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February 2019

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# Maple Lane Gazette

34600 Dryden, Sterling Heights, MI 48312

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February is here and it brings continued success for our students. The month of January flew by because of all the exciting educational and social activities that took place at Maple Lane. On January 18 and 25, students who exhibited safe behavior had the opportunity to visit the Play Place and bowl at Sterling Lanes. Our students had a blast! Many community members commented on how well-behaved our students are, making all of us at Maple Lane very proud! We also had dance class as well as therapy dogs and many other exciting enrichment activities.

While students were off for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, our teachers and staff attended a professional development class to help us focus on instruction in the area of reading. In addition, we started the winter cycle of the NWEA assessment this past month. As a reminder, this is a computer test that students take three times per year. It allows us to monitor student growth and set learning goals. Using the results, our teachers will then adjust instruction accordingly.

You'll want to mark your calendar with a couple of upcoming dates. Our February break is Monday 2/18 and Tuesday 2/19, so there will be no school on these days. Our Family Fun Night is scheduled for Thursday, March 21 from 5:45-7:30. There will be a raffle as well as fun activities for the whole family. March 8 is another Professional Development day with no school for students; we'll continue our focus on reading instruction.

Just a reminder to please dress students appropriately for the cold weather. If you need any assistance with winter attire, please contact our social worker, Mr. Scott Verner. We want all of our students to be prepared for frigid temperatures and some classes do continue to go outside, weather permitting. Also, if your local school district closes but the Macomb ISD remains open, our buses do not transport your child on those days. However, you are more than welcome to bring your child to school in the event that occurs.

Have a terrific February! Please call the school if we can be of any assistance to the educational goals you have for your child.

Jack Dodd, Ed.S.  
Principal

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## **STAR BEHAVIOR**

Safe

Try Your Best

Act Responsibly

Respectful

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

### **March 8**

NO SCHOOL - Professional Development

### **March 30 – April 7**

SPRING BREAK

### **April 19**

NO SCHOOL

## R2

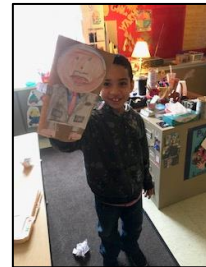
We celebrated 100th day. The classroom did a special project. "If I were 100 years old." They made a booklet describing what they would look like, what they would eat, and where they would live. It was funny, yet enlightening to hear each of their stories. Be sure to ask the student what they wrote. We are also celebrating Black History Month. The classroom is giving a presentation on Rosa Parks.



## R3

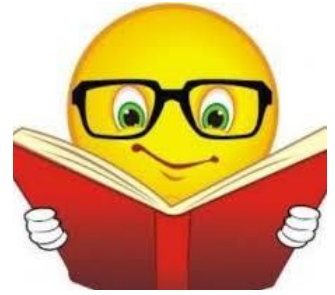
We are off to a great start for the New Year in R3! We have been working on social skills each morning and learning about the calendar, dates and seasons. We are enjoying cooking on Fridays and each student has given us great ideas as to what they want us to make next! So far we have had pancakes, cookies, smoothies and pizza. Our class also loves learning about science. We have talked about the solar system and the sun; as well as motion and movement. We made kazoos to show how vibrations make sound. This month, we read about Martin Luther King Jr., and why he is important to us today. We had some fun activities related to MLK day, as well. The students really liked "Martin math" sheets.

R3 is a class of authors! We are working really hard on our writing skills and turning sentences into stories. Each week, the students pick a picture of what interests them most, and they write all about it! If you have time, stop by our hallway and read some stories that the class worked so hard on. Our first field trip of the year was to the Play Place and we had a blast! Here are some photos of our outing, smoothie making and an MLK project.



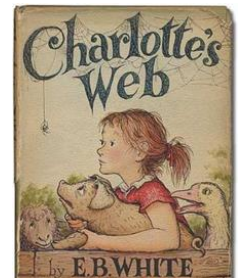
## R4

January was a big month for R4. Mrs. LaRoche moved on and we welcomed, with open arms, Mrs. Brown. The students have adjusted well!! They are continuing to work hard on all academics. In math we have moved into measuring and multiplying. We have introduced silent reading and their reading stamina is currently up to 20 minutes!! Way to go!! The students really enjoyed the week off due to weather, but we are happy to get back into the swing of things!



## R5

The holidays are behind us, and room 5 jumped right into the New Year. We have been working on our feelings and identifying facial expressions, body stance and tone of voice. We have been working on the theme of kindness. What is being a good friend? How do we help others? We completed reading Charlotte's Web. We had some great conversations on Wilbur and Charlotte's friendship. We will watch the movie and compare it to the book.



In science, we have been studying our Earth and the Sun. We have begun our new unit on Physical Science. The three states of matter are solid, liquid, and gas.

Social Studies has us working on our map skills.

In math, we continue to work on place value and last week did a mystery math working on adding and subtracting. The students became super sleuths and figured out who our villain super hero was.



## R6

Here is what we have been working on this month:

Reading: We read *Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo and practiced making predictions and inferences about the characters.

Writing: We are continuing to work on adding details to create more interesting writing pieces. We are also focused on editing our work to make sure we are following the structure of a paragraph.

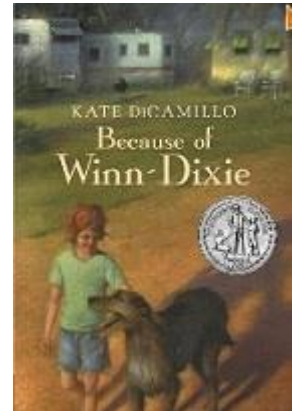
Math: We have worked on multiplying multi digit numbers and estimation. We have just started to work on division as well.

Science: We are continuing our studies of earth science and we learned about the water cycle and ocean life.

Social Studies: We are continuing to study the history of the United States and we recently talked about how slavery was started in the colonies and how it wasn't ended until after the Civil War.

Social Skills: Zones of Regulation: Tools to use to help get you in the green zone or help you stay in the green zone.

Growth Mindset: "The Power of Yet" focusing on being brave to accept challenges and take risks to try new things and to learn new things (this is how our brain grows) and that although we may struggle at first, with practice and effort we can always improve!



## R7

We have been busy trying to get back into a routine after having so many recent snow days. We are doing our best to catch up on academics. Students have been coming up with ways to help make learning fun! We plan on having spelling bee contests to help us remember correct spelling. We are visiting the library once a week. Students will be selecting books and they will then take turns reading aloud to the class. Mrs. Earle made some really cool math fidget spinners to help students practice their multiplication tables. Our new classroom motto is "make learning fun"!



## R10

R-10 has been super focused on teamwork, teambuilding, and friendship skills this month. We are playing cards and doing team activities to build these skills, as students work on moving up DRIVES at Maple Lane! We are on our 3<sup>rd</sup> novel this month, "Brave"...and we even earned watching the movie! Martin Luther King Jr., was another focus for writing and reading this month. With all the days off school for weather, we are looking forward to a fun February, so stay tuned! We also have many students moving to DRIVE B & C, so you can look forward to visits from students in R-10 in the weeks to follow! 😊 😊



### Fun & learning in R-10!



Bowling! Safety was the Hall of Fame focus for January.



Therapy Dogs!  
An R-10 fave!

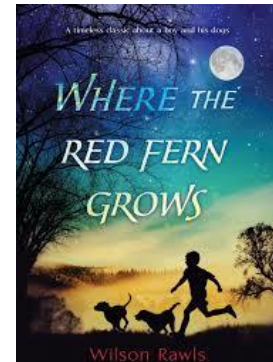


Students play cards to work on teamwork and cooperation skills.



## R13

There are lots of exciting things happening in R13. Mr. C is reading the prize winning novel *Where the Red Fern Grows* 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 the 3 branches of government and the system of checks and balances. We are beginning to learn about elections and how the president is elected.

In Science they are beginning a unit on the Earth's water and the diverse life that live in the different bodies of water. 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

While January has 31 days, it sure felt like a short month. I'm sure the parents loved the snow days as much as the students. Though the month was short, in R14 we are always busy. We recently finished our unit on Physical Science and began learning about the Earth and space. The students are looking forward to making the classroom look like a real solar system. Socially, we continue to have our Peer-to-Peer groups with our buddy room 10. Ms. Danielle is teaching us how to ask questions when you want to get to know someone. The students interview some facts with the group. As always, Ms. Danielle does a great the favorite "Fun Friday" activities in January was going to the Pl scavenger hunt, made a food creation, and played with all of th

Well, before I close this letter I just to congratulate our Hall of Fan January; Jade, Xavier, Logan, Derek, Brody and Ben. Ben is a new staff and students, are so happy Ben joined our class.



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH REPORTS FROM R6

Name of Famous Person: Harriet Tubman

Birthdate: January 29, 1822

Where are they from? (Where they were born or where they lived) Maryland

Is your person still living? YES ☐ NO ☒

If your person is not living, when did they die? March 10, 1913



Write 5 facts IN COMPLETE SENTENCES explaining why this person is famous and how they have impacted our country.

She actually helped lead, free the captives. She cured a disease called dysentery. When she was having slaves, her code name was Moses. While she was a slave she got hit by a metal weight giving her scarred face. She helped during the civil war she was a spy.

and a cook she got \$300 for her work (5000 for her).

Name of Famous Person: Guy Bluford

Birthdate: Nov. 22, 1942

Where are they from? (Where they were born or where they lived) Philadelphia PA

Is your person still living? YES ☒ NO ☐

If your person is not living, when did they die?



Write 5 facts IN COMPLETE SENTENCES explaining why this person is famous and how they have impacted our country.

He is a astronaut in 1979. He was in the air force in 1966. He did 4 missions called STS-8, STS-61-A, STS-34, and STS-53. His hobbies are reading, swimming, jogging, racquetball, handball, scuba diving, and golf. His first mission is STS-8.

Name of Famous Person: Jackie Robinson

Birthdate: January 31, 1919

Where are they from? (Where they were born or where they lived) Cairo, GA

Is your person still living? YES ☐ NO ☒

If your person is not living, when did they die? October 24, 1972



Write 5 facts IN COMPLETE SENTENCES explaining why this person is famous and how they have impacted our country.

He was the first African American to play in the MLB. He liked to play baseball. He died at 53 years old. He broke the baseball color line. Robinson began playing in the Negro leagues. Jackie died by a heart attack.

Name of Famous Person: Michelle Obama

Birthdate: 1964

Where are they from? (Where they were born or where they lived) Chicago, IL

Is your person still living? YES ☒ NO ☐

If your person is not living, when did they die?



Write 5 facts IN COMPLETE SENTENCES explaining why this person is famous and how they have impacted our country.

Michelle Obama is an American writer, lawyer and university administrator. She is married to the 44th US President.

Snack like  
a super hero.

Power up with  
fruit and yogurt.

### BE "SUPER" AT THE SUPERMARKET.

Help your family do the grocery shopping. Make your own list of the low-fat yogurt and other foods, like fruits, that keep Super Heroes strong. When you go to the store, say: "Guess what mom? I want to try something that's good for me." Or, "Believe it or not, I want to try a healthy snack." Then ask your Mom, Dad, or grandparent if you can pick out those foods yourself.

When you get home, ask if you can make your own Super Powerful Snacks, such as:

- **Muscle Popping Pops:** For a "cool snack," place your favorite fat-free or low-fat yogurt into an ice cube tray and freeze it. Grab a spoon and enjoy!
- **Super Smoothie:** In your favorite Super Hero glass, mix together plain low-fat yogurt with crushed fresh or frozen berries.



Match  
these words to the  
rap below:  
fruit, teeth, orange,  
yogurt, milk

### HERO RAP

Now listen up and I'll be brief.

**Calcium** builds strong bones and \_\_\_\_\_

**Vitamin C** helps scratches heal.

So grab an \_\_\_\_\_ and give it a peel.

For muscles to grow like you've never seen,

Drink low-fat \_\_\_\_\_ for its **protein**.

Mix low-fat yogurt with \_\_\_\_\_ to see

How sweet and tasty **Vitamin D** can be.

Eat fruits and low-fat \_\_\_\_\_ each day

For the Super Kid energy

To keep rappin' away!

### Macomb Intermediate School District

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