



# Morse Newsletter

February 14, 2023

## Notes from the Principal, Mrs. Roux ...

Lots of fun things have been happening lately with celebrations for the 100th day of school - students engaged in a variety of activities associated with this important milestone. Valentine's Day is another exciting day for our students as they focus on sending their friends positive messages.

There are a lot of examples of kindness and fun things happening. On a different note, we could use support from home to help us address some impactful behavior that seems to have increased a little lately. Many students are still learning how to navigate conflicts and situations that cause them to feel frustrated or upset. The staff works hard to help students develop healthy and positive conflict resolutions skills. Lately we have seen an increase in concerning statements made by students during these incidents of conflict, including statements of violence such as "I'm going to hurt, stab, kill someone" or "I'm going to kill myself." While we recognize these statements as a big expression connected to big feelings, we take this very seriously and try to reinforce with students the impact of comments such as these. Oftentimes students attempt to clarify by saying things like, "I was just kidding or I was just mad ...". We will continue to work with students to build their skills for appropriately dealing with their feelings. We would really appreciate support from home as well, reiterating that these kinds of comments are scary and serious and it is never okay to joke about this. Please reach out to your child's teacher or myself if you have questions or would like to discuss this further.

Reminders this week include:

- If possible, please send your child to school with a refillable water bottle to cut down on both the number of times a child needs to leave the classroom to get a drink, as well as the use of paper cups.
- Please send your child to school dressed appropriately for the weather with jackets, hats, mittens, snow pants, boots, etc.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have questions, concerns, or need support for your child or your family. Have a great week!

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## Notes from the Office:

Please see the important information below about upcoming substitute teacher training sessions.

Reminder: RSU 3 HAS RECEIVED FREE AT HOME COVID-19 TEST KITS FROM A FEDERAL PROGRAM. EVERY STUDENT AND STAFF MEMBER WHO WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A KIT SHOULD CALL THEIR SCHOOL'S MAIN OFFICE.


## Important Upcoming Dates.....

2/14 - Happy Valentine's Day



2/20-2/24 - February Break

Check Out What's Happening at Morse School: **Week of 2/6**

<p>K/1</p> 	<p>It's hard to believe one hundred days have passed already! We have plans for a school wide 100 Days of School celebration on Monday. A big focus this month is kindness and respect. This week we focused on reminders about how to be kind to our friends and what respect looks like at school (hands to ourselves, using problem solving words instead of unkind words, listening to directions, etc). We will be continuing this focus over the next few weeks.</p>
<p>1</p>	<p>We continued to learn about short and long vowel sounds during word work. We discussed how each syllable has a vowel and vowel sound. In writing we talked about ways to wrap up our writing and used a checklist to improve our non fiction writing. In math we practiced the Make 10 strategy. Students were amazed that when we make a 10, we can find the sum so much quicker. This coming week we are excited to celebrate 100 Days of School and Valentine's Day!</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>This past week we had an chance to look at our NWEA data and made plans for how to end the year strong. In math, we have been learning about the distributive property of multiplication. This allows to turn those large problems like <math>8 \times 3</math> into small equations <math>8 \times 3</math> is the same as <math>(4 \times 3) + (4 \times 3) = 24</math>. We have also been working as a whole class to be mind of our volume to make sure everyone has thinking space.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>We celebrated the 100th day of school on Friday and have some fun activities planned for Monday! We also celebrated our progress on the NWEA assessment this week with a treat! Please be looking for information that was sent home Friday about your child's scores. Also, a class list was sent home for your child to bring in Valentines on Tuesday. Please make sure there is one for each student in our class if your child chooses to bring them in.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>This week 5th grade continued to work in their design teams on their cardboard chair challenge. We talked about different shapes that are stronger than others such as arches. Students should be collecting cardboard and tape from home. Thank you to those who have already contributed. I am planning on making Thursday and Friday afternoon building days if enough materials have been collected. I invite anyone who wants to join us for either of these days, to please let me know. Your students should have brought home a letter regarding Valentine's Day plans on Tuesday afternoon. If you have any questions regarding this please reach out.</p>
<p>Art</p>	<p>Students are exploring portraiture and how to create realistic drawings of people.</p>
<p>SEL</p>	<p>This week at Morse, 4 and 5 Started learning about Empathy, and practiced how they would feel or others would feel in different scenarios. 2 and 3 played some Kahoot about kindness, and k and 1 practiced their kindness.</p>
<p>Garden</p>	<p>It felt like Old MacDonald's farm in K, 1, and 2 this week! Students learned about different farm animals and did a categorization activity with animal figurines. Third graders discovered that the sun and then plants provide energy for our food chain. Our fourth and fifth graders investigated how cows turn green grass into white milk. We had a moooving week in class!</p>

Regular school attendance  
is important for a  
student's physical and  
mental health.

#everydaycounts



DO YOU HAVE TIME TO HELP OUT  
OUR SCHOOLS AND EARN  
**\$120 PER DAY?**

## SUBSTITUTE TEACHER TRAINING

2 NIGHT SESSIONS  
 JAN 25TH & FEB 1ST OR MARCH 8TH & 20TH  
 \$15.00 SUPPLIES FEE  
 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Learn the ins and outs of subbing in just two short sessions!  
 Taught by trained educators and experienced substitute teachers.  
 Supported by the RSU #3 staff and community and provided by:

**RSU #3**

**Adult & Community Education**

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