

# Bobcat Bulletin

Volume VI, Issue 5

February 2026

## Mark Your Calendar!

### Spring Break

March 23rd - March 27th

### MAP Testing

April 20th - April 30th



### Kindergarten Circus

Friday, May 8th  
at 1:00 p m



8th Grade Graduation  
is scheduled for

Tuesday, May 12th  
at 7:00 p m



## Dent Phelps Archery Club 2026

By Mrs. Rana Hudson, Coach

Historically archery was used for hunting and warfare. People still use archery for hunting today, but it can also be a recreational activity or a competitive sport. At Dent-Phelps R-III we teach archery during their P.E. time and we have an afterschool program also for 4th-8th grades. Both instructors are certified Basic Archery Instructors (BAI certified) through the National Archery School Program (NASP) and the Missouri Conservation Department. Archery is very beneficial for children. Students learn focus, self-control, discipline, and life lessons while learning. Coach Jadwin works with students during school hours and Mrs. Hudson works with students in the afterschool program.

NASP is available 4th-12th grade. Everyone uses an original Genesis Bow. This bow has up to a 20 pound pull, so it can build upper body strength for some students. All students use the same arrows, the 30" Easton 1820 aluminum Genesis. This means all students 4th-12th grades have the same equipment, so all students have the same chance for success.

Though archery can be competitive, it is more about personal growth. Each student decides how far they want to go with archery. Some students may just try it for one year and some may stay with archery for life. Their goal should be to work on improving their personal best every time they face the target, because consistency is the key to succeeding. Once students learn to do everything from their stance to letting go of the arrow exactly the same, muscle memory takes over and their scores begin to rise.

The Dent-Phelps R-III Archery Club is trying something new this year to help students become consistent with the 11 steps of NASP archery: stance, nock, set draw hand, set bow hand, pre-draw, draw, anchor, aim, shot set-up, release, follow-through, and reflect. These steps guide students to analyze their form and accuracy. This year I set up a buddy system or mentors and mentees. Students are working together to support each other. They are observing and talking with each other about their form. This allows them to see other stu-

dents' techniques, to reflect on their own techniques, to ask questions, model or give advice to other students in a respectful manner to help each student become successful archers. This takes a lot of trust to accept and give advice. My hope is to have more well-rounded archers by the end of the season. So far I am seeing good things from this method. At their first archery tournament at Westphalia on January 17th, one archer scored a 277 out of 300 and some students doubled their scores from last year to this year. I expect that we will see more growth as the season continues.

I want to thank parents for their phenomenal support and the parent volunteer, Mrs. Watkins, who has been helping with archery.



# Artsonia and DPR3 Fine Arts Facebook Page

## By Mrs. Makayla Schafer, Fine Arts Teacher

We have been busy in the art room this year! From Christmas at the Movies to Valentine's hearts everywhere! Have your young artists been keeping you updated on all of our hard work? I hope so! If not, here are a few ways to stay in the loop:

### 1. Artsonia

Dent-Phelps R-III Fine Arts Department Facebook page

Artsonia is an online art portfolio that stores all of the projects your student creates in their "ePortfolio" creating a record of their growth as an artist. Artsonia manages student art portfolios in a safe, educational environment. Portfolios develop students' pride and self-esteem while connecting families to the art room. Each project your artist creates will be uploaded to Artsonia as soon as it is turned in as complete! You can even upload artwork they complete at home to keep their portfolio updated! Artsonia never deletes its published artworks so your child's work is preserved forever.

Now that you know what Artsonia is, you may be asking yourself what you can accomplish with a parent portal. The answer is: SO many things! With a parent account you can view your child's artworks as soon as they are finished, start a

fan club for your aspiring artist, cheer your artist on from at home, support the Fine Arts program by purchasing custom keepsakes with your child's artwork on it, and gain access to art instruction videos at home!

To create your child's fan club and support their creativity, invite family and friends to join your child's official "Fan Club" so they can receive notification when new artwork is posted. Friends and family can leave positive comments about your child's artwork. You are able to review and approve these comments so they can be posted on your child's gallery. I print off your comments and give them to your artists as "fan mail"!

Artsonia not only lets us share the Artwork with friends and relatives far away, but also offers us a wonderful way to earn funds for the art program through customized keepsakes. You may purchase custom keepsakes with your child's art. The school arts program receives 20% of your purchase to use for art supplies. Popular gift options include: cards, ornaments, mugs, t-shirts, magnets, jewelry, and art prints. You can support your child, get a custom gift for a loved one, AND support the art program all in one place! Right NOW, Artsonia is offer-

ing a Valentines Day sale where you can receive 15% off any item with code LOVE15. Whether it's a Valentines Day themed gift or not-it's a great deal your artist is sure to LOVE!

It's been such a fun and exciting year already and I can't wait to see what our artists accomplish next. Go to [www.artsonia.com/parents](http://www.artsonia.com/parents) and enter code: Y9XRRXFN to find your artist and find out!

### Artsonia Stats 2025-2026:

- 1112 artworks
  - 68% connected parents
  - 50 fan comments
  - 157 artist fans
  - 187 student awards
  - Artsonia Club 1K Club award!
  - \$91.15 fundraised
- (THANK YOU)



## Fun in the Speech Room

Photos By Mrs. Keri Page



# What is a Reading Success Plan (RSP)

By Mrs. Rana Hudson, Interventions

In 2022, Missouri legislation passed the Senate Bill 681 (SB 681) to address low proficiency of readers in Missouri. The point of the Bill is to use state approved reading assessments to identify lower readers early and to flag students that display characteristics of dyslexia. After students are identified, teachers are to provide intensive, evidence-based interventions in the classrooms to help struggling readers improve their reading skills. Depending on the severity of a student's reading deficiencies, they may also need afterschool tutoring and/or Tier 3 interventions as well. If striving students are caught early, this could prevent retention in later grades and help improve their grades year-to-year, because reading is used in every subject.

In kindergarten and 1st grade we are looking at the proficiency of their phonemic awareness. Phonemic awareness is their ability to process sounds. This means a student should be able to identify their alphabet, know their sounds, and be able to hold those sounds in their

head so they can blend the sounds to make words. An example would be the sounds for cat, /c/ /a/ /t/ and being able to read cat. If they struggle with phonemic awareness a child might read tac or act.

For second through fifth grades we are looking at phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Phonics is the first priority. Phonics is the rules of how sounds blend together in words. If they struggle with phonics they read very slowly and choppy, trying to figure out each word. They spend so much energy on trying to read the words, they do not have any energy left to understand what they read. Fluency is the next priority. We are not talking about speed reading, just reading smoothly and steady enough that they understand what they read. A good example would be a high school student that reads at 50 words per minute. It could take them hours to read an assignment.

After Phonics and fluency comes vocabulary and comprehension. Not only do they learn vocabulary

words in school, but they can learn twice as many vocabulary words from reading regular informational or narrative books. As their reading grows, so does the vocabulary. An example: starting with mad, then upset, angry, furious, and so on. Finally, comprehension is how they understand what they read.

Reading Success Plans are meant to support students through these 5 areas of reading so they can enjoy reading books and be successful with their academic work. Each intervention is intentionally focused on each student's individual needs. Teachers may do a 15 minute small group in the classroom or 3 mini lessons throughout the day. The teachers may chunk or scaffold a lesson to help a student learn grade level content.

So RSPs are a communication between parents/guardians and the teacher on how and what teachers are working on with their child in the classroom, tutoring and/or Tier 3 interventions and how you as a parent can help them at home.

## Thank You Parents!

On behalf of Robotics, Chess, and Archery I want to give thanks to all of the parents this year that have volunteered to help. You have no idea how much it means not just to me, but to the kids. The pictures (right) are an excellent example from our Chess Club. A parent paid for every student's dinner on the way back from a chess tournament. That wonderful gesture gave the students something to look forward to on their

long ride home. The help and support parents give no matter how small, makes a difference in all of our lives, it creates a learning community. So I want to thank all parents for their help this year and the Chess Club sends a BIG Thank You to the parent for their dinner Saturday.

Mrs. Hudson





# NURSE ALICIA'S NEWSLETTER

February 2026

## Love is in the air....

BUT so are germs! Make sure you are washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds! For smaller children, make hand washing a fun game! Sing songs with them for 20 seconds while they scrub!

Other habits for good health include covering your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and throw the tissue away after you use it. If you do not have a tissue, cover your mouth and nose with the inside of your elbow. Then, wash your hands with soap and water. Try to stay away from people who are sick as much as you can. Try not to touch your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs can spread this way. Dress for the weather. Please keep your child home if they are sick. The health office is doing its best to keep everyone safe and healthy. Your support in keeping your child home if they are sick helps us to promote a safe and healthy environment so our kids can stay in school and keep learning in the building 😊

## Reminders

**Please remember if your child is sick or running a temperature of 100.4 or greater, they need to stay home from school until they are 24 hour fever/symptom free without the use of over the counter medication.**

## February is...

### National American Heart Month

American Heart Month is observed to raise awareness on heart disease, the leading cause of death in the US, and to promote heart-healthy living.

#### Heart Healthy Tips

- Eat a heart healthy diet
- Get active
- Stay at a healthy weight
- Don't smoke
- Control cholesterol, blood glucose and blood pressure
- Manage stress
- Get at least 8 hours of sleep per night

# More Than Reading, Writing and Math

By Chelsea Moncrief, 2A Teacher

When families think about second grade, reading, writing, and math often come to mind first—and those skills are certainly important. However, so much of what happens in our classroom goes beyond academics. Second grade is a year of growth, not just in learning, but in developing the social and emotional skills students will use for the rest of their lives.

Every day, students practice working with others. Whether it's partner reading, group work, or classroom discussions, children are learning how to listen, take turns, share ideas, and respectfully disagree. These moments help students understand that learning is not something we do alone—it's something we do together.

Second grade is also a time when students learn how to manage big feelings. Mistakes

happen daily, and we talk openly about how mistakes help our brains grow. Students practice perseverance when work feels challenging, learn how to calm themselves when they feel frustrated, and discover that asking for help is a strength, not a weakness.

Independence is another major focus in our classroom. Students are learning to take responsibility for their belongings, follow routines, and complete tasks. These small steps build confidence and help students see themselves as capable learners.

Some of the most meaningful moments happen quietly—when a student takes a deep breath instead of giving up, offers help to a classmate, or bravely raises their hand when struggling. These

moments may not appear on a report card, but they matter deeply.

Second grade is about building a strong foundation—not just academically, but socially and emotionally. By nurturing kindness, confidence, and independence, we are helping students grow into thoughtful learners and caring classmates, ready for whatever comes next.



## Groundhog Day

By Julia Fishbauger, PTO Member

Well, it looks like Punxsutawney Phil has done us in again! Six more weeks of winter will surely seem an eternity when all we're hoping for in the dead middle of winter is warmth and Spring.

With the old groundhog disappointing us another year, it got me thinking, how many of these Phil fellows deciding our wintertime fate have there been? The American groundhog only lives between 6-10 years, and the celebration of Groundhog Day in the United States has been observed for over 140 years. As legend would have it, there's

only ever been one Phil. But in reality, the actual number of furry future tellers that have played the part is kept a great secret, so we may never know!

Groundhog Day originated amongst ancient European traditions, especially in Germany. There, farmers believed that the behaviors of the rodents they observed in the countryside predicted the length and severity of winter. Of course, there evolved a celebration held on February 2nd of every year. Many German immigrants settled in Pennsylvania, and thus the holiday was

brought to the United States, and that is where Punxsutawney Phil resides to this day!

Your PTO wishes you all a safe and warm next six weeks of winter. Darn that cute little woodchuck!



# SCHOOL COUNSELING

# FEBRUARY NEWS

## MONTHLY FOCUS KINDNESS

Our character focus this month is **KINDNESS!** We will look for ways to show kind actions in our school, homes, and community.



## IMPORTANT DATES

2/13-2/16- NO SCHOOL

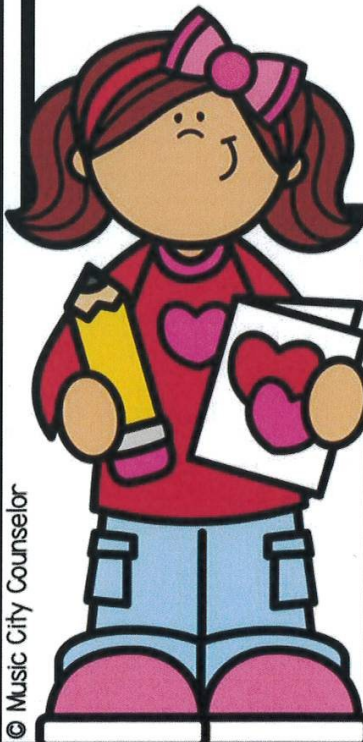
3/4-SHS Freshman Orientation

3/23-3/27- SPRING BREAK

4/3- NO SCHOOL

4/27- NO SCHOOL

5/1-8<sup>th</sup> grade to RTI/C



© Music City Counselor

## HAPPY KIDS TIP

February is the perfect time to remind your child how much they are loved! Small gestures like leaving a sweet note in their lunchbox, having special one-on-one time, giving extra hugs, and sharing words of encouragement can make a big impact. Show love through actions - listen to their stories, join in their favorite activities, or create a fun Valentine's craft together. Remind kids daily that they are loved, not just this month, but always!



Mrs. Kim Pogue



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# Using I-Ready Pathways - 100% Class Goal

By Mrs. Jami Phillips, 5th/6th ELA Teacher

I-Ready Pathways adaptive lessons are designed to meet students at their own learning level. The program adjusts lessons in reading and math based on each student's performance. This helps students practice skills they need most and learn at a pace that works for them. Even though lessons are personalized, teachers can still set a whole-class goal, building community in the classroom.

At Dent Phelps R3 in the upper grades, we expect each student to work actively in the program for 45 minutes a week in each reading and math. They are to pass at least one lesson in each subject. Twenty-five minutes is scheduled for Pathways each day and allows students plenty of time to work on these lessons.

A whole-class goal does not mean all students are doing the same lessons or moving at the same speed. Instead, the goal focuses on **effort,**

**responsibility, and participation.** Each student is expected to complete the lessons assigned to them and try their best. This helps students understand that success is about growth and effort, not comparing themselves to others.

Setting a 100% completion goal also builds teamwork in the classroom. Students learn that their effort matters and that everyone plays a role in reaching the class goal. In homeroom 6A, we have a weekly goal of reaching our minutes and passing lessons on Thursdays in order to take a little break on Fridays. Students often work during downtime on Pathways lessons to meet weekly goals. When we reach 100 100% lessons, we pause and celebrate! We have had game days, PJ parties, and cartoon watching as a break from our usual I-Ready work. Our class is working toward our fourth goal - 400 perfect lessons!. We hope to reach 500 100% lessons by the end of the year.

Mrs. Phillips has supported this by clearly explaining student expectations, such as staying focused, using headphones to listen to the instruction portion of a lesson, and asking for help when needed. Posting thematic progress charts and goal trackers, and projecting the time-on-task bar graph from the I-Ready platform help students see how the class is doing. Students who struggle can receive extra help, while students who are on track can continue to build skills. Over time, working toward the 100 100% lessons goal helps create strong routines, increases confidence, and encourages students to take ownership of their learning.

By combining personalized I-Ready Pathways lessons with a whole-class goal, our class creates a positive learning environment where all students are supported and working toward success together.



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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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