

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 - 6

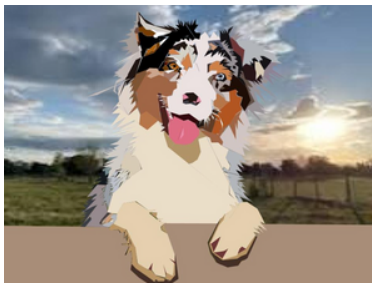
IN A WORLD WHERE YOU CAN BE ANYTHING, BE KIND

Dr. Watkis

I recently had the pleasure of hearing a third grade class sing the national anthem as they led announcements. It was a moment of pride listening to their voices come together to make music and then seeing their faces filled with a great sense of accomplishment. I can't wait to see their skill grow and how they will use their musical talents as the join ensembles in 4th grade.

March is Music in Our Schools Month. During this month, we will celebrate the unique talents of our musicians and encourage them to Synergize to make beautiful music.

As we move through this year, I will share some small pieces of our big moments in our monthly newsletter and on Instagram. I hope that you will take some time to read each newsletter.



Mosaic created by Pamela David



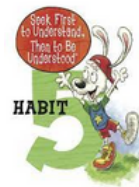
SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING AND PBIS

Leader in Me

In February, we will explore Habit 5 - Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood. This habit focuses on listening to other people's ideas and feelings. It's trying to see things from their viewpoints. It encourages students to listen to others without interrupting. It's about being confident in voicing your ideas. It's about looking people in the eyes when speaking. Habit 5 teaches us to be confident when speaking to others while also teaching the importance of listening to others when they are speaking.

We will learn to

- Listen before talking
- Listen to other people's ideas and feelings
- Try to see things from the other person's viewpoints
- Listen to others without interrupting
- Be confident in voicing our ideas
- Look people in the eyes when talking



Attendance Goal

Shout-out to each healthy student who shows up for school on time! We recognize your commitment to meeting your personal goals.

Our Student Leadership team has been committed to helping us track our progress in meeting our school attendance goal of 95% or higher each day. This month our average attendance rate was 91%.

Super Bowl

Touchdown for a Cause: Super Bowl Food Drive!

What an incredible game day victory for kindness at Dayton Avenue! Our amazing elementary students came together to tackle hunger, donating a total of 1,660 food items to our local food pantry. Their generosity and team spirit truly made a difference in our community. This achievement shows that even the smallest hands can make the biggest impact! A huge thank you to our students, families, and staff who made this possible. Your support and enthusiasm turned this collection into a championship effort!

Although everyone was a winner by donating, Mr. Weiss and Mr. Edwards' class were crowned the overall champions for the first time in history !

CELEBRATIONS

3rd Grade

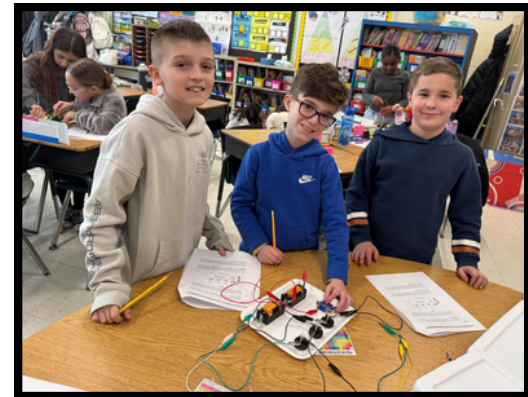
Students were introduced to the terms “open circuit” and “closed circuit”. Students observed the steps required to create a simple circuit and confirm their prediction on the conductivity of various materials.

Science and Engineering Practice covered included asking questions and defining problems, planning and carrying out investigations, constructing explanations and designing solutions, engaging in argument from evidence.



4th Grade

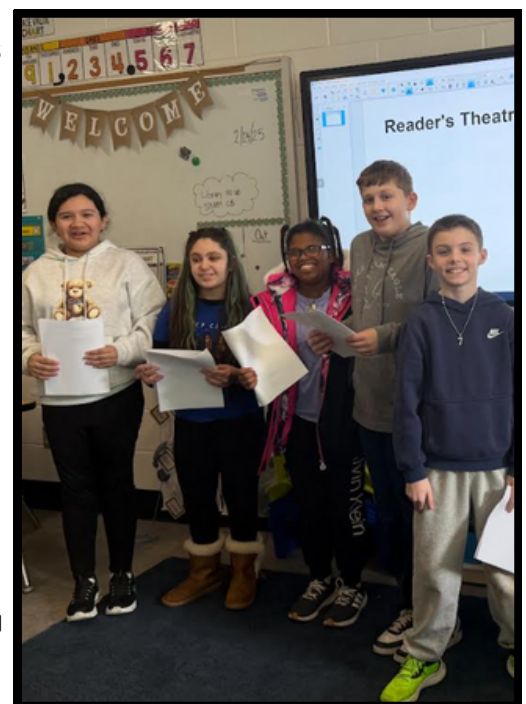
Fourth Grade classrooms turned into a mini engineering lab as students experimented with wires, switches, lightbulbs, and batteries to create their own series circuits! With a little trial and error (and a lot of excitement when the bulbs finally lit up!), they tackled challenges and discovered how energy flows through a circuit. As they connected the pieces, they also connected their understanding of energy transfer—realizing that science is all about curiosity, problem-solving, and a little bit of spark!



5th Grade

This week in class, students had a blast participating in a readers’ theater activity, taking on the roles of Earth’s systems—such as the atmosphere, hydrosphere, geosphere, and biosphere—and exploring how these systems interact with one another.

We also enjoyed another fun readers’ theater math lesson on rounding, where students pretended to act as teachers, students, and even calculators! It was a week full of creativity and learning as everyone had fun while deepening their understanding of both science and math. Fifth graders enjoyed seeing their teachers and staff act out their roles in readers’ theater. They also loved discovering how to add emotion and change their voices to match their characters’ feelings. It was a great cross-curricular way to bring the Earth’s systems to life and help students grasp their dynamic connections.



CELEBRATIONS

6th Grade

This month, our 3rd and 6th graders teamed up for a special reading buddy session! The 3rd graders enjoyed reading their favorite books aloud to the 6th graders, while the 6th graders listened intently to their younger friends. It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to build connections, practice their reading skills, and have fun together. We're looking forward to more buddy activities in the future!



Art

Sixth graders studied ancient mosaics and learned that a mosaic is an image made from small pieces or shapes arranged by color to create an image. They learned to create modern mosaics digitally. They used Google Drawing to recreate a photograph as an image by creating small shapes throughout that matched the shapes and colors within the photograph. They had so much fun making these and the results are awesome!



Our younger artists created a Kandinsky inspired concentric heart array. They learned how to implement a wax resist watercolor approach and also painting.



Library

February has been a wonderful month in the library, filled with meaningful discussions and activities centered around P.S. I Love You Day. 💜

This special day is all about spreading kindness, raising awareness for mental health, and reminding everyone that they are never alone. In library lessons, we talked about the power of even the smallest kind gestures and how they can make a big difference in someone's day. Each student reflected on a kind thing they have done for someone and shared their thoughts through writing and drawing.



This activity helped to create a sense of belonging, and build a more supportive school community.

Student work on display in the hallway helped inspire and promote kindness throughout the building. We hope their words and artwork reminded everyone that kindness is contagious and that one thoughtful action can start a ripple effect of positivity.

We invite you to continue the conversation at home! Ask your child how they've shown kindness recently and challenge them to find small ways to make a difference every day. Together, we can help spread kindness beyond the classroom and into the world!

CELEBRATIONS

Music

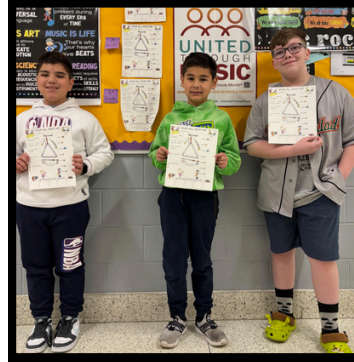
Congratulations to these musicians who are being recognized this month. Keep on making music!

Band

4th Grade - Jordan Spies

5th Grade - Justin Kerr

6th Grade - Lucas Cepeda Lohman



Chorus

3rd Grade: Sarah Tumbrello

4th Grade : Mason Cerdas

5th Grade : Paxtyn Mann

6th Grade: Mason Burke



Orchestra

4th Grade - Frank Porfert

5th Grade - Savanna Cortes

6th Grade - Maia Garcia



STEAM

Our students are diving into the world of coding with CodeCombat! This interactive platform turns programming into an engaging game, making learning both fun and educational. 3rd and 4th graders are starting with block coding, which helps them build foundational problem-solving and logical thinking skills.

Our 5th and 6th graders are taking it a step further by learning Python, a powerful programming language used by professionals to create websites, games, and even artificial intelligence! We can't wait to see our students level up their coding skills and creativity!



STAYING HEALTHY CHAT WITH NURSE GROSSKOPF

March is National Kidney Month

Kidneys control the body's fluid levels. They filter wastes and toxins from the blood.

MARCH IS
NATIONAL
KIDNEY MONTH.



Most People have 2 kidneys, but you can live a healthy life with one as well.

Each kidney is 4-5 inches long- which is about the size of your fist.

1 out of 10 people will have a kidney stone at some point in their life.

Dark leafy greens, cauliflower, berries, garlic and apples are all foods that promote kidney health.

Soda and processed deli meats can be harmful foods for the kidneys when eaten in large amounts.

WAYS TO KEEP THE KIDNEYS HEALTHY

- Drink at least 48-64 ounces of water everyday to prevent kidney stones.
- Never smoke or vape- this constricts the blood flow to the kidneys and can reduce their function.
- Exercise everyday to keep your blood sugar healthy and your kidney levels under control.
- Do not over use Ibuprofen- which can cause harm to the kidneys if taken too often.

BLOOD in the urine is not normal and needs to be evaluated by your Doctor

Signs of Kidney Disease

- Blood in Urine
- Increased or Decrease Urination
- Reduced Appetite
- Swollen Feet or Ankles
- Muscle Cramps

Contact your doctor if you are experiencing any symptoms of kidney disease

UPCOMING DATES



March 4 - SMPTA Meeting - 7pm South Street

March 5 - BOE Meeting 7pm

March 11 - DAS Shared Decision Meeting

March 26 - BOE Meeting 7pm

March 31 - Schools & Offices Closed - Eid Al-Fitr



Attendance Matters

Our school day begins at 8:30 and ends at 2:53.

It is important that students arrive to school by 8:30 and remain in school until classes end at 2:53. Please let us know when your child(ren) will not be in school and call or send in doctor's notes so we may excuse absences for illnesses.

Updated Discipline Matrix

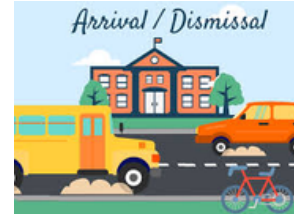
We recently updated our Code of Conduct and Discipline Matrix. All misconduct is always taken seriously and this matrix is designed to support fairness. Every incident is thoroughly investigated to support students in making better choices, not only to punish. Please find a copy of our matrix at our school webpage.



ParentSquare

Communication

We use ParentSquare to stay in touch with our families. Download the app in the App Store or on Google play to receive important texts and other messages. You have the option of choosing how to receive information (such as text and email), when you receive them (immediately or at a set time) and in what language.



Student Dropoff and Pickup

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.

Students being picked up are dismissed from the main entrance. We begin dismissing students being picked up at 2:53. 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 2:55. Students not picked up by 2:55 will be put on their home buses.



Chromebooks

We use Chromebooks everyday.

Students need to bring them in fully charged. Leave chargers at home



Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast is served every day at 8:15am. All students at Dayton Avenue may receive one free breakfast every day. Students may also receive one free lunch every day. A la carte items are available for purchase.