

February 6, 2017



From the desks of Mrs. Shober & Mrs. Kries

- Dates to remember:
 - February 8th- Kindergarten Registration
 - February 14th- Valentine's Day Celebrations
 - Please remember that Valentines can only include non-food items!
 - February 17th and 20th- Holiday Break School Closed
 - Read Across America Week kicks off on February 27th

If your child is missing an items, please encourage them to check the lost and found. Items not claimed will be donated.



Chilly Weather Ahead



- Please make sure to send your children with cold weather gear to school each day. Winter coats, hats and gloves may be needed for the walk in from the bus and recess each day.



Extra! Extra! Learn All About It! By Miss Santangelo's First Grade

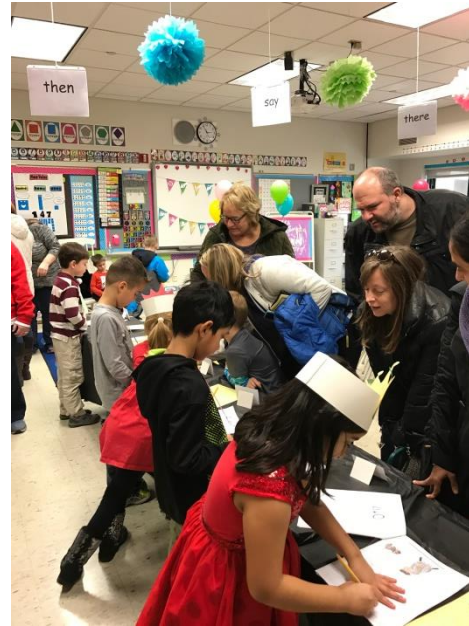
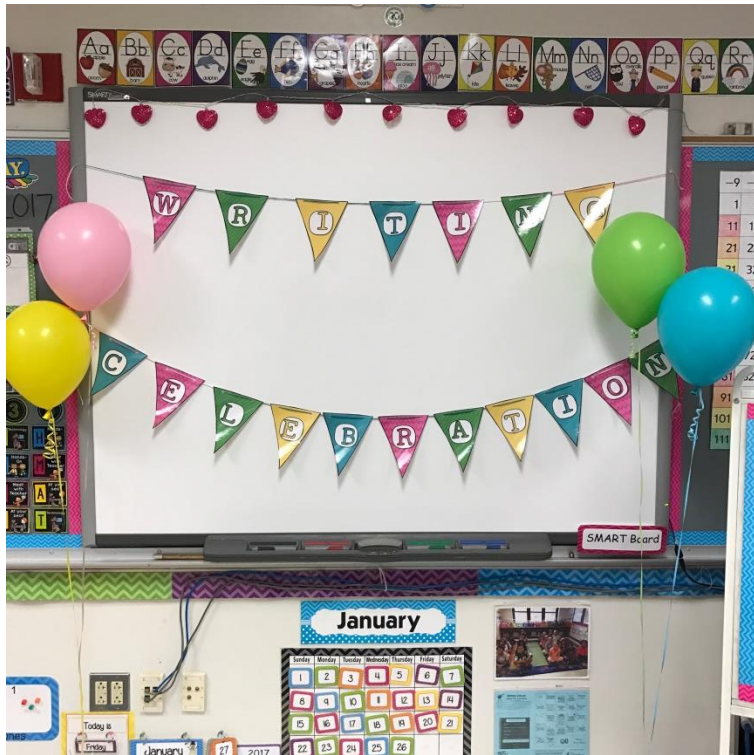


For the past 6 weeks our first graders have been reading and writing informational texts, and become *All About* authors on expert topics!

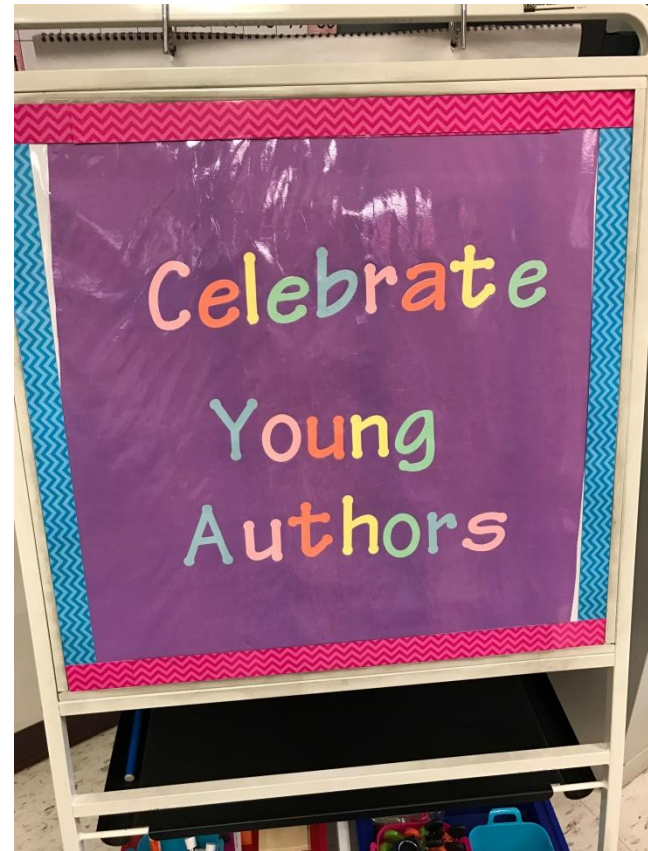
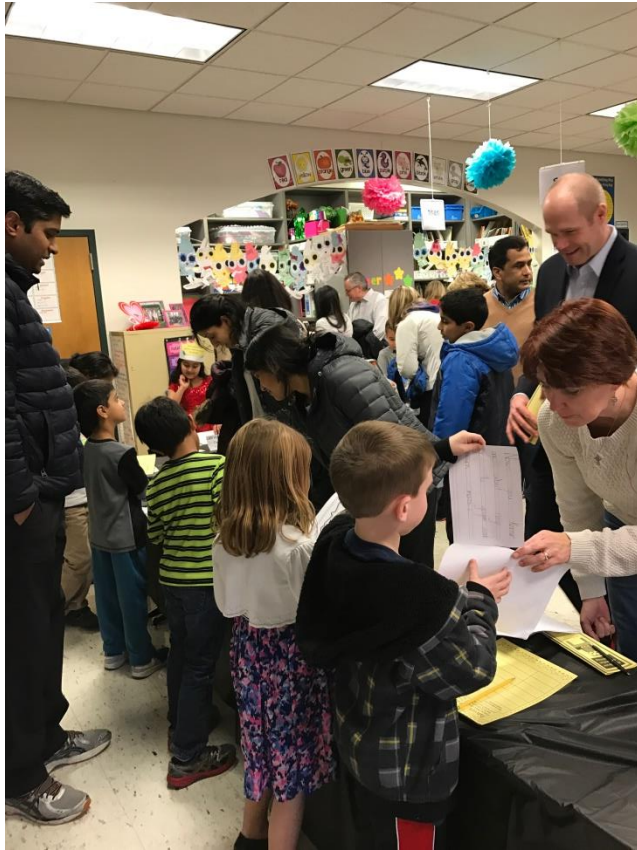
Last week they finally published their *All About* books! In order to prepare them for publishing they used several editing checklists to make sure their piece contained all of the essential components an informal text consists of.

As a result, they celebrated all of their hard work with their families in class today at our Celebration of Writing. Our young authors, did such a nice job sharing their published piece with their loved ones! Now they are hanging out in the first grade hallway on display at Whiton. Come on down to the first grade hallway and check out what our first graders wrote all about!

Celebration of Writing



Celebration continued...



'KINNEY' garten SUPER

READERS



The children in kindergarten have been
ed

SUPER READERS!



Our **reading powers** have been **activated**

and there is NO stopping us from reading now!

We have learned to use our **reading powers** to help us
read.

POINTER POWER helps us with proper directionality and
one match.

PICTURE POWER helps us

to read with meaning.

SIGHT WORD and **SOUND POWER** helps anchor
reading.



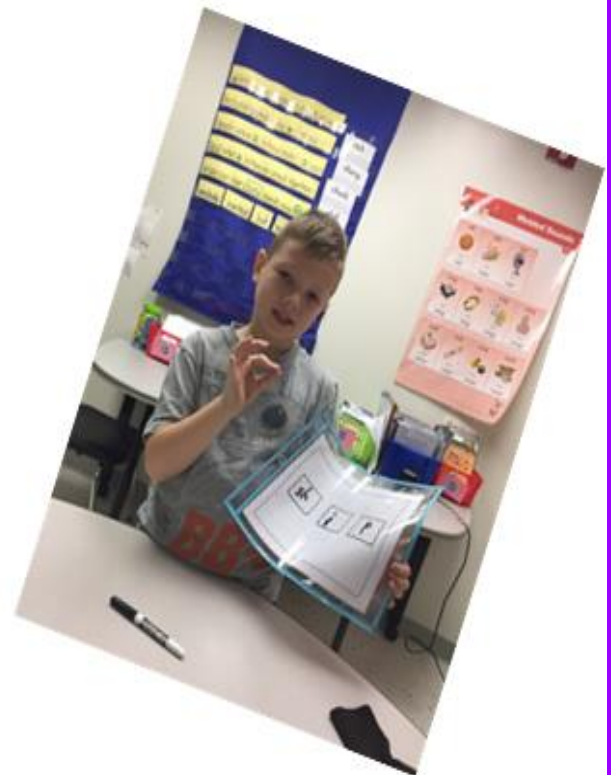
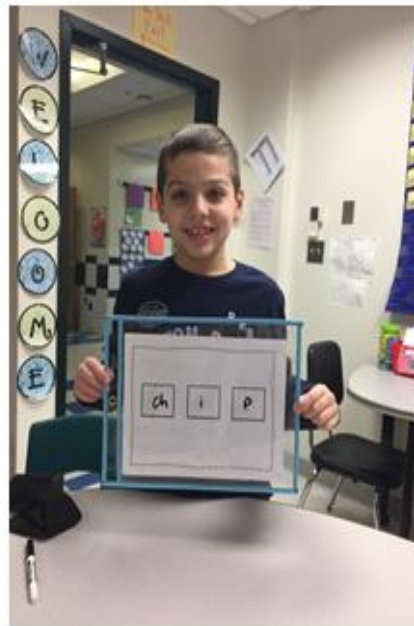
RE-READ POWER helps us to begin to read

'KINNEY' garden SUPER READERS



Miss O'Neill's Reading Group loves working with digraphs and glued sounds!

This month, second and third grade students in Miss O'Neill's Reading Group were learning about digraphs and glued sounds that are found within words. We have been using the sound-tapping method to decode these tricky words. Then, we have gone on word hunts to find these words hidden in the books we have been reading!



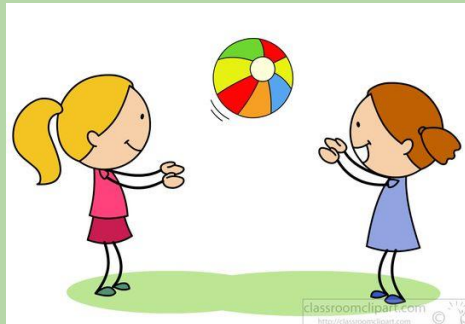
News from Physical Education

Mr. Motz

Everyone has been working hard in Physical Education over the past several weeks! Students in kindergarten have been working on their catching, and tossing skills. Kindergarteners will soon be moving on to foot eye skills. 1st, 2nd and 3rd students have been studying fitness, what it means to be physically fit and different ways to get fit. Students with Mrs. Kolbe have been developing their jump rope skills while those with Mr. Motz have been building their foot-eye skills i.e. dribbling, trapping and passing. These students will be swapping their focus in the coming weeks.

Students have begun the early stages of their cross curricular fitness project where they combine activities in Art, Library, Technology, World Languages, Music and Physical Education to develop a project based around health and fitness. Look for to the finished projects to be displayed in and around the gym in the spring!

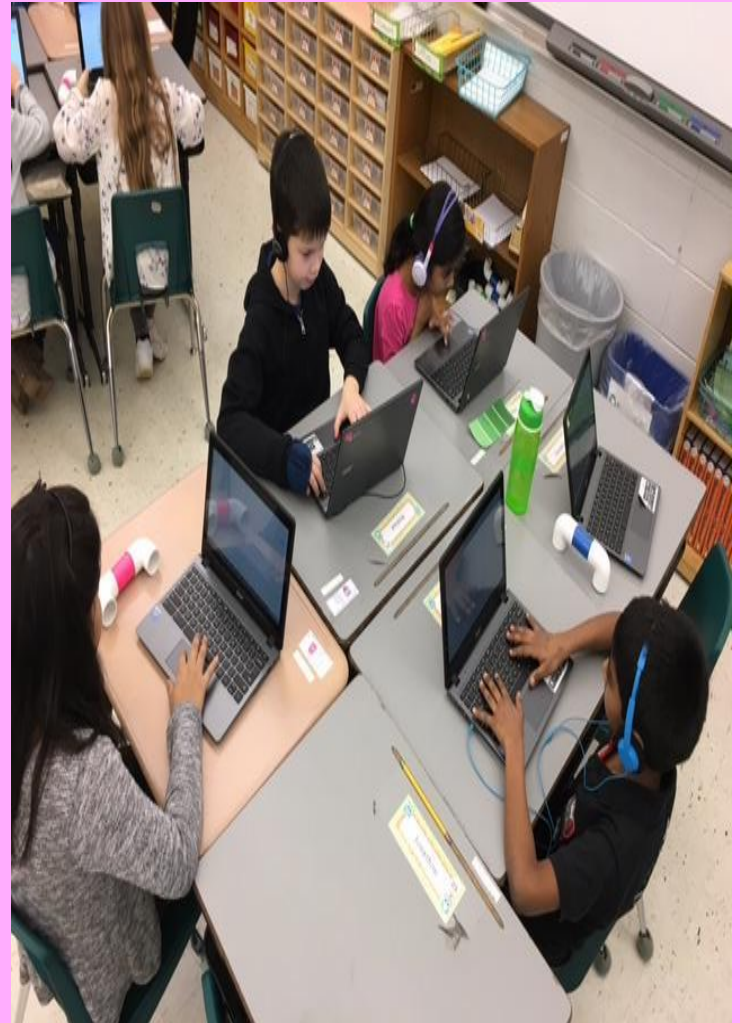
Judging by the amount of smiles, they seem to be enjoying themselves while working together with peers and getting physically fit.



Mrs. Repoli's Class-3rd Grade

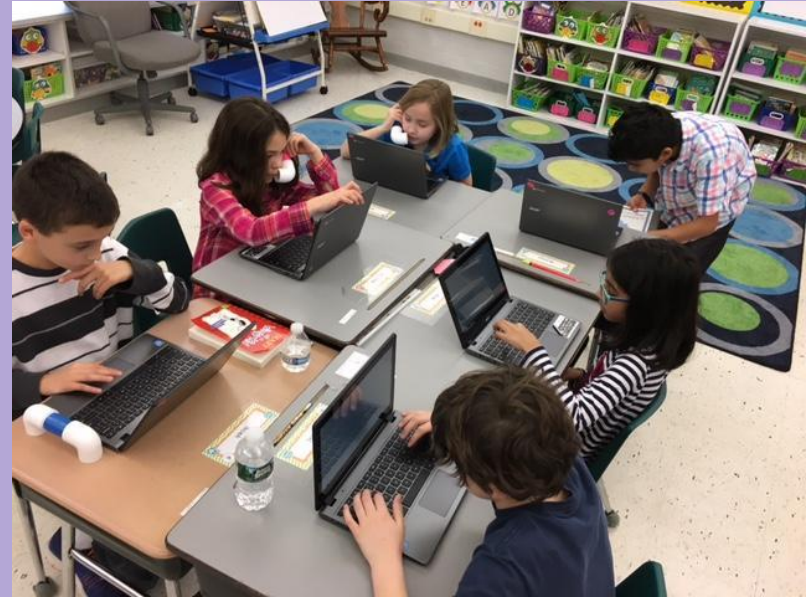
Persuasive Speech Writing

In our third writing unit we are focusing on opinion writing and transferring them into speeches. They began the unit by picking a few topics that they feel passionate about and began writing. I have been so moved by the dedication and enthusiasm.



Persuasive Speech Writing

The students have been using whisper phones that I constructed out of PVC pipe to rehearse and make corrections. This method is very helpful to our editing process because they can actually hear their mistakes. The students love the opportunity to “talk” on the phones and I have noticed great improvement from their rough drafts to their final pieces.



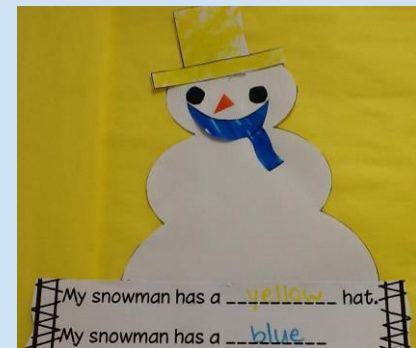
Character Trait Projects



Our class, along with the whole third grade, did a character trait project to go along with our reading unit. Students got to pick any story character they wanted and drew a picture, stated their traits, and supported them by text evidence. The students shared them with the class playing the game *Guess Who?* Their creativity was overwhelming.

Ms. Landon's Class is SNOW Much Fun

We have been learning all about winter this month and had lots of fun with snowmen. We learned about the different parts of snowmen, made a My Snowman book, made a class snowman while practicing taking turns and identifying the different parts we needed, and we each made a snowman on the SMART board. Check out fun snowmen activities at home by visiting abcya.com and starfall.com.



Ms. Eelman's Class

Stephanie Salazar from St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center came to all second and third grade classes in December. She read Buddy Unchained (Bix and Hyatt). In this book, a mistreated dog was assisted by the kindness of a stranger. We learned that every one of us has the opportunity and responsibility to make good choices that positively impact others and the world around us.

Ms. Salazar encouraged us all to make upstanding choices regarding animals. If we should come upon a stray would we respond by making a positive or negative choice? Would we tell someone or call the animal shelter or would we do nothing? She taught us the difference between a stray (lost) cat and a feral (lives outside alone) cat. Afterward, we had the opportunity to ask questions and share stories.

We thank Ms. Salazar and St. Hubert's for their generosity of time and effort to help our Whiton community grow to become caring, humane individuals.



HAPPY VALENTINE'S Day

