






# March 2014

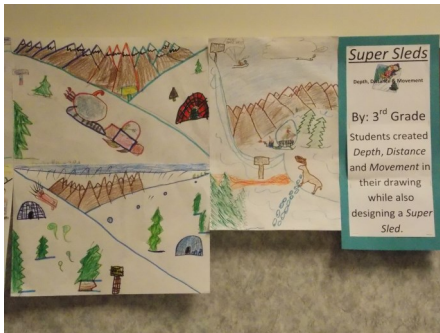


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>Please visit our Wattsburg Area Elementary Center webpage at <a href="http://www.wattsburg.org">www.wattsburg.org</a> for more information on school activities and events. Building News contains each month's newsletter.</p> </div>						1
2	3 Day 5	4 Day 1	5 Day 2 <i>PTO Wendy's Fundraiser 5-8 pm</i>	6 Day 3	7 Day 4	8
9 Daylight Savings Time—set clocks ahead 	10 Day 5	11 Day 1	12 Day 2	13 Day 3	14 Day 3 <i>School in Session</i>	15
16	17 Day 4 	18 Day 5	19 Day 1	20 Day 2 	21 Day 3	22 PTO Family Fun Day & Art Show
23	24 Day 4	25 Day 5 <i>PSSA Testing</i>	26 Day 1 <i>PSSA Testing</i>	27 Day 2 <i>PSSA Testing</i>	28 Day 3	29
30	31 Day 4	April 1 Day 5 Spring Pictures <i>PSSA Testing</i>	April 2 Day 1 <i>PSSA Testing</i>	April 3 Day 2 <i>PSSA Testing</i>	April 4 Day 3	



# Wattsburg Area Elementary Center

## Third Grade Art Projects



See these and more of our Elementary student's art projects on Saturday, March 22 at the PTO Family Fun Day/Art Show.



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Dates to Remember:	
March 3	Dr. Seuss Read Across America
March 9	Daylight Savings Time Begins—set clocks ahead 1 hour
March 13	PTO Meeting 6:30 pm
March 14	School in Session to make up for Jan. 28 <b>DAY 3</b>
March 22	PTO Family Fun Day/Art Show
March 25	PSSA Testing - Third and Fourth Grade
March 26	PSSA Testing - Third and Fourth Grade
March 27	PSSA Testing - Third and Fourth Grade
April 1	PSSA Testing - Third and Fourth Grade Spring School Pictures
April 2	PSSA Testing - Third and Fourth Grade
April 3	PSSA Testing - Third and Fourth Grade

## Kindergarten Screening and Registration

*April 23, 24, and 25, 2014*

*at*

*Wattsburg Area Elementary Center*

**Children must be 5 years old**

**On or before August 31, 2014 to register**

*Please call the WAEC office*

*for more details.*

*824-3400 ext. 4566*

**A survey form is located on the WASD website  
[www.wattsburg.org](http://www.wattsburg.org)**

## LOST AND FOUND

Our Lost and Found table is overflowing with hats, coats, sweatshirts, and other items. Please have your child check the table if they are missing any clothing. We will be donating any items left on the tables.



Who: All WAEC students  
What: Lifetouch Spring Pictures  
When: Tuesday, April 1, 2014

All WAEC students will be photographed and later will receive a picture package. You may send in payment for any portion of the package you would like to keep or simply return the entire package if you do not want to purchase anything.



## Summer Camp 2014 Wattsburg YMCA

\* Located in the Wattsburg Elementary Center

Winter Blues have you thinking about summer? Summer is right around the corner and your children would enjoy heading off to summer camp at the Wattsburg YMCA. The teachers at the Wattsburg YMCA are very excited for another fun summer!

We go on weekly field trips to places such as Pymatuning Deer Park, the Children's Museum, Lakettes, and more! We also take weekly trips to Camp Sherwin where we participate in Swim Lessons, Art activities and Science adventures!

If you are interested and need more information please contact Miss Lindsey  
at the Wattsburg YMCA at 825-2706 or [llasher@ymcaerie.org](mailto:llasher@ymcaerie.org)

# From the Music Room.....

The **Kindergarten** classes at the Elementary Center have been exploring rhythm in music. They are very good at reading quarter notes and eighth notes, and they were introduced to the quarter rest. Our kindergarteners can read and play rhythm patterns on the classroom percussion instruments. They will soon be composing their own patterns to play! The kindergarteners enjoy singing the songs: *Popping Corn*, *Bingo* and *Dr. Suess We Love You*.

Our **First Graders** at the Elementary Center composed their own rhythm patterns using quarter notes and eighth notes and they were able to read and play their patterns. The first graders have also been exploring the instruments of the percussion family. By sight and sound, they are able to identify the classroom percussion instruments we have in the music room, as well as many orchestral percussion instruments. *Let's Go Driving*, *One More River*, and *Chicken Soup with Rice* are a few of their favorite songs.

The **Second Grade** classes at the Elementary Center know how a melody is created from pitches and how pitches make up a scale. They know the syllable names of the scale ( do, re, mi, fa, so, la, ti, do ) and that a melody can move up, down, and repeat. Using three of the scale's pitches ( do, mi and so ) they were able to compose their own melody! Our second grader really like singing "Do - Re - Mi" from *The Sound of Music*. Soon they will be introduced to the brass family of instruments and have the opportunity to hear live brass instruments played by our student teacher, Mr. Dovensky!



Our **Third Graders** at the Elementary Center have recently been reviewing the families of instruments and exploring the brass and woodwind families. Mr. Dovensky shared the sights and sounds of his trumpet and flugelhorn and the third graders learned the parts of those instruments and explored how the sound is created in a brass instrument. They were also able to see and hear a real clarinet; they heard its' range and compared its' sound (tone color) to the trumpet and flugelhorn. The third graders found out that the clarinet was used a lot in the recording of "When I'm Sixty-Four" by the Beatles.

The **Fourth Grade** classes at the Elementary Center will soon take their first playing test on the recorder. They will be tested on playing, "Merrily We Roll Along", found in their Best in Class recorder book. This song uses the pitches B, A, and G. I can tell that many of them have been practicing! Our fourth graders have been singing in harmony. They can sing "*Sandy McNab*" in a three-part round, and they will be learning other songs to sing in harmony. Mr. Dovensky shared the sights and sounds of his trumpet and flugelhorn and the fourth graders learned the parts of those instruments and explored how the sound is created in a brass instrument.

**The music room welcomes Mr. Dovensky to our school. Mr. Dovensky is a student teacher from Mercyhurst University and he will be teaching music at the Elementary Center for seven weeks. He has been with us since the end of January and the students and I have really enjoyed having him here with us, exploring the world of music. Mr. Dovensky's major instrument is the trumpet. He has and will be sharing his knowledge and talent with the students throughout his time here with us. Welcome Mr. Dovensky!**

## Need Assistance Paying for Child Care?

# Child Care Information Services of Erie County May be able to Help

CCIS, the subsidized child care program helps low-income families with the cost of child care

### Basic Guidelines:

- You must live in Pennsylvania
- Meet Income Guidelines for your family size
- Work 20 hours or more a week — or— work 10 hours and in a school/training program for 10 hours a week
- Have a promise of a job that will start in 30 days
- Have a child that needs care while you work or attend an education program
- Child eligible from birth –12 years of age.
- Teen parents enrolled in a full time education program

### **No "Waiting List"**

- Currently CCIS of Erie County does not have a waiting list for low income subsidized child care funding.
- Applications can be made by phone or online line at Compass.

Phone: 814-451-6580  
or toll free at  
1-877-288-2022

[www.compass.state.pa.us](http://www.compass.state.pa.us)

### **Income Guidelines**

The Annual income for a family to be eligible to receive child care subsidy is 200% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines

Family Size	Maximum Yearly Income (May 2013)
2	\$31,020
3	\$39,060
4	\$47,100
5	\$55,140
6	\$63,180



- Use quality child care for before and/or after school care for school aged children.
- Summer care only applications being accepted April 1
- Not sure what child care providers may offer before/after school care or care for your younger children feel free to call CCIS Resource and Referral for a listing of regulated providers call 451-6676.

# Art Room News

From Mrs. Berlin

**The Artist of the Month** for February was Evan Moffett

Evan is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader in Miss Sierota's class.

Evan loves sports, he plays basketball at Wattsburg after school and enjoys downhill skiing and racing.

Evan likes learning and using the computer.

Evan has a younger sister in Kindergarten.

Evan is a hard worker and he is very artistic.



**Evan Moffett-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

**The Annual School Wide Art Show** will take place on March 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Cafeteria. Winning artwork will be chosen on Friday at 3:30 pm. Judges include: Mr. Berlin-Superintendent, Mr. Rinke-Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Coletta-Principal, Mrs. Barboni-Assistant Principal, and Mrs. Berlin-Art Teacher. Winning artists will be announced during school hours on Monday March 24<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is "Art After the Masters". Each grade level is working on a piece of artwork inspired by a Master Artist or an Art Form/Style. Students have been learning about Optical Art, Bridget Riley, Victor Vasserly, Pointillism, George Seurat, Laurel Burch, Paul Klee, Pop Art, Abstract Art, Wayne Thiebaud, and Vincent Van Gogh.

Students have completed many wonderful works of art this past month and continue to enhance their artistic abilities, problem solving skills, and fine motor skills. Art lessons also include history, math, science, and reading.

## *Famous Works of Art used as inspiration for art projects*



Kindergarten



Kindergarten



First Grade



First Grade

## Food Drive sponsored by the WAEC 4th Grade FUTP60 group To Benefit the Lowville Food Pantry

- ◆ Approximately 515 students participated
- ◆ Collected 7,500 items in 2 weeks
- ◆ The winning classroom brought in 1400 items
- ◆ The winning class won a Subway meal, pajama, and movie party
- ◆ Each class brought in a minimum of 200 items



## Kindergarten News

This past month, Kindergarten celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school! Students worked on 100 item projects, counted to 100 and made 100 Day Displays.

Kindergarten has also started 'Leadership Spelling' and is using the Zaner-Bloser handwriting curriculum.

We continue to become better readers and writers by practicing during Reading and Writing Workshop.

Ask us to read to you!



## **LIBRARY NEWS**

### **SCHOLASTIC BUY ONE GET ONE FREE FAIR**

Set-up Tuesday April 8th after school  
Book Fair runs April 9th through April 15th  
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for set up, during  
school from 9 AM to 3 PM, and for clean up on  
April 15th! More information to follow!

### **Library lessons in 3rd and 4th grades**

Students finished talking about Newbery  
award winning books. In addition, students got  
to practice a mini-research project on the  
Olympics. Students were to find out keep  
facts about one of the winter athletes and  
complete a worksheet.  
Students will now be learning how to rate a  
book and write a review.

### **Kindergarten Library Lesson Plans**

Students completed looking at the picture  
books one letter at a time. The books are by  
authors last name, so each week was a new  
small selection of letters. Now they can ex-  
plore all of the "Everybody" section or pic-  
ture books.

Plus this month, we opened up the easy non-  
fiction section for students to get books on  
animals, dinosaurs, pets, vehicles, and more.  
My goal is to have them check out books that  
can be read in 1 or 2 evenings.

### **EDUTYPING**

2nd graders are learning how to log  
in and begin using the typing pro-  
gram called EDUTYPING.

From home, students can access it  
from Mrs. Hedderman's webpage

OR

by going to [www.edutyping.com](http://www.edutyping.com)  
LICENSE ID is senecahs for all stu-  
dents!

### **First Grade Library Lessons**

The students are exploring various  
authors and simple chapter books.  
Students have listed to Amanda Pig  
stories, One, Zero, and many other  
read alouds. First graders are en-  
couraged to take out picture books  
and easy non-fiction, but are given  
a small selection of chapter books  
for weekly check out.

### **NEWBERY MEDAL ON DISPLAY**

Mark your calendars that the week-  
end of March 15 and 16th is the year-  
ly maple festival throughout Erie  
County. In Edinboro at Hurry Hill  
Farm, students (and adults) can go to  
the museum for FREE and touch and  
hold an actual Newbery Medal for the  
book *Miracles on Maple Hill*.

More information coming home soon  
OR visit [www.pamaple.org](http://www.pamaple.org)



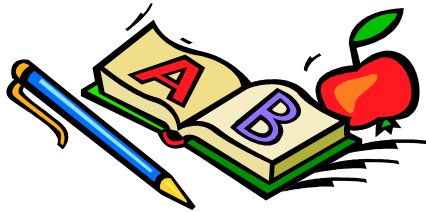
## Second Grade News

February was such a busy month! It's hard to believe that we are beginning the month of March! Second grade has been fine-tuning our second grade skills and trying new things. As we review some of our mastered skills, it becomes apparent how much we have learned this year already!

Reading and writing will keep us busy as we revisit nonfiction text and apply what we've learned about text features to become better readers and writers. In doing this we have found that distinguishing between facts and opinions can become a little tricky (especially if we agree with a specific opinion). Paragraph structures are becoming more detailed with introductions and conclusions. This has been an amazing transition. Writing about and reading about nonfiction texts has also allowed us to determine main idea and details more easily. Practicing this skill at home, using the homework books, will be helpful.

Math brought us time and money in February, but in March we will begin to look at many Geometry skills. Geometry skills will encourage more vocabulary and more reading in our math class. This will be another opportunity to show off our reading and phonics skills as we explore shapes and patterns.

As the weather begins to warm up (hopefully) this month, we will try to get outside more often. Please remind your child to dress for the weather. Snow pants, boots, gloves/mittens, hat, a coat are required to play in the snow! Let's hope for an early spring!



## FOURTH GRADE NEWS

The fourth grade students are working on argumentative writing in writing class. The students were to choose a topic to write about and try to persuade their reader to take action. The students are planning, drafting, editing, and publishing their argumentative essay.

The Fourth Grade Science students have been studying electricity by constructing series and parallel circuits. They will also be experimenting with switches and their use. Next, they will be experimenting with magnets and the magnetic field. They will then work with potential and kinetic energy. The students are enjoying the hands-on class.

In Reading class, we are practicing our strategies for the PSSA's. Also, we are gearing up to celebrate Dr. Seuss week.

In Math, we are practicing strategies to use for our PSSA tests and we are writing to explain the math prompts.

PSSA's will begin March 25<sup>th</sup>!

## First Grade News

First Grade celebrated our 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School with lots of fun learning activities in our classrooms. Students, teachers and parent volunteers helped make our Friendship Celebrations successful. It was a fun send off to a long weekend!" We are a busy bunch of readers in First Grade and are looking forward to March and Dr. Seuss' birthday and reading many of his great books.



## Third Grade News

Third grade celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School by dressing up as a 100 year old person. The students wrote paragraphs about what they thought the world would be like in the year 2105, the year they will be 100 years old. We are now preparing for "Read Across America" day on March 3. Some of the students will be dressing up again. This time they will dress up as their favorite storybook character and write a paragraph as to why this is their favorite character. Others will be reading books as a class and charting how many minutes and books they read during a specific time frame. We also continue to prepare for the PSSA's which will take place March 24 - April 4. We are all looking forward to warmer weather and being able to play outside.