



Heritage Elementary School

#Heritage Happenings Follow Us HERE!

News You Can Use

March, 2017

Alice Conlin,
Principal
Bob Farr,
Assistant Principal

A Message From the Principal

As I write this, light snow is falling on this very relaxing snow day. It is also one week before the official beginning of spring when we hope to get back to that wonderful winter/spring weather we had a few weeks ago! It has been a very interesting winter indeed.

The end of the 3rd marking period is fast approaching – March 31st. It is hard to believe how quickly this year is passing. One of the fun insights about the passing of the year, is just how many activities and celebrations we have taken part in or will soon be participating. Heritage is a very busy place, as I have mentioned in my weekly Alert Now's. RBA has had another successful season. A huge thank you to Mr. Farr and Mrs. Trembl for making this year's RBA one of Heritage's best. The tournament games

must be rescheduled, but all involved will hear about these changes. In addition to RBA, our Odyssey of the Mind teams all performed very well a couple of weeks ago, at our district's competition. Our latest initiative – our HEY DAYS have officially started. Heritage Enriching Youth (HEY) has been added to our schedules as a means of providing enrichment clusters to all Heritage students. Your child(ren) are having fun engaging in activities outside of the curriculum. If our kick off day is any indication, we are tapping into something that will be a great success.

Another initiative Heritage has embraced this year is our Love and Logic philosophy to approaching relationship building and problem resolution. The book we reference is "Teaching with Love and Logic" but there is also a parenting version, "Parenting with Love and Logic" by Faye

and Funk. Our Heritage staff have tapped the surface of the wealth of tips and strategies that help us understand appropriate behavior and understand how to move forward when we don't see it. The most important principles focus on short, one line interventions, not attempting to have discussions when the student is upset, and listening and showing empathy. When we allow students time to calm down, when we give them a genuine listening ear, and when we share with them that we understand – then we can move forward. Many of the pieces of knowledge we have acquired have been truly eye opening – and most important – they work and preserve the dignity of the child; no embarrassment, no humiliation – and if consequences are needed – they fit and they are fair. I am really pleased that we have adopted

the Love and Logic mindset and we will plan on continuing with it and growing deeper in understanding and applying L & L to our daily interactions.

As we enter the 4th and final quarter of the year, I encourage all of you to encourage your child(ren) to remain focused and committed to giving their best. This upcoming quarter will offer many fun events – as the end of the year comes about, but there is also much more to focus on in our learning! As always parents, if there is anything we can do for you or your child(ren), please don't hesitate to let us know!

*Mrs. Conlin
Principal*

Follow us on Twitter!
@Conlinprincipal

Reading Madness Begins! Let's Read!

Reading Madness is back at Heritage! This district-wide reading incentive program started on Wednesday, March 1st and runs through May 1st.

Students are being encouraged to track the number of pages they read (this includes when you and your child read together at home, books your child reads on their own, or books read to your child at home). All students who participate will earn a special reading incentive party with awards going to the top three readers in the school (Barnes and Noble gift

cards)! The class that reads the most pages will also earn a popsicle party in May.

Attached to this newsletter is a reading log where you can track the number of pages your child reads. If you need extra reading logs please ask your child's homeroom teacher or Mrs. O'Neill. Completed reading logs can be turned in to your child's classroom teacher or Mrs. O'Neill. There is no limit to the number of reading logs they may submit!

We also have exciting news about myON. Many of you may remember myON as an online resource

for eBooks for children—it has primarily been used as a resource over the summer, but the district recently purchased a license so it can be used year round! I reviewed how to access myON with all the students at the beginning of March so they can now use it at school and at home. And, books read on myON count for Reading Madness!

To access myON students will need to log in to Clever. From home you can go to clever.com and have the students log in using their Red Clay Google accounts, or go to the Heritage Web site and click on Resources and

then Clever. Their Google login should be s.firstname.lastname@redclayschools.com. Password is their lunch number. If you have any questions about logging on, please feel free to email me. Happy reading!

*Jen O'Neill,
Librarian*

Jennifer.o'neill
@redclay.k12.de.us



Inside the Art Room: Share the LOVE

Heritage students have been busy in the Art room! They recently completed a school-wide "share the love" project. Students were inspired by artist Robert Indiana's LOVE sculptures to create their own art work with the iconic LOVE typography. The unit connected to the children's book "Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed," which explores the snow-ball effect acts of kindness can have. Many of the art works were given as gifts in order to spread love and kindness. Fifth grade students

are exploring fiber art as they sculpt their own clay loom and weave yarn in the center of their designs. Fourth and third grade students are finishing up color study paintings of pets inspired by artist George Rodrigue and his Blue Dog paintings. Second and first grade students are inspired by the theme of home as they learn about art work created by Mexican American artist Carmen Garza and African American artist Faith Ringgold. They are working to create their own

paper and clay houses. Last, but not least, Kindergarten students are exploring the art of Japan as we welcome spring with cherry blossoms. Ask your child what they are learning about in Art today!

We are currently collecting paper towel tubes for an upcoming project. Drop them off in the recycling bin outside of the Art room.

Creatively Yours,
Mrs. Pohlman



Choir and Music Updates



4th and 5th grade students have been working hard counting rhythms and making connections between music, math, and fractions. Their spring chorus concert is Tuesday, May 2nd and performance at the Blue Rocks is Thursday, May 25th. Please send your slips in for tickets!

3rd grade is learning new notes on the recorder and listening to the "Carnival of the An-

imals" by Saint-Saens. We are having a lot of animal fun!

For Black History month, 2nd grade has been singing spirituals, playing African American singing games, and performing on African drums and shakers. They even learned some words in Swahili!

1st grade is learning how play the C scale on xylophones and boomwhackers, as well as sing

the C scale using solfege. I hope you are hearing some of our songs at home.

Kindergarten is busy preparing for their Spring Musical on Tuesday, April 11th in the gym. There is an ice cream social to follow. We hope to see you there!

Happy Music in our Schools Month!
Mrs. Lillis



Second grade layering rhythms with percussion instruments from West Africa!

The Reading Corner: Reading Tips for Parents

- **Reading Tip for Parents: What's "Just Right"?** Children feel confident and competent when they read books that are "just right." But how do you find a "just right" book? Have your child read the back and front cover, and first page of the book. If there are more than five words that he cannot pronounce or understand in context, the book may be too challenging. Be supportive about finding a more perfect fit. Choosing the right book will help your little reader feel successful.
- **Reading Tip for Parents: Map it Out** It's important to provide your child with a variety of fiction and non-fiction reading. A fun way to do this is to get a map and show them the way from your house to the grocery store or another familiar destination. Have

- your child write out the directions, street by street, and then read them to you as you walk or drive to the store – like a living GPS!
- **Reading Tip for Parents: Card Tricks** Do you think effective reading only takes place at libraries and book stores? Think again! There are reading opportunities everywhere. Go to a greeting card store with your child and read the greeting cards together. Later, vote for the ones whose words convey the best birthday wish or get-well sentiment.
- **Reading Tip for Parents: Picture This!** During your next outing or gathering, take action-packed photos, then have your child create captions to go with each picture. Assemble the pictures and captions in a picture book or album, and add speech

- and thought bubbles to create a personalized – and probably hysterical -- graphic novel.
- **Reading Tip for Parents: Last Comic Standing** Take time to read comic strips together. Share favorites from your own childhood and have your child put his favorites on the fridge. Read them aloud, and often -- repetition is a great way to build reading skills. Soon, he'll love looking forward to the "Sunday funnies" each week.
- **Reading Tip for Parents: Become a Fan** Your child will soon develop a love for particular authors and illustrators. Nurture her fan-ship by helping her write a letter to her favorite author. Many authors have their own websites with contact information, but here's a great place to

- start your search (<http://www.scholastic.com/kids/stacks/authors/all.htm>). You can also contact the book's publisher, the mailing address for which can often be found on the back of the title page or on the publisher's Web site.
 - **Reading Tip for Parents: Labels of Love** Word recognition and vocabulary are important parts of reading. On a rainy day, get some paper and tape and start labeling everything in your home -- from furniture to small knick-knacks. Reading these labels repeatedly will build your child's mental word bank. If your family is bilingual, create labels in both languages.
- Happy Reading!
Mrs. Smail
Reading Specialist

Second Grade News

Have you ever gone across the Delaware Memorial Bridge? If you answered yes, then you have gone across a set of twin suspension bridges. The second graders are learning all about bridges. In fact, they are becoming civil engineers and are designing different types of bridges. Once the students have their design, they will be testing it to see if it can with-

stand various forces. Parents, don't be surprised if your second grader comes home and says that Batta Associates or Kercher Engineering Inc. wants to offer them a future job in their engineering department. Who, knows, maybe your child will be the next civil engineer to design a futuristic bridge.



Phys. Ed. Happenings

February has been loads of fun. We have been learning about heart health and how to live heart healthy. The month of March is National Nutrition Month.

The students are now gearing up for their annual Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser. They should have brought home their fundraiser forms last week and will be ready to save lives!! We held our kickoff assembly for Jump Rope for Heart last Wednesday, March 8th. The American Heart Association visited our school to get us fired up and ready to go!

In addition, the students will be learning about various heart rates

and how to check their own heart rates. The younger students will be learning about the different food groups and what each food group gives our bodies. The older students will learn about healthy vs. unhealthy ways to prepare food and how to read nutrition labels on food boxes. It is an exciting time in physical education class!!! We are ready to get fit and stay fit!!!!

*Aubrey Sutton
PE Teacher*



Third Grade News: February and March

It's hard to believe we are already half way through the third quarter of third grade. This school year is really MARCHing along. February was jam-packed full of learning



and fun. In Math we focused on fractions, discussing parts and wholes. In Reading we continued our study of various comprehension strategies, and in Writing

we learned how to write persuasively. Don't be surprised if your child leaves you compelling notes about purchasing puppies or buying baboons. The

month ended on a high note with many on the third grade team (teachers and students) dressing as their favorite superhero for book character day.

In this coming month we will continue the fun. In Math we will study place value, estimation, and adding and subtracting



multi-digit numbers. Reading will find us continuing to plug away at mastering various comprehension strategies, and in Writing we will be

finishing up our persuasive papers and looking ahead to crafting expository pieces. Fridays in March will be full of activity as the students travel to

McKean High School to hone their swimming skills through the YMCA's "Water Wise" program.

Fifth Grade News

The fifth grade is busy as we move into the Spring testing season. They will be taking the Science DCAS test on Thursday, March 23. Please make sure your child

gets a good night's sleep and eats a healthy breakfast.

On March 24, the

fifth graders will take a field trip to Christiana Skating Rink where we will participate in a STEM lesson that supports our Science unit, Motion and Design.



First Grade News

First Graders will be participating in some exciting learning opportunities throughout the next month.

First, we will be taking a field trip to Pietro's Pizza so we can show firsthand our un-

derstanding of being producers and consumers as we have learned in our economics unit.

We will also be getting some organisms in our classrooms, including some critters.

Please be sure to ask us about our experiences.



Heritage Elementary is now on



Please like the Heritage Elementary Library Facebook page!

Get news and updates about the library program and our school!



Heritage Elementary Library

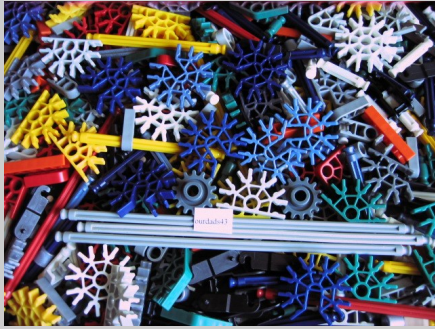
@heritageelementarylibrary

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Kindergarten News

Kindergarten has been very busy. We went on a field trip to Cab Calloway and saw The Lion King. It was an amazing play. We will be starting our unit in Science on Push, Pull and Go. The kids are so excited to build different things with Knex and learn about our new



unit. We are also finishing up our Persuasive writing pieces. The kids did such a great job on them. We are looking forward to warm weather and longer days now!

Fourth Grade News

Fourth grade is taking adventures by land, air and water through our reading series. In our unit 5 stories we adopt the adventurous spirits of our characters as they are the first to make discoveries or accomplishments. We will continue to develop and reinforce our comprehension skills and strategies while reading these stories. We encourage you to have your child read for at least 20 minutes each night. Then, ask your child to summarize or retell the text with a beginning, middle, and end. Remind your child to record their pages for Reading Madness. Reading Madness logs are due May 1st and can be submitted to homeroom teachers.

In math, students are learning the metric system. Students are developing an understanding of measurement with length, capacity, mass and time. Students can strengthen their skills by logging onto Dreambox or Khan Academy for extra prac-

tice.

We are excited about our upcoming trip to the Delaware Symphony Orchestra. Because of the snow day on 3/13 it was cancelled but parents will be notified once the new date has been confirmed. New permission slips will go home and must be signed and returned. Chaperones are needed. Please contact your child's teacher if you are interested in attending.

Over the past four weeks, students have used music to support their understanding of fractions, while they also developed the basic concepts of rhythm and time. In small groups, students worked collaboratively to create and compose a class composition. Now students have a better understanding of fractions in relation to parts of a whole.

Guidance Corner

Over the next couple months in guidance we will be discussing 7 Habits of Happy Kids. Habits can be positive or negative, depending of course on what kind of habit you are making. We want our kids to develop strong positive habits now, when they're young, that will carry over into adulthood. Imagine the benefit of learning and sticking to "The 7 Habits of Happy Kids" and what an impact this could have on the kids' futures and everyone around them!

We have discussed SOAR with all students at Heritage. We presented mini lessons and assemblies for students to introduce to them our new ex-

pectations. Students are aware what it means and how he or she can SOAR in our school. When students SOAR they are Showing kindness, Obeying procedures, Always Academically Focused and Respecting Everyone. We encourage this each day here at Heritage.

Mrs. Riley
tina.riley@
Redclay.k12.de.us



YEARBOOK SALES

Unfortunately, the deadline has passed to purchase a yearbook.

Yearbooks will be sold in May on a first come, first serve basis for \$20. A flyer will go out when they are ready for purchase.

Thank you,
Yearbook
Committee



News from Ms. Leies: Teacher of Talented and Gifted*

PTA Reflections Contest "What Is Your Story?"

Have you ever let your imagination fly? Students at Heritage have and they've written stories and created artwork about this topic. Five literature and five art winners were selected for the PTA Reflections Contest in the Primary (K-2) and the Intermediate (3-5) categories. We also had a dance enter in the Intermediate category. Congratulations to the following students who are our school winners:

Primary Art Winners

Veronika German—My Story Is I Am Creative
Camila Castro—My Story Is Enjoying Nature
Hailey Barry—My Story Is Dancing
Alyssa Simon—My Story Is I Am An Artist*
Sam Gutzmirtl—My Story Is Sports

Primary Literature Winners

Peyton Riley—My Creativity*
Ava Reamer—The Story of Me
Jasmine Chen—My Likes
Jordan Dryer—My Dreams Are My Future*
Maya Dryer—My Likes

Intermediate Art Winners

Madison Butts - Stepping Stones of My Life*
Marissa Abbott—Softball is My Passion
William Outslay—My Life's Snapshots
Magdalina German—Helping Others is My Story*
Charlotte Zolandz—My Story Is I Am a Teacher

Intermediate Literature Winners

Nathan Moyer—My Life
Evelyne Kim—My Story
Reshu Bejjanki—My Passion: The Flute
Kelsey Shahan—This Is Me and My Life Story
Elizabeth Zolandz—Me and My Story

Intermediate Dance Winner

Jane Gentry—My Story is Dance*

*These students won state Honorable Mentions and will be honored at Newark High School on April 10th.

We had so many terrific stories and artwork entered into the contest. A great big thanks to all who participated, the judges, and to the PTA who supply prizes to our talented winners.

Brett Humphrey is Heritage Elementary's Geography Bee Winner

The following students competed in the final round of the Geography Bee: fourth graders

Landon Hill and Cole Denisar along with fifth graders Kevin Sparks, Sam Anderson, Anthony Sansone, Brett Humphrey and Lucas Conner.

Brett Humphrey, a fifth grader, is Heritage Elementary's Geography Bee winner. Second place went to fifth grader Anthony Sansone and third place was claimed by Lucas Conner. Brett is eligible to compete in the State Bee on March 31st. State champions go to Washington D.C. to participate in the National

Geographic Bee on May 15-17, 2017. Fourth through eighth grade students are eligible to compete in this National competition. Brush up on geography with the online GeoBee Challenge.



Start Getting Ready for the 15th Annual Numbers Bee Tournament

All Heritage Elementary students can practice their math skills, math fluency and problem solving at the following Numbers Bee site: <http://www.numbersbee.com>

Student log-in: school ID/lunch number

Password: iplay

Students in grades 3-5 are eligible to compete in the **Numbers Bee Tournament** on April 29, 2017 at John Dickinson High School.

Practice and Tournament Levels

Grades K & 1 – Levels 1, 2 & 3 (not eligible for tournament)

Grade 2 – Levels 4, 5 & 6 (not eligible for tournament)

Grade 3 – Level 7, 8 & 9 (addition and subtraction – 4 numbers)

Grade 4 – Level 12, 13, 16 (multiplication and division)

Grade 5 – Level 14, 18, & 20 (all operations)

*TYPE I Activities – These are exploratory activities designed and provided by the Teacher of Talented and Gifted to expose students to a wide variety of subject areas, expand the scope of experiences provided through the school and to stimulate new interests. They can include contests, guest speakers, learning centers and mini-courses.

March—June Calendar

March 24 th	5 th grade trip to Christiana Skating Rink
March 30 th	End of 3 rd MP Spirit Day /Heritage Spirit Wear 3 rd HEY DAY
March 31 st	No School/Teacher In-Service Day
April 7 th	4 th HEY DAY
April 11 th	Spring Festival
April 12 th	5 th and final HEY DAY
April 13 th	Report Cards Distributed
April 14 th – 21 st	No School – Spring Vacation
April 26 th	K registration event -only for those with students entering K who need to register for 2017-2018 – please spread the word! Fun events and activities will be planned
April 29 th	Science Olympiad – Wilm Univ 8-1
May 1 st -5 th	Teacher Appreciation Week / Screen Free Week /PTA will have various events planned for this week – TBD
May 3 rd	PTA Skating Party
May 4 th	Family Night (May the 4 th be with you....Star Wars Themed evening)
May 11 th	K registration event -only for those with students entering K who need to register for 2017-2018 – please spread the word! Fun events and activities will be planned
May 12 th	Field Day
May 23 rd	Blue Rocks Chorus Field Trip
May 25 th	3 rd Grade to HERRS
May 26 th	Spirit Day – Theme TBD
May 29 th	No School – Memorial Day
May 31 st	Multicultural Day – Assembly
June 1 st	3 rd Grade Mini Society
June 2 nd	4 th grade to Hagley
June 6 th	PTA 7:00
June 13 th	Last Student Day – Dismissal 1:00
June 12 th	5 th Grade Moving Up

There will be picnics and various end of the year events that your individual grade level teachers will send information home when the time approaches.