



# Herman Ave. Hawk News

**FEBRUARY  
2018**

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

### FEBRUARY EVENTS

**2/2-** P.M. STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY-  
Student dismissal at 12:00 noon

**2/5-** MGR Playhouse- Grade 2- Aesop  
Fables

**2/9-** Report cards go home

**2/14-** Valentine's Day Parties- Time  
TBA by teachers

**2/14-** Sport/Cup Stacking at Seward  
at 3:30 pm

**2/17-** PTO night at Champions for  
Life 5:30-7:30 pm

**2/19-2/23-** NO SCHOOL- MID-WINTER  
BREAK

**2/24-** Herman Ave. Hawks at the  
Syracuse Crunch game 7pm

**2/26-** MGR Playhouse- Kindergarten, 1  
&2 - That Chicken



Dear Families,

I think the weather this winter is going to keep us guessing, but we're in full swing at Herman Ave. Elementary! It is impressive to see our students working so hard every day.

Through the first four months of the year, our attendance rate is slightly over 95%! This rate is even more impressive because we have over 500 students in the building. Students who attend school regularly do better in school and develop work habits to help them succeed in life.

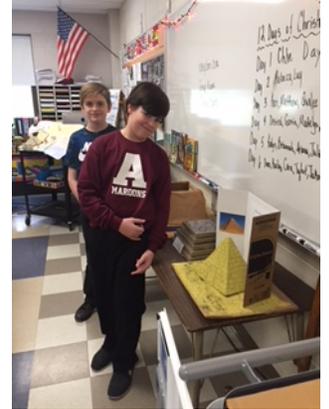
If you have ever been unsure if a movie is appropriate for your child to watch, please consider checking commonsensemedia.org for some various ratings about movies, TV, games, websites and more. There are parent and kid recommended ages for most movies. They also give a breakdown of various categories such as positive messages and consumerism.

Thank you for your support of our building, staff, and students.

Respectfully,

Mr. Dennis C. Taylor, Acting Principal

# CLASSROOM NEWS



Sixth grade has been busy the last six weeks in studying ancient Egypt. Throughout the unit, students examined the technological innovations of early ancient Egypt, explored the innovations of the Old Kingdom or Age of the Pyramids, territorial expansion of the Middle Kingdom, and the dominant power of the New Kingdom. Students completed the unit by creatively constructing their own ancient Egyptian pyramids. Also, the students were encouraged to work with their family when they were completing their projects! Students were encouraged to incorporate as much knowledge that they learned throughout the unit when building their pyramids by adding as many details as possible. I am so proud of their accomplishments, dedication, and motivation. Finally, the students proved that learning can be a fun and educational experience!

Mrs. Dann

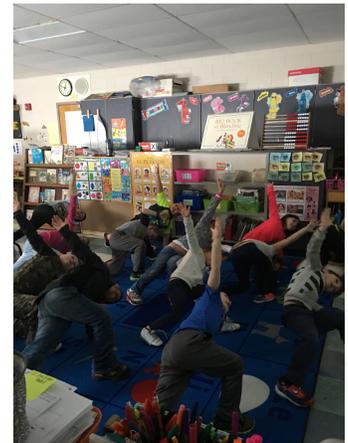


# CLASSROOM NEWS

This year in Mrs. Williams' 4th grade class, Mrs. Petrosino and Mrs. Williams have implemented the CAFE Menu system (Gail Boushey & Joan Moser, "The Sisters"). CAFE is an acronym for Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Expanding vocabulary. Using a whole-class board, strategies are introduced, posted on the menu and practiced during read-to-self time. This serves as a visual reminder of whole-class instruction as well as individual student goals. A letter for each strategy is sent home to parents that provides suggestions for assisting their child with the strategy at home. Mrs. Petrosino and Mrs. Williams conference with students individually, tracking each child's strengths and goals and collecting data to inform future instruction. Each student has goals and strategies specific to his/her individual needs. Students also have opportunities to write about what they are reading in their journals. Students enjoy the time they have to read from their good-fit books, and are proud they have achieved 35 minutes of reading stamina so far this year. When asked how to become a better reader, students respond...by reading!



Mrs. Siddall's kindergarten students practice yoga daily. The children love it! The poses are done in a context of a story.



Kindergarteners are totally engaged and mesmerized by the Merry Go Round Youth theater actor Killian. The kindergarteners learned how to use their imagination to help them while they watch the performance of "Do You See What I See Under the Sea". They also learned about the value of friendship. What a great experience !!



# MATH FUN

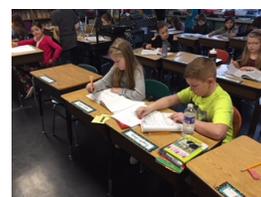
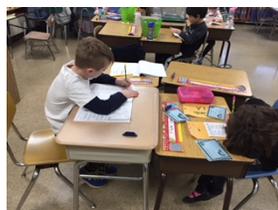


We had 34 Herman students participate in the Perennial Math Competition last Saturday at Jordan-Elbridge High School. We had 5 individual winners from Herman who placed in the Top 3 of their grade levels. These students are invited to compete in the National Tournament in May! Thank you to the 3rd-6th grade teachers for getting teams together and being there for them!

- 3rd Place in 3rd Grade- Zoey Cammilleri
- 3rd Place in 4th Grade- Madeline Wolfgang
- 3rd Place in 5th Grade- Jack Dalziel
- 3rd Place in 6th Grade- Kelsie Jasniewski
- 2nd Place in 6th Grade- Sam Crosby



Second and third grade students working hard on math activities in their classrooms.



# CLASSROOM NEWS

The First Grade is learning about the Human Body and 6 of the major body systems that help all of our body parts work! Recently, we learned about the skeletal system and made skeletons out of noodles. We were excited to learn that we have 206 bones that support and protect our bodies. They also give us our shape! Without bones we would be BIG BLOBS! We're looking forward to learning more about the amazing systems and how we can take care of them!



## Celebrating Dr. King

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Day, Mrs. Portipilo got her two second grades classes together from Mrs. Carberry's and Ms. Foos' rooms to learn about Dr. King so the students could understand why we celebrate his birthday each year. The children learned that Dr. King encouraged people to solve their problems peacefully. They discussed that some of Dr. King's dreams came true, such as schools and stores no longer being segregated. The students then brainstormed ideas for how our community, country or world could be better. First students came up with a problem society has. Some examples were children don't have enough food, homeless people don't have shelter, and sick people can't get the care they need. Next they came up with solutions to these problems. They completed this sentence: "I have a dream that..." and filled in what their solution to the problems were. Mrs. Portipilo took all the students picture with them looking like they were thinking (imagine thinking emoji) and added their dreams.

Here are a few of the students ideas:

I have a dream that people make better choices. by Kevin

I have a dream to give dogs and cats a home. by Kaylynn

I have a dream that homeless people get food and shelter. by William



## PTO CORNER



February is here! It will be spring before we know it!

We hope you had a great time at movie night, and thank you for your continued support of all our fundraisers and events. We hope to see you at Champions for Life on February 17th and the Syracuse Crunch game on February 24th.

This spring, we can look forward to the book fair, book and breakfast events, and so much more!

Don't forget your box tops! Box tops can be turned in to your child's teacher or deposited in the container outside of the main office.

Would you like to take on a more active role in your child's school experience? Consider joining the PTO. The PTO works to raise funds for special events such as field trips, activity day, and so much more. We hope to see you there!