



The Timberwolf Times

May 2025

A message from Mrs. Del Toro

Our relocation/reunification drill was completed on May 7th and it went very, very smoothly! I am incredibly proud of all of our students and staff. They were well prepared, organized and followed all expectations and directions. We received massive amounts of compliments from everyone involved and feel ready to take on any emergency. Thank you to the parents who were able to come and helps us practice the reunification part of the drill. This step is perhaps the most important as we want all of our students to be reunited safely with families. Your participating and feedback will help us make improvements in the future! THANK YOU!!



We have about 20 days left of the school year, time is flying by! Although we are nearing the end, there is still a lot of learning taking place. Please help us by ensuring your child comes to class every day, on time for the remainder of the year. There are events, celebrations, and learning happening and we want all of our students to be able to participate in it all!

Here are some updates that are happening at Indian Knoll, mark your calendars for important dates!!

PBIS Update 🐾

Our May PBIS Celebration will take place on June 5th. Students must earn at least 15 Den Dollars in order to participate in this event. Please encourage your child(ren) to demonstrate our Indian Knoll Core Values every day so they can earn those Den Dollars.

Each classroom is also working hard to earn a Howl of Praise. The classes who earn 10 Howl of Praises will earn a special prize. Congratulations to Mrs. Nieto's class for being the first to earn 10

Howls!!

Spring Testing 📄

Students will complete the Spring MAP Math and MAP Reading tests the week of May 19th. Please ensure students get a good night's rest and they eat breakfast either at home or at school each day. Students have worked hard to set goals for themselves and we hope they meet or exceed those goals. The Spring MAP data will be used to determine whether or not our school has met our building-wide goals. We set very ambitious goals for ourselves because we have very high expectations for our students. I am confident our students will show us how much they have learned and grown this school year!

IK Family Night 🗨️

We are very excited to host Family Night on May 15th from 6:00-7:30. Our theme is "Wild About Learning!" Each of our teachers will have fun, engaging activities for families to complete together. The Chorus will perform from 5:30-6:00 in the Gym. We hope to see you there!

End of Year Ceremonies ✨ **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!** ✨

1st and 2nd Grade Academic Accolades Ceremony- June 9th (9:00-10:00am)

3rd and 4th Grade Academic Accolades Ceremony- June 9th (10:15-11:15am)

*Only families of award recipients are invited to attend

5th Grade Promotion Ceremony- June 10th (9:30-11:00am)

**ALL 5th Grade families are invited to attend

5th Grade Farewell Picnic (hosted by PTO)- June 10th (12:00-3:00pm)

***Only volunteers should plan to stay for this event (please reach out to PTO for more information or if you are interested in volunteering WeGo.IKPTO@gmail.com)

Kindergarten Promotion Ceremony- June 11th (9:30-11:00)

****ALL Kindergarten families are invited to attend

Kindergarten picnic immediately following the ceremony (outside, weather permitting)

Please be on the lookout for invitations for these events at the end of the month.

I am looking forward to finishing this school year strong and greatly appreciate your partnership this year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Del Toro

Our Busy Classrooms 📚



Kindergarten

Kindergarten Families,

In the month of May students are doing the following:

Kindergarten will also be taking the Map Math and Reading Test on the week of the 19th.

No school on May 26th for Memorial Day.

All Kindergarten classes will be going on a Field Trip to the DuPage Children Museum in Naperville on May 30th.

Students also continue to practice graduation songs and a poem for their Kindergarten Graduation.

Kindergarten Graduation on June 11, with a Picnic to follow.

Last day of school June 12, half day.

In the classroom they will be working on the following units:

In Math students will wrap up Eureka Math Module #5 numbers 10-20 and counting to 100. Students will clarify the meaning of the 10 and some ones within a teen number and extend that understanding to count to 100. Mid May student will start Eureka Math Module #6 Analyzing, Comparing, and Composing Shapes. Module #6 is the last math module in Kinder.

In our Monolingual and Dual Language Classroom for Language Arts we are wrapping up on Knowledge unit #11 Taking care of the Earth. Then students will start working on Knowledge unit #12 Presidents and American Symbols.

In the monolingual class your students will wrap up Skills unit #9, then they will move on to unit #10. Unit #10 students will be introduced to 5 additional vowel sounds and the most common spelling for each sound. In addition, they will learn eleven new tricky words most of which contain one of the sounds taught in this current unit.

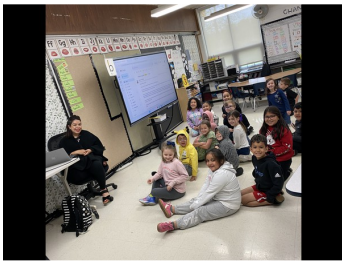
Dual classrooms are on a roll with UFLI lessons making it a constant routine for the students.

In our Dual Language Classrooms students are working on Lectoescritura students will be wrapping up unit #8 and start on unit #9. In unit #9 students will review sounds, digraphs, they will also study the differences between specific sounds. They will also read, and write words in sentences that have digraphs. They will also be introduced to new high frequency words.

During this month your students will also watch the Life Cycle of a Butterfly and we will be growing them in our classrooms. How Fun! Can you believe our Kindergarteners are almost in First Grade? Time sure does fly!

Kindergarten Teachers,

Mrs. Rooney, Ms. Pinto, & Mrs. Calderón.



1st Grade

Dear 1st Grade Families,

In math our first graders are starting on our last module. Module 6 is a review of some content but with numbers up to 100 such as word problems using the RDW method, place value using tens and ones, and comparing numbers using or greater than, less than and equal symbols. In addition to this, we will also be working with coins and their value and some culminating activities.

Our Knowledge unit of study will be Frontier Explorers. In this unit students will learn about the American Frontier Explorers and westward expansion of the United States. Students will also learn about the development of the thirteen colonies and the Revolutionary War.

During our skills portion we are working on:

- ending spelling patterns
- r controlled vowels
- writing complete sentences
- Fluency

MAP testing is coming up. Please make sure your child is rested and ready.

As always, thank you for your cooperation.



2nd Grade

Hello 2nd Grade Families!

We are getting to the end of the year. As we close out the year there are several important dates to remember: Reunification Drill May 7th, Literacy Night is on May 15th, Map Testing will be the week of May 19th, No school on May 26th, and the last day of school is June 12th. In Math we will be finishing up the year with some measurement and geometry. In Reading we will be working on Immigration as well as writing informational paragraphs.



3rd Grade

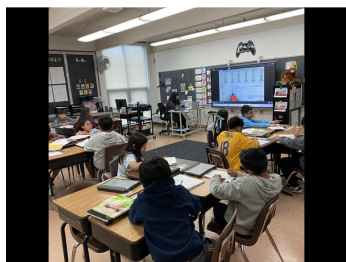
Hello 3rd grade families,

We hope you all had a great spring break and Easter! The students are working very hard to end the year strong. We are currently in our final unit of Amplify and the students have learned all about Native Americans' culture and regions. Students have continued to practice and improve on their reading comprehension and writing skills. We are very excited to do a book study after this unit. We will be reading the book Stella Diaz Has Something To Say.

In math we are wrapping up unit 7 on geometry. The students have learned about different shape attributes and how to find the

perimeter of shapes.

We have our reunification drill on May 7th and MAP testing is approaching. Please make sure your student reflects on the goals they set to reach the 50th%. We are so excited with the growth we have already seen in the winter! Can't wait to see the growth from fall to spring!



4th Grade

Hello 4th Grade Families!

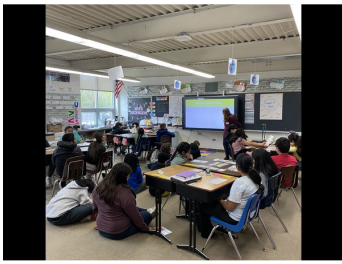
We are getting close to the end of the school year, and there is still a lot of learning to be done. Our final MAP testing of 4th grade is coming up. Encourage your student to eat well and get rest.

In Math, we finish up our year working on decimal fractions and exploring measurements with multiplication. Students explore decimal numbers and their relationship to decimal fractions ($\frac{1}{10}$, $\frac{1}{100}$, etc.), learning to express a given quantity in both fraction and decimal forms. Students build on the work they did with fractions in Module 5, apply the same reasoning to decimal numbers, and set the stage for decimal operations in Grade 5. In this final module of Grade 4, students build their competencies in measurement as they relate multiplication to the conversion of measurement units. Throughout the module, students explore multiple strategies for solving measurement problems involving unit conversion.

In social studies, we finish up our unit in Government. Students will create a business plan for a food truck focused on goods and services. Students will also write a letter to a local official about an issue they would like to see fixed.

In science, we will end with our final unit: Senses and Survival. In this unit, students explore the adaptations of animals and plants. Students investigate how the external and internal structures of an organism work together as an interconnected system that aids in their growth and survival. They also use models to explore how a combination of instincts and memories influence animal behavior.

Finally, as part of the Dupage Farms Bureau 4th grade gets the opportunity to take part in the Grow Your Own Food program. Starting in May, students will learn about growing tomato plants including planting and taking care of them. Students will keep them at school and monitor their growth each day. Closer to the end of the school year, they will be sent home for students to enjoy over the summer. Students will also get a ticket to the Dupage County Fair where they can bring in their tomato plant to enter into a contest to win a prize.

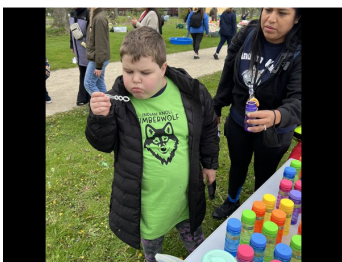


5th Grade

Hello 5th grade families,

The next month is going to be a busy month with a lot of events. The week of May 19th to the 23rd will be our final Spring MAP testing. The week after will be the Cougars Game on May 28th. The following day, May 29th, will be our Track and Field day with all the 5th grade classes in the district. We are getting so close to the end of the school year. Everyone stay strong until the last day of school.

In math we are finishing up concepts of volume and switching gears to working with graphs and coordinate planes. They will be looking at how to accurately plot points on a graph and how that relates to certain data. For the last month and a half in Literacy, we are doing a novel study on a book called "The Science of Breakable Things" by Tae Keller. The Science of Breakable Things is a remarkable middle-grade novel about a seventh grader, Natalie, and her attempts to "grow a miracle": to win an egg drop contest (and its prize money) and buy her mother—a botanist struggling with depression—a rare Cobalt Blue Orchid. To finish up Social Studies for the school year students will discuss and research the Louisiana Purchase, Trail of Tears, and other current issues as a means of introducing the following skills: investigating the contributing events and factors in reform and historical reactions to laws or policies, investigating the ways in which the movement of people and cultural changes impact a geographical location, and using a timeline to compare and contrast several reactions to laws or policies when determining their effectiveness.



Primary Self-Contained

May will be a busy month! We will have Literacy Night on May 15th, and no school on May 26th for Memorial Day.

In our May unit, we learn about Earth Changes. Students are introduced to the idea that the Earth is always changing. Students learn about events such as earthquakes, volcanoes, and floods that quickly change the Earth. Students also learn about forces such as wind and water that slowly change the Earth. We will continue to learn about money and our foundational math skills.



Intermediate Self-Contained

In this unit, students will explore renewable and non-renewable energy resources and how to conserve them. We will read books regarding this topic, we will be learning more about money and uses for money as well as looking at time. We also have our field trip on May 2nd and we have Miss Silva do STEM activities with our students for fun friday. Lots of fun activities for the last month and a farewell to our 5th grade friends.



Art

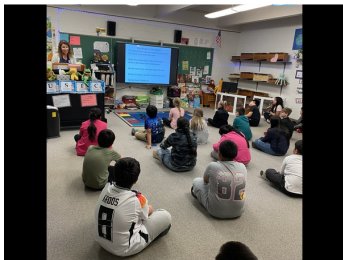
In May, Kindergarten will be graduating from their centers! They will have an early start on learning about our big centers and being responsible.

First grade will continue to work on their paper diorama sculpture. They will then complete a small, cardboard sculpture challenge so they have a new center to look forward to in 2nd grade!

2nd grade will continue to work collaboratively on a partner project and work on peer critiques.

3rd grade will learn about emotions in art and how to use color to express moods.

4th grade and 5th grade will also collaborate and create artworks in partners or groups by completing various art challenges. They will also work on peer critiques.



Music

Kindergarten-We are playing singing games, continuing high/low differentiation and will explore playing glockenspiel to accompany our singing.

1st-We are playing singing games, exploring Sol-Mi patterns on glockenspiels, and composing using Sol-MI. We will also be studying Camille Saint-Saen's Carnival of the Animals and listen for high/low, fast/slow, loud/quiet and instrumental timbres.

2nd-We are playing singing games, exploring La-Sol-Mi patterns on glockenspiels, and composing using La-Sol-Mi.

3rd grade-We are playing singing games and singing/reading La-Sol-Mi-Re-Do patterns.

4th-We are singing and continuing playing recorder. We will be assessed on reading/playing B, A, and G on the treble staff.

5th- We are singing and continuing playing the recorder. We will be assessed on reading/playing B, A, G, E, D on the treble staff. We are learning a song to perform at our 5th grade awards ceremony!



PE

K-2nd grade will be running outside and playing team building games.

3rd-5th Grades will be finishing Fitness testing and playing team building games.

5th Grades will be preparing for the District 33 track meet at the end of May.



SEL/Health

All grade levels will be working on safety and accident prevention in the month of May.

Library

It was a busy month in the library. In the primary grades students have participated in an author study of Mo Willems and we have been enjoying reading many of his books. We have also read and discussed books based on the observance of Earth Day.

To help the fourth graders prepare for their STEM challenge, we collaborated with Ms. Silva, our technology coach, and used the VR Goggles to look at different bridge structures.

Fifth graders were able to familiarize themselves with the floor plan of the Leman Middle School Library by coding the Ozobots with the proper commands to navigate through the many sections on the map.



All students had the opportunity to participate in our bookmark contest. We had so many creative entries. Congratulations to our winners who are being announced during Children's Book Week May 5th-9th.

May is jammed pack with activities:

May 12th - 16th - We have a Book Fair

May 19th - 23rd - A book delivery from Bernie's Book Bank for all of our students.

May 28th - 4th and 5th Grades completed their reading incentive challenge and earned a trip to the Kane County Cougars Baseball Game.

Upcoming Events- Mark your calendars!!

May 15th- IK Literacy Night (6:00-8:00pm) Chorus Concert (5:30-6:00pm)

May 17th- Bloom Fest

May 17th- D33 Ballet Folklorico End of Year Show (5:00-7:00pm)

May 19th-23rd- Spring MAP Testing (Reading and Math)

May 22nd- BOE Meeting @ 7pm (Mr. Billy, Mrs. Boorsma, and Ms. Fernandez will all be recognized!!)

May 26th- No School (Memorial Day)

May 28th- Kane County Cougars Game (4th and 5th grade only- 9:30-1:30pm)

May 29th- 6th Grade Orientation at LMS (6:00-8:00pm)

June 1st- IK Chorus will sing at the Wego33 Anniversary Celebration (Reed Kepler Park- 1:00pm)

June 2nd- Elementary Orchestra Concert (6:00-8:0pm)

June 3rd- D33 BTAGG Juneteenth Event (5:00-7:00pm)

June 4th- IK Field Day (RAIN DATE- June 5th)



June 4th- Elementary Band Concert (6:00-8:00pm)

June 9th- 1st Grade Academic Accolades Ceremony (9:00-10:00am); 4th Grade Academic Accolades Ceremony (10:15-11:15am)

June 10th- 5th Grade Promotion Ceremony (9:30-11:00am); Farewell Picnic (12:00-3:00)

June 11th- Kindergarten Promotion Ceremony (9:30-11:00am)

June 11th- 5th Grade STEM Up day at LMS

June 12th- Last Day of School-Dismissal at 11:30am!!



Whitnie Del Toro

Principal, Indian Knoll Elementary School