



## SPECIAL DATES:

SPIRIT DAY 12/6 WINTER BAND 12/7 AND CHOIR CONCERT 12/8 NO 4K CHRISTMAS SOCKS NO SCHOOL 12/11 TEACHER INSERVICE SPIRIT DAY 12/13 **K-4 WINTER** CONCERT MIDDLE SCHOOL 12/15 WINTER DANCE NJHS MEETING 12/18 BOYS' BBALL @ 12/19 TREVOR-WILMOT SPIRIT DAY 12/20 SENIOR BRUNCH SENIOR COMPUTER **BOARD MEETING** BOYS' BBALL @ 12/21 RANDALL **UGLY SWEATER** 12/22

WINTER BREAK BEGINS AT DISMISSAL

1/2

SCHOOL

RESUMES

# A MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION

# Time: Our Most Precious Commodity

As we enter the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, it is important to recognize that the most precious and priceless gift we can give to anyone is time. There is a plethora of research that shows the benefits of spending time with family. A strong correlation is found between family time and child academic and behavior outcomes as measured in a study titled "Family Meals and Child Academic and Behavioral Outcomes." <a href="https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3498594/">https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3498594/</a>

We have so many distractions in life and are busy with work, running our kids around for various activities, distractions, etc. However, we can all find a way to carve out some time when it is

necessary. Time is the one commodity that can never be replaced. Jobs, money, material possessions may come and go, but time is the one thing that can never be replaced.

Enjoy the holiday season and be mindful of your spending - especially as it relates to time!





#### REPORT CARDS

## **Standards Based Report Cards**

"Why would anyone want to change current grading practices? The answer is quite simple: Grades are so imprecise that they are almost meaningless." ~Robert Marzano~

Our first trimester has come to an end and report cards will be available in Skyward on Friday, December 8th. Below is information that will help you understand standards based report cards at all levels.

- 1. Each subject has a list of grade level standards that support learning in said subject.
- 2. Each grade level standard is an end of year expectation.
- 3. A blank space indicates that said standard has not yet been assessed.
- 4. Behavioral expectations are reported separately from academic progress. These are listed as Mindset, Active Learning, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility.
- 5. More information can be found on our website, <u>www.twinlakes.k12.wi.us</u>, under For Parents, Standards Based Grading.



### **Learning Scale**

Each level builds on the others and describes the learning students must demonstrate in order to achieve a higher level. For example, a student may start as a "1" or "2" but still earn a "3" once they demonstrate mastery of the standard.

- 3 Meets Grade Level Standard: The student is proficient in understanding and application of skills.
- **2 Progressing Toward Grade Level Standard**: The student understands foundational material, but is still working to apply the skills.
- **1 Not Yet Meeting Grade Level Standard**: The student is working toward understanding the foundational material with support.
- **NE No Evidence**: The student has not participated enough to show evidence of understanding or application.
- \*Please note that some standards are assessed throughout different trimesters. Each report card reflects the most recent assessment.

#### FIRST GRADE

It has been a busy month for first grade! We have grown so much as readers and learned all different strategies to solve tricky words. With that being said, we even became official word detectives! In math we have been working through addition and subtraction-up next is the important skill of working with numbers in base ten! In writer's workshop we are becoming nonfiction writers-we have learned how to add labels to our pictures and write with a teaching voice.

Finally, we have started our first PLTW unit where we get to investigate light and sound. We can't wait to see what else is in store!



#### FIFTH GRADE

Fifth graders have enjoyed a terrific fall. They have read fiction books in the beginning of the year and were part of book clubs where they discussed their book together and worked on themes. The students are now reading about nonfiction topics of their choice. They are digging deep into a topic of their choice to find information so they can present their information to their class on what they discovered. Students are reading a lot at school each day and then reading at home for at least 30 minutes each night. All this reading gets logged and added to our 40 Book Challenge. In writer's workshop, students have been writing a variety of personal narratives from their lives and in math students have been working hard on their fact fluency (math facts in addition, subtraction,

in math students have been working hard on their fact fluency (math facts in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) as they polished up their multiplication and division skills. The students are also working really hard dividing by 2 digit divisors and they are doing a great job at it as we finish up unit 2 in math.

In science, Mrs. Destree's class has been designing and building robotic chassis in PLTW while Mrs. Osborne's homeroom has been working on dioramas on one of the 5 regions of the United States.

Finally, students recently celebrated their completion of the DARE program and enjoyed a field trip to see an Admirals hockey game in Milwaukee. We can't

wait to see what the second trimester brings!





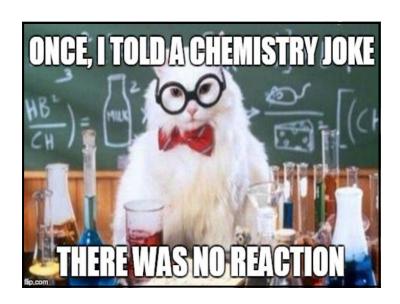
### 6TH-8TH GRADE

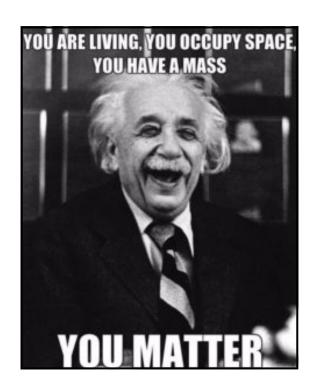
It hardly seems possible to be nearing the end of first trimester science. Students that are in science this first half of the year will remain in science until January 22 when they will move over to social studies with Mrs. Kafar. Until then we have many more labs and units to cover.

8th graders are just getting started on the PLTW Medical Detectives unit in which they will do many hands-on labs and projects such as recording and analyzing body temperature, blood pressure and heart rate. They will then research foodborne pathogens and inherited diseases, perform tests on their senses, dissect a sheep's brain and analyze DNA.

7th graders are just beginning a unit on chemical reactions and will be exploring how materials change but mass is conserved.

6th graders are studying the rock cycle after learning about plate tectonics, geologic time, and fossil fuels. 7th and 8th graders are learning about human impacts on ecosystems in their afternoon science extension classes.





#### LIBRARY

## **Library News!**

The library just wrapped up it's annual Fall Book Fair. Book Fair time is always exciting for the students and rewarding for staff when we see great books being put into the hands of young readers. While sales this year were down, we were still able to get some great books for our classroom libraries and the school library. With our profits we were able to purchase \$1,086.00 worth of books for the classrooms and \$1,460.00 worth of books for the school library. A big "THANK YOU" to our parents, community, administration and staff for supporting this important event!

Next up, be on the lookout for Great America "Read to Succeed" reading logs! All students in grades kindergarten through 6th grade will have the chance to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to grow as readers and earn a free ticket to Six Flags Great America! Reading logs will be coming home soon. Help your child document 600 minutes of reading time by Thursday, Feb. 22nd and the free ticket will be theirs! Classroom teachers will be sending home more information about this in the near future.

For those students in 7th-8th grade, Literary Connections is a fantastic way to delve into some great books and earn an end of the year field trip. A committee of educational professionals from several local schools including Lakewood, choose 12 books for that year's Literary Connections. Students wishing to participate must read at least 6 of the titles to qualify for the field trip in May. So far several students have started the reading. Ask your student if they are participating and which books they have read.

Students in 4-6th grades have been busy learning about Digital Citizenship. With technology at their fingertips, more than ever students need to be reminded of the responsibility that comes with easy access of information. Students are learning safe use of electronic devices, what information is safe to share and what is not as well as how to recognize credible sources.

The holidays present the perfect opportunity to spend some quality time reading with your child. Holiday books are a fun way to open family discussions. So this holiday....I hope you can curl up with a good book and read!

Happy Holidays from the Mrs. Baney in the Lakewood School Library!



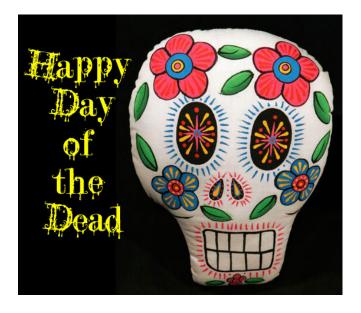
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## **Español**

Middle school Spanish students are off to a great start in Spanish this year. We have been building a lot of vocabulary while doing student-led warm ups at the beginning of class including movement exercises with opposites, numbers and days of the week with the calendar, and basic colors. Students are working on listening and speaking in Spanish and are getting great at asking and answering questions about colors and numbers. We also have included cultural activities such as Day of the Dead in Mexico, a new viewpoint on Columbus Day from a Hispanic perspective, and famous Hispanics in the United States. We play a wide variety of games to help practice our new vocabulary and we will start with a n introduction to some simple grammar in January. In December we will practice body parts and winter clothing as well as investigating Christmas in Hispanic countries. ¡Feliz Navidad!









#### PARENT CORNER

#### Love and Logic: Bully Prevention

Last month, we discussed ways to help someone being bullied--this month:

"What do you do when your own child is the bully?" You are always talking about what to do when your kid is being bullied. What about when they are the one who is doling it out?

This question came from a concerned mother, wracked with guilt over her son's habit of emotionally demeaning peers and physically pushing them around.

Described below is one suggestion.

## Spit in their Soup

"Spitting in their Soup" is a powerful therapeutic technique originally developed decades ago...and named by the famous therapist Alfred Adler. The Love and Logic variation is summed up in two steps:

- 1. Identify the child's goal for performing the behavior. Often in the case of bullying, the goal is to look and feel powerful.
- 2. Use empathy to communicate that the behavior is actually achieving the opposite.

Let's see how a parent or educator might use this approach with a child who's bullying others:

Adult (with sincere empathy): "I've been learning a lot about why kids bully others."

Bully: "I'm not doing it. It's not me. Why do I always get blamed for everything?"

Adult (with true heartfelt compassion): "Down deep they want others to know how much they are hurting...how scared they are feeling...how weak they feel.

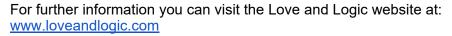
Bully: "That's not me!"

Adult (without a hint of sarcasm): It's like when they pick on other kids, they are really saying to everyone, "I'm hurting so bad...somebody please help me."

Bully: "I don't even know what you are talking about. That's not me."

Adult: "Talk to you later. Let me know if there is any way I can help."

Obviously, this approach can backfire dramatically if the adult is unable to apply sincerity and true compassion. Love always had to be the foundation.





You can also help you child with "Words Will NEVER Hurt me", by Sally Northway Ogden found on the Love and Logic parent sight.