

NOVEMBER 1, 2019

# MT. PLEASANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

*One Kind Word Can Change Someone's Entire Day.*

 **HAPPY HALLOWEEN!** 



*Mother Nature was smiling on MPE just in time for the Halloween Parade! A wonderful time was had by students, parents and staff throughout the day. Thank you to all the class parents who helped make the day a very special one for our students.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

11/4, 11/5, 11/6 - 12:15 dismissal - Parent Teacher Conferences

11/4, 11/5, 11/6 -  $\frac{1}{2}$  Day Activities - PTA - 12:15 - 1:30 p.m.

11/7, 11/8 - Schools closed for Teacher's Convention

11/12 - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade field trip to Sterling Hill Mine

Earth Balloon Assembly - grades 4 and 5

11/15 - Pajama Day!

11/19 - 11/21 - Book Fair

11/19 - Author Visit - all grades

Book Fair Evening Event - "Book Blast"- 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Family STEAM Night - Students in G 2-5 and families - 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

MPM Cafeteria - see more information at end of Newsletter.

11/20 - Book Fair Evening Event - "Milk and Bookies"- 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

11/21 - Book Fair "Books and Bagels" - 7:30 - 8:00 a.m.

11/26 - BNL Picture Retakes **\*This is a date change**

11/28, 11/29 - No School - Thanksgiving Break

## IN THE CLASSROOMS...

### Kindergarten

Kindergarteners are introduced to one or two new sight words every week. This week we introduced the words "like" and "my". We practiced writing them and using them in a sentence during interactive writing. We learned songs to help us remember how to spell them. Tapping out the words on our fingers or arms also helps us remember how to spell the words. Writing the words on paper with screens underneath and writing them in sand trays helps us "get a feel" for the words. We also look for sight words in our shared reading poems. This week our poems were about pumpkins and Halloween. We did many fun activities in anticipation for Halloween. We measured a class pumpkin, took a vote on how to carve it and also counted how many seeds were in it.

### First Grade

This week in reading workshop first graders continued to work on decoding strategies to become independent word solvers. This week and next week's focus will be on reviewing short vowel sounds. In science we are in the process of completing a STEAM project using the design loop model. We read the book *Spookley: the Square Pumpkin* and are designing a device for Spookley so he can roll around with the other pumpkins. In math we began our unit on subtraction and are working on ways to subtract. Our focus this week was subtracting by taking away and subtracting by counting on. Students are applying these concepts to solve subtraction word story problems and make up subtraction stories of their own.

## **Second Grade**

This week in second grade we have been busy finishing our personal narrative stories. We have revised, edited, and colored our stories and are very proud of the progress shown so far. We are continuing to work to demonstrate understanding of characters in reading and are looking forward to starting our first non-fiction unit. We are finishing our subtraction strategies unit in math. Thank you so much for the pictures of your child around town! We are enjoying putting together our *Me on the Map* books! We had a great time celebrating Halloween and worked on a STEM project by building a "bone bridge".

## **Third Grade**

Third graders had a blast this week creating pumpkin globes, complete with continents and oceans! They wrapped up their geography unit with that culminating project and are very proud of the results. In math, they began a review of subtraction strategies and learned a few new ones to throw into their bags of tricks. In science, they continued their in-depth study of rocks and minerals, and the excitement is building for their visit to Sterling Mineral Mines in a few weeks! If you have not yet sent in the permission slip, please do so by Monday!

## **Fourth Grade**

In the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, we were excited to participate in Red Ribbon Week activities as well as celebrate Halloween. In reading, the students continued their fiction unit by focusing on folktales and myths. They learned to identify unknown words and character traits while reading. During writing, students were busy peer revising their drafts for our current genre, realistic fiction. We are excited to share our final stories with you soon! The mathematicians completed their addition/subtraction unit and began exploring Unit 3 on multiplication/division. With the start of the new unit, it is important that your child is reviewing their multiplication facts daily. During social studies, students continued exploring colonization with a more in-depth look into Colonial way of life. Through a group poster activity, the historians researched various aspects of Colonial life and are now preparing to present their research on clothing, food, transportation and schooling to their classmates. Finally, during science, the classes continued to discuss cells by presenting their projects to one another. Our scientists sure are super! Check out our Twitter accounts for photos of our cells.

## **Fifth Grade**

In fifth grade Social Studies, we are midway through Unit 2: "Three Worlds Meet: The Age of Exploration." We began the unit with students learning how to read a map and identify key features. We have also learned about the seven cultural regions of Native Americans pre-colonization through study of non-fiction texts. It is amazing to hear students discuss the differences in culture and lifestyles of the different regions and cite the text for their evidence. In writing class, we are wrapping up our narrative unit with a study of sentence structure in grammar. I am proud of the growth in our fifth graders' writing abilities already this year! For our next unit, students will be learning how to write a research-based opinion essay, for which they will choose a social issue of interest and thoroughly research the topic.

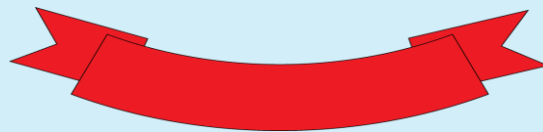
## Art

In Ms. Mondanaro's 5th grade art class, students are creating their very own "Alebrije", or Mexican folk art mythical creature. Students examined Disney artist, Alonso Martinez, who helped create the film Coco's "Pepita" and learned about his process. They also learned about artist, Pedro Linares, who coined the term "Alebrije" and is credited with their creation in the 1920's. Students are combining up to four animals to create their creature, and drawing from a variety of reference material. In the art classes to come, students will begin painting with neon paint, glitter, add patterns, and finish their creatures by gluing feathers and jewels. Students are learning to create a mixed media composition and are getting to experience a large range of materials to complete their Alebrije!

## Media

In media all grades are getting ready for Cynthia Lord's visit on November 19th. In the upper grades, we are learning about her through her website & author video interviews. We will be exploring her books, characters & author's craft. In Grades K-2, we are learning what an author thinks about & exploring Lord's Hot Rod Hamster picture books. We are creating new titles for Hot Rod Hamster & a new race car for him. It is always exciting to have an author visit MPE!

# MPE Participates in Red Ribbon Week





# Halloween Fun at MPE





# Family STEAM Night at MPM

*Livingston Public Schools Grades 2-5*



*Tues., November 19, 2019 7:00-8:30pm*

*Mount Pleasant Middle School Cafeteria*

*Grade 6 students in the Mount Pleasant Middle School STEMBassadors club will host an exciting evening of science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM). Students in grades 2-5\* and their families can take part in hands-on activities presented by the STEMBassadors throughout the evening. Entrance to the event will be through the MPM Cafeteria entrance doors. Registration is required by 11/13. [REGISTER ONLINE!](#)*

*\*Please note: this is not a drop off event as families will enjoy the activities together!*