



JM Hill In The News!

First Grade- During the month of January, we learned about community helpers. There are so many different jobs! Some workers provide services, and some workers make things. We wrote about what job we might like to do when we grow up. We also learned about a great American, Martin Luther King, Jr. He helped all Americans get an equal education, jobs, and freedoms!

Second Grade- January's word of the month was "Inspirational"...to cause or arouse a thought or feeling. The second graders were inspired to continue to live up to the We Will at Hill code of conduct while demonstrating an appreciation for the teachings of Martin Luther King, Jr. The students have learned to regroup in subtraction and are quite proud of their accomplishments! We continue to work hard improving our reading fluency and mastery of basic math facts. A big thank you to our families for their involvement and support in their children's education!

Third Grade- January flew by for 3rd Grade. We have been busy preparing for our PSSA Test coming up in March. The children have been working very hard and we are very proud of their effort!

We also spent time this month honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We watched a movie, read books, and shared our feelings about Dr. King and his affect on our country. In February we will also be discussing Black History Month and President's Day as we celebrate famous Americans from our nation's past.

January also found us exploring the world in Social Studies where we studied maps and globes. Next we will be taking off into space as we study our Solar System!

Fourth Grade- Fourth grade wishes everyone a very happy New Year! Students were able to get a lot of work done in January since there were no snow days to interrupt our schedule!!

Math concepts covered this month included multi-digit multiplication, word problems, factors and multiples of a number, choosing the most appropriate units to measure weight, capacity, and length, identifying lines, rays, and line segments, and determining probability.

Students worked on improving reading comprehension by reading tall tales and stories in the reading book along with activities to practice identifying the genre, using context clues, analyzing characters in a story, identifying similes, and using inference skills.

Our Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Adams, came into the classrooms to teach 4th grade's first guidance lesson dealing with different feelings and emotions.



Students who had completed all their work celebrated the end of the month with a craft session. Mrs. Marshall's students taught Mr. Hatcher's students how to make paper snowflakes. That might be the only snow we get!

Fifth Grade- January has been an exciting month for Fifth grade! We participated in the annual spelling bee held at Resica Elementary. Congratulations to Sean H. & Arsiana R. who move on to Round Two of the ESASD Spelling Bee at Resica Elementary in February.

Math has been a month full of fractions and probability. We learned how to simplify and perform basic operations with fractional parts. Our probability studies have taught us new vocabulary such as possible combinations and favorable outcomes.

In reading, we used story clues to further understand characters and how character's traits influence their actions. We also practiced drawing conclusions and using graphic sources.

Mr. Wagner's class finished reading the novel Bridge to Terabithia. They have been practicing skills such as summarizing, point of view, and characterizations in certain pieces of literature. The students are also continuing to find their "Voice" in their own writing.

Ms. Gurry's class created board games based on novels they read in class. The students created comprehension question cards, designed the board, and developed the gameplay. They can't wait to play!

Mrs. Husson's class recited memorized speeches from history. Some of our speeches included ones by Sojourner Truth, FDR, Mark Twain, and Queen Elizabeth. The students LOVED this activity and did a fantastic job! The students also read the complete text of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. From this reading each student selected a line or two that "spoke" to him or her. Using this as inspiration, each student wrote and illustrated a free verse poem. (They are on display in our hallway)

In social studies we researched the ways New England settlers interacted with the Native Americans. We also learned about the daily lives, industry and social structure of these Early Americans.

Music- January was a busy month in the music classroom as the older children are getting ready to play some fun instruments. Fifth grade reviewed some basic music symbols/theory and learned about the bass clef. They also reviewed meter and had fun learning how to conduct. They will start to play the keyboard in the next few weeks.



Fourth grade also reviewed some basic music symbols/theory and are getting ready to play some basic acoustic guitar. Third grade began basic music symbols and theory in preparation for playing the recorder. They can't wait to get their recorders so they can begin Recorder Karate. Second grade worked on being musical detectives and found lots of different rhythm patterns in pieces of music. They were good at their jobs! First grade started working on a musical called "Snoozy Snowflake". They will present the musical to the school on February 28 at 1:30 p.m. and to the parents at 2:30 p.m. on the same date. They are working very hard and are excited to show everyone what they have learned. Kindergarten started the month off by singing some winter songs and they are now concentrating on high and low sounds.

The song of the month for January was "Do Re Mi" from "The Sound of Music". All the children enjoyed learning this song and they sing it beautifully!

Chorus will begin again for the spring on Wednesday, February 28, 2012. The permission slip will be coming home soon.

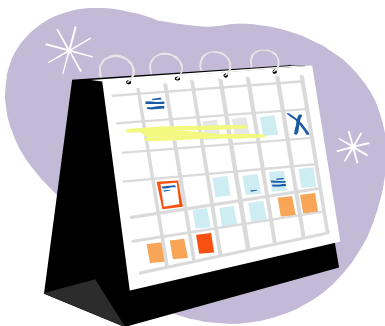
The K-Kids Club made over 80 posters to decorate houses for the 10th Mountain Division of the United States Army. They will be returning home from Afghanistan in the next few weeks. We were honored to take on this project! K-Kids also held their second annual Talent Show featuring lots of wonderfully, different acts from 3rd to 5th grade. Along with a bake sale held during intermission, the club raised funds to donate to a family from ESE who recently lost their father. One other project they did during the month was "Janitor for the day". The club helped the custodians do simple tasks like emptying out the trash and washing boards. They had a great time and can't wait to do it again in the spring.

P.E.-Lower grades have been working on direct and indirect control of objects. Upper grades have been working on Basketball Skills. In Health, the upper grades have been studying the respiratory system. The lower grades are studying the five senses.



A note from Mrs. Arnold...

February is a busy month with fundraisers and PSSA preparation. We have been very lucky so far having no snow days, so your child's instruction has not been disrupted! You can help prepare your child for the PSSA's by setting aside some time during those days for a few minutes of quiet time for Math and Reading activities! This would also benefit children in grades K-2.



Upcoming Events...

- 2/8-School Store
- 2/9-Big Wheel 6:00-8:00
- 2/13-SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING-JTL-7:00
- 2/13-2/17-Book Fair
- 2/16-Books for Bingo
- 2/20-Schools closed
- 2/27-School Board Meeting