



JM Hill In The News!

Kindergarten- Kindergarten has been discovering the changes that the season of spring brings. We are exploring the lifecycle of insects such as the butterfly. We are learning about the earth and its resources. We participated in many Earth Day activities and are learning how to help the earth. We planted seeds as part of our Earth Week celebration. We will continue to explore seed and plants in science. Kindergarten is working hard to segment and blend words. We are becoming wonderful readers! We are working hard to follow our "We Will at Hill" rules and are enjoying shopping with our white tickets. We will continue to as we say in our song, "reach for the stars"!

Second Grade- Second graders enjoyed Music Month activities during March. They participated in the music assembly which featured Regina Sayles. Most of the students have received a treat coupon for bringing in all of their homework. If you haven't received one yet, keep bringing in all of your homework and Mrs. Adams will call your name soon!

Most of the students have reached their fluency goal to read 87 words per minute by the end of the year. Keep reading every night to maintain and increase your fluency skills! Second grade has learned to regroup digits to add or subtract. Students are learning the features of 3 dimensional figures and measurement. The month ended with classes participating in an egg hunt.

The PTO provided our Second Graders with a class trip to the Lehigh Valley Zoo. We are very grateful to the PTO and all the family members who volunteered to chaperone. We had a wonderful time and enjoyed a private lesson about penguins, river otters, and snakes!

Second graders have learned to regroup 3 digit numbers when adding and subtracting to solve problems. They will extend their skill into word problems.

We are so excited to become scientists once again...Our classes are learning about sound, weather, and bettering our environment!

Reading and responding to literature in writing has really been a strength for our second graders! We are so excited and pleased to see the growth they have made from first to second and soon to be third graders.

The end of the year will bring a trip to the Planetarium on May 30th and many activities which celebrate our accomplishments!





Third Grade- Spring has arrived in the 3rd Grade wing. The students are continuing to blossom and grow as we dig our way through the 3rd grade curriculum!

In math, they are working hard at mastering their facts for all four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. They are also focusing on answering story problems that incorporate all four operations: this can be a real challenge!

In reading, many of our students are using the Junior Great Books. This program focuses on reading selected pieces of literature and then answering interpretive questions. In addition, it includes a component called shared inquiry, where students have an opportunity to share their ideas and support their interpretations with evidence from the text. This is proving to be an enjoyable experience for the students as well as the teachers!

Lastly, we have spent some time celebrating Earth Day by participating in various activities. We look forward to May with our upcoming field trips, breakfast with the mayor, and exploring our local community!

Fourth Grade- Fourth graders worked especially hard during the month of March. They participated in PSSA "Boot Camp" to review reading and math skills. Students were totally prepared and ready to do their best on the PSSA tests.

After testing, students focused on learning about our state government in preparation for the annual field trip to Harrisburg on April 2.

Mrs. Marshall's class welcomed their student teacher, Miss Lengle. Both classes have a Professional Development Student from ESU. These young ladies are doing a great job learning the craft of teaching!

Fifth Grade- We were extra busy during March. We studied hard and worked diligently to ready ourselves for the PSSA testing. Once testing began we were more than ready.

During SS we investigated colonial life and the creation of our original colonies. In science, simple machines and Newton's Laws of Motion were researched.

During the last part of the month we focused on refining our voice in writing. We wrote in many different modes to show off our skill.

During April we were confident in our writing skills due to our extensive preparation and practice. We studied The Revolutionary War and the events that led to it. We are in the process of creating books that summarize these events.





In math we focused on integers and multiplying and dividing fractions. In reading we read and completed activities that enhanced our understanding of the novels; Knots in My Yo-Yo String and The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe.

We enjoyed an amazing activity center presentation by The Red Cross. It stressed the importance of preparation and safety during various natural disasters. We were then presented with certificates and emergency kits.

Miss Gurry's class participated in a geo-caching activity that incorporated social studies and math concepts while learning about recycling. Mr. Wescott assisted in this activity.

We were very excited that our hard work paid off when Mr. Wescott delivered our brand new green screen kit. We earned this kit by participating in the PAIU digital book report project in order to help prepare us for Common Core.

Ms. R. Miller- Miss Miller's class has been working on spring activities. We made kites, butterflies, and discussed what happens to the trees outside in the spring time. We also talk about our new months and the weather. We have also been talking about Earth day and ways to keep our Earth Beautiful. We also got to plant flowers. We can't wait to see them start to grow.

We continue to work on alphabet letters, letter sounds, and reading words. We also learned some important words such as Stop, Exit, and Poison. We also practice making patterns, counting, writing numbers, counting objects, and identifying our phone numbers.

Our class continues to work on being nice to our friends, staying quiet while we work, and playing nicely with our friends.

Our 3rd grade students went to ESU to the Planetarium. Our 2nd graders went to the zoo. We also did a unit about the zoo in our classroom to learn a little bit about animals that we would see out the zoo and some of the food that they eat.

We have also been practicing for Special Olympics which is coming up in May! We are so excited to go! We have been practicing our running, jumping, and throwing softballs as far as we can.

Music- Happy Spring! Springtime is an exciting time in the music classroom. March was "Music in our Schools" month. All the music classes celebrated it by playing some music games, having free cd day, and listening to special musical morning announcements. We also started and ended our celebration with an assembly.

The beginning assembly was presented by Regina Sayles. She is a singer/songwriter/musician. As she played her guitar and sang, all the students and staff sang along with her. She sang some folk songs and some pop songs. It was a





fantastic way to start music month. The children and staff are still talking about what a wonderful assembly it was!

Our closing assembly was presented by the Lehman Crew. The Crew is a select group of seventh and eighth grade students from Lehman Intermediate School. They are separate from the chorus and rehearse after school. They perform concerts throughout our district and community. They did a great job! The students enjoyed this assembly also and really enjoyed getting a chance to ask the members of the Crew some questions after the assembly. Thank you to Miss Beal for bringing her group to perform for us!

Also in March, twelve select fifth grade chorus members represented J.M. Hill at our district Song Fest. It was held on Saturday, March 24, 2012 at East Stroudsburg High School-North. The Song Fest chorus consisted of over 90 fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students from our district. The children rehearsed all day with a guest conductor, Ms. Janice Lee. In late afternoon, they presented a concert to their family and friends. The children did a wonderful job. Representing J.M. Hill was Ana Carbarado, Jihad Chambers, Destiny Denny, Mya Guilluame, Devin Krajewski, Ben Leibold, Kaitlyn Lichtenstein, Nicole Mbuthia, Francesca Nyakora, Arsianna Ramos, Ashlee Thompson, and Madison Trump.

April finds our kindergarten students singing songs about spring and they are continuing to work on feeling the steady beat of songs through lots of movement. First grade students have been working on melody and have been doing a lot of singing by themselves. Second grade students finished up their unit on melody and are now going to concentrate on tempo and dynamics. The third grade students continue to practice their recorders. Some of the students are doing quite well. You should your child's beads multiplying on the bottom of their recorder. Fourth grade students continue to play the guitar and are now concentrating on melody. Fifth grade students are working on reviewing the basic elements of music in preparation for sixth grade.

Our song of the month for March was "Sing A Rainbow" and our song of the month for April was "She'll Be Comin' 'Round the Mountain".

Chorus rehearsals are going well. The students are getting excited about their upcoming concert. It will be held at JTL on Tuesday, May 15 at 7:00 pm. The theme this year is "Dreams".

The K-Kids Club has been busy the last few months. Some of the activities we have done are Janitor For a Day, Big Brother/Big Sister Bowl-a-thon, cleaning and organizing the Cavalier Cafe, and creating a scrapbook. We also had the wonderful opportunity to attend the Kiwanis Club's annual spring banquet held at





Stroudsmoor Country Inn! We enjoyed a wonderful meal and got to meet many more club members from different schools in our county. The evening ended with some fun dancing. A great time was had by all who attended!

P.E. - The upper and lower grades have been participating in a four week fitness unit. The upper grades will have a chance to win fitness certificates. In Health, the upper grades have been studying fire safety and seat belt safety. The lower grades have been learning about stress and how to handle it.



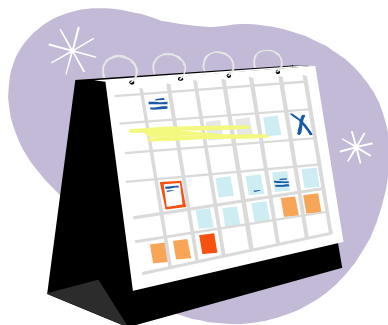


A note from Mrs. Arnold...

The end of the year is coming fast! We have a busy calendar packed with great end of the year activities, including Field Day. Scheduled for Monday June 4th, the day is filled with fun and games. Your child will get wet, so be sure to send a change of clothes. If he/she does not want to get wet, please be sure she/he tells the teacher!

I would like to wish the families a safe and healthy summer, and for most of you, we will see you next year.

I would also like to thank your dedicated PTO for the endless efforts to make JM Hill a great school.



Upcoming Events...

May 3-PTO meeting 7:00

May 8-Author assembly

May 10-Bingo for Books 4:00-8:00

May 14-Budget meeting 7:00

May 19-Family Fun Day

May 21-Regular Board Meeting 7:00

May 28-School closed

