

"We know what we are, but know not what we may be."
- William Shakespeare

EDGECOMB EDDY SCHOOL

edgecomb.aos98.net

AOS 98/Rocky Channels School System

207-882-5515

December 12, 2019



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

12/11 @ 5-6:30 - Craft night & potluck

12/19 @ 6-7 - Winter Concert

12/23 - 1/1/2020 - Winter Break (no school)

1/6 @ 6 - School Board Meeting

1/7 @ 5:30 - Parent Chat with Ms. Slack and Ms. Cameron

1/7 @ 6 - PTC Meeting

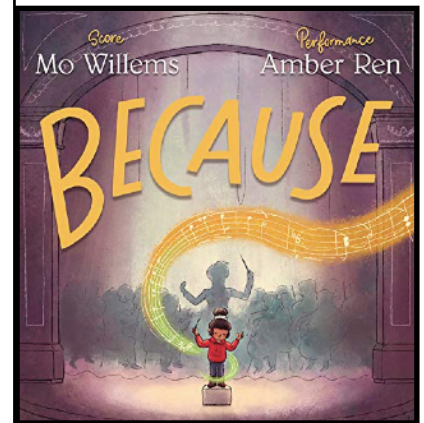
1/9 @ 2:05 - 3rd Grade Performance Festival

1/20 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School

1/30 @ 2:05 - 2nd Grd Performance Festival

Winter Concert

Our students cannot wait to perform you next **Thursday, 12/19**. Students need to arrive in their homerooms at 5:45 and the show will start at 6 pm. Please bring them sharply dressed and on time. These concerts take enormous effort on your children and our staff, so we hope you can all attend. This year's show is entitled "Say Something... Because". It is based on the two books you see pictured on the left and right. We look forward to seeing you all at this amazing event!



Principal's Remarks

In this season when it is customary for many to give and receive gifts, I am left contemplating what gifts mean the most to our children over time. I was fortunate in having a friend share a beautiful article with me entitled "7 Priceless Gifts All Parents Can Give to Their Children" by Michael Lewis. I found it moving and inspiring. I hope that all of you are able to provide these gifts to your children. I also hope you are confident that the staff and I striving our best to provide these 7 gifts to your children as well. Please take the time to read and think about the article. On top of that, please take the time to enjoy your children over this upcoming break.

- Mr. Michaud

7 Priceless Gifts All Parents Can Give to Their Children

By Michael Lewis

“The best gifts for children are intangible, though substantial; they cost nothing in material terms, but have a value greater than any treasure. There are several things every child should receive:

1. **Love** - Being loved unconditionally gives a child a sense of self and value that doesn't depend upon physical looks or abilities, inherited or acquired skills, or accomplishments of any sort. Being loved as a child teaches one how to love as an adult, how to be kind and compassionate, empathetic and sympathetic. While Aristotle said, “Happiness is the meaning and the purpose of life, the whole aim and end of human existence,” loving and being loved is the foundation of happiness.

2. **Confidence** - Children need a belief in themselves to face the fears of living, to be able to commit when necessary, and to exercise restraint when appropriate. Confidence results from doing, from experimentation and accomplishment; it is the foundation of courage and self-esteem. Parents teach a child confidence by allowing for failure and encouraging him or her to try again and again. To paraphrase Eleanor Roosevelt, “Parents must teach their kids to do that which they think they cannot.”

3. **Imagination** - Some say the ability to dream – to see things not as they are, but as what they can be – is the greatest gift of all. Imagination is the leaven in life, the ingredient that animates the spirit and soothes the soul. Imagination encourages resourcefulness, spurs creativity, and breaks down boundaries. Encourage your child to imagine, and he or she will explore the universe and travel through time.

4. **Determination** - Beverly Sills, America's most famous opera star, began her career in 1947 in a minor role of “Carmen” at the Philadelphia Civic Grand Opera Company. Despite her critical acclaim in opera houses around the world, she did not appear at the opera's most prestigious site, New York City's Metropolitan Opera, until 1975 due to the Met director's predilection for Italian singers. Following her debut, she received an 18-minute standing ovation. Having resolve and continuing to pursue a goal through disappointments, setbacks, and failure is found in the character of all successful people. As Ms. Sills said of her career, “There are no shortcuts to any place worth going.”

5. **Resilience** - Sorrows, illness, career setbacks, and financial hardships afflict everyone. Psychologists believe that an individual's ability to cope with stress and adversity is learned during childhood and is the product of environmental “protective factors.” By providing love and support, parents promote a child's ability to bounce back from adversity, skills that continue to develop over his or her lifetime.

6. **Discipline** - The ability to postpone immediate pleasure in the pursuit of a longer-term goal is evidence of discipline. Physical and mental gifts without discipline are momentary, squandered and left to fade away; discipline, however, embeds them in the character and actions of their owner. The hours of practice and the moments of failure *and* improvement are often forgotten when we see the final result – Tiger Woods at the top of his game, Van Cliburn at a piano, or Jonas Salk announcing his vaccine for polio. Discipline makes goals obtainable and dreams come true.

7. **Hope** - It seems that humans are hardwired to expect the future to be better than the past, to find silver linings in the darkest clouds. Experiments have shown that children who receive encouragement and positive feedback are more likely to succeed in tasks and adapt to difficult circumstances better and more readily than children who receive negative feedback or no encouragement. Research has also found that optimists live longer and healthier lives than those who are pessimistic.

Final Word - There are no perfect parents, and no guaranteed philosophies nor proven theories of good parenting. Every parent learns on-the-job, relying on his or her own memories as children and observations of other families. All parents do the best job they can, and hope that they've done enough to provide their children with the tools for a happy and successful life.

What other gifts should we give our children?” (<https://www.moneycrashers.com/priceless-gifts-parents-children/>)

Classroom Corner



π Mrs. Browne's Science and Math Corner π

Math class in all grades has been full of learning, fun and pushing past mistakes to learn new things. All grades have been showing more mastery with multiplication and division facts! Make sure to ask your child if they are a Multiplication Master and Division Dominator yet!

Fourth graders have been focused on factors & multiples, prime/composite numbers and most recently learning about angles, types of triangles and quadrilaterals and symmetry. Fifth and sixth graders have been focused on Greatest Common Factor, Least Common Multiple and fraction/mixed number multiplication.

In science, 4th graders finished up their unit on fossils by going on their own fossil "dig". We were lucky enough to receive a bag of sand, silt and fossil material from the Aurora Fossil Museum in Aurora, North Carolina. This museum provides amazing information and opportunities for exploring fossils. Students were given a plate full of the material, a sheet with information about fossils they might find and they went digging! Everyone had a great time finding fossils, figuring out what they were finding using the data sheet and taking them home to keep. Some examples of fossils students found are small shark teeth and sting ray plates. Check out the photos of students exploring their fossils.

In 5th and 6th grade science, we finished up our study of the solar system and we have moved back to Earth. We are learning about Earth movements, how seasons are caused, the angles of the sun and how this can affect shadows and the weather. We have also been taking turns daily keeping close tabs on our seaweed growing in the tank in the computer lab. We collect information about the salinity, temperature and pH of the water. We also make observations about how the water looks and how the seaweed seems to be growing. Our seaweed will only be here for a few more weeks before it is "planted" in the ocean for the rest of the winter!





Mrs. Gosselin's 1st Grade

The first graders are busy learning about Christmas celebrations around the world for our social studies unit this month. Our first project was to decide how we wanted to decorate the Charlie Brown Christmas tree at the Town Hall. This school tradition is now in its third year. We decided our focus would be vintage ornaments to celebrate the past. We designed vintage red trucks using popsicle sticks and buttons. We added our own handprint Christmas trees to the back and decided it would be fun to take photos of us "driving" the truck! To add to our tree, we learned that the German Pilgrims were the first to string cranberries and popcorn for garland. By the end of the day, popcorn completely covered the first grade room, but the garland came out great and we had a lot of fun! Many thanks to Mrs. Cooper for all of her help with this project!



Kindergarten News

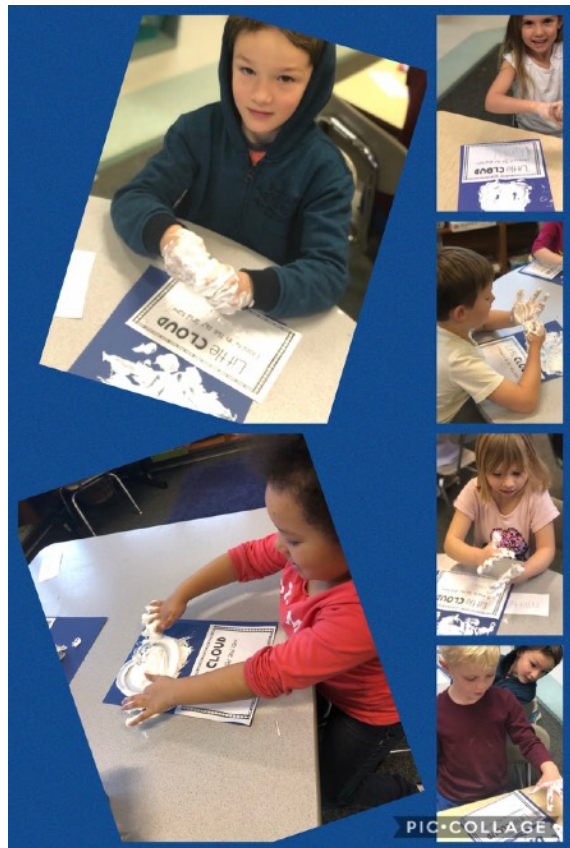
In Kindergarten we are learning about weather. This week we voted on our favorite weather and created a graph. Students have also started keeping track of the daily weather in a book. At the end of the month they will have their very own weather book. We spent time learning about the different clouds - cumulus, cirrus, stratus, and nimbostratus. Students listened to the the story "Little Cloud" by Eric Carle. The little cloud travels around turning into different shapes, in the end he joins his other cloud friends and they rain on the town. After reading, students thought of their own object they would see in the sky and used "cloud paint" to make their object come to life on their paper.

During math time we have continued to focus on counting by 5's, 10's, and 2's. We learned how to play Monster Squeeze today, which exposes students to comparing numerals using the terms greater and less. I sent home a sheet which has a small version of the game for you to play at home. We used a 1-20 number line, so feel free to make your own on a piece of paper to challenge your child.

We started lesson 8 in literacy. The big idea is that books help us learn new things. The question we are working on answering this week is how details can help them understand a story. Other skills are blending and segmenting words, learning about adjectives for colors, reading folk tales and informational texts. In handwriting. We have finished writing all our lowercase letters and will be reviewing and practicing them. We also started writing words and using those words to write sentences.

Through all our academic learning we are having a great time creating ornaments and counting down the days until the holidays. We will be making gingerbread cookies and scarves with some classroom guests over the next week or so. Please check FB for fun activities going on and as always contact me through email if you have questions or concerns!

Happy Holidays
-Mrs. Casey





Mrs. Currier's 3rd Grade

Students in Mrs. Currier's class are pictured here making measurements on their WeatherStation sticks. They are getting ready to measure snowfall that was due for that night. In addition to measuring snow students will measure wind, and rain, as well as note wind direction, identify clouds, and record temperatures.



Farmer Anna visits to "talk turkey". Students learn the difference between farm turkeys and wild turkeys.



Here Katy Pray, John Cooper, and Gabby Main accept their class's award at the Charlie Brown Christmas Tree event. Mrs. Currier's 3rd grade class won the prize for the "We Love Edgecomb" category. Congratulations to all our students for their beautiful work on these decorations.



Miss Monroe's Pre-K

In Pre-K we have enjoyed learning about families. We have brought in our own family pictures to share with the class, read different family books, drew family pictures, practiced tracing family names, built family puzzles, and counted how many people there are in different families. We will soon have "Our Family Tree" set up in the classroom. We are also starting to talk about family traditions. Talk with your children about the traditions you have throughout the year. Maybe you have some holiday traditions or a yearly trip tradition.

We had a lot of fun making our ornaments for 'The Charlie Brown Christmas Trees! We made stars and angels. It was exciting to go decorate the trees at the town office. In handwriting, we have continued to learn how to write more uppercase letters and practiced making them with different materials. We have loved the wintery weather. We were able to go outside as a classroom last week and all go sledding together. We also filled our pom pom jar up again for listening the first time! We chose to watch a movie and have a popcorn snack. We are about halfway through filling the jar again. We will decide on our next reward soon.





Ms. Crocker's 2nd Grade

We are excited for winter in second grade!! The recent snow fall has made us excited for sledding and building snowmen! Our biggest focus right now is finding ways to regulate our emotions. Whether we are joyful, angry, mad, fearful, or sad, we are learning how to identify what emotion we have and what we should do with those feelings. We are also matching our feelings to the Zones of Regulation. We even did a whole unit with the movie Inside Out, and are in the process of building our emotion folders. Second grade recognizes that in order to succeed in academics, we need to be mindful about our behavior. This has helped us succeed as we learn about types of speech, addition and subtraction, STEM activities, and our classroom responsibilities.



Check out these upcoming events with the Wiscasset Recreation Center.



Friday, Dec. 13th - Gingerbread House Workshop
https://www.wiscassetrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=30048

Saturday, Dec. 14th – Breakfast with Santa
https://www.wiscassetrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=30054

Upcoming Skiing & Snowboarding Lessons or Lift Tickets from Lost Valley Ski Resort – Registration Deadline of Dec. 25th
https://www.wiscassetrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=30053