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April 2019

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# Maple Lane Gazette

34600 Dryden, Sterling Heights, MI 48312

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Spring is underway and our students have been enjoying this great weather! April brought many fun activities at Maple Lane, while learning and instruction continued at a maximum. During the month of April, field trips included bowling and the Warren City pool. We also enjoyed other events like dance class with Ms. Peggy. These were awesome rewards for all of our students' hard work!

Mr. Dodd Award winners for the month of April included Paige from R4, Paul from R10, Jacob from R5 and Gabby from R6. Mr. Dodd's Good Citizenship Award recognizes those students who have demonstrated an exemplary ability follow our STAR rules (Safety, Try your best, Act Responsibly, Respect). Students have their choice of McDonald's lunch or shooting hoops in the gym. Congratulations to our April winners!

I want to take a moment to thank all of the wonderful volunteers who donate their time to helping our students. These volunteers were honored at a breakfast on April 25 at the Macomb Intermediate School District main building located on Garfield. The breakfast included student performers from Lutz School and acknowledgement from our Board of Education. Our program would not run as successfully without our incredible volunteers – so thank you!

Parents, thank you to those of you who attended conferences. We are also in the process of scheduling spring IEPs. If your child is due for an IEP, we will let you know so we can set up a meeting. If your child is a 5th grader who will be attending Rockwell Middle School, the meeting may take place there so you have a chance to visit the building.

The online state assessment has begun. The test is called the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) and is given online to measure current student knowledge. The M-STEP assesses student learning on Michigan's standards in mathematics, English language arts (ELA), science and social studies. Results will help us identify areas where we can improve instruction and learning. We are asking for your help to ensure your child is prepared for this online assessment series. Encourage your child to approach the M-STEP with a positive attitude. Also, please make sure your child gets plenty of rest the night before, has a good breakfast and comes to school on time each day. We wish our students the best of luck during testing. Enjoy this beautiful weather!

Jack Dodd, Ed.S.  
Principal



## STAR BEHAVIOR

Safe

Try Your Best

Act Responsibly

Respectful

## IMPORTANT DATES

**May 27**

NO SCHOOL

**June 14**

HALF DAY

**June 18**

LAST DAY

## R2

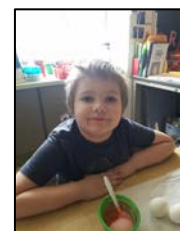
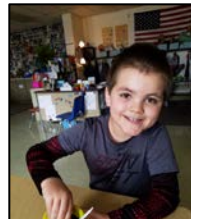
R2 is enjoying the warmer weather and spending extra time outside for recess. For Earth Day, our room was assigned to clean the windows by the front office. Also, our class participated in a field trip to the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts to see Junie B. Jones the Musical Jr.

In science, we did two experiments. The first was called "traveling waters." Using paper cups, food coloring and water, the class observed the colored water travel up the paper towel. The second experiment was "colors on the move", using milk, food coloring, and dish detergent. The detergent causes the fat and water to separate and spread apart, resulting in the swirling motion that make the colors move. In both observations, they created a hypothesis based on the results, and wrote a conclusion.



## R3

R3 has been learning about seasons, spring and the life cycles of living things. We had a lot of fun coloring Easter eggs and having a hunt for Easter baskets and candy filled eggs. We planted seeds and are excited to see them start growing! We know all about the life cycle of plants and what they need to grow. The life cycle of a butterfly is also very interesting and we have enjoyed learning about how caterpillars turn into butterflies. We are even going to start our own "butterfly growing" kit next week! To celebrate Earth Day, R3 did a super cool project – making the earth by coloring on coffee filters with markers and then swirling the colors with water and a paintbrush. It was really neat to see what the finished result was. In social studies, we are learning about communities, jobs and responsibilities. Here are some photos we would like to share with everyone!



## R4

Room 4 has had a fantastic April. We continue to work hard at reading, math, spelling, science and social studies. We are happy the weather is changing and getting warmer and being able to get outside more.

- \*Alex loves doing his Social Studies Weekly.
- \*Christan loves expressing his favorite things in his journal.
- \*Kyleigh loves reading books on the iPad.
- \*Leo really misses Ms. LaRochelle, but likes having Ms. Brown as the new teacher.
- \*Emily is enjoying doing science lessons.
- \*Paige liked learning how to play hockey in gym.
- \*Dominick is enjoying being on drive B and visiting other classrooms.



## R5

A big thank you to the parents who came to spring conferences, or talked on phone. It was great discussing all the progress our students have made this year. We finished up our earth science with making our volcanoes. Room 5 has been busy learning about living things. We are currently watching our plant experiment.

We keep reinforcing the zones and using tools learned to help calm down and get back in the green zone.



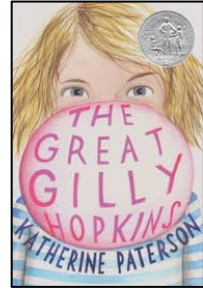
We have been exploring our state, Michigan. We will be learning history, geography and state symbols; thanks to Nate Shannon donating the coloring books.

We have been working on a variety of reading skills during our read aloud and shared reading activities.

Happy Spring!!!

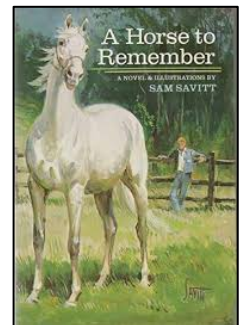
## R6

April has really flown by! Our 5th graders are working on finishing the M-Step as well as finishing up Health Class this week. The students have handled the changing schedule well. In math, we are continuing our unit on geometry and have been working with the coordinate plane and ordered pairs. We have started reading the book, *The Great Gilly Hopkins* by Katherine Paterson. Our class took the last swimming field trip of the school year and had a blast. We have another bowling trip coming up as well as roller skating. Check out the pictures of our class cleaning up the garden area for Earth Day; they were great gardeners.



## R7

R7 has been busy in learning our multiplication facts. Student enjoy the Zearn MultiPLY Mania. Learning to stretch out sentences when writing. As a class we finished the story *A Horse to Remember* students fell in love with the horse named Nellie. In science we have been learning about how the heart works. Social Studies learning about George Washington.



## R10

What a fun month....SPRING BREAK is always a nice week off ;) Ok, but back to the learning....

We spent a lot of time exploring triangles, angles, and using a protractor. This was something new for all of our students, and it was a big challenge. But, we all continue to practice, and we are getting better each day! We dare you to quiz us on our vocabulary: line, segment, obtuse angle, acute angle, right angle, and vertex! (We have all the ANGLE KNOWLEDGE up here in R-10). We also had a great time utilizing team work and listening skills with Ms. Kelly in Gym class; we were able to do many tricks with the parachute! One of the best things we did, was for Earth Day. We spent some time in the sensory room cleaning and wiping down all the equipment. Overall, April was a great month, and we look forward to more good times in May!



**PARACHUTE FUN!**



**EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP!**

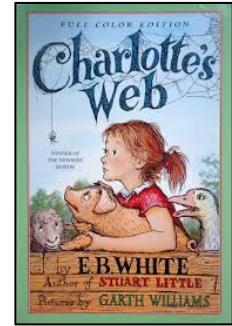
## R13

There are lots of exciting things happening in R13. Mr. C is reading the prize winning novel Charlotte's Web to the students. The students are enjoying the book and are able to complete many comprehension and writing activities related to the novel. They are looking forward to seeing the movie when the novel is finished.

In Social Studies the students have learned about how students can work together for change and philanthropist. The next unit is about Michigan's Industries. They will be making advertisements for an industry of their choice.

In Science they are working on a unit about weather and climate. They are learning about weather forecasting and severe weather. The students are actively engaged and enjoy playing Science Jeopardy with Mr. Rollins.

Every Monday the students set a weekly goal for themselves and Friday during circles we discuss if they have made their goal. The students continue to set goals weekly and are making great progress meeting their goals. They have also been learning words like achievement and compassion and how those words can be related to their everyday lives.



## R14

This month has been one of busiest months of the year. Between report cards, conferences, and some students beginning the M-Step; someone would think that we've had little time to teach. Yet, that couldn't be farther from the truth.

As some of you may know, April is Autism Awareness month. To build awareness and acceptance for Autism, our Peer-to-Peer group took part in the "Love Needs No Words" challenge, put on by the Lakeside Regional Collaborative Network (LRCN). The purpose of this project, is to challenge others to see what students with autism will need to persevere and troubleshoot throughout the day, without using their voice as communication. On April 12th our peer group watched a short video on Autism, had a great discussion, timed how long we could remain quiet using alternative ways to communicate, all while playing a game of "Silent Ball". At the end of the session, we created a poster with each student's handprint.

In other news for the classroom. The students have been working hard on their state projects. Students had to choose a state (other than Michigan), then use the internet to find information about their state; including state bird, tree, and flag. Student then display their work on a poster and had a chance to teach their classmates about their state. The kids really did a great job!

As the year begins to come to a close, be sure to check your school calendar for any upcoming activities.





Fuel up with milk at meals, and soar through your day like a rocket ship!

Make fat-free or low-fat (1%) milk your rocket fuel.

Want to grow big and strong like an astronaut? You need milk to help build muscles and to provide fuel for your fun.

Try these tips:

- Power up with breakfast. Drink a glass of low-fat milk with your food.
- Drink milk with snacks. Have a glass of low-fat milk with snacks to refuel your energy.
- Lunch, dinner, be a winner. Drink low-fat milk with meals.
- Play hard. Then renew your energy with a glass of low-fat milk.



**Macomb Intermediate School District**

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Maple Lane Gazette is published monthly throughout the school year for the parents of students attending Maple Lane Elementary, 34600 Dryden, Sterling Heights, 48312, (586)977-9170. Maple Lane Elementary School is operated by the Macomb Intermediate School District, 44001 Garfield Road, Clinton Township, MI 48038-110, 586/228-3300.

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