

# Bobcat Bulletin

Volume IV, Issue 5


February/March 2024

## Mark Your Calendar!



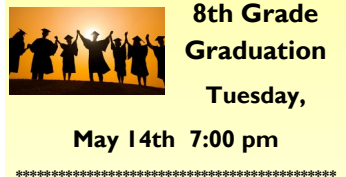
**SPRING break**

MARCH 25TH - APRIL 1ST  
SCHOOL RESUMES TUES., APRIL 2ND



**MAP TESTING**

April 22 through May 10, 2024



**8th Grade Graduation**

Tuesday,  
May 14th 7:00 pm



**LAST DAY OF PRE-K**

2023 - 2024

Mon./Wed. May 7th & Tues./Thurs. May 8th



**Last Day OF SCHOOL**

2023-2024

Friday, May 17th at 12:30

## Solar Eclipse

By Ms. Nichole Atkinson, 5th/6th Grade Science Teacher



A Total Solar Eclipse occurs when the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, completely blocking the face of the Sun. Before 2017, it had been 148 years since a Total Solar Eclipse path had come through Missouri. That was on August 7, 1869 in the north-east corner of our state. Then, on August 21, 2017, it again came through Missouri. The path of totality was not as wide in Missouri in 2017 as it will be this year. The path of totality is the moon's shadow as it covers the Earth's surface, the umbra. The umbra means the part of a shadow where all light, in this case from the Sun, is excluded.

The Total Solar Eclipse path coming through Missouri on April 8, 2024 will begin in Missouri at 1:54 pm and leave Missouri at 2:02 pm. The shortest duration will be in Salem within 55 seconds. The next solar eclipse going across the contiguous United States will be in 20 years. That will be on August 23, 2044. When this solar eclipse occurs, viewers may be able to see a solar prominence, which is a bright feature extending outward from the Sun.

Remember, safety is important while viewing an eclipse. The school will provide special glasses to the students for viewing the

eclipse on April 8, 2024. If you wish for your child not to participate in viewing the eclipse, please sign and return the opt-out form that was previously sent home before Monday, April 8th.

Montauk State Park will be in the 99.6% and will begin at 12:38 p.m. with the maximum eclipse at 1:57 p.m. and ending at 3:14 p.m. according to mostateparks.com. You can visit the website to find Missouri State Parks that are in the 100% path and see which you have to make a reservation at and which parks you do not.

Enjoy the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse and remember to

## THANK YOU DPR3 School Board!!!



# We Made Leprechaun Traps!

By Mrs. Tammy Back, 2B Teacher

During the month of March, second grade students were assigned a STEM project to design and create a leprechaun trap. Every year I look forward to seeing their imaginations in action.

The ideas just come pouring out as soon as the introductory presentation begins on the Newline Television. The discussions among the students are an opportunity for the students to discover the numerous potential pool of leprechaun trap options. Based on these discussions, the students and I decide the five things all of the projects must entail.

Together, we determined the 2024 traps would have the following criteria:

1. a simple machine
2. working trap with some recycled materials
3. a sign with words
4. gold coins/shiny things
5. green or rainbow colored

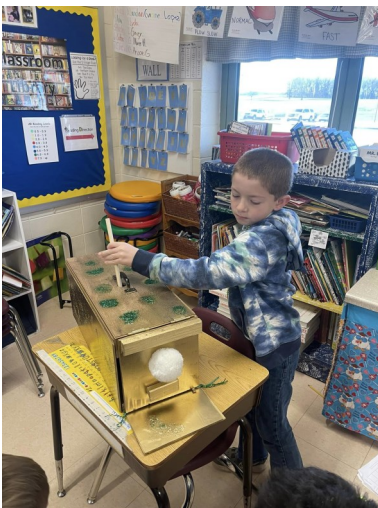
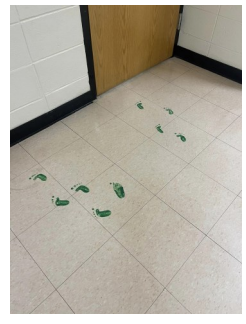
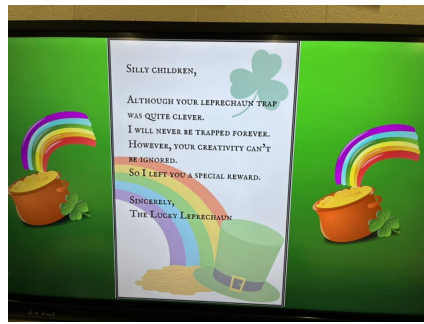
Students were required to plan out the steps to their traps, draw a diagram of how the trap works, and built the trap. To assist in the process, the students have been learning about six kinds of simple machines. Those include the inclined plane, wedge, screw, lever, wheel with axle and pulley.

Excitement filled the air as students brought in their traps to the classroom. Designs, steps, and names of traps were turned in. Rich conversations ensued about how each one was made and works.

They double checked traps to make sure the five criteria were met for full credit. Students demonstrated how their traps worked and set them to try and catch that naughty leprechaun over the weekend.



## More St. Patrick's Day Fun...



# Welcome Spring

By Julia Fishbauger, PTO Member

Well, officially the first day of Spring this year was March 19<sup>th</sup> but it has sure felt like spring for weeks now! Boy have we been lucky! The daffodils are fully blooming and the wind from the south brings that warm humid air that brings joy now, and sweltering lethargy come summer. But for now, let's enjoy it. Spring always brings excitement for new beginnings, regrowth, and change. The "spring forward" of our clocks leaves us groggy for one Sunday morning, but soon we're basking in the extra daylight in the evenings.

March brings with it St. Patrick's Day! We hope you wore your green so you didn't get pinched! Wearing green on St. Patrick's Day is a tradition rooted in Irish folklore. Legend has it that green makes one invisible to mischievous leprechauns, ensuring good luck. Today, it symbolizes solidarity with Irish culture and the shared global celebration of St. Patrick's legacy.

We also celebrate Easter this month, on the 31st. Easter is early this year! The date of Easter changes every year because it is deter-

mined by the lunar calendar rather than the fixed Gregorian calendar. This was established to align the celebration of Easter with the Jewish festival of Passover.

We hope you all have a wonderful March, and that the Easter Bunny leaves you lots of eggs to find! Happy Spring!



## "...Fine Art Comes From the Soul."

By Mrs. Kayla Wisdom, Fine Arts

"My goal is to make fine art, and fine art comes from the soul." -Richard MacDonald

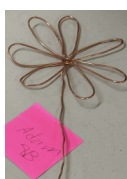
This quote best describes what the students have been learning and doing in the Fine Arts classroom! We have been focusing on learning shading, exploring the color wheel, and diving into the theories of music and rhythm. The students have been so excited to learn more about the notes on the scale, and how to keep beat!

Their Geometric Stars were an exciting project for 4th-8th grade students, and add a great pop of color to the upper hallway! They all did such a great job!!

Recently, the 3rd-8th grader students worked on Earth Day Projects which are turned out excellent! Their creativity has shone through on each and every one of them. Our school contest saw

many creative entries from students as they used recycled materials to create. Quentin Barbee (8<sup>th</sup> grade) received 1<sup>st</sup> place for his purse creation, Hayden Gidcumb (5<sup>th</sup> grade) received 2<sup>nd</sup> place showcasing his woodworking skills and Colt Watkins (5<sup>th</sup> grade) warmed up the welder to create his 3<sup>rd</sup> place owl.!

Preschool through 2nd grade have been working hard at making pan-pipes, which they were able to take home and enjoy! They also have made Butterfly Rings using pipe cleaners and have done many other fun projects in class. We all look forward to seeing what new and exciting things are to come from the Fine Arts Classroom throughout the remainder of the year!



# COUNSELOR'S CORNER

## DENT-PHELPS R-III

Mrs. Kim Pogue, school counselor

This month's counseling lessons will focus on **KINDNESS!** We will focus on looking for ways to show kindness in our words and actions at school, home, and in the community. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a **KINDNESS CHALLENGE** which will give them the opportunity to show what they are learning in classroom counseling lessons.

### Coming Up:

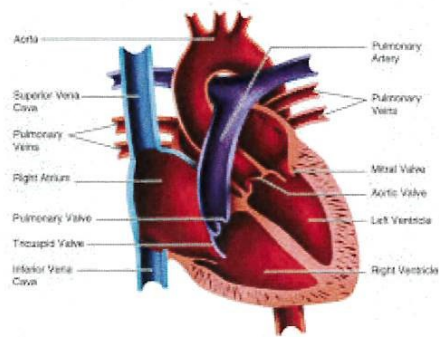
- March 15—8<sup>th</sup> grade to RTI for Non-Traditional Career Event
- High school scheduling for 8<sup>th</sup> graders continues through February
- April—MAP testing begins
- May 9—CAREER DAY
- May 14—8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation

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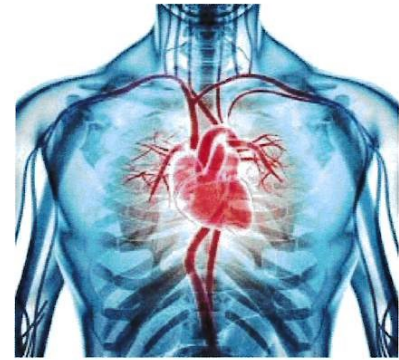
Counseling Office  
Mrs. Kim Pogue, counselor  
(573) 729-4680 ext. 1046  
kpogue@dentphelps.k12.mo.us

**February  
Guidance Lessons:**  
**KINDNESS**





## FEBRUARY NURSE NOOK

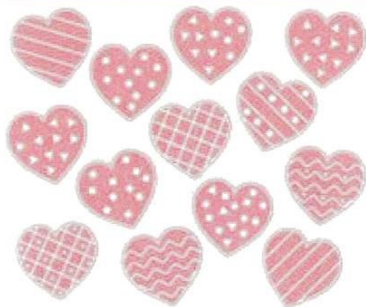


February is a month full of many fun events! It brings Ground Hogs Day, Valentine's Day and the Super Bowl! Did you know that February is also American Heart Month? As a nurse, I love discussing the heart and how to keep it healthy. February reminds us to take care of ourselves and think about our risk factors for heart disease. Heart disease can happen at any age, and some risk factors are preventable. Some common risk factors are obesity, physical inactivity, high blood pressure, smoking, high cholesterol or diabetes. Taking care of your heart is so important! Come check out my blocked artery example in the nurse office and we can talk about ways to cut cholesterol out of your diet! ☺ Cholesterol is a waxy substance found in your blood. Your body needs cholesterol to build healthy cells, but high levels of cholesterol can increase your risk of heart disease. With high cholesterol, you can develop fatty deposits in your blood vessels, and this could lead you to heart attack or stroke!

It's hard to realize that in just a few short months, this school year will be over and summer vacation will be here. I am so ready for some warmer weather. I have truly enjoyed being a Bobcat these last four school years. I saw a saying not long ago that really touched my heart and is so true - "In 100 years from now, it will not matter what my bank account was. Or the sort of house I lived in. Or the kind of car I drove. But the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child." I love each and every one of your children here at Dent-Phelps RIII and I thank you for trusting and sharing them with me, as it surely is a blessing.

Love, Nurse Alicia

### FIND TWO SAME HEARTS



What did one blueberry say to the other blueberry on Valentine's Day?

What did the hamburger buy his sweetheart?

Answer: I love you BERRY much! Answer: An onion ring!

# COUNSELOR'S CORNER

## DENT-PHELPS R-III

Mrs. Kim Pogue, school counselor

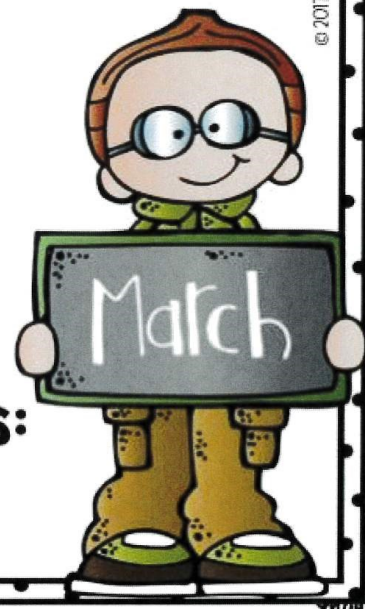
The end of the year is fast approaching! Part of the end of the year activities includes standardized testing which can be challenging for students. To prepare for this, our counseling lessons this month will focus on PERSEVERANCE and how to have a GROWTH MINDSET in order to meet the challenges we face. Students will also begin practicing relaxation techniques and coping strategies to help with the stress of testing. It will be a great month to be a Bobcat!

### Coming Up:

- March 15—8<sup>th</sup> grade to RTI for Non-Traditional Career Event
- High school scheduling and transition activities for 8<sup>th</sup> graders continues
- April—MAP testing begins
- May 9—CAREER DAY
- May 14—8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation

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March Guidance Lessons:  
**PERSEVERANCE**



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### March Nurse's Corner With Nurse Alicia

Wow! March already! One of my favorite times of the year! With the upcoming weather change, we are all in the path of allergy irritation! We have quite a few kids with asthma or children that get asthma/allergy related symptoms around this area. Four common triggers of allergy symptoms are listed below.

**Know Your  
ASTHMA ZONES**

**Green Zone - GO!**

**SIGNS:** Breathing is good. No cough, wheeze, chest tightness or shortness of breath during day or night. Can work, play, sleep.

**ACTION:** Take your long-term control medicine daily. You may need quick-relief medicine before you exercise. You want to be in the Green Zone as much as possible. It means your asthma plan is working!

**Yellow Zone - CAUTION**

**SIGNS:** Cough, wheeze, chest tightness or shortness of breath during day or night. Can do some but not all usual activities.

**ACTION:** Take your quick-relief medicine right away. If you do not return to the Green Zone within one hour of treatment, refer to your Asthma Action Plan. Continue to take your long-term control medicine as prescribed. If you are in the Yellow Zone two times or more per week, your asthma is not under control and it's time to call your doctor or nurse.

**Red Zone - DANGER**

**SIGNS:** You have any of these symptoms: Asthma is getting worse fast. Lots of coughing. Trouble walking or talking due to shortness of breath. Can't do normal activities. Medicine is not helping. Fingers or lips are blue.

**ACTION: CALL YOUR DOCTOR OR 911 NOW.** Go to the hospital or call an ambulance if you are still in the Red Zone after taking medicines as instructed by your doctor. Follow up with your doctor as soon as possible after your emergency visit.

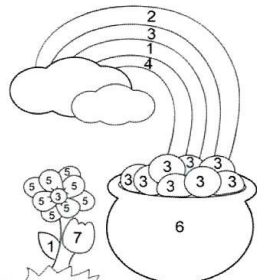
Asthma and Allergy  
Foundation of America  
aafa.org

- **Irritants:** Airborne particles called "irritants" can trigger symptoms such as coughing, sneezing, itchy eyes, runny nose, scratchy throat, and difficulty breathing. This may include pet fur, mold and dust.
- **Foods:** The cause of food allergies is unknown. Symptoms of a reaction can include digestive problems, hives or swollen airways. Severe reactions can be life threatening. Common food allergies include nuts, eggs, fish and milk.
- **Outdoors:** Seasonal allergies may cause sneezing, stuffiness, a runny nose, and itchiness in your nose, the roof of your mouth, throat eyes or ears. Common outdoor allergies include pollen, insect bites and stings.
- **Indoors:** Allergy symptoms due to fragrance sensitivity include respiratory, nose and eye symptoms, or skin allergy symptoms. Common inhalation allergies include perfume, cigarette smoke and car exhaust.

80% of kids with asthma are affected by these allergies, as are 65-75% of adults. Please be very mindful as the weather begins to change, and we are introduced again to these allergies.

### March Color by Number

1 2 3 4 5  
March



- 1- green
- 5- purple
- 2- red
- 6- orange
- 3- yellow
- 7- pink
- 4 blue
- 8- black

twistynoodle.com

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## March Word Scramble

Unscramble the words below

1. LUACEHENPR
2. GEERN
3. TS CARPKIT
4. ONWBIAR
5. CULYK
6. TPO OF DOLG
7. SMKACORH
8. HCMAR

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# Dent Phelps Archery Tournament

## Elementary

### Boys

- 1<sup>st</sup> place Blake Manthey – 238
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place Hayden Gidcumb – 219
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Stetson Chatterson – 205

### Girls

- 1<sup>st</sup> place Ella Yates – 237
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place Sawyer Camden – 191
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Grace Heithold – 183

## Middle School

### Boys

- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Adam Heithold – 267

### Girls

- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Macy Manthey - 217



## DPR3 Represented at State NASP Tournament

Back Row: Coach Devin Lindsey, Stetson Chatterson, Raelynn Welch, Macy Manthey, Madden Schloemer, Talon Owen, Ella Yates, Coach Rana Hudson

Front Row: Hayden Gidcumb, Colt Watkins, Blake Manthey, Carter Hayes, Sawyer Camden, Emmaly Simpson



## Thank you from the C.A.R.E.S Team

The Trivia Night to benefit Santa's Helpers was a huge success with over \$1,700 being raised.





# Encouragement and Rest a Necessity

By Ms. Stephanie Dittman, Curriculum Director/District Testing Coordinator

As we prepare for the MAP testing period from April 22nd through May 10th for third-grade through eighth grade students, we want to ensure that our students are well-prepared and supported throughout this process. Your encouragement and involvement play a crucial role in helping our students do their best.

Here are some important reminders to help your child succeed during MAP testing:

**Rest and Nutrition:** Please ensure that your child gets a good night's rest before each testing day and eats a nutritious breakfast in the morning. A well-rested and nourished student is better equipped to focus and perform their best.

**Timely Arrival:** It's essential for students to arrive at school no later than

8:00 a.m. on testing days. This allows them to settle in and mentally prepare for the assessments.

**Testing Subjects:** Students in grades 3-8 will be tested in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. Additionally, grade five (5) and grade eight (8) students will have Science testing. Please ensure your child is familiar with the subjects they will be tested on.

**EOC for Algebra 1:** Students taking Algebra 1 will also be participating in End-of-Course (EOC) testing during this period. Encourage your child to review their material and feel confident in their skills.

**Duration:** On average, the testing period may take 2-3 days to complete. We appreciate your understanding and

support during this time.

**Reduced Stress:** We strive to make MAP testing as stress-free as possible for our students. All testing will be conducted in the mornings, and afternoons will be reserved for lighter activities to help students relax and recharge.

Your support and encouragement are invaluable as we navigate through this testing period. Together, we can create a positive and supportive environment that enables our students to showcase their skills and abilities.



Thank you for partnering with us in your child's education journey.

## S P I R I T Weeks Have Been a blast!



### 3rd Grade Spirit Week April 2-5

Tuesday Crazy Sock Day



Wednesday Tye Dye Day



Thursday Dress as Your Favorite Person or Food



Friday Beach Day



# Timeliness is Priceless

By Ms. Stephanie Dittman, Curriculum Director/District Testing Coordinator

As we approach the weeks of April 22nd through May 10th, our Kindergarten through second-grade students will be participating in the end-of-year diagnostic through i-Ready. This assessment is an important tool to gauge your child's progress and growth throughout the academic year.

We kindly ask for your support in encouraging your child to do their best on the test. Here are some important reminders to help prepare your child for success:

**Encourage Effort:** Please motivate your child to put forth their

best effort during the end-of-year diagnostic. Positive reinforcement can greatly impact their motivation and performance.

**Healthy Habits:** A nutritious breakfast and ample rest are essential for your child's success on testing days. Please ensure they are well-rested and have a healthy meal before coming to school.

**Timely Arrival:** To ensure a smooth testing experience,

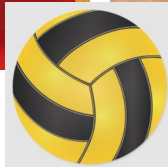
please ensure your child arrives at school by 8:00 a.m. on testing days. This allows them to settle in and prepare for the assessment.

Your involvement and support are crucial in helping your child excel academically. Together, we can create an environment where every child feels empowered to succeed.

Thank you for partnering with us in your child's education journey.



## Volleyball - 10 and 0 Regular Season & 13-1 Tournaments



# Do I Have to Read Tonight?

By Rana Hudson, Interventions

Has your child asked if they could skip their reading logs? Have you asked yourself if it would make a difference if your child missed nights doing their reading log? To answer your question, yes it matters. It is believed that an average student can acquire as many as 2,000 to 4,000 new words every year, around 800 of those words are taught in direct instruction at school, while the rest of the new word acquisitions are learned while reading books. Books at each grade level has vocabulary that is seen frequently in books at that level, giving readers multiple exposures to help them gain understanding of those new words. As they grow in levels, they continue to gain new vocabulary. The more they read, the more vocabulary they gain, meaning an avid reader can learn more than 4,000 new words per year. The more vocabulary they acquire, helps them to read and understand content area textbooks like science and social studies, which leads to a higher success in grades.

Reading over the summer is also very important, just like sports, to become good at the sport, they need practice and the more they practice the better they become, but when they are not

practicing their skills get a little rusty. It is the same for young readers. If they are not reading over the summer, they begin to lose some of those reading skills and vocabulary.

Reading is one of the most important skills your child will learn. You need to read to learn all subjects in school. If they do not like to read, it is possible that they are a struggling reader or they may not have found the type of book that is right for them. Talk with your child and find out why they do not like to read. Take them to a library and try different genres or pick a book and read it as a family. Reading together may be the motivation they need to get them started on the road to reading. If they are a struggling reader talk with their teacher and find out how you can help them at home.

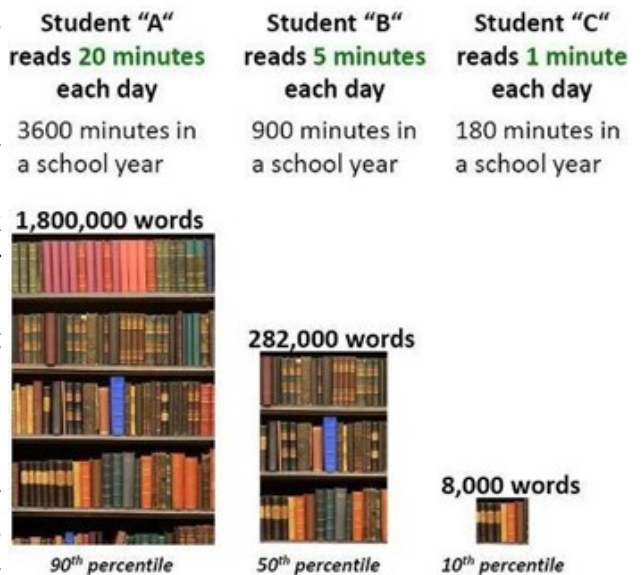
Talk with your child about the books they are reading. The more they talk about the books they are reading, the more likely they are to retain the newly ac-

quired vocabulary and talking can help them fully understand what they are reading. Hearing different perspectives about the topic can give them more than one way to look at and understand what they are reading.

As we get closer to summer, I hope your family will think on ways to engage in reading so your child can maintain their level of reading and start the new year reading at the same level they ended at the end of this year.



## Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?



By the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

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Everyone, Everyday"*

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## 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](mailto: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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