



Frenchtown Elementary January 2020 Board Report

<u>Pk:</u>	17
<u>Kindergarten</u>	91
<u>1st Grade</u>	77
<u>2nd Grade</u>	81
<u>3rd Grade</u>	94

January 11, 2021 PK-3 Current Enrollment 360

Counselor Corner Miss America aka Mrs. Amy

Griffin

At the close of 2020, Mr. Duhamel and the counseling department worked together to provide students and families with presents for the holidays. We were lucky enough to receive \$1000 from the Frenchtown Ward of the Church of Latter Day Saints. This gift afforded us the opportunity to create food baskets for all holiday gift recipients. Ms.



Luth and Mrs. America, together with some 6-8 grade students, put the baskets together for the families. A very special thank you to the Frenchtown Mormon Church.

Our students are learning and practicing all about Empathy and Compassion in Action. Students in the K-1 are learning to read emotions of people by watching eyebrows: the true-teller of emotions. It's proving extra difficult with our

masks but our little ones are becoming masters all while learning different feeling words. We are also putting our compassion into action by practicing acts of kindness. Our students have also learned about the brain and how powerful our amygdala is at alerting us about our feelings as well as the importance of the frontal lobe. In the 2-3 classrooms, students are also learning about their brain and just beginning to explore the power of mindset. Without a doubt, our students are forging ahead in learning so much about themselves and how to build up their coping strategies.

MAP Testing January 11- February 26

Students learn better—and faster—when teachers have a clear picture of what each child knows and what they are ready to learn next. MAP is an adaptive assessment, which means the test reacts to each of the student's answers, personalized to measure the needs of every student at their grade level.

- If the student answers a question correctly, the test follows up with a more challenging question.
- If the student answers incorrectly, the test follows up with an easier question.

Access to an adaptive summative test allows and supports teacher differentiation and guides instruction for each individual student.

SBAC testing March 15- May 31

Follow the link to learn more about Smarter Balanced Assessment:

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/parents/>

Kindergarten News

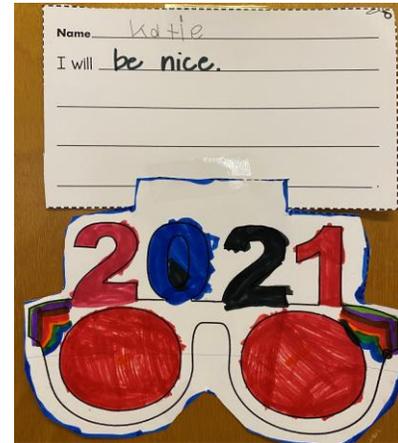
Current happenings in the kindergarten wing:

- This month in Miss Luebke's class we took advantage of the nature trail and the beautiful weather! We'll also be talking about Martin Luther King, the impact he had, and how to spread peace and kindness!
- This month in Ms. Geaudry's class we rang in the new year with new years goals and working on name practice!
- This month in Mrs. Kurpius' class we are going to study polar bears and animal habitats! We will also learn about MLK and how they make video games!



- This month in Miss Juden's class we learned about coding and how it works. We even were able to sequence paths for each other, play with robots, and code our names!
- This month in Mrs. Musso's class we read the book The Mitten, made our own mittens, and counted how many bears fit in them!

- This month in Mrs. Lande's class we are working on accurate counting of objects, letter recognition, and number printing while learning about winter, water, Antarctica and the Arctic
- In kindergarten we've also been learning our sight words to become better readers!
- We are working on subtraction, addition, and teen numbers in math!
- We've been writing lots and are starting to sound out words on our own!



1st Grade News

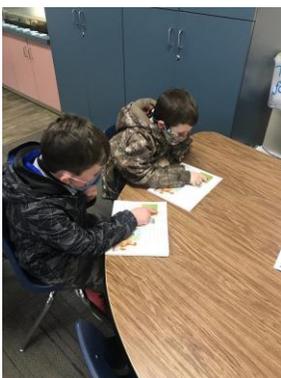


This school year is flying by! It was nice to welcome the student's back from the holiday break and hear the exciting stories from each of them. Here in Ms. Petersen's first grade, we are practicing counting to 120 by tens, fives, and ones. The students are making great progress! This is a hard working bunch of kids. We are also practicing adding and subtracting tens and ones and getting to double digit addition and

subtraction. The students are becoming more fluent readers.

Reading can be a challenging task and I am so happy with the work and effort that these students put into it. They are breaking words apart and learning pattern sounds to become better readers. The first graders are also learning a variety of social studies topics through the stories that they read each week.

It is fun to see their excitement. The students are learning a great deal in their specialty classes such as library, PE, music, and art. I am grateful to have such a great class with supportive and helpful families. Thank you to all the families who have worked hard in preparing your First Grader in becoming successful students! Have a great 2021!



2nd Grade News

In second grade, we have a number of exciting things coming up. In reading, we will be having guest readers later this month to share the books Officer Buckle and Mr. Tanen's Tie Trouble with students. To celebrate I Love to Read Month, there will be an epic



Battle of the Books to pick our most beloved children's books. In math, the students have had a great time learning to measure using all different units and turning that data into line plots. Soon we will be starting double digit subtraction with



regrouping. In writing, students have been practicing opinion writing and developing their ideas into paragraphs. We've loved our recent trips to the greenhouse to learn more about fish, including some science journaling. Lastly, we've been enjoying the advantages of having Chromebooks for every student in the classroom. They've opened up more opportunities to integrate technology into the classroom and the use of even more interactive learning tools!

3rd Grade News

Our third graders have shown great progress during the 1st half of the school year! It's been inspiring to see the kids perform so well both academically and socially while adapting to all the changes that are in place to keep everyone safe. Our online learners are also showing a strong work ethic by utilizing Google Classroom, Live Zoom instruction, and various other online resources.

In English Language Arts, we have completed a book study of *Polar Express* which has been an annual tradition right before the winter break. By utilizing the Daily 5 as a framework, the 3rd graders have benefited from whole group, small group, and individual lessons to build reading fluency and comprehension. Our focus in writing during the 2nd quarter was Opinion Writing. The students wrote multiple opinion essays during the quarter and they turned out great!

During math, the second quarter has provided opportunities to reinforce place value and addition/subtraction with regrouping. We have also explored fractions, measurement, clocks, and elapsed time during December and January.

In social studies we are just wrapping up our study of communities, landforms, and natural resources found in the United States and beyond. During science, we just finished our study of rocks, volcanoes, earthquakes, and erosion.

It's hard to believe that we are halfway through the school year already. The 3rd grade team looks forward to keeping the momentum going during the 2nd half!

-Mr. Gyapay, Mr. DiFulgentis, Mrs. Hoskinson, Ms. Burklund, and Ms. Reed.

Music Department News from Mrs. Blass

Our start to our school year in music was very interesting, fun, and challenging. For the first 2 months we taught music in the parking lots, halling instruments, sound equipment and chairs to an outdoor classroom. We were delighted when our administrators said we could once again use our music rooms with several sanitary procedures in place. I have to say we have done very well keeping our kids safe . We took on the challenge of still holding a Winter program filming all 30 classes with the help of the H.S. digital academy. Parents were able to still enjoy a holiday performance. After finishing our winter program in grades K-5 we are at it again and making great music. I always look forward to January as a time to get to teach and settle into more music lessons

Students in music class are learning about the 4 musical instrument families of the orchestra. 1st graders are listening to Sergei Prokoviev's, *Peter and the Wolf*. They watch the Vancouver Symphony orchestra play it, then watch the ballet performance with student dancers performer in the Gunther Theatre Peace Center. 1st graders will end this unit by their own performance of Peter in the Wolf portraying the characters of the bird, duck , cat, grandfather, Peter, and the hunters.

Mrs. Blass is so excited to have Natalie Bova, a former Frenchtown graduate, work with her classes as a student teacher in general music in the afternoon.

Pre-K and 1st grade have been working hard on their rhythm patterns and 2nd grade has started the concept for improvising 4 beat patterns.

After talking to colleagues around our area we are so grateful to work in a school district where we can still have music classes in a safe environment!!! Many schools are not even allowed to sing with their masks on. Music is alive and well in Frenchtown!!!

