

THE WRITING IRISH

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Kindful Kinder Prep

By: Aidan Baker & Nyah Carson

There are many exciting things Mrs. Lyon's Kinder Prep kids have accomplished this year, such as: mastering the alphabet, being able to write all the letters, knowing all the letter sounds, and making posters with kind actions to help them remember to be courteous to others. The students also were excited to welcome new student, Mckenzie Sparks! One of the Kinder Preps' biggest highlights of the year was going to the band/choir concert to see their art buddies on stage. As the school year ends, the Kinder Prep kids are looking forward to having a play day at Island Park from SHAgala, field day, and guessing the mystery box item.



Kinder Prep kids at a pep rally!

Mrs. Stanton's Spectacular Students

By: Grady Pierratt and Sami Stratton

The students of Mrs. Stanton's class have done many creative and cool experiments this year; but their favorite activity was when they went to the STEM Lab to learn about pulling and pushing forces. During their investigation, the students pushed and pulled objects on different surfaces to see how they reacted. They learned how weight affects the way objects move over a surface. All the students had a great time in the STEM Lab and they wish to do it again.

Mrs. Theisen's Talented Titans

By: Jason Boge & Trinity Tent

This year has been great for the first graders. The unexpected snow days were disappointing for them, however, because the students really love being at school! The first graders have started taking A.R. (Accelerated Reader) tests, which are quizzes that they take after finishing a book. The best thing about this year was when their friend Olivia came back to school after being away for two months due to a serious illness. She has started coming to school for about an hour and a half each afternoon. Mrs. Theisen's students know that prayer works because they have been praying for Olivia a lot, and she is getting better!

Mrs. Jones' Jumping Jaguars

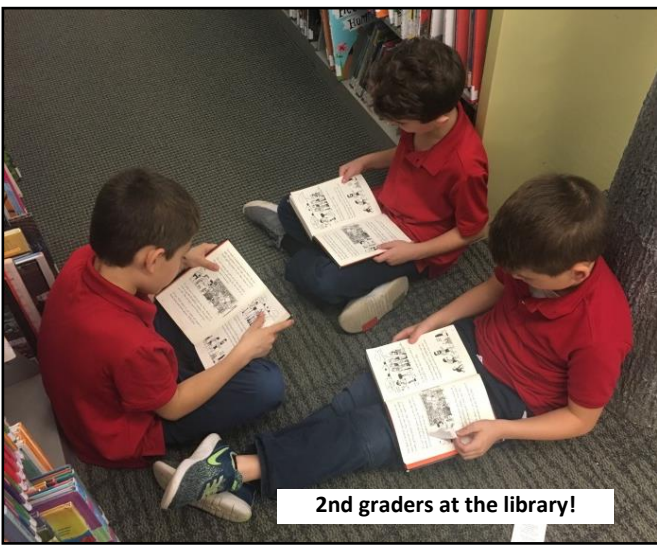
By: Cecilia Lossio & Matthew McConnon

Mrs. Jones' class has greatly increased their skills since our last article! For example, they have learned doubles facts up to 10, and they have skyrocketed with their AR tests! When they were not doing schoolwork or testing, the first graders were flying their handmade kites. They also watched The Lorax to learn about how they can help the Earth, which led them to planting flowers in the STEM lab. Some of the first grade highlights this year were going to see Into The Woods Junior and Magic School Bus: the Musical. The jumping jaguars are looking forward to unleash their wild side on field day!

Mrs. Hansen's Happy Helpers

By: Amber Waclawski & Jackson Verleger

Mrs. Hansen's second graders are having more and more fun every day. In February, the students spent several weeks learning how to skate at the Mount Pleasant Ice Arena. In March, they learned how to tap a tree and make maple syrup. Mrs. Connie McCann, their Junior Achievement teacher, taught them about communities and how they work. They spent April practicing for their First Communion and Confirmation. In ASL, their teachers taught them important vocabulary words that go with the stories they have been reading. In science they spent time in the STEM lab learning about weather and plants. They also visited the Midland Center for the Arts to see a "Magic School Bus" show about planets and space. Mrs. Hansen's students had a great year and will enjoy their summer!



2nd graders at the library!

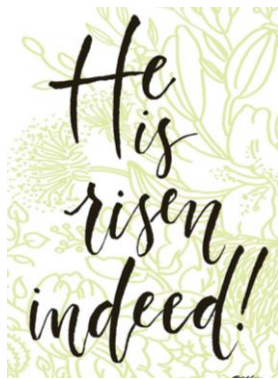
The Donajkowski Darlings
By: Ellie Morrow and Ryan Wiggins
 Ms. Donajkowski's students have been hard at work since Christmas doing many different kinds of activities. They grew self-sustaining watering plants for their ecosystems unit. They went to "Enviro - Science Day" at Chip-a-Waters Park to explore and learn about different kinds of animals, plants, and parts of nature. The students were even able to hold a snake and baby chicks! The 3rd-graders are looking forward to a field trip to the capital of Michigan. Finally, the students that have read at least 40 books throughout the year get to pie their teacher, Ms. Donajkowski, during the last week of school!

Ms. Simon's Spectacular Students
By: Joe McDonald & Brooklyn Taylor
 Ms. Simon's spectacular students have done so much these last two quarters. They learned how to ice skate during the four weeks of February. In March, they learned how to tap a maple tree and turn sap into maple syrup! The students also learned how to protect their hearing; and in the science lab they made a tornado in a bottle! (They can now tell the difference between a tornado and a hurricane.) Several second graders made their First Communion in April. Finally, the 2nd-graders enjoyed a special lunch on May 30, because all the kids reached their A.R. goals this year. Congratulations!

Mrs. Obrien's Obedient Owls
By: James Struble
 If you were an owl you would be flying into Mrs. Obrien's class. The kids have been doing a lot of cool stuff, including the "40 Book Challenge," where you try to read 40 books from the start of the year to the end. Students who accomplish this goal can smash their teacher in the face with a pie! But there is even more fun in third grade, because very soon, the students are going to visit the capital city of Lansing and are also going to tour the Michigan Historical Museum.



2nd grader tapping a maple tree!



Mrs. Puhlman's Perfect People
By: Ayden Wills & Megan Szymczak
 There were many highlights in Mrs. Puhlman's 4th-grade class during the second semester. To start, the students made slideshows of a pretend field trip around the U.S. as they studied each region of our country. They also finished memorizing all those tricky state and capital names! The students combined math with art to make Escher Tessellations; and they also enjoyed making partner "mini-art creations" using the concept of symmetry. Along with symmetry, the study of decimals was one of the students' favorite topics in math.

Mr. Carey's Crocodiles

By: Carter Farrell & Nicole Goenner

If you were a crocodile you would definitely want to swim into Mr. Carey's room. They have had a very exciting year, with many projects. For example, they gave impressive presentations on the planets and on ecosystems. They also worked on making and presenting very creative cereal box reports. Their class even started a countdown until "SMASH Bowl Days" starts. Another activity that Mr. Carey's class has started is reading a book about a dog named Gobi and his journey. Many of the students are also happy that spring and summer sports have started. The 4th-graders are definitely looking forward to a groovy summer. Some students want to spend time during their vacations learning new things, such as how to play the ukulele, dragonology, and history!

Mrs. Boulis' Busy Bees

By: Param Patel & Chelsea Lynch

Mrs. Boulis' students have been working hard this semester. The fifth graders (almost sixth graders) learned almost 50 new Latin and Greek roots and gave fun demonstration speeches in class! They also made massive improvement on their multiplication facts while racing through "Mad Minutes." Perhaps their friendly "competition" with Khan Academy math assignments helped their math skills. One of the biggest events for all the 5th-graders was preparing for the historical Wax Museum, which the sixth graders got to visit. This is how it worked: A visitor would walk up to a 5th-grade historical "wax" figure, press a "button," and the wax figure would come to life and tell his/her history. Mrs. Boulis is a very hard working teacher and has taught the fifth graders a lot.



4th grade planet project!

Mrs. Lemke's Lively Children

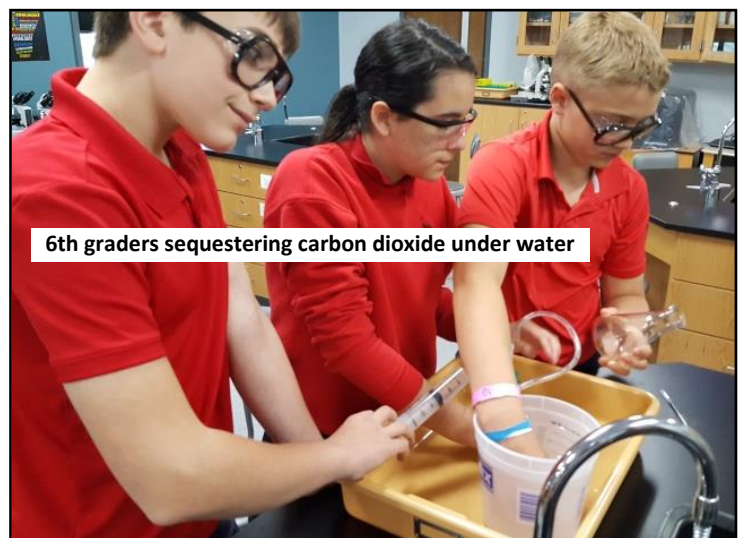
By: Jim McDonald & Nikki Priest

If you like to learn, jump right in to Mrs. Lemke's classroom! Mrs. Lemke's kids are learning about climate change, so they have been busy sequestering carbon dioxide to use in STEM lab experiments. In other science news, the 6th graders teamed up with CMU students to do a variety of water tests on the Chippewa River. The students are especially excited to travel to Midland this week for a presentation by Captain Scott Kelly, the astronaut who stayed in space while his twin brother stayed on Earth for comparison! In language arts, the students have completed formal research papers. The kids thought it would be hard, but it turned out to be fun. They will show off their papers this week at the Culture Fair! And a couple of months ago, the 6th graders put on a production of Shakespeare's [A Midsummer Night's Dream](#).

Mr. Parsons' Perspicacious Pupils

By: Taryn McGuirk & James Endres

If you were a cheetah, you would race right into Mr. Parson's class! In social studies the fifth graders have been doing some of their own historical projects. This semester, all the fifth graders wrote letters to both Governor Whitmer and President Donald Trump and received responses from both of them! This activity was featured on the cover of the [Morning Sun](#). The students also wrote a Declaration of Independence from Mr. Parson and then wrote a classroom Constitution. In science, these intelligent students have researched the periodic table and turned the elements into comic book superheroes or villains. How fun! The 5th grade superheroes have also learned about the four Earth spheres: atmosphere, hydrosphere, geosphere, and biosphere. And after all that, they are currently learning about force and motion by designing balloon-powered cars. Almost every day you will learn something new in Mr. Parsons' class!



6th graders sequestering carbon dioxide under water

Mrs. Wyman's Wonderful World
By: Dylan Hunter and Sophie Hauck

If you were in Mrs. Wyman's class you would be wondering what you would learn next! Mrs. Wyman's wonderful students are learning about Latin America and soon will be hosting a Culture Fair. They just finished making Resurrection Eggs to show to the spectacular second graders! Soon they are going to attend a performance to hear John Kelly, who is an astronaut, talk to the sixth graders about his time in space! In early May, they got to hear Mr. Martin Lowenberg talk about his survival of the Holocaust. They learned a very important message, which was to love one another and don't hate! Although SHA students had 18 snow days and got very far behind in the curriculum, the spectacular 6th-grade students are keeping up well!



Mrs. Chaffee's Country
By Ishwarya Shankar

If you were a cat, you would be charging into Mrs. Chaffee's room. She had so many ideas planned for her wonderful students. 1st and 6th-graders are going to have a walking field trip adventure at Art Reach on Friday to view the artwork of local artists Nancy Brooks-Siebert and Emmy Heger. The 3rd-graders are working on "stop motion" animation projects that involve character design, creating a storyboard, set design, photography, and video editing. This is a gigantic project that has been lasting for more than two months. Mrs. Chaffee even uploaded their projects to Artsonia so that their families and friends can see all their hard work. Mrs. Chaffee has also put together artwork for three art shows, which means she has matted and tagged over 400 pieces of artwork!

Mrs. Stenbridge's Stupendous Students
By: Wyatt Browne and Luke Hacker

Mrs. Stenbridge's stupendous students are learning lots! The kindergarteners have officially become independent computer users and she is very proud of them. The 1st and 2nd-graders have been focused on digital citizenship, learning how to be safe and smart online. The 3rd-graders are becoming exceptional users of Google Docs. The 4th-graders loved making stop motion animation projects; and last, but not least, the 5th-graders have recently completed fun Powtoon video projects.

Brilliant Mr. Boutwell
By: Wyatt Browne and Luke Hacker

Mr. Boutwell is extraordinary. First the school raised \$8,000 for Jump Rope for Heart, which is amazing! Everyone is excited for Field Day on June 10th, where the students will participate in events like Frisbee Golf, Tug of War, Dodgeball, and Kickball. We'll even get to eat lunch and play at Timber Town. Have fun on Monday, everyone!

Electrifying Ms. Ellenwood
and Terrific Mrs. Taylor
By: Tatum Horak and Yuvraj Singh

It's coming close to the end of the year, and Ms. Ellenwood has done a wonderful job teaching the wonderful 6th-graders (almost 7th-graders) about how to properly read and play musical notes. This year, the students went from learning how to assemble instruments to playing songs in three-part harmony! At the final 6th-grade band concert, Ms. Ellenwood did a great job conducting the musicians. The 6th-graders performed four electrifying musical pieces, and the audience favorite was "Popcorn Prelude," due to the "popping" of students up and down throughout the piece! Oh, and let's not forget about Mrs. Taylor, who gave birth to a beautiful baby boy named "Ezra", who in the Bible was a high priest during the Babylonian Exile, and is also a book in the Hebrew Scripture. The name "Ezra" also means "help." This has been an amazing school year for both Ms. Ellenwood and Mrs. Taylor.



SUMMERTIME QUESTIONS!

QUESTION #1: *We asked each class to vote on the top three things they are most looking forward to about summer vacation. Here are their responses:*

- KP:** swimming in a pool or lake, going to a cabin or cottage, & celebrating birthdays!
K: playing in the water, playing in the sand, and playing with friends!
1T: going to a pool, going to a cottage or beach, and eating ice cream!
1J: eating popsicles, going swimming, & playing video game or watching movies!
2H: spending time with family, doing things outside, & going on vacation!
2S: going on vacations, not having to go to school, & playing sports!
3D: traveling on vacations, not having a schedule, & spending time with family!
3O: traveling (Vincent is going to Lithuania!), visiting with family and friends, & playing Fortnite!
4P: being outside in warm weather and swimming, taking trips, & just “being” (having the freedom to do what they like!)
4C: swimming, reading, & sleeping in!
5P: swimming, sleeping in, & going on vacation!
5B: swimming, spending time with friends, & not being in school so that they can go camping and traveling!
6L: sleeping in, not having to do homework, & traveling!
6W: swimming, travelling, & seeing relatives!



QUESTION #2: *We asked each teacher what they plan to do this summer. Here are their responses:*

- Mrs. Lyon:** A lot of camping, gardening, and reading great books!
Mrs. Stanton: Play with my kids, visit the library often, and take a road trip to Cape Cod!
Mrs. Theisen: Retire, recuperate from surgery, and enjoy living at the lake!
Mrs. Jones: RELAX and spend time Up North with family!
Mrs. Hansen: Read, relax by the pool, and do some traveling to visit family!
Ms. Simon: Spend time with my three children!
Mrs. Donajkowski: Spend a lot of time outside with family and friends!
Mrs. O'Brien: Sleeping in, getting a suntan, playing with my Sheltie named Molly, get ready for teaching in a new room and a new grade – Fourth!
Mrs. Puhlman: I will spend most of my time at our camper at Eight Point Lake. I also look forward to chances to just “be” outside. I will enjoy being out on our pontoon with friends!
Mr. Carey: I’m going to ride my Harley and play with my dog’s floppy ears!
Mr. Parsons: Family camping trip to Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky. Lots of reading and relaxation!
Mrs. Boulis: Make memories! Family time! (All 5 kids will be home!) Camping, LOTS of running, reading my stack of books, go Up North, play volleyball for MPPR!
Mrs. Lemke: Backpack the Grand Canyon from the South Rim to the North Rim and then back again, spend a week on Beaver Island, and relax at our cottage!
Mrs. Wyman: Spend time with family and friends, go to the lake, and relax!!
Mrs. Chaffee: I hope my summer is low key. I plan to make some of my own art, spend time with my family, play some volleyball, and perhaps travel and camp!
Mrs. Stembridge: This summer Mr. Stembridge and I will be spending a lot of time enjoying our new daughter, Vivian. We also have a trip planned to visit Dallas, Texas!
Mrs. Boutwell: Working at The Pines Golf Course, golfing, and walking dog Bailey!
Ms. Ellenwood: I’m in grad school, currently working on my doctorate in music education. I’m taking American Music and Music Theory this summer and am looking forward to both classes. I’m also looking forward to camping and backpacking out west in the Black Hills!