



Dear Stratfield Families,

The sun is finally out, and hopefully we will enjoy some nice weather for this last stretch of the school year. A few exciting student recognitions to share...

Congratulations to Erin DeMato and Kaler Carew who submitted their poems to the Young American Poetry Digest. Their poems were selected to be included in the 2017 Young American Poetry Digest! Congratulations also to Paige Fletcher who won 1st place in the Stratfield Reflections Program under the Photography category for grades 3-5. Her piece entitled, "Embrace" went on to the state level where she won 3rd place overall in the Photography category! Paige will be recognized at a state ceremony at Fairfield Woods MS on May 10th. Lastly, thank you to the families of Stratfield who donated to the organized food drive by the Scouts of Stratfield. Due to this drive led by the Scouts, 8,000 food items were donated to assist families in Fairfield County.

Stratfield was additionally awarded \$500.00 from the Exxon Mobil Educational Alliance Program. We used this generous gift to purchase additional books for our classroom libraries for the students to enjoy!

Currently, we are finishing the SBA testing with grade 5 students. We will conclude this testing on May 12th. This May will be very busy with many grade levels involved in field trips. We thank you in advance to the many parents volunteering to chaperone for these events.

Lastly, we hope to see you at our Spring Concert on May 11th! The concert will be held in the gymnasium at 7 PM. Band, chorus, and orchestra students have been instructed as to what time they should arrive that evening.

Respectfully,
Ms. McGoey

Music News

We welcome spring! This month kindergarten through grade 2 students have explored creating sound carpets for poems and stories. Grade 3 students are working on breath control for the soprano recorder and note reading. Grade 4 students are working on reading and performing sixteenth note percussion pieces, and Grade 5 students are preparing for their up-coming spring concert on May 11.

- Dr. Alward

Math News

In April, students at Stratfield Elementary make many interesting mathematical discoveries through Number Corner:

* In Kindergarten this month, the Calendar Grid workout features measurement. Meanwhile, the Calendar Collector workout provides practice with addition combinations to 5. During the Computational Fluency workout, students pose and solve subtraction story problems about frogs and toads. The Days in School workout offers new opportunities to practice counting by 1s and by 10s to 100, and Number Line focuses on the counting sequence between 30 and 50.

* April in First Grade brings opportunities to review and extend previous mathematical concepts addressed this year. The Calendar Grid reviews fractions by folding geometric shapes, encourages students to define the shapes by attributes, and introduces line symmetry. Also, each of the number family patterns students have met this year reappear in a 1-120 number grid, and, last, students discover that familiar computational strategies for single-digit numbers can also be used to solve equations with double-digit numbers.

* This month the Calendar Markers in Second Grade feature fractions of a whole and fractions of a set as students learn about gardening in raised beds. During the Daily Rectangle workout, students find the area of various rectangles. Finally, Quick Facts -- a timed routine designed to help students master their addition facts to 20 -- continues this month to support fact fluency for all students.

* In third grade this month, the Calendar Grid and Calendar Collector workouts address key skill and concepts for fractions, while the Computational Fluency workout addresses multiplication and division. These workouts help students develop strategies and understanding through models, discussion, hands-on activities, reflection, and problem solving. Students extend and deepen the work they have been doing with fractions, multiplication, and division all year.

* April in Fourth Grade offers a variety of games and activities designed to extend students' understanding of and proficiency with many important fourth grade skills and concepts. Students calculate area and perimeter, explore geometric shapes and their properties, practice division facts, and develop division strategies for multi-digit numbers. They work as a class, in pairs, and independently to develop and extend facility with these concepts and skills.

* For Fifth Graders, the Calendar Grid workout this month features practice finding the volume of rectangular solids. The rest of the workouts involve calculating with fractions. Students revisit the game Put It on the Line during the Computational Fluency workout, focusing on multiplying fractions and operations with decimals. In addition, Problem Strings this month help students develop strategies for multiplying and dividing with fractions.

Art at Stratfield

Kindergarten is currently making caterpillars and butterflies out of clay as we introduce symmetry. 1st grade just finished beautiful underwater sea horse paintings. 2nd grade has recently finished some simple collages and are now gearing up to create a unique collage with pieces they have created themselves. 3rd grade is starting jungle scenes as we discuss how to create depth in our pictures. 4th grade is about to start some wild portraits inspired by cubism. 5th grade is completing realistic portraits as we continue to study value in art and they are doing a fantastic job. Thank you everyone who made it out to our school art show. Our students were very excited to share their work with the Stratfield community.

\Bob Matarazzo, Art Teacher

From the PE department

Boys and girls will be learning the basic skills of volleyball this month in their Physical Education class. Using our volleyball trainers students will learn how to bump, set, and serve the volleyball. Following our volleyball unit we will begin our jump roping unit, including the American Heart Associations “jump rope for heart”, where students will learn the health benefits of jumping rope.

Joe Cote, PE Teacher



Learning Commons

Dear Stratfield School Families,

Rain is falling and books are calling! April is national poetry month and school library month. It's a great time to read some [Shel Silverstein](#) and [Ted Scheu](#) (pronounced Shy) the Poetry Guy poetry books. (Click on the author's name to visit their website.) You can also visit our [school library virtually](#) to see our collection of books. It's also time to vote for our favorite Nutmeg Book. I wonder who the winner will be, **Mr. Lemoncello's Library** by *Chris Grabenstein*, **Roller Girl** by *Victoria Jamieson*, or maybe it will be a **Snicker of Magic** by *Natalie Lloyd*? The results will be announced on May 15th.

Books have been calling in kindergarten. We have read fiction and nonfiction books about spring. First and third graders have been enjoying reading and telling Folktales and Fairytales. The third graders have also been learning basic word processing skills by typing their fairytale adaptations. Second graders are completing their Connecticut project. They have designed a new state license plates or state stamp using Wixie. They are also making a voice recording of their persuasive letters to Governor Malloy about why their design should be chosen. Fourth graders are finishing their colonial occupations research and are creating a flyer for an occupation of their choice. “Silversmith Needed!” Fifth graders have embarked on their immigration journey. Mr. Molony and I read aloud **Coming to America. The Story of Immigration** by *Betsy Maestro*. Students have access to many other immigration titles to assist them with thinking critically and drawing conclusions about immigration in America.

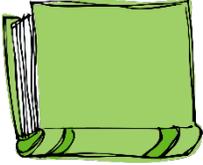


Happy Reading,  showers bring May flowers.

 Happy Reading,

Mrs. Gonzales

Library Media Specialist



From the
Reading Room
Jennifer O'Connell
Jennifer Stowell
Language Arts Specialists

Thank you to all of the Stratfield families that came out to support FAMILY READING NIGHT! Children and parents enjoyed listening to stories around the campfire, as well as shopping at the PTA book fair! Mid-evening entertainment was provided by Mr. Foster and the Stratfield guitar club; they did a fantastic job! Below are some pictures of some readers from the wonderful evening!

