# **CSS CHATTER**

A NEWSLETTER PROVIDED TO YOU BY CHARLES STREET SCHOOL

/OL. 5 ISSUE 8



#### Important reminder: MLK Jr. DAY of Service JANUARY 16TH - SCHOOL CLOSED

JANUARY 13, 2023



PLEASE BE SURE YOUR PETS ARE LEASHED, KEPT UNDER CONTROL, AND AWAY FROM THE WALKING PATHS OF OUR STUDENTS AT ENTRY AND DISMISSAL. NOT ALL STUDENTS ARE COMFORTABLE AROUND YOUR FOUR LEGGED FAMILY MEMBERS. THANK YOU!

#### **NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOM...**

**Preschool** is continuing their study on "clothes". Our investigation question is "Where do we get our clothes?" We are taking virtual field trips to various clothing making factories, becoming clothing designers in the classroom, and practicing making stitches through lacing activities. To encourage learning at home our families have also been presented with the challenge of "Laundry Art". Where our little learners can use their imagination to form images by layering laundry. Lastly, we are eager to celebrate our cultural differences this Friday in honor of Martin Luther King.

**Kindergarten** welcomed the new year in with stories and talking about how to make great choices. Through literature we are learning about manners and kindness. We have learned all our lowercase letters and sounds in Fundations, and are starting to tap out words. With Touchmath we are learning more number sense, and continuing with addition and subtraction. We are learning about penguins through stories and crafts.

**First grade** is really having fun writing informative paragraphs. They love learning facts about different topics. In Reading, we have started our next unit in Journeys and are learning more weekly words to go with our stories. In Math, we will start our next chapter and will be learning place value. We will learn to draw to show numbers from 1-20. In Fundations, we have learned 3 new "glued sounds" to help us read and write new words. We also really enjoy the fun activities on Second Step and leaning how to understand other people's feelings.

Second grade students came back from Winter Break learning to subtract 2 -digit numbers with regrouping. They continue to build their math skills using Reflex Math and DreamBox Math consistently. Second graders also began their study of Earth Science. Students learned how the earth's surface changes and landforms are created. Students explored how earthquakes can change the Earth's surface quickly.

Third grade started off the new year learning about New Year Resolutions and writing some of their own. In math we are wrapping up multiplication and are now beginning our first chapter on division! In science, students are working on their animal life cycle projects. Students chose an animal of their choice and are researching that animal. Students will then put together a google slide presentation of their animal and present it to the class.

**Fourth graders** are ready to get back in the groove this new year. They finished off 2022 having their annual Fourth Grade Food Festival. The students brought in dishes from their culture or one that was a family favorite! In social studies, they learned about the 7 continents and 5 oceans. They are masters at locating them on a map! Students are beginning to learn fractions in math! In reading, the students are beginning Lesson 11 after completing a novel study throughout the month of December!

Fifth graders are working towards writing an opinion essay titled:

"Should schools cancel snow days in place of virtual learning days?" We realized we were not sure if this group of students had ever experienced a snow day! How can you write about something you don't know about? So, this week, in the spirit of research, we are doing some snow day things: Drinking hot chocolate, eating cookies, and making snowmen out of homemade snow! They're having SNOW much fun! We can't wait to read their opinions on the topic!



## **SPECIAL AREAS** -

#### STEAM

Kindergarten and first grade students are learning about the science of snowflakes. They will use their new findings to create beautiful snowflakes of their own. Second grade is exploring the amazing world of color coding Ozobots. This week they will learn about the important rules of caring for the robots.

Third grade is exploring the art of collaging. Each student will create their own penguin collage art.



#### MUSIC



This week students will be learning about dynamics (which are the volume of the music) in K-2 classes. We are listening to all different sounds and identifying which ones are forte (loud) and which are piano (quiet). In 3rd-5th, all students are learning about tempo (the speed of the music). They get to see and use a metronome, learn how to measure tempo (beats per minute), and they learn 3-6 different tempos and their Italian words ranging from very slow known as "largo" to very fast "presto".

### GYM

This week students will be working in teams while participating in the game of "Protect the Castle." Students will have to come up with a variety of in game strategies while throwing, blocking, building, and protecting their team's castles.



#### LIBRARY

This week in Library, 4th, and 5th grade students have been learning about the different genres of books within the library. Second and 3rd grade students have learned about the Caldecott Award, and Kindergarten and 1st grade students are learning about what makes up a book cover.





#### NOTES FROM THE NURSE....

- Notifications have been sent to 5th grade parents regarding vaccine mandates for grade 6 and/or age 11.
- Please continue to submit all notes from doctor appointments, vaccinations, physicals, and flu shots to the nurse.
- > Please make sure all students have:

A water bottle that is clearly labeled with your student's name.

A change of clothes in their bookbag for emergencies in bathroom, lunch, or at recess.

Appropriate footwear - Students are not permitted To wear slides or opened back shoes. Please consider sneakers daily for your student's footwear.

Appropriate outerwear for the weather. Students should be prepared to be outside in the event of a fire drill, an emergency, and daily recess, weather permitting.

