

STAR SCOOP

WAKANDA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL February/March 2022

School District of the
Menomonie Area



WAKANDA
★ ★ ★

MESSAGE FROM MRS. BRANCH

We are very excited to announce that we will have concerts again this spring! Families are welcome to attend one of our in-person performances for each grade-level. We will also be celebrating Read Across America Week in early March. Please see how your child can actively participate in the fun-filled week of literacy events!

~Mrs. Shannon Branch, Principal



February 28th - March 4th, 2022



READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK

February 28th -March 4th is Read Across America Week! Join us in celebrating literacy all week long. Participate in a few or all the days! Here are the different days we will be celebrating:

Monday: Read a Silly Story and Wear a Silly Outfit.

Tuesday: Read a Book about a Famous American and Dress like them! It can be an Inventor, Celebrity, Educator, or more!

Wednesday: Read about an Influential Athlete and Wear something to Represent your Favorite Sports Team!

Thursday: Read a Book about a Different Culture. Wear something to Represent your Family's Culture or Hometown.

Friday: Read your Favorite Book and Wear your Favorite Color!

YEARBOOK

Yearbook: If you are interested in ordering a yearbook for your Wakanda Star, please utilize the link and code provided.

Online Ordering Site: ybpay.lifetouch.com

Yearbook ID Code: 13413622

WAKANDA MUSIC SPRING CONCERTS

4th & 5th grade concert: "Kidflix".

When: April 6th, 2022

Time: 9:00am and 2:00pm

Where: Wakanda Gymnasium

Theme: Come and join the 4th and 5th grade students in a fun filled concert of singing, dancing and instruments. "Kidflix" is a concert with music from different films from the last 20 years.



2nd & 3rd grade concert: "Go Fish".

When: April 8th, 2022

Time: 9:00am and 2:00pm

Where: Wakanda Gymnasium

Theme: Join us under the sea, while the main characters learn about kindness and being themselves. "Go Fish!" is a fun filled concert with singing, dancing and acting!

1st Grade Informance

When: April 12th, 2022

Time: 9:00am and 2:00pm

Where: Wakanda Gymnasium

Theme: This year we are introducing our first Informance. An informance is an informal performance. This is a great opportunity for the students to tell you what they have learned in music class this year! Students will both tell you and perform for you. You will hear singing, dancing, instrument playing and more!

Kindergarten Grade Informance

When: April 13th, 2022

Time: 9:00am and 2:00pm

Where: Wakanda Gymnasium

Theme: This year we are introducing our first Informance. An informance is an informal performance. This is a great opportunity for the students to tell you what they have learned in music class this year! Students will both tell you and perform for you. You will hear singing, dancing, instrument playing and more!

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact our music instructor.

Libby Orf

Music Teacher elizabeth_orf@msd.k12.wi.us

KINDERGARTEN

February was a month of celebration in kindergarten. We began the month by celebrating the 100th day of school. The day was filled with many fun counting and craft activities, celebrating all that we have accomplished in our first 100 days of kindergarten. We also celebrated Valentine's Day this month, showing our appreciation for all the wonderful new friends we have made. In readers workshop we celebrated the completion of our Super Readers unit by showcasing all of our new reading strategies. In math we finished up our unit on measurement and numbers to 10. We also spent time this month talking about dental health. The students learned about the importance of keeping their teeth healthy and clean and even enjoyed a visit from a local dentist. We ended the month of February with a visit to the Mabel Tainter Theater to watch "Elephant and Piggie's 'We Are In a Play'". The students enjoyed this unique experience and had fun watching as some of our favorite characters were brought to life! As a final note, we would like to thank you for meeting with us this month for parent/teacher conferences. We enjoyed connecting with each of you to share all the growth your student has made so far this year.

FIRST GRADE

First Graders have started a new reading unit, "Readers Have Big Jobs to Do". The lessons have the students focusing on using their Good Habits for Solving Hard Words to Be the Boss of Your Reading! We will be learning a new song (tune is "If You're Happy and You Know It") that helps the students remember what to do. Utilizing the tools in their tool box to figure out hard words.

In writing we have started our Opinion Writing Unit. First we have to learn the difference between facts and opinions. We will focus on the three important parts of opinion writing, an opinion statement, reasons to support the opinion statement and a closing. The First Graders are loving this unit. They are enjoying engaging and expressing their ideas!!

SECOND GRADE

Second grade is marching into spring! We continue to be so proud of our second graders and all of the wonderful gains they are making.

In reading we continue to build our stamina and work on our phonics skills to spell and read unknown words. Our reading focus has also been on comprehension strategies to improve our reading. We also continue to work on reading and writing our snap words each day.

We are continuing to stretch our math brains. Our math unit this month is a challenging one, as we have been working with adding and subtracting three digit numbers, but we are learning a lot in the process! We have practiced many strategies that lead to being able to solve these problems mentally, as well as a more traditional way. (Many of us call this "the way Mom and Dad do it!" :) We are also continuing to work on mastering fluency with our addition and subtraction facts each day.

In science began a new unit focusing on solids and liquids. We first focused on studying solids, their properties, and ways they are used in our world and then moved on to liquids in the same way. The second graders are really enjoying this unit and the investigations that go with it.

THIRD GRADE

It was wonderful to meet with so many of you at conferences recently! This month the 3rd graders participated in a writing project that used AIM (Arts Integration Menomonic grant) materials and

activities to create a masterpiece of art using watercolors and various painting techniques. After they completed their art, the students wrote a creative descriptive poem about their painting. They sure make our hallway look beautiful! Currently, the students are working on biographies by researching important people on Pebble Go, Epic, books and other sources. In math they are learning all about fractions by identifying, modeling and comparing them. Soon, we'll be making equivalent fractions along with adding and subtracting fractions. In social studies, the students spent time learning about early American history and are now learning about immigration. We are looking forward to celebrating Read Across America week by participating in the reading activities our school has planned out!

FOURTH GRADE

We appreciate the time we had to meet with each family during conferences this month. Thank you for attending and discussing your student's progress in fourth grade.

The month of February has been filled with reading historical fiction books as a book club. Students have spent time evaluating the theme and perspective of their club books to learn a bit more about a historical event. These book clubs are being wrapped up and are so proud of the work our readers did in their clubs.

During math, we have been immersed in the world of fractions! Students have learned how to find equivalent fractions, how to compare fractions, and even how to add and subtract fractions. We ended the month of February with our mid module test.

Germany! France! Laos! These are just a few of the countries our writer's have been writing feature articles about. Students are getting excited to share their knowledge with their classmates during our festival on March 2.

In social studies we have been discussing the Southeast Region of the United States along with the Revolutionary War. We will soon be switching to the Midwest Region and narrowing our focus to Wisconsin.

We are excited to see what our fourth graders will do in the month of March!

FIFTH GRADE

Grade 5 would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our 5th Grade Families for taking the time to meet with us this past month at Parent-Teacher Conferences. We could not be more proud of our Elementary Seniors! We have been hard at work on all things fractions in our Math Workshop; adding, subtracting, multiplying, and soon...dividing! Argument & Advocacy will be our focus in our next units of study in both Reading & Writing Workshops. Look to hear more about our class debates in the days to come. Our historians immensely enjoyed their experience in our American Revolution Simulation. We were there when the first shot was fired at Lexington. We were there when the Declaration of Independence was read for the first time. We were there at Valley Forge with George Washington, and we were all witnesses to the surrender at Yorktown. History is *ALIVE* & well in Grade 5. Our high-achieving 5th Graders will now set their sights on learning what it takes to be an architect in our integrated *Breaking the Box: The Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright* taught in conjunction with Ms. J., Wakanda Elementary Art Specialist. Life is good in Grade 5!

SCHOOL HOURS

8:30 A.M. is our Warning Bell

8:35 A.M. is our Start Time-Attendance is Taken

3:30 P.M. is our Dismissal Time





Our Second Graders

at Valentine's Day!




3/2 - PTO MEETING 6:30PM


3/14-3/18 - SPRING BREAK - NO SCHOOL




Contact Information

 @SDMA_Wakanda

 801 Pine Avenue E Menomonie,...

 715-232-3898

 wk.sdmaonline.com