

THE SHOREWOOD SCRIBBLER

EDITION 2 - NOVEMBER 11, 2016

Shorewood Families-

It is hard to believe we are already done with the first trimester of the school year! As we enter into the month of November, it is important to take a moment from our busy lives to reflect. I want to take this opportunity to recognize the people I am thankful for in the Shorewood Community.

I am thankful for...

- Teachers who are dedicated and flexible.
- Students that make me realize my purpose for being in education daily.
- Staff that works together to make Shorewood a positive and beautiful school to learn and work in.
- Parents that partner with teachers to ensure their child's growth.
- Board Members who support the schools and provide the resources necessary to educate our students.
- Administration for their leadership and collaboration.

I encourage all of you to take the time to show your gratitude and appreciation for those around you during this month of thankfulness!

Colleen Connolly
Principal

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences are Monday, November 21 and Tuesday, November 22. You should have already been notified by the classroom teacher to set up your date and time.

Parent-teacher conferences are a very important time during the school year. Parent-teacher communication should be ongoing throughout the year, but this is a great check point after first trimester.

I encourage all of you to make this time a priority as education is a partnership between parents and teachers!

Operation Care Package and Veterans Day

Shorewood Elementary School students have been donating items for Operation Care Package during the past few weeks. I am proud to announce that we have gathered over hundreds of items for our active military. We will be honoring our Veterans at an assembly on Veterans Day. Each grade level has prepared a patriotic song to sing and we look forward to celebrating our heroes for their service to our country.

This NEWSletter may look a little bit different this month!

Each grade level now has the opportunity to share what is exciting and relevant in their grade for each edition. We wanted you to be aware of all the fun, educational experiences happening at Shorewood Elementary School! Some grade levels even have students in the role of journalists and editor!



Troy CCSD 30C

Dr. Todd J. Koehl
Superintendent
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Where the future begins!

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The Troy CCSD 30-C learning community will achieve excellence and will conquer the challenges of the future.

November 10, 2016

To all our families—

Happy Veterans' Day! With that weather we are having, it seems odd to say that. Tomorrow, we dedicate our day to thanking those who serve, have served, and paid the ultimate sacrifice. As we voted on Tuesday, we exercised one of the greatest rights we have—the right to an opinion. We owe the preservation of this right to our heroes who have defended it. Thank you, Veterans, this day and all days.

While this has been an outstanding fall, inclement weather, at least one to two days of it, is inevitable. In light of this, I want to take the opportunity to review our snow day protocols. The easiest of these is that if you do not hear from the school, then we are in session. We will only call when we are canceling school. This means that if we have canceled school for two days in a row, and we do not call on the third day, then we are in session. As a rule, the area superintendents work together to get our message out as soon as possible. We will try to hit the 6:00 p.m. news, the 10:00 p.m. news, and, if needed the 6:00 a.m. news. We try to make our decision the night before, if it is possible. Once the decision is made, Troy 30-C will call you, email you, tweet it (@troy30c), post it on our website, and call the local media outlets. In the end, we will always err on the side of student safety whether it be severe cold or unsafe travel. We are happy to serve you, and we will communicate our school closings effectively.

We have parent-teacher conferences on November 21 and 22. Please try to schedule a conference with your student's teacher. You are the third leg of the education triangle (student—teacher—parent), and we look forward to the opportunity to share the good news about your student's progress. The recording of progress has changed since we were all in school. As a K-4 parent, I encourage you to review the [Parent Guide to Standards Based Reporting](#), and for grades 5-8, the [report card explanations](#). The key to our assessment of student progress is independent and consistent demonstration of mastery of the learning standards. Our report card, then, is simply a report of your student's degree of independence and consistency toward mastering the learning targets. Please come out to our conferences and find out what goal your student has set and what progress he or she is making toward that target.

The holiday season is soon to be upon us. We know that these days bring great joy, and sometimes, some stress for families. Please make us aware of any changes or concerns your student might be bringing to school so we can support you at home. I always look forward to the holiday season and wish for all of you a happy and peaceful Thanksgiving as a start to the season. I am thankful for all of you, your children, our staff, and our community. As always, please feel free to contact us with questions, concerns, and suggestions that you have about the education of your student.

Sincerely-

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dr. Todd J. Koehl".

Dr. Todd J. Koehl, Superintendent

Welcome to Preschool!

Preschoolers are eager to explore math and are capable learners of mathematical ideas. Math can, and should, be part of children's everyday school experiences and activities. Young children have a natural curiosity about number and the skills children learn and use during creative, imaginative play easily involve mathematical concepts. In Pre-K, our role is to bridge children's informal understanding of math concepts with more formal, school-based mathematics.

Prekindergarten children are introduced to five main components of mathematics:

- Number and operations
- Geometry and spatial sense
- Measurement
- Patterns
- Data analysis



3D SHAPES CLIPART



Our learning environment is designed to purposely place materials in centers to spark student interest and explorations and by intentionally introducing activities with a mathematical focus. As we observe and listen to students interact with the materials and peers, we are able to use mathematical vocabulary to describe actions and thinking. We also play logic games, create mathematical problem-solving stories, and include numerical activities as a part of our daily routine.

Here are some things you can do at home to promote your child's mathematical thinking:

- Count everything! Touch the objects as you say the corresponding numbers.
- Ask children to help set the table, distributing the same number of each object to each place.
- Encourage children to build towers with blocks. Talk about the blocks that make the best towers and the specific shapes that do not work well.
- Use measurement vocabulary and talk aloud as you make common measurements around the house, in the store, or while traveling.
- Encourage children to create and extend patterns with blocks and other toys. After they make a pattern, ask them to describe it.
- Make grocery lists together. Organize the items by groups (cereals, breads, meats...)
- Make charts that show family job responsibilities, practice sessions, or homework assignments.



What to Expect at your Kindergarten Parent-Teacher Conference?

We have learned so much in our first trimester of kindergarten! Parent teacher conferences are right around the corner. This is a great opportunity for us to engage in a meaningful conversation with you about your child's progress up to this point in the school year. We will be able to provide insight about your child's performance in a structured learning environment.

At your conference, we will...

- Share your child's progress report.
- Discuss your child's progress and share work samples that illustrate his/her progress.
- Provide you with multiple resources and suggestions in order to help make connections between school and home.
- Answer questions or address any concerns you may have.

Other things to keep in mind...

- We have your child's best interest in mind.
- Open and honest communication is key to your child's success.
- The conferences are 20 minute appointments. Please arrive on time to help us stay on schedule.

We look forward to taking the time to sit and talk to each and every one of you! See you at conferences!

The Kindergarten Teachers



FIRST GRADE NEWS

Mr. Majack • Mrs. Miech • Mrs. Moorhouse • Miss Sheehan

First Grade Votes!



To help students understand the process of voting, first grade held an election on Tuesday, November 8th. Students went into a voting booth, filled out a ballot, put their ballots in the box, and got a sticker!

Afterwards, students tallied and graphed the results. This was the perfect wrap-up to our data and graphing unit in math.

Quick Tip

Looking for a fun way to practice spelling? Try these free apps!

- Real Chalkboard
- Sand Draw
- Heat Pad
- Hello Chalk
- Hello Color Pencil
- Hello Crayons

Our Field Trip to Siegel's Farm

First grade had a beautiful fall day for our field trip! At the farm, we went on a hayride, made our way through a corn maze, and read parts of the story *Spookley the Square Pumpkin* along the way. Students also learned about how farmers grow food and got to feed and touch the animals. Highlights of the trip included the playground, the train, and the mud!



Siegel's Cottonwood Farm

Each student got to take a pumpkin home as a memory of the trip. A huge thank you to all of our parent volunteers who came along!

COMING UP...

CONFERENCES

We look forward to discussing your child's learning with you! Please contact your child's teacher or call the school if you need to reschedule.

FAMILY PROJECT

Be on the lookout for a special family project!

We are excited to hear about our classmates' family traditions.

HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Our annual first grade holiday program will take place on Friday, December 16th at 1:30 p.m. More details to follow.

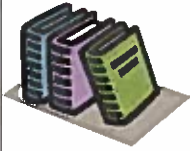
We are looking forward to a busy month ahead!
-The First Grade Teachers



The Second Grade Times



Troy Shorewood Elementary School
November 11, 2016



Here's What We Are Working On...

Math: Representing Numbers in the 100's

Reading: Reading Nonfiction Text + Identifying Nonfiction Text

Features

Phonics: 2nd Grade Spelling Patterns

Grammar: Nouns + Verbs



Teachers' Message

We are having so much fun in second grade! The autobiographies your child has been turning in are looking great, the second grade election was a success, and we are looking forward to meeting you at conferences.



Heart to Heart Ideas to Spark a Conversation With Your Child

Ask your child...

- Ⓢ what novel is your teacher reading to you in school?
- Ⓢ who did your child play with today at recess?
- Ⓢ what are you thankful for?
- Ⓢ what are you proud of?



Second Grade President...

Joseph Ferreti-Raucci



Fast Facts & Faves:

Food: chocolate
Chore: cleaning my room
Color: blue
Animal: dog
Book: Captain Underpants



Upcoming Tests

- * 11-18: Thanksgiving Spelling Test
- * 11-28: MAP Testing Begins



Mark Your Calendar!

- * 11/17: Autobiography Chapter 2 and Pictures Due
- * 11/21 & 11/22: Conferences
- * 11/23 ~ 11/27: Thanksgiving Break!

Gobble, gobble!



Please feel free to call or write your child's teacher at any time with questions or concerns.



Hello Third Grade Families!

At this time we are in full swing with third grade curriculum. We are so pleased with the progress that the third graders have made so far this year with learning new routines and procedures. Now that we have met individually with each student, assessed them, and set reading and math goals, we are looking forward to deepening and differentiating our instruction.

Our students have really shown a knack for using their multiplication strategies. They have all become experts at arrays, repeated addition, making equal groups, skip-counting, and using a number line. The students are currently excited about our hands-on activities involving fractions!

We are so proud of their continued success with multiplication and look forward to introducing division. We know with their strong base in multiplication they will successfully make the connection between multiplication and division concepts.

We have completed our first module in our NEW science program! Students loved the partner work, group work and multiple scenarios presented to them while discussing inherited traits in humans, plants and animals. We hope they brought these insightful conversations home with them and shared them with you!

We look forward to beginning our unit on cultural diversity. We will research and note take on rituals, celebrations, geography and interesting facts about foreign countries. The unit will end with an activity comparing and contrasting their country with another. Ask your student about this exciting research!

In reading class, we are continuing to practice text structures and reading comprehension strategies within non-fiction texts. The students are diligently reading multiple non-fiction texts throughout the week. They are currently working to produce a research based animal project utilizing their knowledge of google slides.

As we prepare for the second trimester, we highly recommend reinforcing skills and strategies at home. Using technology websites such as, Front Row Math, Moby Max, Raz-Kids, IXL, and xtramath.com will encourage and actively engage students in their nightly practice at home.

As a friendly reminder: please continue to check your child's homework folder nightly. And be sure to return signed word study menus, reading logs and math homework on a weekly basis. Thank you so much for your continued support on our third grade journey!

Fourth Grade Happenings
Troy Shorewood Elementary
Mrs. Lara, Mrs. Las, Ms. McGuire

Fourth Grade Happenings

November 2016

Brought to you by our journalists: Riley Bryll, Mckayla Rossow, Kylie Papp and Taylynn Henson.

CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS:

ELA: In ELA, we have finished our investigation on answering our essential question. Our essential question was: How do human actions affect the environment and how do the environment affect us? To answer this question, we have read and reviewed many interesting stories on the subject of communities. We have established how our environment affects us as humans and how human actions affect the environment. We are also reading two Fairy Tales for our genre study the month of November. **Math:** In Math we are learning to complete prime factorization trees, distinguish between prime and composite numbers, and reviewing our multiplication strategies.

out of the mouths of Babes: We interviewed a couple of our classmates about our field trip and our Halloween Party. Here is what they had to say: Runor Anighoro said, "The field trip was fun because we had a great learning experience." Kamden Williams said, "Halloween was exciting, the games we had were amazing, and it was the best Halloween party of my life."

How can my parents help me at home?

Parents can help you at home by studying your facts for 10-20 minutes every day. Another way to practice is to use Mobymax, IXL and Extra Math. Mobymax is an excellent site. It has reading nonfiction and fiction, math, vocabulary, fact fluency, science, social studies, language, writing workshop. IXL is another amazing site. It has number sense, addition, patterns, multiplication, subtraction and many more skills. Extra Math is a great site. It lets you race against the teacher with skills.

ACE Happenings

November 2016

Brought to you by our journalists: Emma Overall and Holli Holt

CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS: We are learning so much and having a blast! In math we have been learning about fractions and how to get the same denominator. We have also been learning about fractions on a number line! It's all about the fractions in here! We have also been setting math and reading goals, every Friday we work on our math goals. Every Monday we work on our reading goals. We are starting our new non-fiction unit. We all have a bag full of different types of non-fiction. We also are doing some new things in classroom economy too. We can take out a mortgage instead of just rent our cube. We have been so busy learning and having fun! Get back to you later!!!

out of the mouths of babes:

(what do you enjoy the most about your class?)

I enjoy classroom economy in our classroom!!-Chloe Brouwer

I enjoy Mastering The Math Facts in our classroom!!-Niko Martinez

I enjoy all the math we do!!-Cohen Lesniak and Aodhan McGee

I enjoy fractions!!-Jack Salerno

I enjoy origo!!-Stratos Grimanis

I enjoy who/what on earth!!-Ava Worden

I enjoy all the strategies we can use!!-Andrea Cruz

How can you help me at home?

As you know we set goals for this year, so if you set a goal like multiplication fluency you can practice flashcards or even go on websites! You can also practice your reading goal by picking a good fit book and reading that aloud to a parent or older sibling!

Thank you!!!

Emma Overall and Holli Holt

TIPS Parent-Teacher Conferences www.ColorinColorado.org

It's hard to believe that it is already November! Parent Teacher Conferences are right around the corner, quickly followed by the holidays. Below you will find some basic information to make the most of your families' time with the classroom teacher and any specialists your child works with each day. If I can assist you please contact me at aroderick@troy30c.org or 815-577-7312, extension 1138, or leave a note on my webpage at <http://aroderick-ell.weebly.com/>

Arlene Roderick, ELL Specialist

Things to Remember

If you are invited to a conference, it doesn't mean your child is in trouble! Teachers try to meet with all parents. You and the teacher both want the very best for your child. You can help your child by working together as a team.

What will I learn?

You will learn more about your child's classes, and find out if your child is having any problems.

What will we talk about?

Your child's teacher will probably talk about your child's grades, classwork, homework, and behavior.

What will the teacher ask me? Teachers like to learn about students from their parents. No one knows your child better than you do.

Before the conference

- Ask your child if there is anything that he wants you to talk about with his teacher.
- Tell your child that you and the teacher are meeting to help her.
- Prepare a list of questions such as:
 1. What are my child's strongest and weakest subjects?
 2. Does my child hand homework in on time?
 3. Does my child participate in class?
 4. Does my child seem happy at school?
 5. What can I do at home to help?



Celebrate
your child's
accomplishments!!

During the conference

- Be on time (or early) for the meeting.
- End the meeting on time. Other parents will probably have a conference after yours.
- Relax and be yourself.
- Stay calm during the conference.
- Ask the most important questions first.
 - If your child receives special services such as English classes, ask about your child's progress in those classes.
 - Ask for explanations of anything you don't understand.

- Ask your child's teacher for ways that you can help your child at home.
- Thank the teacher.

After the conference

- Talk about the conference with your child.
- Talk about the positive points, and be direct about problems.
- Tell your child about any plans you and the teacher created.
- Keep in touch with the teacher during the school year.



What's Up in the Art Room

In art class students in grades 1-4 just completed projects for Hispanic Heritage month. The projects turned out beautifully (see images below). First grade students created Sugar Skulls out of paper for Day of the Dead. Second grade created cubist face collages inspired by Spanish artist Pablo Picasso. Third grade created molas from Panama. Last, fourth grade created Mexican Luchador Masks to fight for a cause of their choice. Kindergarten is sharpening their fine motor skills and created a pumpkin, unrelated to the hispanic heritage projects.

Next students in all grades will begin their clay projects :Kindergarten- Clay Caterpillar, First- Clay Leaves, Second- Clay Cacti, Third - Coil Pots, Fourth- Clay Cupcakes. Ask your child(ren), "What's up in Art class ?"

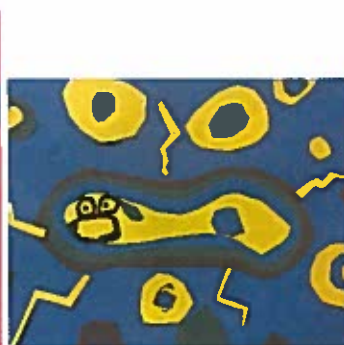
CALLING ALL ARTISTS! If you yourself or someone you know is an artist please contact me. We are looking for artists to present at the 12th annual Showcase of the Arts, March 1-3. Please call (815)577-7312 ext 1114 or email tmoraga@tory30c.org with any questions or ideas.



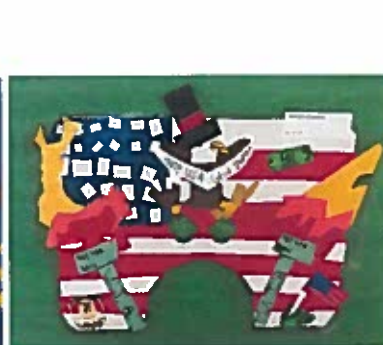
1st grade: Sugar Skull
By: Kholie



2nd Grade: Cubism
By: Hunter



3rd Grade: Molas
By: Spencer



4th Grade: Luchador
By: Willie



It has been a pleasure getting to know the students and families here at Shorewood Elementary! I would just like to remind the parents of our Kindergarteners that a vision exam from an eye doctor is an Illinois requirement along with a dental exam. Second graders are required to submit a dental exam. Please continue to send them in. Also, please remind your child to wear a jacket to school as the cooler days are approaching.

~Nurse Shar



Please make sure you are calling your child's absence in daily to the office-
815-577-7312

Upcoming Dates:

November 15- PTO Family Fun Zone from 5:30-9:30

November 21 and 22- Parent-Teacher Conferences

November 21-25- No Student Attendance

Week of November 28- MAP Testing begins

December 22-January 4- Winter Break
Classes Resume January 5