

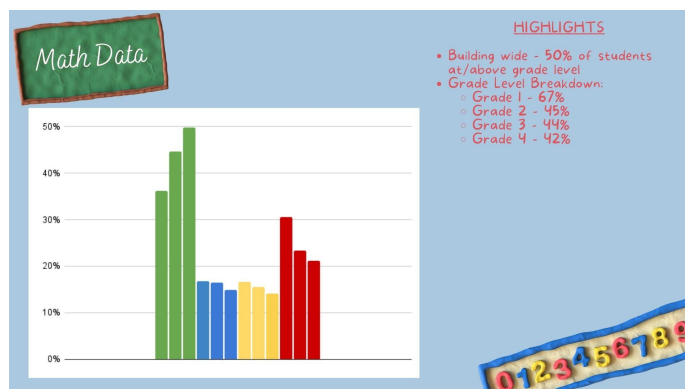
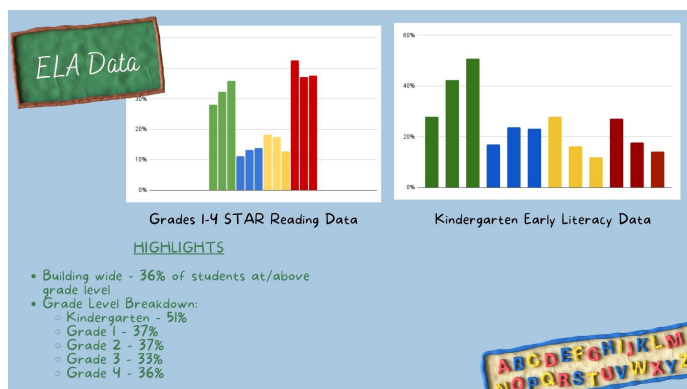
Union East Elementary School

March 2023

Dear Union East Warriors and Families,

Happy March! This school year is certainly flying by! As the weather begins to become warmer our students will continue to go outside on a regular basis. Please be sure your child wears a coat and sneakers to be able to safely use the playground equipment.

Our students continue to show growth throughout the school building. Below you can view some of the information that was recently shared on our students' growth in ELA and Math on the mid year STAR Assessment. The bars in each graph represent the percentage of students achieving at each level in September, November and January. We continue to see more of our students working towards proficiency.



As a building, we are in the planning process to bring back our Multicultural Festival which will be held on Tuesday, May 16th. We are looking for families and community groups to support our event by hosting tables with displays of cultural items, providing leads for authentic food samples, entertainment, fashion, or anything else you can think of! Take a moment to review the flyer included within our newsletter for more information and a link to sign up to help out!

Thank you for all of your support and do not hesitate to reach out with any questions!
Have a great month!

Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Hamels & Mrs. Anderson

Calendar Reminders

Thursday, March 16th
UE Early Release
Dismissal @ 12:00
Teacher Record Keeping Day

Thursday, March 16th
Open House
4:30-6:15

Friday, March 17th
No School: Teacher Professional Learning Day

Tuesday, March 21st
Spring Pictures

UNION EAST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3550 Union Road
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Phone: (716) 686-3620
Fax: (716) 686-3666
Nurse's Phone: (716) 686-3623

UNION EAST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Save
the
Date

Multicultural Festival

May 16, 2023
4:30-6:30

WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOUR HELP!

We are looking for individuals and groups interested in:

- hosting a table displaying items
- provide entertainment (dancing, music, etc)
- working with district staff to provide authentic food samples (providing references to local chefs and/or restaurants)
- participating in a fashion show or providing clothing items for a fashion show

Sign up using the link below!



Union East Celebrates Women in History Month Irish American Culture

Check out some of the titles below highlighting our cultural spotlight for the month!

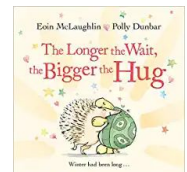
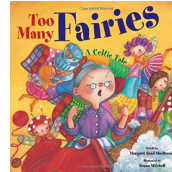
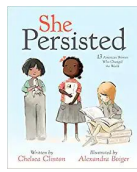
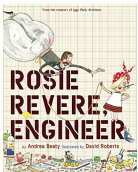
Rosie may seem quiet during the day but at night she's a brilliant inventor of gizmos and gadgets who dreams of becoming a great engineer in Rosie Revere, Engineer by Andrea Beaty.

Shaking Things Up by Susan Hood is a collection of poems introducing fourteen revolutionary young women who sparked change in the world through persistence and determination.

Throughout American history, there have been many women who have spoken out for what's right. She persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World tells the story of thirteen American women who shaped our country.

Too Many Fairies: A Celtic Tale tells of the fairies of Celtic legend who promise to help but are sometimes up to mischief!

A charming story of a hedgehog and a tortoise who are waiting for a special hug can be found in The Longer the Wait, the Bigger the Hug by Eoin McLaughlin.



Union East Open House

Thursday, March 16th
4:30-6:15

Best tour guides available - your child!

In addition to viewing your child's classroom:

- Glow in the Dark Art Show featuring student art work
- Tips on how to support your child with the upcoming NYS Assessments
- Community Resource Fair
- And More!!!



UNION EAST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IS PROUD TO PRESENT



A MUSICAL PERFORMANCE
PRESENTED BY OUR 4TH GRADE
STUDENTS!

JUNE 1 & 2, 2023

*If you are interested in helping with costumes,
backstage supervision, or just want to help bring
this story to life, please contact Mr. Blunt on
class dojo or rblunt@ccsd-k12.net*

Grade 3 & 4 NYS Assessments

Gr. 3 & 4 ELA

Wednesday, April 19th & Thursday, April 20th

Gr. 3 & 4 Math

Tuesday, May 2nd & Wednesday, May 3rd

All assessments will be taken as computer based assessments this year.
Students have completed a practice assessment and will continue to be
using the tools to prepare for the assessments.

We know our students will shine!!!



STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Be safe and courteous during drop off
and pick up!

All vehicles should be parked in a
marked parking spot. Please do NOT
park along the front median.

Please reserve handicap parking spots
for those in need.

Remember to always be kind!

UPK Pick Up
3:15-3:40 pm
Gr. K-4 Pick Up
3:25 pm

safety
first



Cheektowaga Central School District
2023-2024

UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

The Cheektowaga Central School District is proud to offer its Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program for the 2023-2024 school year, based on anticipated state funding. The program is open to district residents whose children will be three or four years of age on or before December 1, 2023. Students are selected by lottery to participate in the UPK Program. Parents are responsible for transporting their child to and from the program.

Program Locations

Union East Elementary - 3550 Union Rd - UPK 4 ONLY

Little Angels Day Care Center - 2645 Harlem Rd - UPK 3 & UPK 4

UPK registration begins March 1st and must be completed by May 5th to be eligible for the UPK lottery draw. Registration materials as well as other information can be found on our website at www.cheektowagaki2.org. Once the program is filled, registered students will be added to the UPK program waitlist.

The UPK lottery will be held May 18th at 10:00 am. The lottery will be held in person at Union East Elementary School. Results will also be shared through email.

If you have any questions regarding the UPK program, please contact Audra Cyrulik at acyrulik@ccsd-ki2.net.



Project Positive

Building-Wide Fun!!!

Project Positive is sponsoring a Read Across America Spirit Week which begins the week of February 27th. Themes are listed below:

****Feb. 27th** - 'Team Up & Read:' wear your favorite sports team clothing

****Feb. 28th** - 'Curl Up & Read:' wear your pj's to school

****Mar. 1st** - 'Read with a Friend:' dress like a friend or bring a stuffed animal to read with

****Mar. 2nd** - 'Read Across America Day & Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss:' wear red, white and/or blue

****Mar. 3rd** - 'Read My Shirt:' wear a shirt with a positive message on it

During the month of March, student warriors will be encouraged to complete a weekly reading log to be entered into a weekly raffle. Please be on the lookout for these each Monday throughout the month of March!

Also during the month of March student warriors at each grade level, UPK - 4th, will enjoy having 'Mystery Readers' come into their classrooms and will enjoy a read aloud with someone other than their classroom teacher! We can't wait to see who our 'Mystery Readers' will be!



Feb/March Incentives

During the month of March, we will continue to focus on the following behavioral expectation(s):

1. Be **RESPONSIBLE**

Points are being tracked through Class Dojo. Once students & classes reach the point goal they will earn rewards for positive behavior!

Incentives Earned:

1. Brag Tags (25 points) - 197 students!
2. Golden Token (50 points) - 75 students!
3. Popcorn (150 points) - 30 classes!

Bus Incentive

Students continue to respond positively to receiving WOW! Compliment cards from their bus drivers when they display safe bus behaviors to and from school. 5 students each week are recognized for their outstanding bus behavior and receive a "goodie" bag for their compliance with our bus safety rules.



Way to go!





March 2023 wellness Newsletter: Healthy Eating

Happy March!

This month our focus for wellness is healthy eating! We all know that making healthy choices and eating a consistently nutrient-rich diet can be tricky. Sometimes time, budgets, and taste preferences can stand in our way. Therefore, we want to make our goals realistic and attainable. Each week we will try to eat a different color of food so by the end of the month our bodies will have been able to get as many nutrients as possible. Hopefully this will inspire continued healthy eating in an easy process. Simply trying to diversify colors on your plate can keep you healthier and stronger. Enjoy!

Weekly Goals:

3/1-3/11 *I can eat foods that are red and orange.*

3/12-3/18 *I can eat foods that are yellow.*

3/19-3/25 *I can eat foods that are green.*

3/26-3/31 *I can eat foods that are blue and purple.*

Fun Food Facts:

- Red and orange foods contain a nutrient called carotenoids that help keep your eyes healthy.
- Many yellow foods contain a nutrient called potassium that keeps our blood pressure low and heart healthy.
- Green foods have a nutrient called iron that keeps our bones healthy and strong.
- Foods that are blue and purple contain antioxidants which help keep our brain and memory strong.

Healthy Recipe Link

Sweet Potato Nachos

Banana Pancakes

Broccoli Hash Browns

Blueberry Smoothie

Healthy Eating Poem

Eating healthy is easy to do,
just eat foods that are good for you.

Grains, fruits, and veggies keep
our bodies strong,
If your food grows from the
Earth you can't go wrong.

Mix up the colors and eat a bit
of everything,
All the different nutrients will
make you healthy as a king.

Healthy eating makes it easier
to learn, exercise, and rest.
So try your hardest to eat food
that makes your body the best.

The poster features a background of diagonal stripes in shades of orange, yellow, and blue. A large white circle with a black outline is centered on the page. Inside the circle, the title 'Union East Community Resource Fair' is written in a large, orange, cursive font. Below the title, the date 'THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023' and the time '4:30-6:15' are written in a black, sans-serif font. A light blue rounded rectangle is positioned below the time, containing a list of featured organizations in a bold, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the circle, an orange rounded rectangle contains the text 'ORGANIZED BY UNION EAST PPS STAFF' in a black, sans-serif font. Decorative starburst graphics are placed around the circle.

Union East Community Resource Fair

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023

4:30-6:15

FEATURING

**BEST SELF
EPIC
CPS LISASON PROGRAM
JUST FOR KIDS
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR EVERY1
CHARITIES POOLED TRUST
PAWS FOR LOVE SPCA
AND MORE!**

ORGANIZED BY UNION EAST PPS STAFF

Union East SCEP 2022-2023

(School Comprehensive Education Plan)

In June 2022, a committee of Union East stakeholders gathered to develop the School Comprehensive Education Plan (SCEP) for the 2022-2023 school year. Two commitments were agreed upon along with action steps for each. An mid-year update on each action step is included in blue below.

The 2022-2023 plan was collaboratively developed by:

- Masuma Akther - Parent
- Stephanie Anderson - Assistant Principal
- Shai Arnold - Parent
- Julia Hamels - Assistant Principal
- Melissa Mitchell - Principal
- Melissa Rogers - Teacher
- Shannon Stroh - Teacher
- Sarah Swiatek - Parent

Commitment 1

Union East Elementary School commits to ensuring that every child feels safe, respected, and represented in our school community and has intentional opportunities to practice and build social-emotional and cognitive skills.

Action Steps:

- Continue implementing Project Positive
 - Project Positive meetings will be held monthly from 7:45-8:45. We are looking for a parent to serve on the committee.
- Kindness Connection
 - Monthly parent workshops are planned for January, March, April, and May.
- Mentoring Program
 - There are currently 18 students participating in the mentoring program (a 300% increase from last year!) on a weekly basis with High School mentors.
- Attendance Program
 - Attendance letters were sent in the fall and will again be sent in March. Our NBA attendance program will kick off after the second trimester.

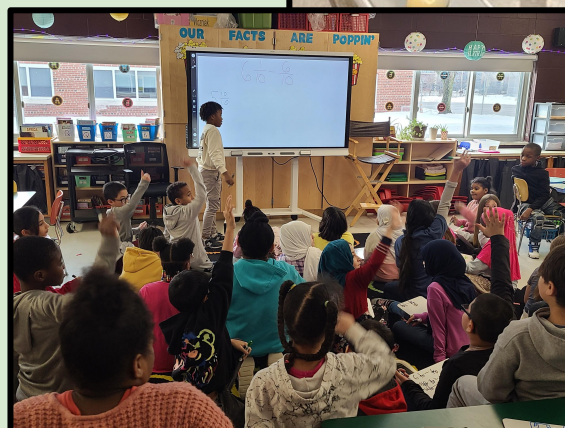
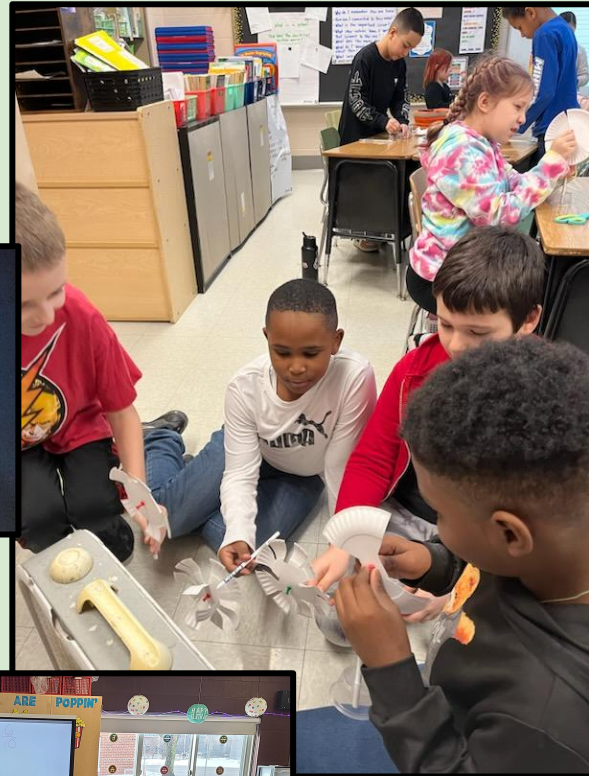
Commitment 2

Union East Elementary School commits to ensure that every child has the opportunity and authority to drive and shape their own learning by engaging in meaningful learning that is relevant to them, whereby they can see themselves reflected in teachers, leaders and curriculum and learning material.

Action Steps:

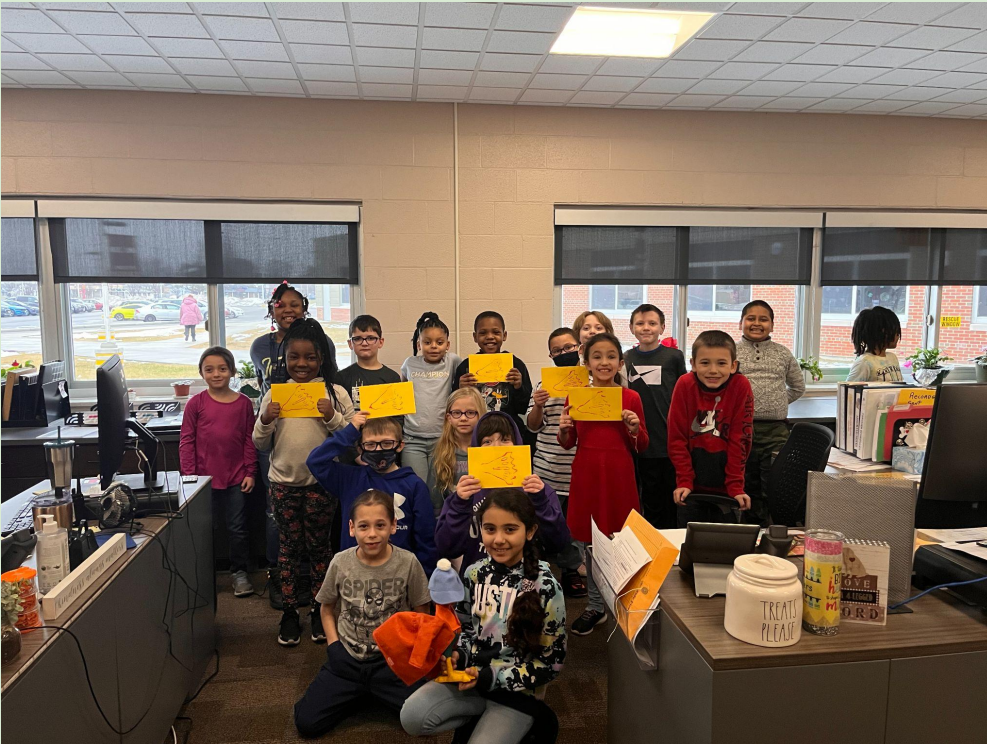
- Continue use of Readers & Writers Workshop
 - All classrooms are using readers and writers workshop as their primary instruction.
- Multicultural Classroom Libraries
 - All classrooms have received many new books to add to classroom libraries. Titles continue to be added to the libraries as needed at all reading levels.
- Small Group Instruction/Intervention
 - All students receive ELA WIN on a daily basis and Math WIN every other day.
- Data Protocol
 - The STAR assessment has been administered three times and will be administered in March and May.
 - Grade levels meet on a regular basis to review data and adjust instruction accordingly.
- Community Based Learning Projects
 - Our Multicultural Festival will be held on Tuesday, May 16th. We are looking for family and community support.
- Display Authentic Student Work
 - Student work is on display throughout the building.
- Book Vending Machine
 - Our vending machine is here and is used as an incentive for Project Positive through earned Class Dojo points!

Grade 4 News

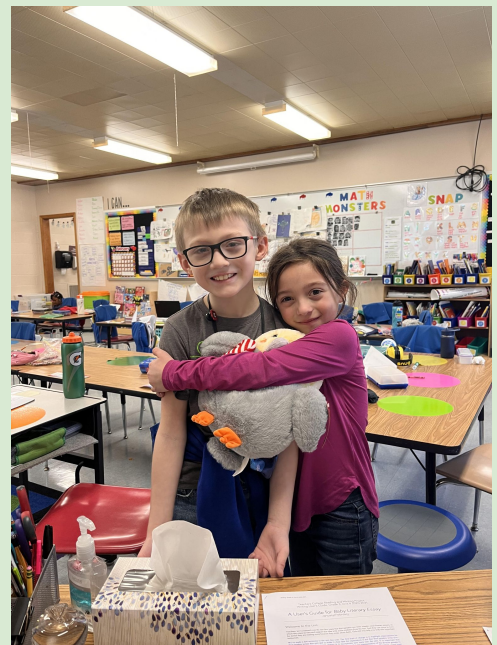


Grade 3 News

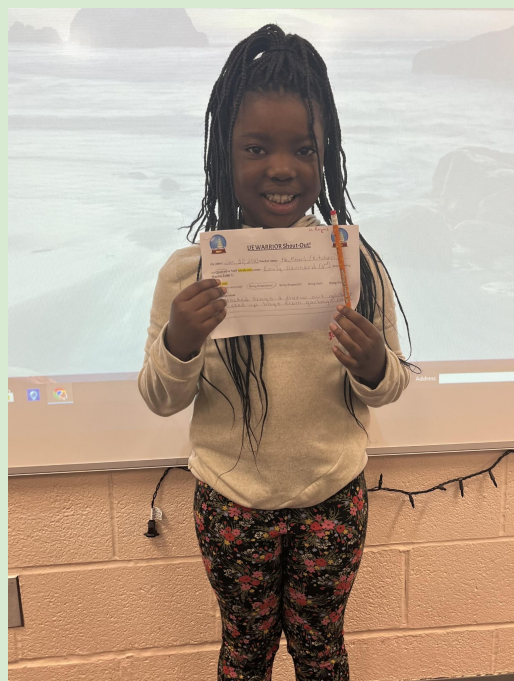
Ms Stroud's and Mrs. Stark's students participated with Mrs Orlowski's 8th grade students to create Valentines Day messages for veterans. Assemblyperson Monica Wallace and Commander Wier were happy to join us!



Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. Greco's class finished up their mystery unit in reading. The class solved the mystery to find their class mascot, Hei Hei!

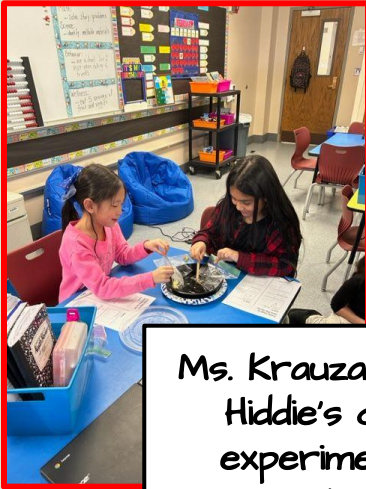


Warrior Shout-Outs are on the rise!

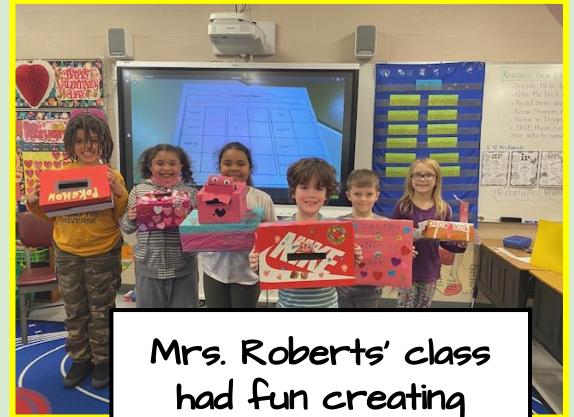


Kindness is in the air!

Grade 2 News



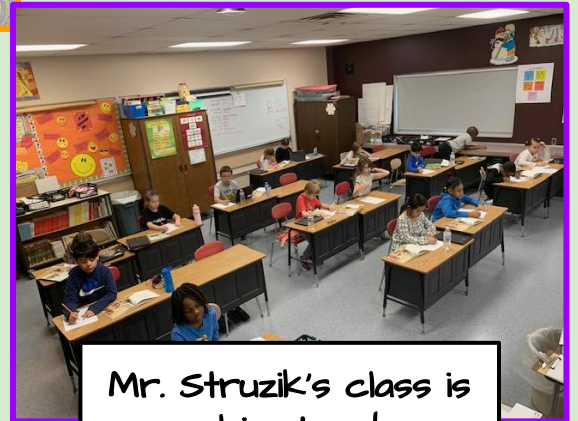
Ms. Krauza and Mrs. Hiddle's classes experimented in science to see what materials change from solids to liquids when heated!



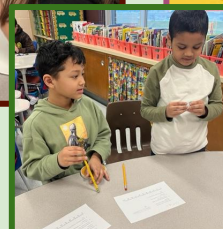
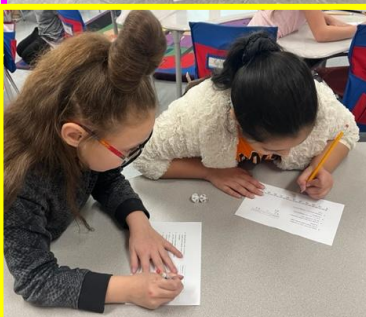
Mrs. Roberts' class had fun creating their own Valentine boxes.



Mrs. Neimanis' class learned how to add the 'ed' and 'ing' endings onto words in phonics.



Mr. Struzik's class is working hard on reading strategies!



Students have been learning about number lines in Mrs. Tonsoline, Mrs. Sosnowski, and Mrs. Szpylman's classes.

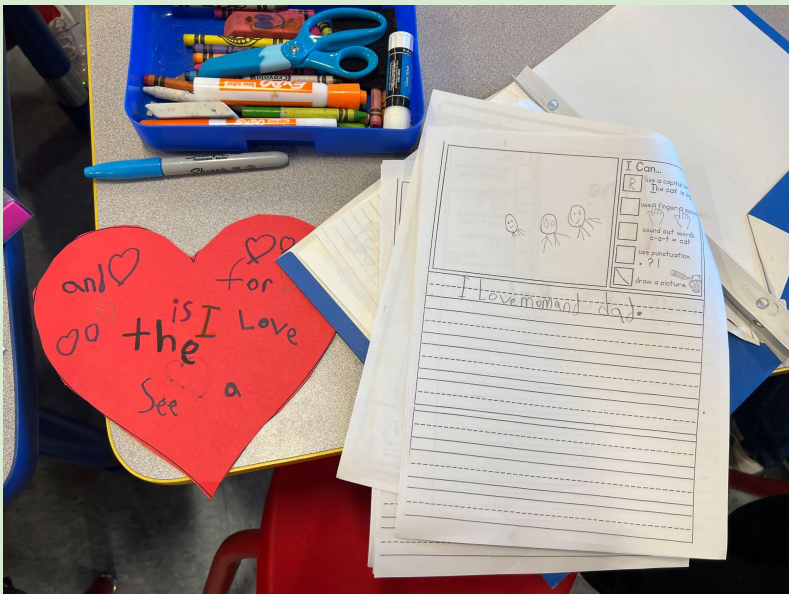
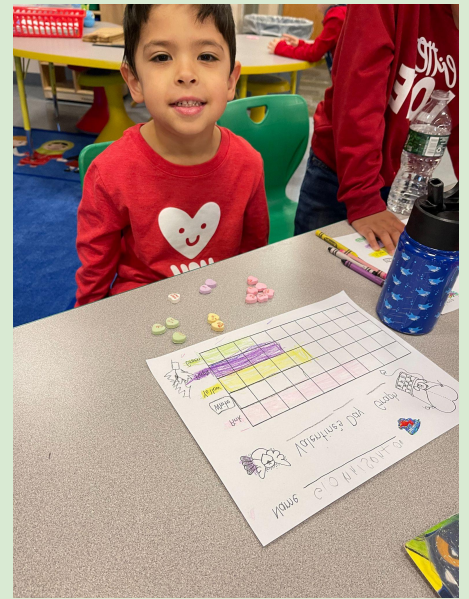
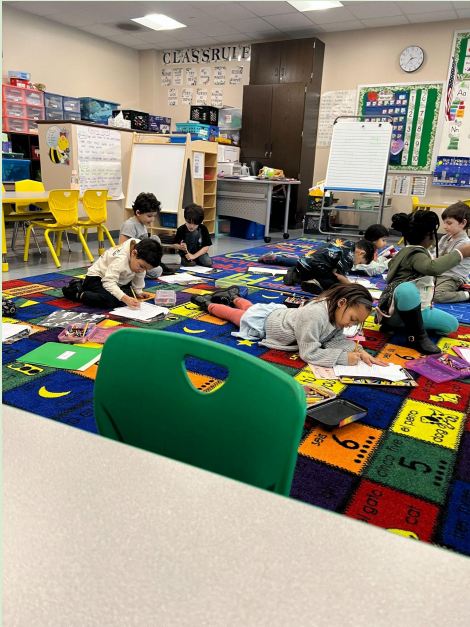
Grade 1 News



Our fabulous firsties have been working hard this month and enjoying some fun too! Enjoy our photos from our Valentine's Day & 100th Day celebrations as well as our awards ceremony!



Kindergarten News



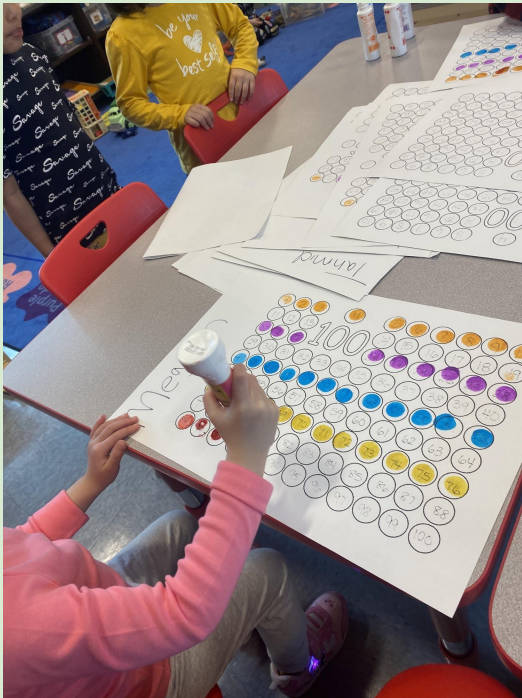
UPK News

Pre-K students will be visiting Explore and More Museum on May 9, 2023.

Information and permission slips will be coming home. Please return the permission slips back to your child's teacher.



Peace being promoted in Mr. Quigley's Class!



Counting to 100 to celebrate the 100th day



Making Valentines for Veterans

Pre-k dismissal will begin at 3:15 at your child's pre-k classroom outside door. Older siblings will still dismiss from the same door at the regular 3:25 dismissal.

Related Services News

LOOKING FOR SOME OUTDOOR EXERCISE FUN?



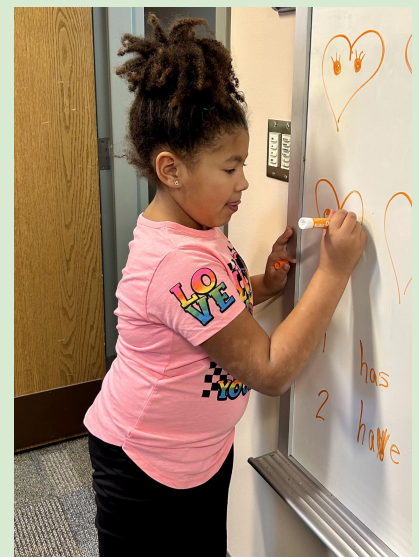
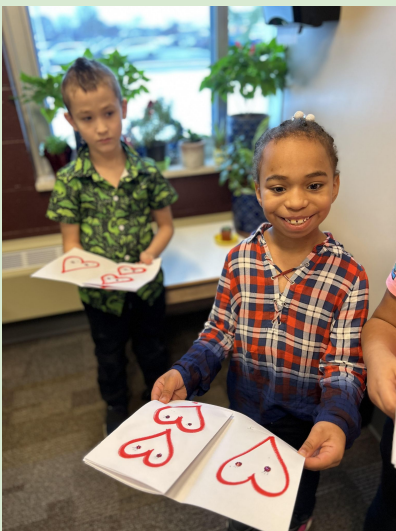
~Draw numbers in a grid (you can use any grouping of numbers - count by ones, two's, five's, 10's etc)

~Call out the number and jump from square to square - try to keep a two footed take off and landing

~As you improve, try to hop from square to square on one foot.

~This is a great activity for numbers, letters or even sight words!!!!

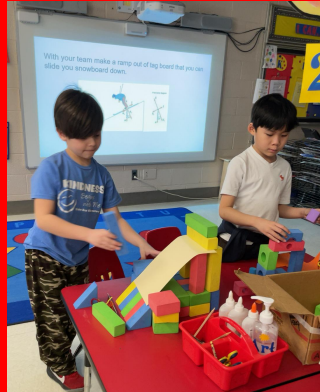
MAKING CONNECTIONS IN SPEECH AND LANGUAGE



Art, Music, Library & Physical Education



Art



2nd grade art classes designed their own snowboards and then used their STEAM skills to create a ramp for snowboarding.

4th grade band students attended Band Night on February 8th to showcase their learning over the last four months!



PHYSICAL EDUCATION



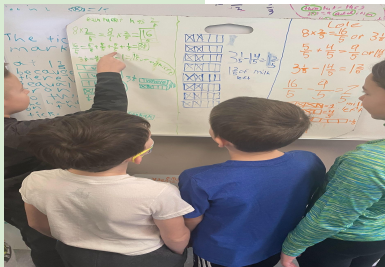
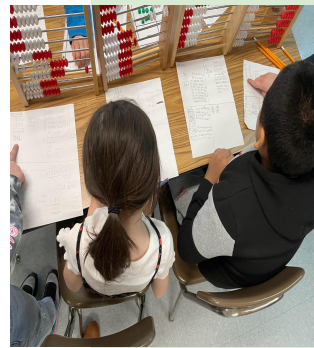
Academic Intervention Services News



Math WIN



- Grade 1 - Composing and decomposing teen numbers
Continue working with word problems to determine correct operation to be used in the solution.
- Grade 2 - Adding/Subtracting double digit numbers. Solving word problems and identifying the correct operation.
- Grade 3 - Identifying time and calculating time lapse. Solving word problems and identifying the correct operation.
- Grade 4 - Multiplying and dividing multi-digit numbers. Comparing numbers in decimal notation. Adding/subtracting the standard algorithm. Solving word problems and identifying the correct operation.



Grades 2 & 3
practiced writing
high frequency
words by making a
choo choo train!!!!



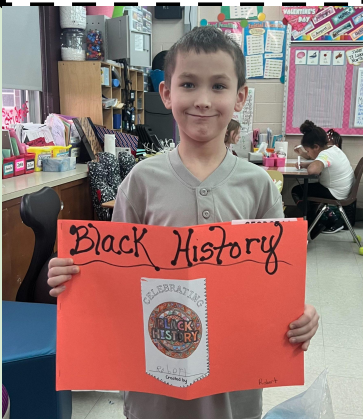
Other Union East News

Mrs. Huttenlocker's Class
Is utilizing their gross motor skills
completing an obstacle course and
swimming in the pool.

Some of Mrs. Huttenlocker's
students received awards for
effort and improvement in ELA
and Math and good character.



We are
working hard
on our Black
History
Booklets.



Students in
UPK-Grade 1 have
enjoyed their new
special, Library with
Mrs. Zilliox.

English as a New Language News

Thank you for attending our ENL Open House!

We look forward to seeing you at the
Multilingual Family Night on
Wednesday, March 1st, from 5:00pm-7:00pm.

