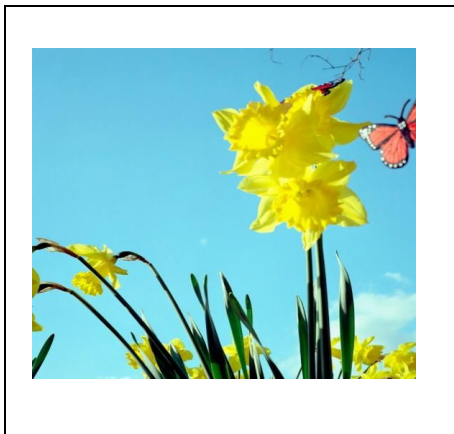


Medinah Primary School

Medinah Intermediate School



April 2019 Newsletter



Upcoming Dates:

- 5/6-10 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 5/7 PTO Portillo's Night
- 5/9 Butter Braid Pick Up (MPS)
- 5/15 Early Dismissal
- 5/16 Battle of the Books
- 5/17 2nd Grade Visit to MIS
- 5/17 BOGO Book Fair at MIS
- 5/18 GOTR Race Day
- 5/21 Dental Van @ MIS – Flyer Attached
- 5/22 5th Grade visits to MMS
- 5/24 Half Day 11:45am Dismissal
- 5/27 No School – Memorial Day
- 6/6 Last Day of School for Kinder and
Preschool
- 6/7 Last Day of School – Half Day

Message from the Principals

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe that we are heading into the final month of the school year! The students have accomplished so much, but we are not finished yet! As we reflect on the year, we are incredibly proud of the accomplishments of our students and staff. With the end in mind, let's continue to encourage our students to stay focused and finish their school year successfully.

Medinah Intermediate School students completed their IAR testing this month. We sincerely thank you for the continuous encouragement you offer your child to do his or her very best each day. First grade through fifth grade students will begin participating in their Spring Map Assessments in the content areas of Math and Reading in May. We are confident that our students are going to do a fantastic job on these assessments and we cannot wait to see how much growth they have made this year!

Throughout the month of May we will have many great opportunities for the students and families to celebrate this year and prepare for the 2019-2020 school year. Students are having fun on their field trips and finishing up on the many great learning activities they have been working on in their classes. On May 17th, the second graders will get to visit Medinah Intermediate School and on May 22nd, the fifth grade students will be visiting Medinah Middle School to meet the sixth grade teachers and learn more about what to expect in sixth grade. We will be sending home summer learning opportunities home the first week of May, so please be on the lookout if your child is interested in attending.

District 11 celebrated Administrative Professionals' day on April 24th to honor our wonderful secretaries for all they do for Medinah students, staff and families. During the month of May, we will be celebrating our very dedicated and hardworking faculty. Thank you so much to our PTO for coordinating treats for the teachers and staff members. We truly appreciate all of the efforts our families put into this celebration.

Have a fantastic month of May and as always please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Melissa Langietti
Principal, MPS

Natalie Czarnecki
Principal, MIS

P

- Theme- Students have been asking questions about our school building. They want to know the height of the building, what it's made of and how strong it is. They also ask many questions about the way it looks. Their ongoing interest in our building helped the preschool team realize that buildings would make a good study topic. For the next three weeks, we will be learning about buildings. Our first investigation included: What do the buildings in our neighborhood and other places look like? Do you live in a house, apartment, condo, etc? We discussed the following about buildings: Color, shape, height and other features. Next week we will be discussing, Who builds buildings? What tools do they use? What are buildings made of?
- SEL- Students reviewed different feelings they can have in response to scenarios.
- Handwriting Without Tears- Students are using roll-a-dough & magnet letters to learn to form each letter.
- Literacy- Students will be retelling the "Three Billy Goats Gruff" and the "Three Little Pigs" story. Students are also identifying capital and lowercase letters throughout the classroom.
- Math- Students are matching shapes of a different size. Students are also focusing on identifying each shape and how many sides each shape has.

K

- In Literacy we are becoming experts on explaining how we know if a book is Fiction or Nonfiction.
- We are working hard to learn all 40 kindergarten sight words.
- In Math we have started our unit on composing and decomposing teen numbers

1

- Literacy: We are focusing on consonant blends, spelling trickier high frequency words, journeys near and far, problem and solution situations, and mysteries!
- Writing: We are writing animal informative booklets! We have been using technology devices and books to help research where animals live, what they eat, and how they look!
- Math: We have recently finished our topic on adding with tens and ones. We are moving into subtracting with tens and ones. Using strategies and tools such as the 120 Chart, tens and ones mats, and mental math have been very helpful for us as we explore these topics.
- Social Sciences: We just finished our unit on sound and vibrations. We are moving into our scope on different ways to use communication!



2

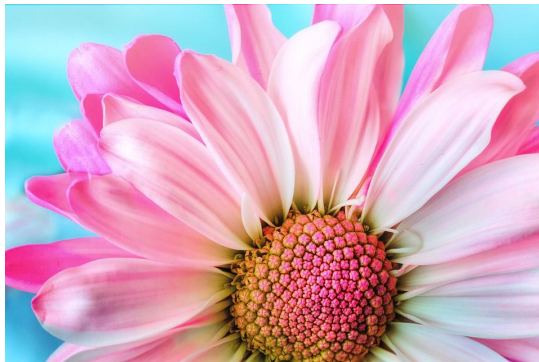
- Literacy/Social Studies: Ms. Ferguson has been studying simple Biographies, while Ms. Ohlson & Miss Maciulewicz are finishing their unit on American symbols and will be moving into author study
- Math: Money (coin recognition, how much each is worth and counting change)
- Writing: Opinion and informative writing
- Science: Mapping our world with landforms, erosion, quick and slow changes to land

3

- Reading: Finishing Diversity Unit, starting Freedom Unit / Judy Blume Author Study
- Writing: Narrative Process Papers
- Math: Geometry / Area and Perimeter
- Social Studies: Public Services / City Hall
- Science: Weather / Processes and Impacts of Natural Hazards

4

- Reading: Mrs. Flanagan's students are continuing to work through Unit 6: Confronting Challenges. They are working on making connections. Miss. Parker and Mrs. Akert's students are Finishing Unit 5 with the story *Moonwalk* and working on drawing conclusions.
- Writing: Miss. Parker and Mrs. Akert's students are working on their Informative process papers/ Mrs. Flanagan's students are working on Narrative Journal Entry.
- Math: Students are mastering the addition and subtraction of mixed numbers, and multiplication of whole numbers and fractions.
- Social Studies: *Up Next*; Midwest/Chicago Unit
- Science: Students have been exploring renewable and nonrenewable Resources.



- Reading: Mrs. Petschinsky's class is continuing to work through Unit 6 answering the essential question: What compels us to survive? Miss Chernesky/ Mrs. Bautista and Mrs. Carbonara's will begin their last novel study discussing the theme of survival.
- Writing: Miss Chernesky/Mrs. Bautista and Mrs. Carbonara's classes are creating informative essays about an influential person in history. Mrs. Petschinsky's class is working on Narrative Journal Entries. Biography people visual aides are due May 10th for all classes.
- Math: Our next unit will be focusing on numerical expressions, patterns, and relationships.
- Social Studies: We will begin learning about the Declaration of Independence and the Revolutionary War.
- Science: Next up we will start a unit on human development.



District Nurse: Mrs. Edwards, RN, CSN

- The temperatures are warming up! We are happy to see the students enjoying the warmer temperatures. We wanted to remind our parents and families that students should continue to bring in a water bottle and a healthy snack to school each day.
- We still have been having some days with cooler temperatures so it is important for students to dress in layers in preparation for days with warm afternoons and cooler mornings.
- We are excited to have the DuPage county dental van come to MPS and MIS again for their annual visit! The dental van will visit MIS on May 21st and MPS on May 22nd.
- A consent form will be sent home in the coming weeks, so please keep an eye out for it! All students wishing to be seen by the dental van staff, must bring in a completed consent form.
- The exam conducted by the dental van will take care of the dental exam requirement for students in kindergarten, 2nd grade, and 6th grade.
- Should you have any questions regarding the dental van and their services, please do not hesitate to contact the school health office.



Art: Ms. Bibula

Adventures in Art

- The MPS/MIS Art Show was a huge success this year! It was a fun-filled night for students, families and the community. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped to make the event possible!
- Kindergarten has been learning about symmetry.
- 1st grade created beautiful watercolor landscape paintings.
- 2nd graders are working with tempera to paint their favorite animal.
- 3rd graders had wonderful performances using their paper masks. Now they are finishing work on their windchimes.
- 4th grade has begun working with clay, building coil pots.
- 5th graders are currently working on a watercolor painting of an anthropomorphic animal.



MPS LMTC: Mrs. Pickren

- The state-wide Monarch results are in and the winner of this year's Illinois Readers' Choice award is: *Creepy Pair of Underwear* by Aaron Reynolds. Our school-wide favorite, *Bob, Not Bob* by Elizabeth Scanlon came in second place.
- Look for a fun reading incentive coming home next week. Students will be reading to earn an awesome school-wide assembly sponsored by the PTO!

Kindergarten:

- Students have been having fun at game centers while working on sight words.
- They also played "musical books" and were able to read books from the Early Reading area of the library.

1st Grade:

- Students finished a wonderful unit about friendship and the ways that different personalities can be important. *The Treasure Tree* by John Trent, really had the students thinking about their own personalities and how they fit in different situations. Ask your child which character they are most like: the lion, the otter, the beaver, or the golden retriever.

2nd Grade:

- Students have been practicing Dewey call numbers by playing bingo.
- They have also been learning how to find books in our library by using [Destiny, our online library catalog](#).

MIS LMTC: Mrs. Jasper and Mrs. Mouser

Battle of the Books

- 4th and 5th graders are preparing for their 1st reading "Battle" in May.

3rd Grade Minds in 'Blume'

- The third graders are working on reading multiple texts by the author Judy Blume.
- We hope each student is enjoying reading their own copy of *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* at home with their family!
- Students who complete all of their reading activities will be able to participate in a fun, end-of-year reading celebration!

4th Grade

- After learning about effective researching and note taking skills, each student is creating a slideshow presentation using the Adobe Spark Video app.

5th Grade

- The fifth graders are learning researching what life was like in Colonial Williamsburg and will be creating a project to share what they learn.



Music: Mrs. Bender

MUSIC AT MEDINAH

Kindergarten

- Labeled loud and soft music with the dynamics *piano* and *forte*
- Explored high and low pitches set a perfect fifth apart

1st Grade

- Read, wrote, and composed with the pitches *so-mi* on the music staff
- Discovered a new rhythm that we are currently calling a "silent beat"

2nd Grade

- Performed and identified a new rhythm in many known songs that is worth two beats
- Discovered that there is a pitch lower than *mi*
- Completed their unit of the instruments of the orchestra

3rd Grade

- Improvised and composed melodies with the pitches *do-mi-so-la*
- Experienced and identified the unknown rhythm "pepperoni" in many known songs
- Began labelling note names in treble clef

4th Grade

- Labeled a new pitch that is lower than *low la*, known as *low so*.
- Learned the fingerings for three new pitches on the recorder: C, D, and B.

5th Grade

- Labeled the pitch *fa*, and discovered that it is a half-step away from *mi*.
- Performed, identified, and labeled a new uneven rhythm called syncopation.





Physical Education: Mr. Boeing

Gems From The Gym

- Physical education is in the home stretch of the school year.
- However being active is so important outside of class too!
- At both schools we have continued to talk about what skills can be taken from the physical education setting and applied to all areas of any lifestyle.
- Sportsmanship in P.E. can translate into being a good member of a class group, or working on a group project in the business world someday.

M.P.S.

- At Medinah Primary School we have been building off of our previous learned loco motor and non-loco motor skills during our dribbling, volleying, and striking unit.
- During the past four weeks students have been working hard to improve their coordination skills, agility skills, chest pass, bounce pass, bump, serve, racket skills, striking skills and shooting skills.
- We will now be flying into the parachute unit!

M.I.S.

- We have hit our last "ace" of the volleyball unit and are now moving into fitness testing.
- Students keep track of their own fitness portfolio as a part of our google classroom.
- Students look at their results from the fall, set goals, and try to achieve those goals in the 5 tests this spring.
- We do a push up, curl up, one mile run, pacer test, and flexibility test.
- It is important to stress that everyone's body is different and no one should ever compare themselves to one another.

Mr. B's Kitchen

Fire up that grill for some Caprese Asprages!

- 1 lb. asparagus, stalks trimmed
- Extra-virgin olive oil, for drizzling
- kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 2 c. shredded mozzarella
- 2 c. cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1/2 c. balsamic vinegar
- 1/4 c. honey
- Thinly sliced fresh basil, for garnish



DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 425°. On a large baking sheet, toss asparagus with olive oil and season with salt and pepper.
2. Push to one side of the baking sheet and sprinkle mozzarella on top.

3. On the other side of the baking sheet, toss cherry tomatoes with olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Bake until the asparagus is tender and the cheese has melted, about 20 minutes.
4. Meanwhile, make balsamic glaze: In a small saucepan, combine balsamic vinegar and honey. Simmer until reduced by half, stirring occasionally, 15 minutes (the mixture should coat the back of a spoon). Let cool slightly.
5. Transfer cheesy asparagus to a serving platter. Top with roasted tomatoes then drizzle with balsamic glaze and garnish with basil



K-5 Technology: Mrs. Akdeniz

MPS

- Kindergarten through second grade now have their own Google accounts to be used at school. Having individual accounts allows teachers more opportunities to enhance their lessons with Google Classroom and Google Apps.
- We aired our first morning announcements and plan to continue through the rest of the school year every couple of weeks.
- Technology Club will have their final session on Monday, April 29th.

MIS

- Students did an awesome job preparing for and taking the IAR test. Ask your child about the "special video messages" they got to watch each morning!
- Broadcasting Club will continue to meet weekly through the end of May. Ask your 5th grader if they would like to join Digital Media Club when they get to MMS!



K-5 Literacy: Mrs. Lima and Mrs. Mellert

Building Reading Stamina

Reading stamina, or the ability to focus and read independently, is an important piece of being a successful reader. Teachers often work on this in the classroom, but parents can help at home too!

Here are a few easy steps to follow:

1. Use a variety of reading strategies to engage your child in reading including reading to themselves, reading to someone or listening to reading. Try a combination of all three!
2. Choose "just right" books so they are able to successfully read independently.
3. Set reasonable goals for the amount of time spent reading.
4. Celebrate progress!

Source: www.readingrockets.org

