



Old Fort Elementary

Principal's Corner

Dear Stockader Families,
Welcome to Fall & the beginning of the second quarter! Thank you to all the families who attend our parent/teacher conferences. We appreciate your support and guidance when educating your child. We would like to thank the PTO for feeding us supper and yummy donuts during our P/T conferences. If you missed yours, please reach out to your child's teacher.

During November, students are really in the thick of their learning. Expectations have been set and students are hard at work learning new content daily. Take a minute to ask your child something new that they have learned recently!

Finally, we would like to invite our community and family Veterans to attend our Veterans Day program on Friday, Nov. 11 @1:45.

Thank you for your continued support and as always, give me a call if you have any questions.

Your Partner
in Education,
Mrs. Kristina R. Smith



Building Goals

1. Increase overall student achievement.
2. Unify and build trust with all stakeholders.
3. Ensure professional growth of every employee.



PBIS News

PBIS Update: Students are focusing on "Opting for Wise Choices" during our second nine weeks. Example of this are:

- Make positive choices.
- Follow directions.
- Use the correct voice level.

We held our October activity this past month - Spooky Lunch! The students had a wonderful time. We even offer a sensory friendly option for student who might not like the darkened room or spooky decor!

Reminder: To earn our monthly reward students need to earn 80% positive DOJO points for the month. The students can also earn a chance at the PLINKO board by earning 95% positive DOJO points over a 2 week period! Encourage your child to "Honor the FORT!"



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What is Happening in ... 5th Grade?

Mrs. Bowman: The fifth graders have been very busy this year. We have been working on soft skills such as being responsible, verbal and non-verbal communication, and problem solving to name a few. In **math class**, we are using Zearn in addition to other materials to work on problem solving skills while addressing the content areas. Currently, we are working on place value relationships which lends itself to converting metric units. Our next big topic in math will be fractions. To reinforce responsible behaviors, we hold a raffle bi-weekly to reward students who complete their work and are prepared for class. These are skills that are important for everyone. In **science**, we are learning about interactions in ecosystems and the impact human behaviors have on ecosystems. I look forward to a great year with this class.



Recently the 5th grade worked on some pumpkin math activities that the students found exciting.



MS. TURPIN:

ELA: The students have been working hard on our new CKLA curriculum. We finished our first unit on personal narratives and the kids had a chance to read some personal stories written by Rosa Parks, a few famous astronauts, and many other inspiring individuals! The kids also had a chance to explore their own name and write about themselves. We are now moving on to unit 2 where they will be reading and writing about ancient civilizations such as the Maya, Aztec, and Inca!

Social Studies: In the first quarter, students put their geography knowledge to good use and learned about maps, globes, and latitude & longitude. We then went on to explore each region of The United States, learning about the landforms, climate, history, culture, and landmarks of each region. Students also learned to identify all fifty states and capitals along the way! I look forward to moving on to the exciting topics of ancient civilizations and Native American tribes in the upcoming months.



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November

Upcoming dates:

- 11/7 - 11/11 Boot Camp in PE
- 11/11 Veterans Program @ 1:45
- 11/14 Board Meeting
- 11/21 PTO Meeting @ 6:30
- 11/23 - 11/25 No School
- 11/24 Happy Thanksgiving
- 11/28 Class Resumes
- 11-28 - 12/2 Aimsweb testing
- 12/1 Preschool Field Trip

TALKING/RESTORATIVE CIRCLES

The elementary school is beginning to use talking/restorative circles. Circles have the power to create and strengthen support systems between peers, and lay the groundwork for a trusting school and classroom environment. The structure of a circle involves a talking piece, where the person holding the talking piece does the talking, while the other people present listen. The talking piece is passed around the circle, allowing everyone a chance to talk, but without the requirement to talk.

Talking/Restorative circles provide the time and space to develop a sense of equity and safety, and forge a positive classroom/school culture through trusting relationships. Restorative circles strengthen students' problem-solving skills. Circles model and teach communication skills including listening and most importantly working through conflict. Circles can be small group or whole class. Each circle has purpose or topic that will be discussed. We are already seeing positive results, with students gaining confidence as they learn this new positive tool!



Mrs. Kessler
School-based
Mental Health Therapist

Please feel free to reach out to Mrs. Kessler if you have any questions or concerns . She is available via her email: mkessler@oldfortschools.org