

Ross University School
of Veterinary Medicine

Preparatory School

January 2018



Newsletter



Daycare/Preschool

Coming back from the break we welcomed a new friend to our class. Welcome Charley! During the month of January, we've gotten the kids involved in some fun hands-on activities. We baked cookies and made pancakes. We love talking about colors and this month have been focusing on the color red. The children were excited to have a chance to go some place new. We went on a field trip and learned about different buildings and what they are built for. We went on the RUSVM coaster bus and the kids just loved the chance to be in the bus! The children were really excited and have been talking a lot about our trip. We are looking forward to our next field trip to the park.



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Preschool 2

A very Happy New Year from Preschool 2. Preschool 2 is learning about buildings. We are learning about different building tools, materials used to build and the different professions associated with the building process. We went on a field trip where we drove around the island looking at the different architectural designs of different buildings. We saw grocery stores, movie theater, the airport, the police station and took a tour at the fire station. The children had an amazing time with the firemen and loved getting to see their equipment up close and personal! We look forward to touring the RUSVM campus and learning about the different services provided in each department.

Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten

In PreK & K, we certainly had a holly, jolly Christmas and are looking at a bright 2018.

In Math our Kindergarteners explored the relationship between addition and subtraction. They were able to determine which sign (+, -) to use for which problem. They have also been identifying and writing numbers above 10 but less than 20. The Pre-K's compared numbers and determined which number of objects were less than, greater than or equal to. They even had fun feeding the hungry alligators the greater numbers.

The PreK's are continuing to rhyme and we are reinforcing the beginning and ending sounds for various letters and even pictures. As for Kindergarten, it is important for them to remember their initial, medial and final sound of all of their letters. They have also begun looking at soft sounds, such as the letter Oo. This has improved their word building skills tremendously.

Both groups are merged for Science and Social Studies. The kids will collaborate on a 'How Plants Grow' project, by which each student will plant a seed (pumpkin, radish and green bean), and is responsible for watering their plant daily. They are super happy about this!

In Social Studies, we explored our feelings, whether something is real or not, and fun on both land and water.

First and Second Grades

We are off to a great start in 2018! We jumped right back into our Math and Language Arts programs and we're planning some fun activities to extend our learning.

We are working hard on creating new writing pieces in Writer's Workshop. We are just beginning "Super Stories", and have begun planning the beginning, middle and end of a story. We'll continue working through the writing process (Plan, Draft, Edit, Revise and Publish) for these stories, and will eventually illustrate and publish our stories as books.

In Math, Grade 1 students are adding and Subtracting Numbers to 20. We have been learning some cool tricks to help us solve equations. We know Doubles facts, Near Doubles facts and Make 10. Grade 2 students have been working on different ways to Add Two-digit numbers. We have learned how to add with partial sums, add using ten and one blocks, and the standard "stack and add" approach. I'm thrilled that students have a strong foundation in adding and are able to "regroup" with ease. We're also working on money as a Math center. We are role playing cashier and customer to practice adding prices to make a total, and making change, to help prepare for our Lemonade stand.

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Third and Fourth Grades

Hi, Hi, Hi,

Welcome back to a New Year in our class and hope everyone had a great holiday.

Since we have been back we have continued working on our writing. Before break the kids were working on Narrative writing and we have edited and are now ready for publishing.

In math we are really into our division and multiplication. Students in both grades are going into more difficult multiplication and division assignments and they may sometimes need a little more practice at home. I know that the terminology and processes in math have changed some over the years, so if you have any questions regarding the vocabulary or steps in a solution to a problem please feel free to ask.

Our class hosts morning assembly every other Thursday and the kids do a wonderful job of doing this with minimal assistance from me. Please come and join us for one of those Thursdays. I am sure they would love to see you there.

Just a reminder, parent conferences are held the week of February 5th- 8th. The sign-up sheet will be posted on my door to choose your conference time.

Upcoming Events:

February 10
Missoula Children
Theatre
@11:00AM

February 26
Mid Semester Break
NO SCHOOL

Seventh, and Eighth Grades (Middle School 5-8)

Happy New Year! The 5/6 class is exploring the geography of the Arabian Peninsula and studying the Rise of Islam during the Middle Ages. In Language Arts, we are reviewing the rules of punctuation and capitalization, and continue our vocabulary practice. Our literary selections include excerpts from Arabian Nights and The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho.

Everyone seemed to enjoy his or her winter break but we have jumped right back into learning in January! This month the grade 5/6 classes finished up their units on working with decimals. The grade 5 class learned how to divide whole numbers by decimals, divide using compatible numbers and how to divide a decimal by a decimal. The grade 6 students finished up two review chapters where we revisited estimating products; dividing decimals, evaluating expressions and solving equations with decimals. In science, we continue to work on our earth science topic and have learned about volcanoes. We learned about properties of magma; volcanic eruptions and volcanic landforms.

The 7/8 class is exploring the causes of World War II and the Holocaust. Our literary selections include stories from Holocaust survivors and Allied soldiers. All students will read and analyze Anne Frank, Diary of a Young Girl and Night. Students will choose a second novel to read independently. The class will also analyze films such as The Book Thief, Life is Beautiful, and excerpts from Dunkirk and Saving Private Ryan.

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