learning.

The School Council also will begin developing new goals for the school year. Any parents/guardians, who have an interest in offering suggestions for next year, please feel free to contact a School Council member and they will present them at our meetings. Of course, all of our meetings are open to the public as well.

The PTO will also have its monthly meeting this week on Wednesday at 6:30 PM. These meetings have been well attended and there is a great deal of excitement about all the wonderful events being organized and sponsored by this very invested group of workers. The school is so very appreciative of their work. The PTO is very diligent about sending the agenda and minutes to all those people who have submitted an email address as a communication tool. Please feel free to contact any PTO Executive Board member to be included in this listing. Sarah Scarchilli Janus, Mindy Labelle, Carrie Vieira, Keri Bastarache, and Laura Bezio compose the Executive Board.

The Erving School will host this coming week's Union #28 Job Alike professional development. Staff members and administrators from the Central Office, Swift River School, Leverett, and Shutesbury Schools will engage in a healthy dialogue about best practices for teachers and paraprofessionals in a school system. Each year four of these meetings are held. The staff has found these discussions to be very helpful especially when most of our teachers do not have peer teachers to discuss curricula, etc. with.

Friday, March 5 is the annual Books in Action Party. This year the program is being held at the Shutesbury School. Children were challenged to read a defined number of Massachusetts Book Awards to be invited to the party. The librarians in each school organize this gala. It is always a fun evening for all those in attendance.

Let's keep hoping that the snowstorms are now a "thing" of the past. We were tempted by seeing that green grass for a short period and now the snow is hiding any of those thoughts for spring.



LAINI'S LIBRARY CORNER

* All Read-a-Thon tally sheets are due back Monday, March 1; please try to get them back to school next week!

* The total page amount read by individual students will be added up as soon as possible, for those students who collected pledges of a penny-a-page. If you haven't received your final number and need it, please don't hesitate to contact me by email or phone, and I can get it to you.

* All other pledges and donations can be brought into school and given to Ms. Urban in the library, or left at the office, or dropped into our collection jar in the foyer. Checks can be made out to EES, with "Read-a-Thon" in the memo line. Thanks for all your support.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

February 22, 2010

Ella Kolodziej

Mrs. Glabach says that Ella has a twinkle in her eye! She is always on task at group story time and meeting time. She shares with other friends and is considerate of their feelings. She enjoys having her mom Jill and younger brother Noah volunteer in preschool on Friday afternoons!

I like school because I play with my friends every day.
I love to play in the sandbox.
In the summer my family goes to the beach.
I love to use my slide at home.
I love to eat the purple grapes.
Purple is my favorite color.
Purple Wishes is a favorite book of mine.

Anne Kolodziej

Mrs. Glabach says that Anne recently celebrated her 4th birthday. Anne enjoys being challenged daily with math questions and questions about upcoming/past events. She has an incredible memory! She loves play-doh, art activities, puzzles, the sensory tables, and dramatic play.

At school I like to play with sand and play-doh.
I love to color and draw circles.
My favorite color is pink.
I love to play with Samantha, my older sister, when I go home after school.
During recess, I love to play on the slides.
I love to eat tacos.
My favorite toy is the Thomas choo-choo train.

Aiden Bailey

Mrs. Glabach says that Aiden loves to play with the matchbox toy tractors, trucks, and cars. He is a hands on boy who loves to keep busy playing in the water, sand, and rice table. Aiden is a good role model when it comes to sharing toys with other friends. Aiden also loves books and being read to. He enjoys having his mom read to him and a group of friends in the morning at drop off time.

My favorite color is dark blue.
My favorite food is mac & cheese.
I live with my mom, dad, and Mercedes.
I love to play with pick-up trucks, race cars, plow trucks, and monster trucks.
I like Halloween when I get to dress up like a yellow bulldozer.
At preschool I like to play at the rice table, water table and outside with my friends.
It's a special day when I get to wear my yellow, green, and blue vest to preschool.

Kitana Rodriguez

Mrs. Glabach says that Kitana always has a smile on her face. She knows how to follow all of the preschool classroom expectations with ease. She is a good friend to all of her preschool classmates. Kitana loves to play in the dramatic play center, play-doh, writing center, and manipulatives.

I live with my mom, dad, Kai, and Foxy, and Macho, and my hamster Fluffy.
My favorite color is pink and purple.
My favorite food is mac & cheese.
I like to color in preschool.
I like to read If You Give a Mouse a Cookie.
I like it when I get to go out to breakfast with my Gram and Mom.
I like to play with Care Bears.

Hugh Cyhowski

Mrs. Glabach says that Hugh loves coming to preschool! He is such an awesome preschool student! He's aware of his daily classroom job and always does what is asked of him by a teacher. He loves to bring in his wiggles music to share with the class at music and movement time!

I like to be a chef in the pizza parlor.
I like to rough house with my dad.
I live with mom, dad, my brother Michael, and my dogs Max and Farley.
My favorite color is red.
I like watching the Wiggles and Buzz Lightyear movies.
I like to eat oatmeal.
I like to play in the snow with my friends.

Chelsea Perras

Ms. Bridgewater says that Chelsea is a creative writer who works to find just the right words to express herself. A smooth and specific turn of phrase gives her the type of delight that satisfies great writers. When making presentations she has unusual grace and ability to engage her audience. Chelsea has been an encouraging and kind reading buddy when we meet with the first graders. She is the definition of a reassuring friend. Her gentle humor and vibrant smile radiate warmth and connection.

I love having two younger sisters in my family, Tori and Hailey.
My favorite subject in school is reading.
I like to play sports or "hang out" with my friends during recess.
My favorite foods are cheese puffs.
I am looking forward to playing basketball when I attend middle school.
I love to play baseball – especially batting.
I've gone to Maine with my cousin, Danielle; we went on a Ferris wheel and got stuck at the top for eight minutes.

Gunnar Garcia

Ms. Bridgewater says that Gunnar is cheerful and friendly to all his classmates. He improves the school community by always being willing to lend a hand. As a reading buddy, his own love of good stories shines through to inspire his younger partner. Gunnar is a model of determination as he learns new skills. He is reflective about ideas that come up in literature and in life. With independence and maturity, Gunnar searches the library for one good book after another to feed his own creative spirit.

My favorite subjects are gym and math classes.
During recess, I mostly play kickball with my friends.
My favorite food is a hotdog – Fenway Franks.
My favorite sports are soccer, baseball, and football.
After school I enjoy playing video games especially "Call of Duty".
My favorite book is called The Wizard of Oz, One Hundred Anniversary.
I have gone to Cooperstown Baseball Hall of Fame and received an autographed baseball from Johnny Sly.

Jordan Meattley

Ms. Bridgewater says that Jordan strives for meaningful skills as a learner and friend. She works well with others. As a team member, she reliably contributes her best and encourages others. In this she is a respected role model among her classmates. The importance of relationships in pointing the way forward academically and socially is in the forefront of Jordan's approach to life. She looks up to older cousins who guide her toward success, and equally she reaches out her hand to inspire children younger than she is.

My birthday is March 27th. I'll be 12.
I've gone to a NASCAR race in NH.
My favorite drivers are Danica Patrick and Dale Earnhardt Jr.
I like to play and watch most sports.
Gym and Art are my favorite things to do in school.
I am energetic; I like to draw and make things.
In basketball my team is going to the Vernon Tournament.

SECOND GRADE NEWS

Colonial Games

One day we met a girl named Ms. Gilbert. She told us about colonial toys from back in the day. We tried out some of them. It was fun. We tried stilts, Jacob's Ladder, Graces and other toys too. My favorite game was knuckle bones. It is played like jacks. We also played nine pins.

Madison McCassie

On Thursday we had a special guest come. Her name was Ms. Gilbert. She brought colonial toys. My favorite toy was Graces. You had to have two sticks and throw a ring in the air. The other person tried to catch it with their stick.

I liked lots of the toys Ms. Gilbert brought. The other toy I really liked was stilts. You put your feet on little bars that stuck out of wood poles, then you put your arms around the poles and walked. There was a game called 9 pins. You roll a ball and tried to knock down the pins. It is similar to bowling. I also liked Jacob's Ladder. You had to flip wood blocks. To make it easy you could put a piece of paper in the yellow string and you could flip it. The games were fun.

Rachael Abbey

We played with old-fashioned toys. I played 9 pins. It is just like bowling but it only has 9 pins.. I played Graces. It is when you have a hoop and sticks and the hoop has to get on the sticks when you throw it. It teaches ladies to be graceful. The third toy I tried was Jacob's Ladder. Ms. Gilbert showed us a trick. She put a piece of paper in the yellow string and when she turned it, it was on the red string and then the green one. The toys were a lot of fun.

Colby Mailloux

Yesterday a girl came dressed like people from the old days. She brought a lot of toys. She brought a big wooden hoop that you had to hit with a stick. She brought stilts. She brought a game called Graces. She also had an odd doll made out of corn. The doll was not like the dolls today. The hair was made out of black felt.

Mackenna Whiteman

Yesterday we went to the well for a program with Ms. Gilbert. We tried out some old fashioned toys. My favorite one was nine pins. I also liked Jacob's Ladder and Graces. With Graces you toss hoops back and forth with two sticks. Nine pins was just like bowling but there are just nine pins. You tried to knock all nine pins down. It was the best.

Kayani Rodriguez

Thursday morning my class went to see a person named Ms. Gilbert. She showed us the games and toys that children in the old days played with. A game that they played was called graces. To lay graces you have two people, two sticks and a little hoop. Then you toss the hoop with the stick. The other person has to catch the hoop with their sticks. I liked playing graces.

Dabney Rollins

On Thursday we went to the well. We played with toys from Colonial times. It was really fun. I used graces with Colby. I played with Jacob's ladder and I also played nine pins. The teacher's name was Ms. Gilbert. It was really fun.

Lucas Upham

On Thursday Ms. Gilbert came to our school. She told us some information about the Pilgrims. She showed us Jacob's Ladder, stilts, and she showed us knuckle bones. She showed us how to play graces. It was fun.
Allison Wheeler

On Thursday I learned how to bowl with nine pins and a wooden ball. I learned how to walk on sticks and how to play graces. We played with Jacob's Ladder. I learned how to play jacks with knuckle bones.
Justin Dobias

On Thursday we went on a field trip to the well. We got to play with old toys. I liked the nine pins. I also liked the stilts too. To play nine pins you rolled a wooden ball and tried to hit all nine pins.
Chace Novak

On Thursday Ms. Gilbert came to teach us about colonial times. She taught us about old toys. We did it in the well. Some of the toys were stilts, Graces, and Jacob's Ladder. It was fun because we got to play with the toys. My favorite game was Graces I played with Dabney. We got to look at pictures of games and we had to guess what the games were. Ms. Gilbert taught us about lots of toys in colonial times. It was so much fun. Ms. Gilbert was dressed like they would in colonial times.

She read a story about a coach. She gave each of us a word to remember. When she said coach or your word when she was reading you had to jump, or spin around and sit down. If you forgot to jump or spin there was a penalty.

Girls played games like graces. It taught girls how to take a graceful step.

Mr. K. was with us. He helped us with the stilts. It was hard.

It was fun to meet Ms. Gilbert and to play with the toys. I loved the old toys.

Lindsay Whiteman

On Thursday Ms. Gilbert came to the well in the library. She gave us a picture to look at and to find all the games and activities in the picture. Rachael, Annie and I were looking at a picture together. Then we played some games. First everybody played Find the Ring. You have a piece of string tied in a circle with a metal ring on it. Everybody held the piece of string except for one person. He or she stood in the center of the circle. Then the person in the middle closed their eyes while everybody else sang a song and passed the ring around. Then the person in the middle opened their eyes and had to guess to try to find out who had the ring. That was fun. Then we got to play with more games. I played Graces which is a game that taught girls to be graceful. I played knuckle bones which is like jacks. I had fun.

Isabel May

I went to the well. I played games. I played Jacob's Ladder. I played jacks. I played with stilts.

Tracey Johnson

On Thursday Ms. Gilbert brought old toys from the olden days. We played in the well. She had Graces and Jacob's Ladder and nine pins. I got to play knuckle bones. I loved Jacob's ladder I did not really like knuckle bones. It was hard.

Anneka Johnson

On Thursday morning our class went to the well. We learned about games from a long time ago. My favorite game was graces. You have two sticks and a hoop. You and a friend pass the hoop back and forth with the sticks. I also liked Jacob's Ladder. It is where you flip the wooden blocks and all the blocks flipped. It was very fun.

Jakob Burnett