

Bobcat Bulletin

Mark Your Calendar!



BASKETBALL

November 27th

Home vs. Green Forest R2
@5:00 pm

November 28th

Home vs. Northwood R4
@5:00 pm

November 30th

Away at Oak Hill R1
@5:00 pm

December 1st

Home vs. Phelps County
Edgar Springs

@5:30 pm

8th Grade

Appreciation Night

2nd Quarter Ends

December 15th

Presentation to Rotary Club

By Mrs. Victoria Brooker, Superintendent



Dent-Phelps R-III presented to the Salem Rotary club about them initiating their first Project-Based Learning class. This is a teaching method that is student-led and teacher monitored. This past month, they decided on a Shark Tank themed PBL where the stu-

dent's picked inventions from the Industrial Revolution. These inventions were researched, modeled, and presented to a group of "Sharks" or judges. The first through third place winners were brought to the Rotary Club this afternoon to present their inven-

tions and speak upon their experience with PBL. Pictured left to right, Dr. Karla Tiefenthaller, Mrs. Sarah Parker, Sidney Bennett, Carter Hayes, Kaelynn Norris, Ashton Edmondson, Landon McGraw, Alton May, Brandon Schloemer and Mr John Stratton.

November Character Award Winners



PTO Christmas Shoppe is Coming Soon

By Julia Fishbaugher, PTO member

November, with its crisp air and vibrant colors, ushers in a season of warmth and reflection. As we say goodbye to the last of autumn and prepare for the embrace of winter, there are so many reasons to look forward to this enchanting month.

First and foremost, November heralds the celebration of Thanksgiving. It's a time to gather with loved ones, express gratitude for life's blessings, and savor a sumptuous feast that epitomizes the very essence of togetherness. The aroma of roasted turkey, the sweetness of

pumpkin pie, and the joy of sharing a meal with family and friends create an unforgettable experience.

These last few weeks have brought an explosion of natural beauty as trees shed their leaves in a beautiful display of reds, oranges, and yellows. Enjoying time outdoors to witness this transformation is always good for my soul.

As the days grow shorter and nights longer, November invites us to cozy up indoors. It's a time for hot cocoa, and the joy of reading a good book (that you picked up at

last month's book fair!) or watching movies snuggled up on the couch.

We hope you have a blessed Thanksgiving and enjoy the week-long break from the hustle and bustle of school as you kick off the holiday season. With Christmas just around the corner, remember our annual Christmas shoppe! Take advantage of the magic of letting your kids pick out their own gifts for family and friends. Christmas Shoppe returns December 11th through 15th!

Dent Phelps RIII Middle Schoolers Pledge to be Vape Free

By Dr. Karla Tiefenthaler, Principal

No-Vape November is the theme this month Dent-Phelps R-III! MSHP Trooper Joshua Summers helped 7th and 8th graders kick off No Vape November with an informative presentation on the origin of and the health risks associated with vaping. Counselor Pogue and Nurse Alicia presented about the danger of vaping during 5th and 6th grade counseling clas-

ses. Students in grades 5th-8th grades wrote essays detailing why vaping is harmful. They also pledged to remain vape free and signed the Dent Phelps Banner proclaiming, "The Bobcat Way is Vape Free!" Students were entered into a drawing for one of three \$100.00 gift cards. The drawing will be held. We encourage adults to be vigilant, as

the chemicals in vapes may vary drastically and may result in harm to children. As always, Dent-Phelps takes the safety of students very seriously. Thank you for joining us in efforts to keep our students drug-free and healthy!

Gift card drawings will be Thursday, November 30th.



Robotics Teams Gearing Up for Competitions

By Mrs. Rana Hudson, Robotics Club Sponsor

Robotics has been a lot of fun this year. We have two full teams. This year we have two competition tables for students to practice on instead of one. This gives the students more time each to work on their coding skills and practice and time the task to each model on the tables. Each interactive model is made from Lego's each year that represent the challenge for that year. This year's challenge is art. Each team researches information about the challenge, finds a problem, and creates a solution that has not been thought of yet or improves on a solution that already exists. The teams then create a prototype of their solution. Each team then works on presentations about their accomplishments for that year and prepare for competition. At the competition, teams are judged in three different areas: Core values, innovation project, and robot design and coding skills. These three different areas are judged in two parts. The first part is how many tasks their robot can complete in two and a half minutes. Teams compete against each other on two different tables. Teams get to compete against two to three different teams depending on the amount of teams at the competition. The teams receive a

certain amount of points for each task. Task that are harder to complete are worth more points than the easier task, so students must use their critical thinking skills to decide which tasks would give them the most points in the allotted time. In between table competitions students give their presentations to judges. The teams talk to the judges about their core values, or how the team has worked together to explore new skills and ideas using creativity and perseverance to learn ways that they can improve the world. The also present their prototype or innovation project to the judges and clearly define what they have learned through research the issues they discovered, and the solution they decided to develop for the challenge. Last, but not least, teams are judged for the design of their robots and their coding. Robotics teams have to work to finish all of the task by completion time and our own Robotics team is no exception. There is only four weeks until competition and students are finishing up projects to be ready. "The Bobcat Bunch," has made a glass kaleidoscope of feelings and "The New Kids on the Block," has made a mural that represents the team and is making a pinpoint box camera. The programmers are busy

coding and the rest are working on presentations. It is a busy time of the year for Robotics.



Honoring
ALL WHO
served
THANK YOU
VETERANS



The Progression of Fractions

By Mrs. Rana Hudson, Math Interventions Teacher

Though students really begin to dive into fractions in the third grade, students work with fractions begins in the earlier grades. Students begin their journey toward fractions in the first and second grades in ways you may not have thought of. In first grade students begin to learn about base ten numbers which begins their understanding of units such as 23 has 2 tens and 3 ones. They learn about geometric shapes like triangles, trapezoids, and hexagons; and explore putting the shapes together to form new shapes. This helps them to understand that the shapes can be units that can make a new shape. Students also begin to use fraction language to describe partitions of simple shapes into equal shares like halves, fourths, and quarters and these activities extend through

second grade where they introduce thirds. Grade 1 students might say, "A red block is half of a yellow block" and "Three blue blocks make one yellow block." Grade 2 students might say, "A blue block is a third of a yellow block." Grade 3 students begin to use notation such as $\frac{1}{3}$ in describing the relationships of the pattern blocks. Grade 4 students might use 0:5. Grade 7 students might use 0:3333:: or 0: System Progression). 2 , 1 3 , 1 6 , 2 3 , 3 (CCSSM Writing Team, 2018).

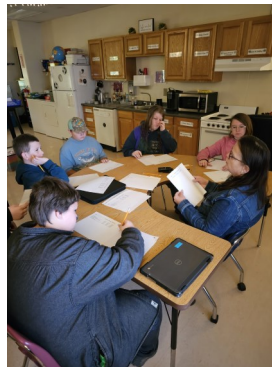
Measurement also begins in first grade where students begin to measure lengths in units of perhaps paper clips and extends to measuring with a ruler in units of inches in the second grade.

A way to help your child understand fractions in the third and fourth grades more deeply can begin at home as early as the first grade. Let your little ones help in giving everyone a fair share of something, like maybe a bag of M&Ms. Let them help with measuring in crafts, a repair project, or cooking. Let them help write a grocery list or help buy groceries and talk about cost in dollars and cents. Use fraction language. "You get half and your sister gets half." Ask if they want their sandwich cut into halves or fourths. Not only do children love spending time with their mom and dad, but they love to help. These kinds of activities at home can strengthen and reinforce their understanding of fractions at school when they get older.

Bobcat Brew Crew Data Meeting

By Miss Brittany Parks, SPED Teacher

The Bobcat Brew Crew had a meeting with one of our investors, Mrs. Brooker, to go over the first quarter data. We discussed starting balances, revenue, expenditures, etc. The students are now looking at new snack and drink additions to add to our menu. It's a great day to be part of the Bobcat Brew Crew!



Bringing home 3rd place times 2!



Phonemic Awareness - Crucial for Reading Success

By Mrs. Sara Heithold, Kindergarten Teacher

Did you know that the two best predictors of early reading success are alphabet recognition and phonemic awareness? Did you also know that the lack of phonemic awareness is the most powerful determinant of the likelihood of failure to read? So what is phonemic awareness and how can I help my children improve their phonemic awareness. In this article I will explain what is phonemic awareness and how you can help your children succeed in that area.

Phonemic awareness is the ability to hear and manipulate sounds within words. This means that you can do phonemic awareness activities in the dark because you only need your ears to hear the sounds in words and you do not need to see anything to perform the activities.

At Dent-Phelps kindergarten through second grade uses a phonemic awareness curriculum called Heggerty. This curriculum is done daily, only takes 15 minutes, and the teachers do not need any materials for it.

The 10 Phonemic awareness activities that I have listed can be done on car rides, walks, bath time, waiting in line at the store, and anytime you have an extra moment with your kiddo!

Sing songs and nursery rhymes

- Rhymes help children understand that sounds in our language have meaning and follow certain patterns. Have fun reading and reciting songs and nursery rhymes together and exaggerate the rhyming words to highlight the different sounds in each word.

Word families

Word families are sets of words that rhyme. Start to build your family by giving your child the first word, for example, *cat*. Then ask your child to name all the “kids” in the *cat* family, such as: *bat, fat, sat, rat, pat, mat, hat, flat*. This will help your child hear patterns in words.

Tongue ticklers

Alliteration or “tongue ticklers” — where the sound you’re focusing on is repeated over and over again — can be a fun way to provide practice with a speech sound. Try these: For M: Miss Mouse makes marvelous meatballs! For S: Silly Sally sings songs about snakes and snails. For F: Freddy finds fireflies with a flashlight.

Jump, skip, hop!

Create simple picture cards that you draw or cut out of magazines. Have your child, identify what’s in the picture, and then break that word into its individual sounds. For example, *dog* is d-o-g, three sounds (phonemes). Three sounds? You and your child do three jumping jacks, skips, or hops (followed by a high-five). You can also do this game outdoors without the cards, just call out simple words for your child.

Snail talk

Tell your child you’re going to communicate in “snail talk” and they need to figure out what you’re saying. Take a simple word and stretch it out

very slowly (e.g., / fffffllllaaaag/), then ask your child to tell you the word. Switch roles and have your child stretch out a word for you.

Sound counting

Using LEGO bricks, beads, or pennies, say a word and have your child show you how many sounds the word makes. For example, *top* = t-o-p = three sounds, so your child would place three objects in a row. Then have them tap each object as they say the sound. Remember, your child is just showing you the sounds they hear. So the word *bike* would be = b-i-k (silent e) = only three sounds.

“I spy” blending

Here’s an easy phoneme blending game you can play while talking a walk. For blending, you can say, “I see a sign that says s-t-o-p” Then your child has to blend the sounds to guess your word — *stop*. (Remember to say only the sounds in the word — not the letters.) Keep the words short, moving from two to three to four sounds depending on your child’s skill level.

First sounds

When you’re reading together with your child, pick a word from the book and say it with emphasis on the first sound. Pick another word and compare them. “Zzz-zookeeper and rrr-rhinoceros. Can you hear what sound zzz-zookeeper starts with? Is it the same as rrr-rhinoceros?”

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Dent-Phelps R-III

Mrs. Kim Pogue, school counselor

Our character focus for November is **RESOURCEFULNESS**, which by definition is the ability to find quick and clever ways to overcome difficulties. Students can show this by using what they have—rather than what they would like to have—to succeed. It is the ability to work smarter, not harder.

This month's counseling lessons will focus on the following:

- **Growth mindset as it relates to resourcefulness**
- **Middle schoolers will discuss the harmful effects of vaping and celebrate "NO Vape November"**

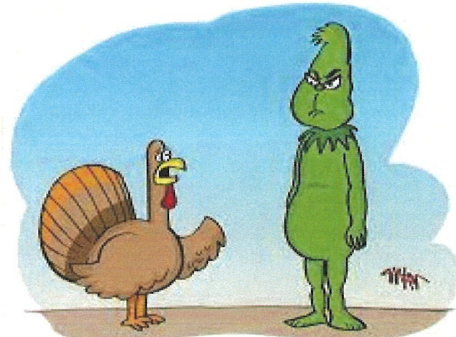


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November Guidance Lessons:
RESOURCEFULNESS



November Nurse's Nook



"We'd like to hire you to steal Thanksgiving."

November is Diabetes Awareness Month – Talk to your health care provider about the risk factors in your family, take precautions, & support the people you know with Diabetes!

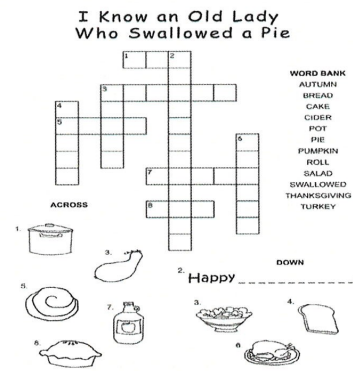
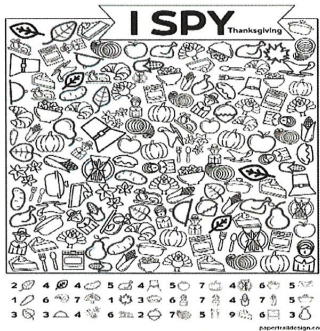
Continue to say “BOO” to the Flu! – The Centers for Disease Control advise everyone 6 months of age and older to get a flu shot during the months of October and November. Talk to your doctor.

Please keep all sick children home from school, especially if they are exhibiting respiratory and stomach symptoms! If you are unsure – stay home and call your health care provider or school nurse for advice.

Allergy & Asthma season is hitting us HARD this time of year. Monitor all symptoms closely and follow your health care provider’s advice. If your child has asthma, it is extremely important to keep an inhaler at school.

We can protect and strengthen our own immunity by eating nutritious foods, taking daily walks, sleeping 8-10 hours a night, reducing stress, and smiling daily :)

I hope you all have a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving Break!
Love, Nurse Alicia



DENT-PHELPS R-III SCHOOL

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*"Value, Empower, and Educate
Everyone, Everyday"*

*We're on the web!
www.dentphelps.k12.mo.us*

We Want Your Input...

We'd like to hear from you regarding our programs, schedules, yearly calendar, activities, etc. We value your opinion and want to make the best decisions possible in meeting the needs of our staff, students, and community.

Please email your comments and/or suggestions to:

admin@dentphelps.k12.mo.us

If you don't have access to a computer, feel free to drop us a note or give us a call.

If you would like to be placed on our newsletter mailing list, please call the office at 729-4680.

The Administration

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