

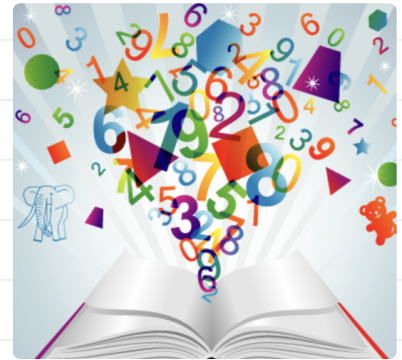
24-25 Wegner Parent Newsletter

5th edition

Save the Date!!!!

Math & Literacy Night at Wegner Elementary school will take place on March 19, 2025 from 5:30-7pm.

Come for dinner & stay for games and fun!



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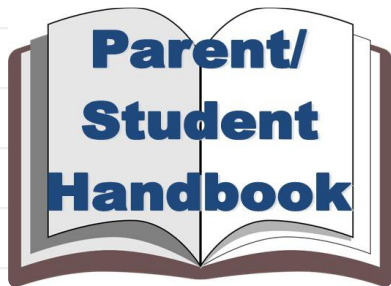
**Sara Gillmar- Wegner's
Interim Assistant
Principal**

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(630) 293-6400 *ask to speak
to Sara Gillmar*

"We Grow Together"

This section is to recognize and celebrate a student each month who has made **AMAZING** growth. This month, we are recognizing **Christopher Jaime Arce**. He took his time on the MAP tests and stayed focus the entire time. His scores grew in Math & Literacy! Congratulations Christopher! Keep up the great work.



Parent & Student Handbook- Assessments

Your child will take multiple assessments throughout the year. There are a few universal assessments for students in elementary school. Below you will find the name of 4 tests your child may take.

MAP- "Measures of Academic Progress" is a computer adaptive test that our students take three times per school year in the areas of Mathematics & English Language Reading. The results give teachers information that helps them deliver appropriate instruction for each child's academic growth over time. As the student responds to questions, the test responds to the student and adjusts by getting easier or harder. This data helps teachers know what students are ready to learn at any point in time.

IAR- Illinois State Assessments are mandated by the State of Illinois and measure achievement in English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics in grades 3-11. It is a computer-based assessment aligned to the State Standards. The assessment allows us to know if students are working at expected levels and are on track for future success.

ACCESS- The ACCESS test is an English language proficiency test designed to measure English language learners' social and academic proficiency in English. It tests social and instructional English as well as language associated with language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies within the school context across the 4 language domains- Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening.

AAPPL- "ACTFL Assessment for Performance towards Proficiency in Languages"- the Seal of Biliteracy qualifying test.

This Month's Golden Eagle Award Winners!

Every month, our staff will select 2 students from each grade level who have followed our 5 Core Values during the entire month. The student photos will be shared here. Your child will also be recognized during our morning announcements and get a certificate to bring home.

As a building, we focused on the core value of: Readiness to Learn during the month of January. Students who show readiness to learn:

- listen and follow directions

- have a calm body
- contribute to class activities
- are on time & come to school prepared
- use appropriate voice levels
- have a strong desire to learn



Congratulations to the following Wegner Eagles for being a model citizen for your peers:

Kindergarten:

- Manar Alhammo
- Leandro Perez
- Kane Alverio
- Axel Gonzalez

First Grade:

- Gabriel Rangel
- Dylan Medina
- Michael Black
- Allison Bucio Franco

Second Grade:

- Giselle Gutierrez
- Vivian Pontecorvo
- Alexis Lopez Cruz
- Edwin Morales Venegas

Third Grade:

- David Hernandez Araisa
- Evelyn Casterjon
- Sarahi Saldivar

Fourth Grade:

- Edwin Zavala
- Aylin Martinez Merino
- Darielyn Negron Santana

Fifth Grade:

- Kevin Flores
- Bella Morales
- Mason Mai



Kindergarten



This month we finished learning about animal characteristics. Our last group of animals was fish. Did you know that a shark is a fish? Our next unit is Ecology. We will learn about where animals live (habitats).

In math we have been learning the vocabulary words more than, less than, fewer than, and the same as. Ask your child questions where they use these vocabulary words in their answers.

In phonics we have learned some new high-frequency (heart) words recently. They are **book, look, are, from, and was**. See if your child can read these words and find them in the books you are reading.



First Grade

In language arts we finished our Wild Animals book. The students had a fun time sharing their final project with other students in class. We started our unit on Family Stories. Students will have the opportunity to share their stories with their classmates.

In math, we finished up module 2 which focused on adding and subtracting numbers 1-20. We are now starting module three which is focusing on measurement. The students just learned that when we are measuring, you need to line up the endpoints.



Second Grade

Wow!!! Can you believe we are at the half point for this school year! Time is flying by!!



We finished up our unit on the War of 1812. During that unit, students wrote personal narratives, and persuasive speeches. We are currently working on our new unit, "Cycles of Nature". For the next couple of weeks we will be exploring the many natural cycles that make life on Earth possible. We will be learning about seasonal cycles, plant cycles, animal life cycles, and the importance of the water cycle. Our writing focus will be an informative paragraph describing a particular life cycle.

In math, we are currently wrapping up module 4. In module 4 students developed addition and subtraction fluency within 100 and began understanding standard algorithms and place value strategies. In module 5, students build on that understanding and work with numbers within 1,000.



Third Grade

January has been a busy and exciting month in third grade! Our students have been hard at work exploring a variety of topics, growing their skills, and deepening their knowledge across subjects. Here is a snapshot of what we've been up to:

ELA: This month, we've been diving into our Weather and Climate

research unit. Students have been learning about different types of extreme weather, including tornadoes, hurricanes, blizzards, floods, and thunderstorms. After gaining a broad understanding of these phenomena, students had the opportunity to choose their favorite type of extreme weather and become experts by conducting in-depth research. It has been amazing to see their curiosity and enthusiasm as they uncover fascinating facts and share their findings with their peers.

Math: In math we have been working on module 4, which is a unit that focuses on finding the area of different shapes. We are practicing counting and using multiplication to help us find the area of each shape. It is very important to keep practicing multiplication facts daily!

Social Studies: In social studies we have been learning about leadership. Students learned the difference of being a leader vs a boss. We talked about important traits that leaders have and talked about what changes people have made around the world by being fearless leaders. At the end of the unit, we looked at our school and talked about various rules we have in place and which rules we would like to change. Students each picked a rule to change and wrote a strong argument to support their idea.

*We were even given the opportunity to present these ideas for change to our **superintendent Mrs. Davis!** She listened to all of the students and loved hearing the various things they wanted to*



change. Some examples were, "Late starts everyday", "More field trips", "Half days", "More specials", "Technology class", etc.



Fourth Grade



In language arts we have finished up our animal research project. Students researched an animal and became an expert on that animal. They used the different types of text structures when writing about their animal. Ask the students the different types of text structures. We will then be starting our third unit. This unit we read an American historical book and students will be writing their own American historical story.

In math, we finished up Module 3 and started Module 4. In Module 4, we are working on geometry. In geometry we cover a lot of different topics. The module starts out looking at different angles and the difference between rays, lines, and line segments. Ask your child what the differences are! Then we go into classifications of triangles and quadrilaterals. Lastly, we learn how to use a protractor to measure angles.

In Science we are finishing up learning about the different type of energies. Ask your students all about them.



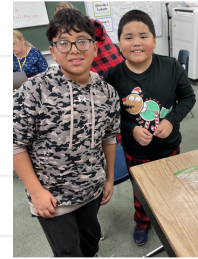
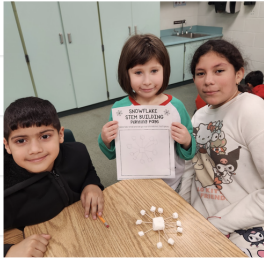
Fifth Grade

We have been hard at work in fifth grade wrapping up projects that we have been working on. In ELA, we are finishing our ecosystem books and will soon be able to share them. We learned a lot of interesting facts about places around the world that are very different from our home here. In math we have wrapped up working with whole numbers and decimals and are moving into the world of fractions. Many of our students are lacking their basic



multiplication facts, so we encourage you to practice with your students. Perhaps the biggest thing we are working on in fifth grade right now is taking ownership of our learning. Many students are very passive in their learning, wanting to take the simplest way out of doing work. Many say they are happy when they have met the bare minimum requirement. We believe that there is so much more for your child out there in the world, but if they aren't willing

to work for it, it will forever be out of reach. Please talk with your child about what they are doing in school. What challenges them? What are they curious about? What do they want to talk about? As we have asked them these questions here at school, many students had a hard time thinking about how to answer these questions. Invite your child to see you being curious about the world, ask them questions to get them thinking. Working hard isn't easy, but the rewards that come from it can be lifelong.



Music

Fun things are happening in music. Kdg is exploring timbre; sounds. We looked at making sounds with kitchen items, exploring vocal sounds, and identifying sounds in our environment. 1st grade has starting solfege notes; so-mi. We listen and identify, sing and play. 2nd grade is exploring movement with music from "The Nutcracker" 3rd-5th grade is exploring melody by playing xylophones and glockenspiels. I hope to share some videos soon.

Innovation Center

Thank you so much for participating in the Wegner Winter Reading Challenge! During the month of January, Kindergarten-3rd grade students read many Monarch Award nominees. 20 books are nominated for the Monarch Award. Students in grades 4 and 5 started to read *Killer Underwear Invasion*, a nonfiction Bluestem Award nominee. They learned about fake news and why people create them. Students will be voting in mid-March for their favorite Monarch and Bluestem book, and their votes will be sent to the state to determine the winners for 2025.

Technology

It was an exciting month in the STEM Lab! The Kindergartners used virtual reality to travel around the world and make observations about animals. Some 1st Grade students used the green screen to turn themselves into the Sun, Moon, or Earth. They shared facts about their astronomical bodies. Lastly, the 4th Grade students finished up their 3D printed animal sculpture inspired by the book, "Washed Ashore."

LBS1s- Special Education

The Wegner Special Education Teachers want to congratulate all our students on their focus and effort with the recent MAP testing. We are proud of you and the growth you have made! Parents, please use Parent Square or your preferred communication method to ask any questions about the MAP tests, the upcoming ACCESS or IAR tests, or about your child's progress. As you receive notices of upcoming testing please be extra conscientious about your child getting enough sleep and having breakfast (home or at school) on testing days. We are excited for our students to show what they have learned.

Related Services

Speech/Language ~ Keep on talking, building language and vocabulary!

Students in K-2 are reading Sneezzy the Snowman and making our own snowman. Students in 3-5 are working on a theme of snow! Keep reading and ask questions when you are done reading. Who was the main character? What happened in the story? Can you tell me two key details that happened in the story? Spend time talking! Make mistakes and talk about how to fix them.

Primary (K-2) Enrichment

First graders have finally wrapped up their first unit about wild and endangered animals. Students wrote their own puppet shows and did an amazing job! You can find the videos on student Seesaw accounts! In math students have begun looking at and discussing data. Students are practicing sorting by different attributes and showing their groups in different ways.

Second graders have also wrapped up their learning unit. Students created a comic strip that shows an insect with some sort of super power. We will begin our next unit with a shared reading of a chapter book. In math students have finished working on different ways of combining numbers and are moving on to number line addition and subtraction. We will also have days of multiplication sprinkled into our learning.

Intermediate (3-5) A.E.

3rd Guided Math

3rd Graders have been learning about variables and how they are used in equations and expressions using the resource "Beast Academy." Order of Operations is an important skill for students to understand to solve expressions and equations successfully. They are doing well and enjoying the challenge. Students should also be practicing their math facts several times a week for 5-10 minutes.

4th & 5th Accelerated Math

Students are currently working on unit 4 math standards. 4th Accelerated students have been focused on decimal patterns, decimal comparing and rounding, decimal addition and subtraction, decimal multiplication, and decimal division. 5th Accelerated Math standards include equations in one variable, expressions with exponents, relationships between quantities, integers, inequalities, coordinate plane, and common factors and common multiples. We also make time to work with Mr. Boyk in the STEM lab, Greg Tang Math Activities and Games, Breakout EDU, SCRATCH (coding), and Hour of Code.



Brittany Smith

Brittany is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters