

# Maple Lane Gazette



## *From Dodd's Desk...*

Greetings Maple Lane Families!

Parents, it has been a pleasure meeting with you at our Fall IEP meetings. Attendance has been phenomenal and we thank you for your support of our program. As you know, IEPs are a great time to discuss student progress and develop goals for the year ahead. If your child's IEP was not held in the fall, rest assured that it will take place sometime throughout the course of the year in accordance with the annual due date.

October was a busy month of learning at Maple Lane. We completed our NWEA assessment which will help us monitor student growth throughout the year. This assessment is unique in that it is an adaptive test that your child took on the computer. Each test is individualized to a student's specific learning level. The information presented on the test is aligned with the Common Core State curriculum, so it helps us design our instruction accordingly.

Students have been hard at work learning new skills in reading, writing, math, social studies and science. I have had the privilege of visiting classrooms to watch students grow as learners and expand their thinking. I am impressed with the ways our teachers and staff use technology to enhance the learning process. For example, educational apps are used on iPads and academic games are used on computers throughout Maple Lane.

We are the proud recipient of two Literacy grants thanks to the work of Dr. Lisa Rivard, Teresa Greenwell, Deb Frye, and the rest of our staff. These grants were sponsored by Scholastic and book author James Patterson as well as the Macomb Schools and Government Credit Union. The monies we've received will allow us to expand upon our library as well as offer books for students to take home. Thank you for your hard work on earning these grants for us, team!

Since school has started, we have been learning many social skills in line with our STAR rules: at Maple Lane, we use Safe behavior, we Try our best, we Act Responsibly, and we are Respectful. Students who follow these rules by displaying safe behavior were able to attend our Great Skate field trip. Students can also look forward to bowling trips in December as well as therapy dogs, art and technology classes and other enrichment as well!

Sincerely,

Jack Dodd, Ed.S.  
Principal



# R2

In R2, we began the Michigan Community Studies Weekly. Students learned the importance of philanthropy and values. Some of the ways to practice those values is to learn from others around us. Our teachers, grandparents or people we trust are great examples.

The students in R2 have gained a group interest with "Stack the States," on the iPad. We compiled a folder for each student with a map that lists the state capitals, abbreviations and flags. Be sure to ask your kids about it.



Happy Thanksgiving!!

## Classroom News!

# R3

Happy Fall to everyone!

Fall has finally arrived. The leaves are changing and so is the weather. The students in R-3 have been learning about weather patterns, and why our weather changes at different times of the year. We have been discussing the weather using "weather words" such as dew, frost, temperature, freezing point, and thermometer. We are learning about transitions and how they affect our world. This month, our class has made some traditional fall treats such as pumpkin pie, as well as some not-so traditional food, such as 'hard tack'. In circle, we have been learning about the pilgrims, Squanto and the first Thanksgiving. So.... we thought it would be a good experience to have our students make some of the food the pilgrims had to eat while on their way to the new land. Hard tack is like a thin crispy cracker that can last a long time without becoming moldy. Most everyone tried it, and some even had jelly on theirs! Thanksgiving will soon be here, and our students have been sharing with their peers why they have a grateful heart. Now..... it is time, believe or not to start thinking of Christmas. We have already started working on our annual Christmas Play. Many of our students will be in the choir. The students at Maple Lane always work very hard to put on a FABULOUS play. This year the play is entitled "Mr. Bakers Magical Christmas Cookies." We hope to see you there! For Now, have a wonderful and peaceful Thanksgiving holiday weekend.



# R4

We can't believe it's already November! October was an awesome month. The students are all getting the hang of our new math program. They are working on place value, writing in extended form and multiplication.



We are also working on our writing. They went from writing two sentences to whole page writing! Their reading stamina has also improved. They are up to 20 minutes of silent reading! Way to go!

It was great to hear about who dressed up and went trick-or-treating! They told us about all the candy, yum!

As we move into November, we are looking forward to continuing our hard work, working together and having a good time!!

## Classroom News!

# R5

The students in R-5 celebrated the fall season with a special reading of "Spookley the Square Pumpkin." Each student's unique, striped, spotted, googly-eyed version of Spookley is now displayed on the classroom window.

In Science, the class is learning about the human brain and all of its control centers. According to our latest article, the brain produces 70,000 thoughts every day!

As we move into the holiday season, several of our students are preparing for their parts in the choir and play. We look forward to sharing their performance!

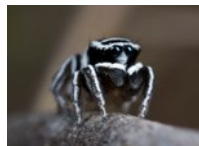
Spooky Science – sponsored by Scholastic News!  
In celebration of Halloween, the class voted the Tasmanian Devil as the spookiest animal.

Did you know their teeth can cut through metal??



Tasmanian Devil

What would you pick?



Skeletorous Spider



Death's-Head Hawk Moth



Ghost Bat

# R6

This month, we are finishing up the book *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. We are planning a class field trip to see the movie once it is released later this month. This book has brought up some great discussions about bullying and treating others the way that you want to be treated. In writing, we are working on editing our work and adding more details to our writing. In honor of Veteran's Day, we wrote letters to veterans and sent them to Operation Gratitude that we read about in Scholastic News.

See some of our great writing below!



*Operation gratitude      November 7 2017  
21100 Lassen Street  
Chatsworth, CA 91311-4278*

*Dear Veteran,*

*Thank you for serving our country.*

*I think veterans are brave enough to take on bad people.*

*I'm writing because veterans are good at serving our country.*

*All the best,  
Conner*

Operation Gratitude      November 8, 2017  
21100 Lassen St  
Chatsworth, CA 91311-4278

Dear Veterans,

I am writing because you Veterans are really good at saving the world. That was sad if you had kids and you left for 9 months.

I hope you were ok and never got hurt. I know that the force is super dangerous.

Thank you for keeping every country and state safe. You veterans are like superheroes

Wish you all the best  
Adam S.



# R7

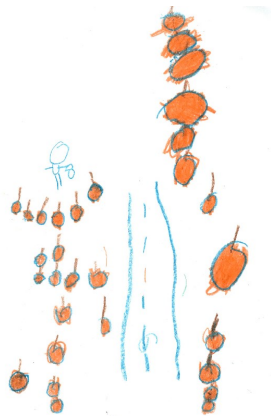
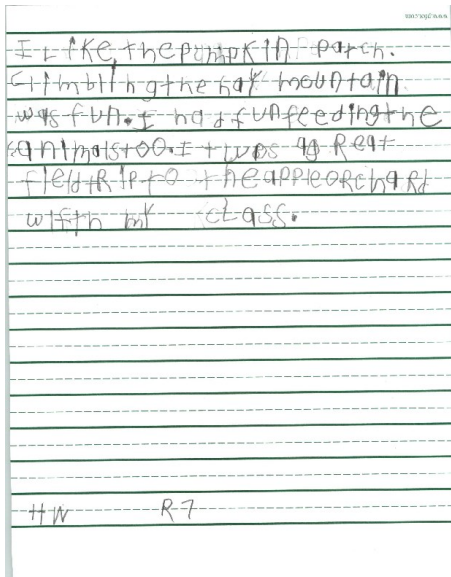
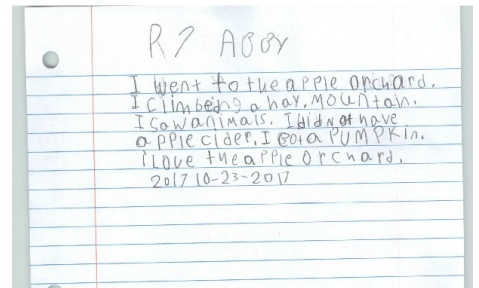
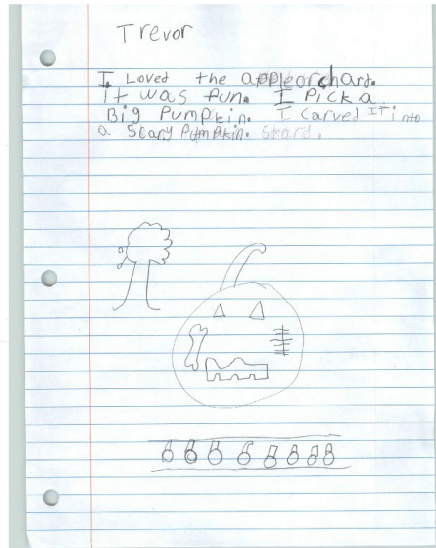
In October, Room 7 went to Westview Orchard and had a lot of fun. We really liked climbing the haystack and petting the animals. We liked picking pumpkins. We also liked using the ropes to climb up the "dirty mountain".

Back at school, we made scarecrows and ghosts to decorate the Media Center outside our classroom. We colored Haunted Houses too.

Sterling Heights Firefighters came to visit us. They talked about fire safety and having a family emergency plan. We know to get out of the house if there is a fire and not to hide. We learned "Stop, Drop, and Roll!" We also learned not to be afraid of a firefighter when he or she is wearing all their gear. They are there to help us!

We are making pink bracelets in the month of October. Come check out our hard work and see what is for sale!

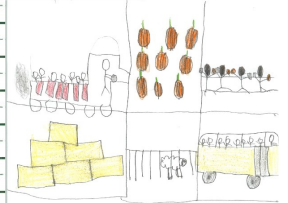
## R7 Authors & Artists



# R7

Lou'Mar McCaskill R7 10-23-17

We went on the hay ride and picked  
pumpkins after we had cider and a donut we  
petted the animals and chased the hay creature  
I petted the sheep one more time before  
we left and we came back to school  
The end



Cider R 23-17

The favorite thing was  
sheep. petting the sheep  
and the donuts  
it was so good. Well on the  
ride we picked up

10-23-17 Cider R7



Liz R7

We went on hay ride  
and it was fun. We had  
apple cider and donuts.  
We pick pumpkins.



Liz R7

Reno R-7

I love the pumpkin patch  
but I don't like the bees.  
There so much bees. I had  
to move a lot. But I like  
the pumpkins and the  
apple cider. But the cider  
was very sweet and I  
like sweet. But first we  
went to the hay ride. Then  
we went to get some  
apple cider. Then we came  
back to school. Then we  
pack up. then we went  
home. The End



Reno

William  
we carved the pump-  
ins. Then we ate donuts  
and cider and then we  
climbed a stack of hay.  
After that we pet  
some animals. Then we  
went back to school.

William R-7



Sun  
Hey William can you  
help me  
find a  
pumpkin?

I Love The Hay Stack.  
AND This is me eating  
DONUTS AND CIDER BY  
The Hay Stack.

BY JACOB  
weaver.

R-7

# R10

In November R10 has been working on being thankful. Daily they write in their Thankful journals. They also write a short reason on a leaf of what to be thankful for that day and post it on our Tree of Life bulletin board.



The students are making leaps and bounds in their math journey. In science they are learning about cells and microbes that break down garbage in landfills. The more gross, the more they like to learn!

## Classroom News!

# R13

### Inquisitive Minds in R13

Students in R13 have been busy learning about the 5 regions of the United States in Social Studies. We started by examining the Midwest region. We learned about the climate, culture and some fun facts of the place we call “the Breadbasket” of America. Please ask your child what type of weather they can expect to find in the Midwest region. Next, we discovered the Northeast region. Did you know that basketball was invented in the Northeast region? Or that our nation’s capital is located in the Northeast region? Your child should be able to tell you all about it!

We have also had many inquisitive minds in R13 as we study our solar system. Students have examined our planets and universe. They know how the planets orbit the sun and what keeps them from floating off into space. At dinner, please take a minute to ask your child questions about our solar system. Watch them impress you with their knowledge of black holes!

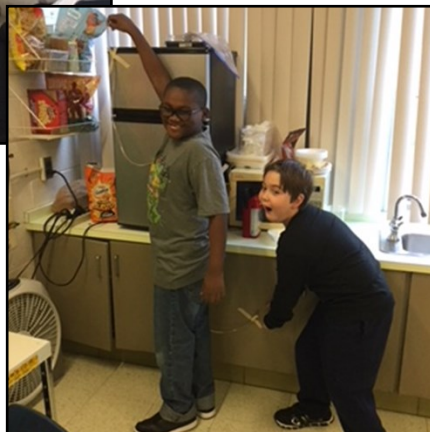
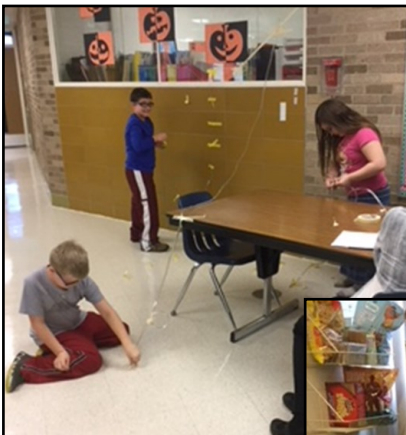




# R14

I cannot believe that it is already November! This month the class enjoyed going to Great Skate for the afternoon. It was exciting to see students who said they never skate, get out there and actually skate and enjoy being with all the students at Maple Lane. Some came back with new friends from other classes that they would like to visit. In addition to our Friday enrichment activities, we have been excitedly awaiting for our big Thanksgiving feast. Academically, we are finishing up our unit on energy. Last week the students made a roller coaster out of rubber tubing and a small ball. Students explored what potential and kinetic energy were and how the two work together to make a roller coaster go up, down, and round the loops on a roller coaster. They were very creative with their designs and worked great as a team. In social studies we are beginning our unit on Michigan. The kids are learning about everything our great state has to offer. Though we have busy having fun together and learning, I have to admit, I think that we are also looking forward to that long Thanksgiving break, because December is always a busy month and Christmas is just around the corner.

## OUR CLASSROOM ROLLERCOASTER!



**Macomb Intermediate School District**  
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**Thanksgiving Word Scramble**  
 Unscramble these Thanksgiving words.

SMILPRG \_\_\_\_\_

MIYFAL \_\_\_\_\_ RCON \_\_\_\_\_

EYTRUK \_\_\_\_\_

LROSL \_\_\_\_\_

DEMSHA OTAPTSOE \_\_\_\_\_

CNRRREEBAIS \_\_\_\_\_

MNUPIKP IPE \_\_\_\_\_

UFTFIGNS \_\_\_\_\_



# HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

November 22-24 - NO SCHOOL

Thanksgiving recess

December 14 - Rotary Club pizza lunch & sing-a-long

December 19 - Christmas Play, families welcome!!

December 22 - January 2 - NO SCHOOL

Christmas recess