

NEWS & TIDINGS

WARWICK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Elizabeth Musgrave, Principal
March 2015

MARK THE DATE! YOU ARE INVITED!

PTO MEETING: 3:00 PM Thurs., April 2
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING: 3 p.m. Thurs., April 16
SPRING VACATION: April 20-24



IT WAS GRAND! Thank you to all the families who turned out to support our Book Fair and "I LOVE LITERACY" event! A delightful evening... The children were all mesmerized by a thrilling selection of books brought in by the World Eye Bookstore for our Fair. And our sixth grade readers gave a wonderful performance to their charmed audiences. **THANK YOU!** **Ms. Powell & Ms. Musgrave**

READING FOR THE BIG CATS: Warwick Community School students are reading to help rescue the big cats! During an eight week read-a-thon, every child earns a penny for each chapter or picture book read, which they add to a growing collection for the Big Cats Rescue Fund.



WARWICK COMMUNITY SCHOOL SCHOLARS: Hooray for of the outstanding effort our 3rd - 6th graders have done preparing for their PARCC tests, which began this week! This on-line test is a new adventure, and it's gratifying to see our children "step to the plate," with their very best effort!

PRESCHOOL APPLICATIONS for 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR are available for Warwick Community School. The deadline for return of the



Applications will be Friday, March 22, 2013. If you are interested in receiving an application, please contact Brenda at the Early Childhood Office, 498-2660.

OUR CLASSROOM BUZZ...

PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN: Children in multi-age have been engaging in activities related to Read-Across-America this month. We are focusing on rhyming and the children have enjoyed identifying rhymes in many of their favorite Dr. Seuss books. We've been working with our grade 3 and 4 reading buddies on projects based on *The Cat in The Hat*. Many children have also completed at least one reading log of 20 books! Thank you for your support and encouragement with this at home!

In writing, children have been working on non-fiction writing. They have written pieces on what they learned from the non-fiction reading on animals that we've done at story time. They have also written simple book reports based on a favorite book, which we shared at our "I Love Literature" event.

Preschool children are busily practicing a more intense unit on sharing and social skills. By working games and activities into the curriculum they have been practicing the skills of sharing, cooperation, problem solving and collaboration.



Ms. Allison White

GRADES 1 and 2: Wow, did March fly by! We have been deeply engrossed in all things books! We've been reading, reading, reading as we strive to earn more money for our school wide goal towards The Big Cat Rescue. With all this reading we're also stopping to think about our books, retelling important details, answering comprehension questions, and making sure we really understand what we read.

We've also been deeply engrossed in getting to know and love a new book character named Skippyjon Jones in preparation for the play we will be attending based off the Skippyjon Jones books.



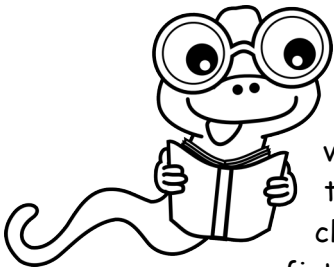
Our excitement for books and reading will continue on through the month of April as we continue to participate in our read-a-thon, as well turn our opinion writing towards review writing of books we've read!

By the time April break comes, we will practically be living in all the books we're blessed to have in and around our classroom! Late in March we started our new science unit of Solids and Liquids, we will continue to explore this area of science as the month continues.

We're all looking forward to seeing all the solid ice melt into puddles! Think Spring!

Ms. Kristyn Gibbs

GRADES 3 and 4: The third and fourth graders recently celebrated the end of our persuasive writing unit with a publishing party that was very well attended. A special thank you to all of the parents that take time out of their schedules to attend these events, it means so much to the children.



We are very excited about reading in our classroom. The Read-a-Thon has us filling out several logs a week! We are studying nonfiction stories during class time, with free choice reading once a week. The variety of books and magazines that the children are interested in seems to grow every day! The PTO made a generous contribution to our classroom library, allowing us to purchase \$100.00 worth of exciting nonfiction books about volcanoes, ice men, sharks, earthquakes, the Titanic and more. Our book boxes are bursting and our penny tube is quickly filling up! The children are looking forward to sharing some of their reading work with the community during our literacy night and book fair.

There are a lot of exciting projects happening in our classroom as well. We are launching into our animal adaptations unit and look forward to studying various animals and their habitats during the upcoming months. Currently, the students are collaborating on a study of the penguin and the octopus to give us an idea of how to research animals and write research reports.

Finally, we are nearing the end of our geometry and fraction units in math. The children have been working very hard to master these concepts and will continue to play games, complete activities, and review all of the math concepts they have learned this year over the next few months.

Ms. Christine Mullen

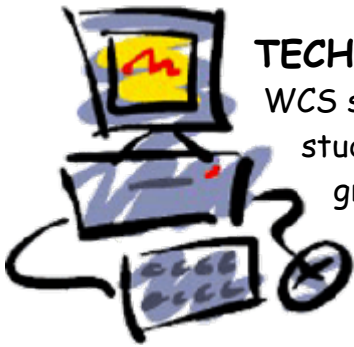
GRADES 5 and 6: Warwick's 5th and 6th graders have been working hard these past six weeks! In an effort to complete as much of the math curriculum as possible before the start of the PARCC tests, we have been taking two math classes a day. The students just completed a long unit on Expressions and Equations which covered material that most of us adults didn't tackle until 8th or 9th grade! This included writing, interpreting and analyzing algebraic expressions, understanding equivalent expressions, representing and describing quantitative relationships, and solving equations and inequalities. Whew!



Meanwhile, we were busy in the afternoon math session learning about volume formulas for rectangular prisms. This included not only understanding volume, but putting it together with all of the previous math skills that we have learned. The students computed volume of rectangular prisms with fractional edge lengths and found the measurements of unknown dimensions by using algebraic equations.

These two math classes a day were held in addition to the afterschool tutoring that was offered for PARCC preparation for the Math as well as the English/Language Arts test and which half of the 5th and 6th graders chose to participate in. The next time you see a 5th or 6th grader around town, let them know how proud you are of them for this outstanding hard work!

This week we return to a regular schedule of one math class a day. Students are learning about positive and negative integers. Meanwhile, this means we can get back to social studies and science which have been on hold. Stay tuned next month to read about our Google Slides projects the geography of European countries and our study of human body systems. **Ms. Lynn Hansell**

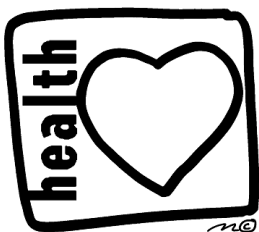


TECHNOLOGY NEWS It is great to be back doing technology with WCS students after so many Monday snow days. Our kindergarten students have been creating animated stories using Scratch, a graphical programming language. The software offers a wide variety of characters and backgrounds so each project is quite different from the others.

Grade 1/2 has been working with words--last week organizing words in categories in tables, and this week, in a more whimsical fashion, they turned the letters of their names into "Name Gardens". They have also worked with iXL, the program we use for online math practice. Letters were sent with your child about how to use iXL at home. Please let your child's teacher know if you have questions about using iXL.

Students in 3rd-6th grade reviewed the online tools they might encounter in the PARCC exam. Grade 3-4 has really focused on creating tables, providing an opportunity to learn many facets of a word processing program.

The students in Grade 5-6 created interactive maps locating the highest mountains on each continent, and then pulled their maps into simple Google Slide presentations about these peaks. Each student is embarking upon a research project about a particular European nation, so they will use this Google presentation and mapping skills on a new topic. **Ms. Wright**



HEALTH NOTES: The Facts about Kids and Medication Safety

Every parent knows that it is important to store medicine up and away from children, but every year more than 500,000 parents and caregivers call a poison control center because a child got into medicine

or because they were given the wrong dose of medicine. That's one call every minute of every day.

In 2011 more than 67,000 kids were treated in an emergency room for medicine poisoning. That's one child every 8 minutes.

Where are children finding medicine? On the ground or misplaced 27%, in a purse, bag, or wallet 20%, on the counter, dresser, table, nightstand 20%, in a pillbox or bag of pills, other 12%, in a cabinet or drawer 6%. 86% of emergency room visits for medicine poisoning were due to the child getting into adult medicine: grandparent's medicine 38%, mother's medicine 31%, sibling's medicine 12%, father's medicine 12%, aunt's/uncle's medicine 5%, unknown 6%.

Put your medicines in a locked cabinet every time after you use them and put the poison control number in your phone: 1 800 222-1222.

This information is provided by SAFEKIDS.ORG

During the month of March all the children at Warwick Community School are learning that medication and candy look very similar when they are not in their original packaging. *Always leave medication and candy in their original packaging. Never put medication in a plastic bag or leave a dose out on a counter or table or in an unlocked drawer. Medications should be kept in a locked cabinet.*

Postural Screening for grades 5 and 6 is scheduled for Fri., April 17, 2015. A notice will be sent home on Friday, April 3, 2015 with each student in grades 5 and 6 to notify parents and guardians concerning this. The purpose of this screening is to find early signs of possible spinal curvature problems. This is not a diagnostic service. However, it is a program to identify young people who should have further medical evaluation. Early discovery and treatment of this problem may prevent it from worsening. If you do not receive a notice, please let me know and I will send you one.

Ms. Dempsey, RN

**Waiting &
Watching
for Spring!**



