



Patriot Pride

Calvin Coolidge Elementary

Our Mission: To educate, empower and challenge all students to become productive, global citizens through innovative approaches to learning.

Mary Kay Ryan, Principal



November/December

Principal's Message

Dear Coolidge Families,

We have had a wonderful first two weeks of the 2019-2020 school year! The students have acclimated to our daily structures and routines and are "SWIMming to Success" every day!

November marks the end of the first 10 weeks of school. Your child's first report card will be given to you at Parent-Teacher Conferences which are scheduled for November 20 and December 3. Please be sure to sign up when your teachers send the notes home! Here are some helpful hints for working together with your child's teacher during your Parent/Teacher Conference (from www.thelearningcommunity.com)

- **Prepare questions in advance.** *What groups has my child been assigned to? Is my child finishing the work assigned in class? The most important question of all is "How can I help my child at home?"*
- **Let the teacher know if there is a particular topic you want to discuss.** *If you want to talk about your child's progress in reading, let the teacher know. He'll be able to have test scores, textbooks, and other material on hand to aid your discussion.*
- **Be specific.** *Bring with you any work that is of concern. Describe clearly any situations in the classroom that make your child uneasy. Ask the teacher to describe your child's strengths and weaknesses. Ask to see your child's work.*
- **Discuss the whole child.** *Your child's social and emotional development is as important as academic success. Include questions about her interaction with other children and willingness to participate in class discussions.*
- **Leave with a plan.** *The conference should end with a clear statement of what you will do and what the teacher will do. Schedule follow-up meetings or telephone calls to be sure the plan is working.*

As the weather changes, it is important to note that students will be going outside for morning and lunchtime recess as long as the temperature/wind chill is above 20 degrees. Please be sure your child is prepared with a winter coat, hat, gloves and boots.

Thank you for your continued support!

Mary Kay Ryan, Principal

Coolidge Library & Literacy News!



There's been a lot of excitement in the Coolidge Library with Mrs. Merrill. TK, Kindergarten, & 1st grade students have a visit with Mother Goose each time they come to the library. They are building quite a repertoire of rhymes and poems that are able to recite. 2nd grade students did an author/illustrator study of Mo Willems, where we read his books and even had a drawing lesson with Mo, using the Pigeon App.

In preparation for participating in some Makerspace activities, 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade students discussed and brainstormed ideas on what it means to be a "maker." Ideas were compiled into lists on large chart paper. We also read poems from NYS author, Amy Ludwig Vanderwaters's book, ***With My Hands: Poems About Making Things***.

Most recently, all grade levels had the opportunity to preview Coolidge's Scholastic Book Fair. The preview included; watching book fair book trailers (like a movie trailer but for books!), browsing the books, and creating wish lists. Students were so happy and excited to see all the great books that were brought to us by the book fair!

Coming in November, we will hold a mock Caldecott book award election. Readers will be able to preview, evaluate, and vote for their favorite books, based on their artwork. We will then compare our election results with the actual Caldecott award winning books in the winter, during The American Library Association's Youth Media Awards.

Important Dates to Remember

November 5, 2019 No School, Election Day
November 8, 2019 Veteran's Day Assembly 1:00
November 11, 2019 No School Veteran's Day
November 20, 2019 Early Dismissal 10:50 Parent/Teacher Conferences
November 27-December 1, 2019 No School Thanksgiving Break
December 3, 2019 Early Dismissal 10:50 Parent/Teacher Conferences
December 18, 2019 Winter Concert 1:15 and 6:00
December 23, 2019-January 1, 2020 No School Winter Break

Highlights from Visual Arts



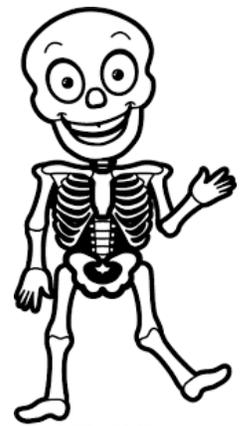
Visual arts students are currently working on many exciting projects! Our first-grade students are painting scarecrows for fall. Our third-grade students are exploring Henri Rousseau's Jungle paintings and creating our own imaginative landscapes. Fourth grade students are learning about the holiday, Dia de Los Muertos and creating beautiful Sugar Skulls. Our second-grade artists are creating mixed media poppy flowers, and our fifth-grade artists are making abstract collages to display at our school-wide Veteran's Day Assembly. Lastly, our Elementary Artists and our Kindergarten artists are working on creating beautiful decorations to donate to the Binghamton High School Thanksgiving Dinner in November.

Why Art?

What is great about teaching the visual arts is creating a love of learning. Art is a powerful way to learn and the projects we make create hands-on experiences that engage students. The students look forward to creating and discovering new things. They not only learn art technique, methods, and history, but also learn important life skills that will lead to their success. Art teaches us collaborative skills; forms of communication and expression; creativity; different perspectives; innovation skills; analytical skills and making connections; organizational skills; problem-solving skills; self-regulation and the power of a growth mindset.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION FUN

Mr. Bryant and Mrs. Brauer are excited to share fun and fitness with their students at Calvin Coolidge. Our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders began the year with fitness assessments to determine their present level of fitness. We challenge our students to be active each day. The post-tests in the Spring will reveal if students are in the healthy zone! We completed our soccer unit and are now focusing on football. While K, 1st, and 2nd grade receive brief introduction to these sports, our emphasis has been on locomotor moves, levels and pathways. During October all students learn about our skeletal system. Skeletons are NOT scary, but necessary for structure and protection! As your child what part of the skeleton protects the brain...



NOTES

FROM MRS. TIGUE & MISS SHANFELT

Kindergarten:

We have been learning how to recognize, clap, and notate grade level rhythms: quarter note, eighth notes, quarter rest

Ask me to sing:

Shoo Fly, Skip to My Lou, Bee Bee Bumble Bee, Pass the Witches Broomstick, Autumn Leaf, Pumpkin Fat

1st Grade:

We have been learning how to recognize, clap, and notate grade level rhythms: quarter note, eighth notes, quarter rests

Ask me to sing:

Shoo Fly, Skip to My Lou, Bee Bee Bumble Bee, Pass the Witches Broomstick, Autumn Leaf, Pumpkin Fat

2nd Grade:

We have been learning how to recognize, clap, and notate grade level rhythms: quarter note, eighth notes, quarter rest, half note, half rest, whole rest, sixteenth notes

Ask me to sing:

Shoo Fly, There Once was a Witch, Pass the Witches Broomstick, Autumn Leaf, Zombie Style

3rd Grade:

We have been learning about how to read the notes on the staff. Is the note a line note or space note? What is the letter name for the note?

E, D or C

Ask me to sing: Hello to All the Children of the World, Name Name What's Your Name

4th Grade:

We have been learning how to recognize, clap, and notate grade level rhythms: quarter note, eighth notes, quarter rest, half note, half rest, whole rest, sixteenth notes, dotted half note

Ask me to draw or clap some of these rhythms!

5th Grade:

We have been learning about two composers—Aaron Copland and Duke Ellington. Next, we will be working on rhythm compositions.

Ask me about Aaron Copland and Duke Ellington.