

DAYTON AVENUE SHARK BITES

Sharing Small Pieces of Big Moments



**SNEAK PEEK OF WHAT'S
INSIDE:**

SEL and PBIS - 2

Celebrations - 3

Nurse's Chat - 5

IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!

Dr. Watkis

One of the popular songs during the holiday season declares that it's the most wonderful time of the year! I would not dare argue this with a child. There is something about going through the act of thinking about what we are thankful for and then seeing our neighborhoods transformed with beautiful decorations and lights. These holiday symbols carry various meanings and remind us of our rich cultures and celebrations. This time of the year brings back happy memories and offer us the opportunity to create new traditions and make more memories. I hope that as we go through this season, we will focus on the beauty of this year and making memories with each other. As we continue through this year, I will continue to share some small pieces of our big moments in our monthly newsletter and in tweets. I hope that you will take some time to read each newsletter and if you're not doing so yet, please follow us on Twitter @esm_csd



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING AND PBIS

Leader in Me

In October we focused on Habit 1 - Be Proactive. Then we focused on Habit 2 in November - Begin With The End In Mind. In December, we will explore Habit 3 with our students.

Habit 3 is all about working first, then playing. This habit encourages students to prioritize. As we discuss this habit, students will be encouraged to

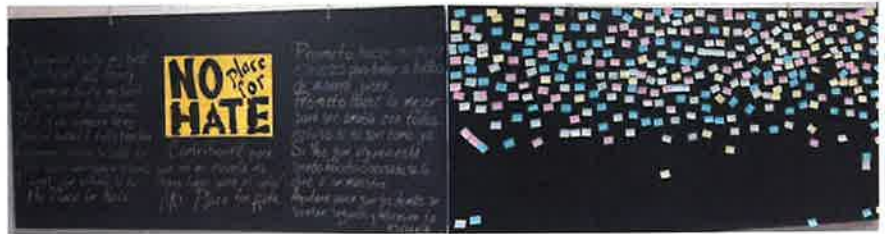
- do the things they have to do before they do the things they want to do.
- stay focused on what they are doing, minimize distractions and get back on track when necessary
- spend their time on the things that are most important
- set priorities, make a schedule, follow their plan

Our students will participate in activities in class to help build this habit. Also, during our monthly assembly, students will focus on building this habit. We look forward to acknowledging those students who demonstrate this new habit. During our assembly, we will talk about Big Rocks and Little Rocks. Big Rocks are the most important things for you to do, such as spending time with your family, planning family meals, and getting an education. Little rocks are the less important things for you to do, such as watching TV for long periods of time, playing video games, or aimlessly searching the internet or social media.

PBIS

This month, we all got together to continue building positive behaviors. Our SEL team led an assembly which introduced all students to the Peaceful School Bus program. Our bus drivers were invited in also to learn about this program.

Dayton Avenue School earned the No Place for Hate designation last year. Continuing this work, our students participated in our first activity for this year and signed the No Place for Hate pledge.



Learning to Help Others

During the holiday season, so many of us enjoy great food as we gather with family and friends. But there are families in our own community, and communities nearby, who experience food insecurity. Our students learned that they can each play a small role in making a difference. Every donation meant that a family in need would receive an item to meet their needs. We provided Thanksgiving baskets to families and donated over 1100 food and personal care items to the Center Moriches Presbyterian Church. We had a bit of fun as we worked to help others. Our 4th graders donated the most items. That meant their teachers and principal had to lead the turkey trot.



CELEBRATIONS

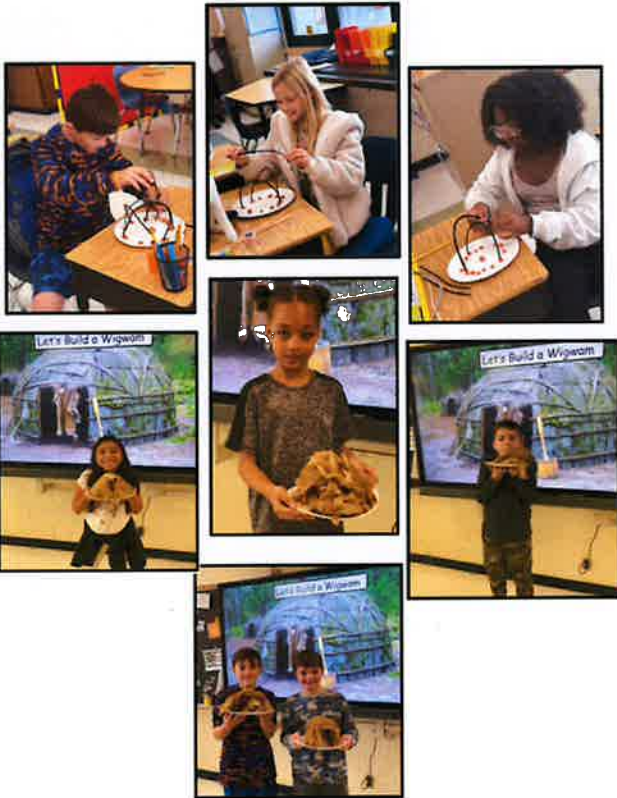
3rd Grade

3rd graders participated in a gallery walk visiting all classrooms to celebrate the completion of their personal narrative writing unit. Students were given the opportunity to read their peers' writing and give feedback writing to each other and celebrating all of their hard work!



4th Grade

Fourth graders are learning about the Native American tribes that inhabited New York State and Long Island about 1,000 years ago. The main tribe that settled on Long Island were the Algonquians. The Algonquian families lived in small dome shaped homes known as wigwams. The students in Mrs. Campbell's class had a fun time recreating a wigwam using clay, pipe cleaners and paper towels in place of saplings, bark and animal skins. It was fun imagining what life was like for the Native Americans that resided on Long Island so long ago!



5th Grade

5th graders participated in a Thanksgiving themed STEAM activity - Building the Mayflower. These engineers had to discuss what would be the best design for their boats made of foil. They then tested with pennies to make sure their boats would float, transporting their passengers, the pilgrims, safely.



CELEBRATIONS

6th Grade

Sixth grade students culminated their Personal Narrative Writing Unit with a student-led Publishing Celebration! Parents, faculty, and administrators were invited to the classroom, where students were seated at different stations with examples of a specific writing craft. The student experts were able to share examples of their own writing, as well as explain how the craft contributed to a well-written personal narrative. Figurative language, dialogue, strong leads, flashbacks, and capturing a small moment were some of the amazing writings shared by the students.



Art



Our artists were quite busy! As November came to a close, some students put the finishing touches on their Native American inspired Totem Poles. 5th grade students explored Op Art through paper weaving after looking at the artwork of Bridgette Riley and Victor Vasarely. They created these cool optical illusions using line, repetition and angles.

6th grade students have been working on observational drawing and preparing artwork for our upcoming winter concert.



Library

As part of a Project Based Lesson students learned about the history of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade with connection to the book *Balloons Over Broadway* by Melissa Sweet. Students became designers of their very own parade balloons after discovering what engineers and design artists do to create and construct balloons for the parade. *Balloons Over Dayton* line the hallway for all to enjoy!



CELEBRATIONS

Music



Congratulations to our Musicians of the Month!
Keep on making music and sharing your talent.

Justin Kerr (3) - Chorus
Valentina Occhiogrosso (4) - Orchestra
Izabella Cozell (4) - Band
Ryan McCue (4) - Chorus
Adrianna Sime (5) - Orchestra
Erin Kreuter (5) - Band
Emma Martinez (5) - Chorus
Sugey Rubio (6) - Orchestra
Lia Weiss (6) - Band
Darielle Radzinsky (6) - Chorus

Physical Education

Turkeys were popping up outside the gym!
Students were given the Turkey Trot Challenge -
complete 13 miles by the end of the month.
Students tracked their progress using their mile
marker cards. Students who met the target saw
their names on a turkey.



STEAM

During the month of November, we really put our critical
thinking skills to the test. Students of all grade levels
learned about escape rooms, and attempted various
degrees of difficulties. Students had to synergize in
groups and try to solve all puzzles before time ran out.

As you can see by their smiling faces, they were very
proud of themselves- and they should be! November is
Native American Heritage Month. We celebrated by
learning about the Pacific Northwest tribes and their
culture of creating totem poles to tell various stories.
Students learned about symbols and what they stand
for. To wrap up the unit, students created their own
totem poles to represent themselves and the traits
they're most proud of.



STAYING HEALTHY CHAT WITH NURSE GROSSKOPF

Increase of Respiratory Illnesses

If you listen to the news, you may have become alarmed by a rise in the number and severity of childhood respiratory illnesses. These include: Respiratory syncytial virus, (RSV), adenovirus and others. RSV can have a sudden onset, and can progress to a severe and potentially life threatening respiratory infection in newborns, infants and young children.

If your child is sick, they should stay at home where you can monitor them and they can recuperate comfortably. Children hydrate and rest better when they are home being prompted to do so by their loved ones.

Concerning Symptoms to watch for include:

- Behavior is not typical...may be calmer or quieter.
- Energy level is low and they are more fatigued than normal.
- Refusing to eat or drink.
- A fever greater than 100 degrees Fahrenheit.
- If your child is having difficulty breathing they may not recognize it or know how to tell you what they are feeling.
- Look out for nostrils flaring, shortness of breath and difficulty talking.
- Observe for retractions or areas where there appears to be tugging in while breathing. This could occur at the neck or rib area.
- Frequent and persistent coughing.
- Rapid and labored breathing.
- Audible wheezing

If any of these occurs, consult your physician or call 911 immediately.

Prevention makes a difference! Review with your child basic handwashing, hygiene, and cough and sneeze etiquette.



UPCOMING DATES

December 6 - Parent Teacher Student Conferences

December 7 - Parent Teacher Student Conferences

Half Day- Buses Roll at 11:30

December 13 - Shared Decision Making

December 20 - Winter Concert

December 26 - January 2 - Winter Recess (School's Closed)

REMINDERS

We go outside whenever possible. It is recommended that students dress in layers and bring their jackets, hats and gloves to school. We will keep on moving and enjoying outdoor recess and gym throughout the winter months.

Chromebooks

- Charge them every night
- Bring them to school every day
- Leave chargers at home



Student Dropoff

- Students may be dropped off beginning at 8:15am
- Students attending extra help on the day assigned by their teachers may be dropped off at 8am

Student Pickup

Students being picked up are dismissed from the cafeteria entrance. Please park in the administrative lot on the west side of the building. We begin dismissing students being picked up at 2:46. Please send in a note if your child will be picked up at dismissal. Be sure to include the full name of the person picking up and that person should be prepared to show their license. All students must be picked up by 2:53.

