

UNICORN CHRONICLES

EVERY STUDENT MATTERS, EVERY MOMENT COUNTS

Important Dates

February 3 No School

February 10 Mock STAAR-
5th Grade Math

February 11 Little Lego Club
from 3:00-4:00 p.m.

February 12 Mock STAAR-
5th Grade Reading; Student
Clubs from 3:00-4:00 p.m.

February 14 Pennies for
Patients Ends

February 14 Jump Rope for
Heart

February 17 Student Holiday

February 25 Support and
Education for SPED Parents
in Ms. Nielsen's Room from
3:45-4:45 or 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Attendance Counts

We ended January with an attendance average of 96%. Our goal is 97%. One percent may not seem like much, but it really is! This Flu Season is shaping up to be an active one! Please be sure to encourage hand washing to keep students healthy and present at school! Thank you families for CONTINUING to stress the importance of being HERE EVERY DAY!

Mark Your Calendars

Join us Tuesday, March 3rd for our Math Night. We will have fun math games hosted by Mathnasium. There will be rewards, giveaways, and games for the whole family. Our goal is to have an enjoyable, shared experience where both students and parents play games together. More details to come.

MATHNASIUM[®]
The Math Learning Center

We Make Math Make Sense.

Employee of the Month

Mrs. Guel is our Employee of the Month. Each month our staff nominates a fellow staff member who goes above and beyond. The chosen staff member receives a certificate of recognition, a gift card, and the use of the coveted "EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH" parking space in front of the school.



**CONGRATULATIONS,
Mrs. Guel !**

PRE-K students have been busy building and creating. The students have been using their imagination during stations/centers, as well as, during shared (whole group) and individual writing activities to create castles, monsters and so much more. They love making their own unique creations to share with each other and their teachers.



KINDERGARTEN students learned how to read, blend and decode word families, practiced reading nonsense words and wrote simple sentences. In math we are composing and decomposing numbers to 15 as well as working on solving story problems. We had so much fun celebrating the 100th day of school. To celebrate it, we dedicated the whole day to the number 100. We made 100 theme hats, 100 stations, 100 Fruit Loop necklace, and a delicious 100th day snack.

FIRST GRADE students have been working with place value concepts. Students have modeled numbers using concrete manipulatives, pictorial form, expanded form, and standard form. Students have also used place value to compare and order numbers.



SECOND GRADE students have been learning how to use the EXPLORER strategy in Reading. By using EXPLORER students better comprehend text by using various comprehension strategies. They learn to annotate and provide text evidence to help answer comprehension questions. This strategy is used in 3rd grade to help students prepare for the Reading STAAR.

THIRD GRADE students have been thinking about goals and new habits for the New Year. Students are working on their multiplication and division math facts. The goal is to be fluent in all of their computations. As we celebrated Martin Luther King Day, the 3rd graders wrote about their dreams for the future. Some students contemplated what their future job will be, and others thought about what a better world we could have when they are older. We still have a lot to learn, and we are excited to be moving into fractions for math and poetry in reading.



FOURTH GRADE students students have been working so hard, and it shows. As teachers we are so proud of them. In writing they have been working on drafting, revising, editing, and publishing some of their best expository essays yet. In Social Studies, they studied the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and discussed how his life impacted their own - we had some very touching conversations. As we tackle some harder concepts in math, we have discovered we even have some fraction masters. There was such excitement in reading class as we finished our novel study "Wonder". Students were so moved by the story, and enjoyed seeing their favorite characters come to life as we compared and contrasted the movie to the book. We all agree, the book is always better!

FIFTH GRADE students are buckling down on the second half of this school year. This is the most exciting but most intense part of the year. We are working hard in all subjects; preparing for STAAR which is fast approaching. We will have the second Mock STAAR administration the second week in February. 5th grade will start our Splash Town rubrics the same week. Splash Town will be the second to last week of school in May. This is our reward for those students that come to school every day with a positive attitude and show a great effort in all they do throughout the day. We hope the WHOLE fifth grade will be able to attend.

