



# AROUND THE CLASSROOM

**Danville Lutheran School**



## Pastor Appreciation Month

**October 2018**

**We are grateful for the gift of pastors to lead and feed us with God's Word. Pastor Heidle and Pastor Tibben are vital to our school. Thank You!**

## MUSIC NOTES

### **Mrs. Tara Wells**

So far, JAM, Jr. High Choir, and K-2 have performed in chapel or church. 3-6 are learning vocabulary, singing in parts, writing music on the staff, pitch reading, & reading solfege. 7/8 are studying styles of music. We began with Jazz and Blues, then some popular Broadway tunes from Hairspray and Grease, and next is Hip-hop/Rap & Rock. Grade 2 is learning to recognize high and low notes, and how to write notes. Grade 1 is practicing with xylophones, playing notes and keeping a steady beat. Kindergarten is continuing their journey with Beethoven Bear and Mozart Mouse. They have learned quarter notes, quarter rests and how to put them together to play a rhythm. Soon, we will meet JS Bunny & Edgar Elephant. Beginning band is working on pitch accuracy, breath control, and note reading. We can play the 5 note scale and Hot Cross Buns. Advanced Band is working on the Veteran's Day concert and learning to navigate a new online practicing tool called SmartMusic.

### **Mrs. Connie Marxman-Preschool 3/4**

We all have learned the classroom routines. During our morning Bible devotion time, we are learning more about God's promises to His people; beginning with Abraham and Sarah. God calls Abraham and promises to give him as many children as there are stars in the sky. Then there is also the story of Moses – a promise to keep His children safe and that for all His children, God has a plan that He has prepared for us. During this month we are going to explore the changes that happen during this season of fall. Blessings to all!

### **Mrs. Tabby Hammer-Preschool 3/4**

The preschool class has been very busy diving into the alphabet. So far, we have learned the letter A and all things apples and the letter B and the different kinds of bugs. In October we will learn about the letters C, D and E. We are having some community helpers come and talk to us about their jobs. We will be taking our first field trip to the St. James pumpkin patch. In Jesus time we are going to learn about Samuel, David and Jonathan, Naaman and Daniel and the Lions.

### **Mrs. Sue Heidle-PreKindergarten**

The Pre-K class has had a great start to the school year. We are learning the rules and routine of the day and are becoming good friends. We learn math skills when we do the calendar each morning. We are great at counting the days of the month. We have finished the letter S and A. We will work on the letter C and talk about community helpers. We will have some community helpers come into the classroom to tell us about their jobs. We had Ag in the Classroom visit and teach us about seeds and vegetables that grow above and below the ground. In Jesus Time, we learned about Father Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. We are looking forward to some cooler weather. Blessings to you all.



## SPECIAL MATH/STEM & STEAM EDITION

### **Mrs. Penny Tibben-Grades 3/4**

Grades 3/4 find math concepts improving just by being together in the same room! When third graders are introduced to a new math concept, fourth graders get an impromptu review. During a fourth grade math lesson, third graders cannot help but steal a peek at the board. Timed math tests continue to motivate memorization of math facts. Good old flashcards as well as an online version are used to attain the goal of thirty problems completed in one minute—thus the name Mad Minutes. DreamBox Learning is a favorite in both classes. They enjoy being challenged and are thrilled to conquer new math lessons on their Chromebooks. Problem-solving and measurement are being put to use in a hands-on challenge in Makerspace. Each student has been constructing their own Noah's Ark out of a variety of materials. Although it has baffled them at times, they have truly worked hard and are looking forward to putting them on display soon.

### **Mr. Dan Yagow-Grades 5/6**

The math emphasis in the fifth grade has been multiplication and division of whole numbers. It is very clear that the memorization of basic facts serves a big advantage when tackling exercises and challenges requiring multiple steps of multiplication. Currently we are drilling the facts with two minute drills in hopes that it will speed up the process in all math operations. The sixth grade is studying data and graphs, frequency tables, line plots, and mean, median, and mode. We have pulled out the calculators in this chapter. Both grades are continuing at their own individual pace with DreamBox.

### **Mrs. Cathy Huff-Junior High**

Seventh grade pre-algebra students are adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing positive and negative integers. We are exploring the distributive property as we learn to break large numbers apart for simple multiplication in our head. Dreambox Learning reinforces the mental math concept as students work through games and activities online. Eighth grade algebra students have explored matrices and scalar multiplication on IXL, an interactive math practice site that increases level of difficulty within an assigned topic. Fridays this year are STEAM exploration days. We have already tried our hand at creating a lunch box that will keep a popsicle frozen for a period of one hour. We will use what we learned from that experiment to create a dog house that will keep a dog warm in cold temperatures. Both groups have started code.org and are busy learning to write computer code. Although we are in the early stages, we will eventually use what we learn to manipulate lego robots later in the year.

### **Mrs. Kim Wright -Junior High**

Grades 7/8 have a dedicated STEAM class every Friday. So far, we have looked at the engineering process and how it differs from the scientific process. This set us up for a hands-on activity to build "A Better Lunchbox" or one that would be insulated well enough to keep a popsicle from melting. Students have used critical thinking and math skills to solve puzzles and open Breakout Boxes—the classroom equivalent of an escape room. We are working in Code.org. This teaches us programming skills. Students are highly anticipating the use of the new 3D printers. These devices are an exciting addition to our curriculum. We cannot wait to show off our builds and to master the concepts, so that we can invite others into the lab for some collaboration work!

## KINDERGARTEN

### **Mrs. Marah Showers**

This year, math is unanimously the favorite subject. The students thoroughly enjoy working with manipulatives during each lesson and stations are set up around the room for independent practice. This month, we will continue working with teddy bear counters to find ordinal positions, pattern blocks to cover designs, and linking cubes to create color patterns. We also use a program called DreamBox on the Chromebooks which focuses on individualized practice of certain math skills until they master that skill. Even though this program is new to our classroom, the kindergarten students are catching on very quickly and meeting standards to move on to new skills!

## GRADE 1

### **Mrs. Sara Fauser**

This month, we will learn how to add two numbers together using a number sentence ( $4+4=8$ ). We will explore different methods to add the numbers such as counting objects, touchpoints, or counting on using a number line. I'm always excited to see which method they choose. Wrap-ups are also introduced! Wrap-ups are a fun way to practice our facts individually. First graders are practicing counting to 100 daily. We have different superheroes that help us count and exercise. Our favorite right now is Kyo Ren (Star Wars). We have also started to use DreamBox in first grade. Although, the boys are having a difficult time understanding that they are doing math and not just "playing on the Chromebooks"! Have a blessed October. Remember it is clergy appreciation month! Thank you Pastors, for all you do!

## GRADE 2

### **Mrs. Katie Rouse**

The second grade class uses Saxon Math 2 to learn and demonstrate various Math skills. During the month of October, the students will focus on writing number sentences, creating graphs to show data or information, and create repeating patterns and display the patterns in different ways (by colors, shapes, letters). In addition to Saxon Math, we will continue to use a program on our Chromebooks called DreamBox. The students can further master a variety of math skills by using this unique, fun and interactive program.