

The Wildcat Mews



Third Nine Weeks

Spelling and Geography Bees Held at MES

GEOGRAPHY BEE

Millboro Elementary students in grades four through seven participated in the National



Geography Bee sponsored by the National Geographic Society this nine weeks. Everyone answered seven questions about United States

and world geography. In fourth and fifth grades, the top three finishers went on to compete at the school level. Mrs. Bonnie Jenkins read the questions for the school-wide bee and Mr. John Green

served as judge. Mary Dressler, Shayne Howard, Giovanni Walters, Victoria Webb, Alex Pritt, John Strickler, Zach Potter, Nirina Walters, Cheyenne Plecker, and Christian Heffler were the contestants for the school-wide bee. Zach Potter took second place while Alex Pritt won the Millboro Geography Bee this year. Congratulations to all of the contestants!

SPELLING BEE

Millboro Elementary students recently participated in the spelling bee sponsored by the Roanoke Times. Eighteen students in grades 5-7 took



turns spelling words to determine who would advance to the divisional bee. Justin Puffenbarger took home first place while Aimee Brinkley.

Parents Encouraged to Use SOLpass

Millboro Elementary School subscribes to a remedial tutorial website for students who wish to review the content for the social studies and science Standards of Learning tests. This website, complete with games and activities, allows for SOL review

while keeping the attention of the students focused. There are dozens of activities for each grade level from Grade 3 through Grade 7. When prompted, please enter the password *millboro* in order to access the site.



Happy reviewing!

Calendar

2/17/10 Millboro Night at Cucci's 4:00-8:00
2/19/10 Preschool Family Fun Day 2:00 in MES Library
2/25/10 Student Holiday Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:00-4:00 and 4:30-7:00
3/3/10 5th Grade SOL Writing Test Multiple Choice
3/4/10 5th Grade SOL Writing Test Direct Writing Prompt
3/24/10 Millboro Night at Cucci's 4:00-8:00
3/26/10 Kindergarten Registration 1:30
4/1/10 Third Nine Weeks Ends Early Dismissal 12:30
4/2/10-4/6/10 Spring Break
4/16/10 Grade 2 Field Trip to Sci. Museum of Western VA
4/21/10 Millboro Night at Cucci's 4:00-8:00
4/27/10 Preschool & Kindergarten Cap and Gown Pictures
4/29/10 Grade 3 Field Trip to W. Wilson Presidential Library

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Kindergarten

The Kindergarten class has been very busy since Christmas learning about bears and other winter animals. We read many stories about different kinds of bears including polar bears, panda bears, grizzly bears, and black bears. We discovered that bears may not hibernate all winter if some days are warm and sunny. Some days they may wake up and come out for a short time and then return to finish their winter nap.

The children also now know that koala bears are not

really bears. They are marsupials since they have a pouch like a kangaroo. Their babies are also called joeys and not cubs.

We concluded our study about bears by drawing pictures on a huge box that was given to us by our secretary, Donna Campagna. We made it look like a bear cave. The students drew pictures on the inside walls of the box that looked like homes for a polar bear, black bear, and grizzly bear. Their art work was wonderful!

We studied other winter animals and how they survive the cold days of winter. We read about how they prepare for winter by storing food in the Fall and how their coats get thicker for warmth. We made bird feeders to help feed the birds. We also learned that not only do birds enjoy this treat but squirrels do as well. The students now know that the birds will return for more food so they must keep feeding the birds during the winter months.

HELPFUL TIP #1

PLACE A FROZEN JUICE BOX IN YOUR KID'S LUNCHBOX. IT'LL KEEP THE FOOD CHILLED AND WILL BE THAWED BY LUNCHTIME.

First Grade

Our class has continued studying important people and events. In November, we learned about the importance of Thanksgiving, which included the study of pilgrims and Native Americans. We talked about how things have changed from the past to our present time. Topics such as changes in schools, communities, transportation, and family life were discussed.

We have continued to work on map skills. The students have studied basic map symbols, have learned the cardinal directions, and have constructed simple maps. They know how to make a compass rose and learned a special acronym for remembering the directions for North, South,

East, and West. (**Never Eat Sour Watermelons!**) We will continue our study of map skills, which will involve being able to identify the physical shapes of the United States and Virginia, and will include locating our nation's capital, Washington, D.C., and the capital of Virginia, Richmond, on a map.

By December, the children were getting energized for the holidays. They kept busy by making a special gift for their parents. Each student made their very own calendar! It took a lot of hard work and time, but when completed, the children were very pleased with their work. I know parents are proud to display their calendar at

home.

January was somewhat chaotic. Between having snow days and 2-hour delays, it was a little tough maintaining a normal schedule. However, we adjusted and got things done. It may have taken a little longer than anticipated, but we managed to get our mid-year testing completed. We also had a little time for some fun. Our class had a wonderful time with Mrs. Armstrong's Kindergartners making birdfeeders for the hungry birds. We may have had peanut butter and cheerios everywhere, but it was definitely worth it.

Make a difference - READ with your child every day!

Second Grade

Indians, Indians and more Indians. That has been our major focus in Social Studies. The children enjoyed making pottery, weaving, sand painting and learning about the Woodland, Plains, and Southwest Indians. Some learned Indian Sign Language and enjoyed showing others what they have learned.

We had a treat when The Children's Art Council came and taught us about China. We enjoyed making the dragon puppet, learning and painting characters on our hats, and making a Chinese

mask. It was great fun! We wrote cards to show our appreciation.

The Children wrote letters to Santa Clause and they were published in The Recorder. The children's letters touched my heart when they wanted to make sure that others not as fortunate as they had something for Christmas.

In Math we learned all about counting money and telling time. We were hoping to use these skills over the holiday when Santa brought new watches and as we shopped for our family.

In Science we learned about planning nutritious meals and the food pyramid. We hope to make wise choices when we eat.

The late days and snow days have caused changes in our schedule. Thank you for being patient with the re-scheduling of quizzes and tests.

We will be studying Famous Americans, Patriotic Symbols, Weather, Animals, 2 digit Subtraction, Fractions, Graphs, and Shapes. We will have a Patriotic Play at the end of our study.

Third Grade

This 9 weeks of school got off to a great start for our 3rd Grade Class. We had a field trip to the Frontier Museum. We worked at the American Farm. We used a 2 person saw. Each of us had a chance to use a beadle to split wood. It took all of us to move a log closer to the house! At the Irish farm we learned about cooking, family jobs, and how to weave flax into linen. The Children's Art Network presented a program on Ancient Rome. We made a bulla, a clock with Roman numerals, and knuckle bones to take home. We each tried to make an archway with blocks but not many of us were successful. The Talent Show was fun. We had an excited audience who enjoyed the show. We sure had fun per-

forming!!

In LA we worked on letter writing. We wrote letters to parents and thank you notes to the Bath Co. Arts Association thanking them for sponsoring the Children's Art Network Program. Math skills have included telling time, money, addition, subtraction, and problem solving.

We are busy working in our handwriting books so that we can begin do our work in cursive. We have begun multiplication tables. Each of us needs to have a set of flash cards to use. We need to practice, practice, practice!



HELPFUL TIP #2

MAKE BITE-SIZED AND MINI VERSIONS OF REGULAR FOOD SANDWICHES. THEY WORK WELL FOR SMALL APPETITES AND ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE EATEN.

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Fourth Grade



Fourth grade covered three of our biggest math concepts the second nine weeks. We went over multiplication, division, and fractions. The first step in multiplication is to know the basic facts. Students need to continue to review them since their knowledge of multiplication affects division and fractions. The students are continuing work on learning new vocabulary for all three areas of math. They worked on multiplying one through three digits by one through three digits. Division is basic long division in fourth grade. The students divided two or three digit numbers with a single digit divisor. Students have to be able to compare fractions, create equivalent fractions, simplify fractions, and add and subtract fractions.

The students continued their hard work as we have all been reading Red Thunder by John Hunter. It is a novel set at the time of the battle at Yorktown ending the American Revolution. It highlights what James Armistead Lafayette contributed to the Patriot cause. It also happens to meet the stan-

dard for reading historical fiction to help understand another period in time. We also discovered a fantastic book by Gordon Korman titled Swindle. That is a realistic fiction book about a group of kids who work together to solve a problem they have. All students need to continue to read at home. The students have also been reminded that they need to read AR books and take the quizzes on the computer to be earning points for the trip at the end of school.

Virginia Studies covered an enormous chunk of time in our history these nine weeks. The students went over how Virginia became dependent on agriculture for its economy, leading to the rise of slavery. This caused the American Revolution. When the war ended, the United States was created. We also studied the branches of government. Currently, we are starting the Civil War. The key to Virginia Studies is to remember that we only deal with things in Virginia. There-

fore, we did not talk about the Revolutionary War battles that took place in the northeastern United States. We only talked about the key battle in Virginia which was at Yorktown.

Finally, we continued our tree trekking program with Ranger Beth and Mrs. Hodges. Students are working on correctly identifying ten trees on the school property. Westvaco also was kind enough to come in and explain how paper is made. The students each made a piece of paper. We also watched our trout eggs hatch and grow into parr. I am not sure any of them made it to be fry. Some of the fish did die, but some of them simply disappeared. We think they swam to their deaths into the filter. We are still tentatively going to try to take another trip to Douthat in the spring to end our fish rearing experience. The students also work on building electric circuits. Each of them had to build a series and a parallel circuit once we learned what a circuit was.

HELPFUL TIP #3
ADD GRATED
VEGGIES TO
SANDWICHES
AND WRAPS FOR
CRUNCH—YOUR
KIDS WON'T
NOTICE THEY'RE
EATING
SOMETHING
THAT'S GOOD
FOR THEM!

MES Collects for Christmas Mother

The Student Council Association at Millboro Elementary School donated numerous items for the Bath County Christmas Mother. From collecting toiletry items for the Springs Nursing Home to collecting clothing for the less fortunate of Bath County, the students at Millboro took pride knowing they made a difference in the lives of someone during the holidays.



Social Studies 5-7

And so it begins. The dreaded Christmas – Easter gap. But I digress. Fifth graders have had a new addition this nine-weeks (at the least at the end), Spelling. We're off to a great start and I know the kids are going to benefit tremendously from the addition. We read some great books this past nine, including *Maniac Magee* and *Orphan Train Rider*. We paused on reading for a brief period to work on writing about our favorite games but have since moved on to *Weasel*. Scary, but great book!

History has been a blast (or so I think) in fifth grade as we've been learning about the events that led to the Revolutionary War! I've

loved hearing the different points of view offered by your children as to whether or not England was right to impose the many taxes that she did after the French and Indian War. What a fun class!

Please don't forget to visit my webpage at <http://sharepoint.bath.k12.va.us/mes>. Click on Classroom/Department Websites and find my name. Be sure to click the US History I or Reading tab to see what's happening in fifth grade.

Sixth-grade has had a lot on their plate this past nine! They've been learning about the Spanish-American War, World War I, and the Roaring 20s. They really got a

kick out of hearing blues and jazz from the likes of Louis Armstrong, George Gershwin, and Bessie Smith! They're all excited about World War II, but the Great Depression is up next. I can't wait to see if they can connect the past to the present!

Civics, not so much economics, has been the focal point in seventh-grade Civics and Economics this past nine-weeks. We've learned a lot about how you become a citizen in the United States, as well as the duties and responsibilities of being a citizen. We'll be continuing on that path for another week and then it's on to economics. I suggest lots of "taking notebooks home to study." Until April, I bid you adieu.



Millboro Elementary School is now an official member of the School Rewards program. Look for more information coming home in a few weeks!

HELPFUL TIP #4

GO FOR VARIETY. MAKE SANDWICHES USING WHOLE GRAIN TORTILLAS, BAGELS, OR PITAS.

Math 5-7

O.K., O.K, SO I'M NOT THE ROBIN REED OF MES. IF YOU CAN DIG UP MY FIRST NINE-WEEK NEWSLETTER ITEM I ASKED FOR A MILD WINTER AND VERY FEW SNOW DAYS SO WE WOULD BE WELL PREPARED COME SOL TIME. IT LOOKS LIKE THAT WISH WENT OUT THE WINDOW ON DECEMBER THE 17TH AND WINTER IS STILL WITH US IN A BIG WAY.

BUT, IN SPITE OF 2 HOUR DELAYS, EARLY DISMISALS AND NO SCHOOL AT ALL , GRADES 5,6,7 CONTINUE TO WORK HARD AND HONE THEIR MATH SKILLS TO BE READY FOR TEST TIME AND FOR 7TH GRADERS TO BE PREPARED FOR HIGH SCHOOL.

THE FIFTH GRADE HAS BEEN WORKING HARD ON DIVISIBILITY RULES, SINGLE DIGIT AND DOUBLE DIGIT DIVISORS AND DIVIDING BY POWERS OF 10. AS WITH ALL FACETS OF LEARNING MATH , KNOWING THE MULTIPLICATION TABLE IS A MUST.

THE SIXTH GRADE HAS BEEN WORKING ON , "UUUUGGGGHHHH", FRACTIONS!!! YES, THAT MOST DREADED OF ALL MATH FRACTIONS. WHEN TO USE THE LCM OR THE GCF??? WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SIMPLIFY?? WHAT IS A MIXED NUMBER , AN IMPROPER FRACTION AND HOW CAN WE ADD , MULTIPLY, SUBTRACT , DIVIDE ALL OF THESE TYPES OF FRACTIONS? IT'S BEEN REALLY TOUGH TO GET ALL OF THESE CONCEPTS TOGETHER AND MAKE HEADWAY WITH SO MANY DELAYS AND DISRUPTIONS, BUT MY HAT IS OFF TO SIXTH GRADE AS THEY HAVE CONTINUED TO WORK HARD.

THE SEVENTH GRADE IS BEING PUT TO THE TEST. WE HAVE SO MANY TOUGH SOL OBJECTIVES TO COVER AND ALSO WE HAVE TO BE PREPARED FOR 8TH GRADE MATH OR ALGEBRA NEXT YEAR. A LOT OF GROUND TO COVER AND SAME AS THE OTHER CLASSES SO MANY DELAYS AND DISTRACTIONS. THESE FOLKS HAVE REALLY PUT ON THEIR WORK HATS AND HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HANDLE AS MANY AS THREE OR FOUR DIFFERENT CHAPTERS A WEEK. WE STARTED THE NINE –WEEKS LEARNING DIFFERENT WAYS TO SHOW AND ORGANIZE SPECIFIC DATA AND ARE FINISHING UP LEARNING ABOUT SOLVING EQUATIONS AND HOW TO GRAPH AND PLOT LINEAR EQUATIONS AND INEQUALITIES. I AM REALLY PROUD OF THE SEVENTH GRADE FOR THEIR GOOD WORK ETHIC AND MATURITY. THEY WILL DO WELL IN THE 8TH GRADE.

WELL, NO MORE WEATHER PREDICTIONS FROM HERE!!! I PROMISE I WON'T HAVE 5,6 AND 7 DO ANY MORE SNOW DANCES AND MAYBE OUR THIRD NINE-WEEKS WILL BE OUR MOST PRODUCTIVE YET UNEVENTFUL.

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Preschool

Let's take a quick look at what has been happening in preschool since our last newsletter. Wow, hasn't the weather been crazy! Our little people have been in school for over 90 days now, and in those 90 days we have really grown! Our minds, manners and muscles are rising to new heights! Christmas came and went in a flurry (actually about 2 feet of flurries.) 2010 brought us all back together, with stories to share and new toys to astound! Amazingly we all flowed smoothly back into our old routine! Early January, the Brunner family came together, to help highlight our Food unit. Mr. Brunner visited one afternoon, and his chef skills came to life. He formed many unique creations out of fruits and vegetables and then served them to the preschool children. Mmm-delicious! Heidi Brunner (Mrs. Brunner's youngest daughter) came in

to photograph the event. Thanks Brunners! A field trip to the school cafeteria completed our food unit. Up and coming in Preschool we will be participating in the MES Olympic opening ceremony on February 12th. Soon after on February 19th, we will have our Family Fun Day- An Afternoon at the Museum! Preschool will be experiencing "the arts" as we visit a gallery (in the school library) of distinguished and well known art pieces. Sounds a bit fancy and fussy for 3 and 4 year old children, but you can be sure that it will be fun! The children will be creating their own masterpieces to include at the exhibit! Come on by and see our art. You will see a unique mixture of young and old! Isn't that what preschool is all about?



HELPFUL TIP #5
PACK
ANTIBACTERIAL
WET WIPES SO
YOUR KIDS CAN
CLEAN THEIR
HANDS BEFORE
AND AFTER
EATING.

English 6-7

Hard to believe we are half way through the school year. It will be summer before we know it. I want to congratulate all of the Spelling Bee participants. They did a wonderful job. Good Luck to the students going to the County Spelling Bee. I know you will do a wonderful job representing our school. The seventh grade English class is still

reading their novel, A Day No Pigs Would Die. With all of the snow days and two hour delays, we haven't had much time to read it. The sixth grade class has started their next novel, Number the Stars. Both novels are wonderful reads. Parents, remember that every Monday, the students receive the Daily Language Review. It is due on

Fridays. The Daily Language review is to help the students with grammar and writing skills. Also be on the look out for the 3rd nine weeks Book Report Bingo Sheets. There are a few changes to it. Remember, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. You can either call me at the school or you can reach me by email.

Music

All of our students will be working on Patriotic Music. Each class will focus on mastering one patriotic song. Time will be spent understanding the meaning of the song in addition to being able to sing it. Each class will also continue working on age appropriate musical signs and symbols. Kindergarten students will be learning terms such as vocal, instrumental, and introduction. They will also continue to work on fast and slow, loud and soft, and long and short. Students will also work on keeping the beat of music using movement and rhythm instruments. First Grade students will be working on understanding of musical terms such as accompanied and unaccompanied. Students will

continue working to understand about musical beat, rhythm and melody. Second graders will be working on learning how to follow the words of songs as well as recognizing and understanding about the music staff, treble clef, double bar line and repeat sign. Musical words such as *piano* and *forte* will also be explored. Third grade students will be learning about the Woodwind Family in the orchestra. The fourth graders will continue preparing to play the recorders. Their focus will be on learning about the time signature and recognizing different kinds of notes and their values. Fifth graders are exploring the music of the Twentieth Century. Students will be looking at each

decade during the 1900s and talking about the musical styles that were popular, what economic factors influenced the music of the decade, as well as the listening devices that were used. Sixth graders are exploring the history of music. Students will look at each period of music and talk about musical styles, composers, instruments and other things that impacted the music of the day. Seventh grade students are playing guitars. We are having a lot of fun. Students have learned to play Smoke on the Water, Happy Birthday, and Old Joe Clark. In the next few weeks, students will continue to learn some fun songs. Students will also learn how to play a few chords on the guitar as well.

HELPFUL TIP #6
USE SMALL
RESEALABLE
BAGS TO PACK
DRESSINGS. KIDS
CAN OPEN ONE
CORNER AND
SIMPLY SQUEEZE
ONTO THEIR
FOOD, THEN
DISCARD

Counselor's Corner

We have been very busy the past nine weeks in guidance. Students have been learning about a variety of topics and improving their skills. In Kindergarten and first grade, we talked about the importance of kindness and honesty. We worked on recognizing and respecting differences. We also learned about the negative consequences of being bossy. Second grade worked on improving manners. We also learned new conflict resolution skills. Showing respect for ourselves and others was a focus for third and fourth grades. We worked on having good thoughts, words,

and deeds. They also explored ways to make and keep friends. Fifth grade has been working on treating others with respect through words and actions. They have been participating in group building activities. The focus for sixth grade was preventing bullying, harassment, and violence. They also learned about internet safety. Seventh grade has been exploring different careers and finished by doing a presentation for the class. They have also been learning new study skills. As you can see, our students have been very busy. Let's keep up the good work!



Having family problems? Rockbridge Area Community Services can help. Individual, family, and group counseling is provided in an outpatient setting. Therapists conduct a thorough clinical assessment of the child

and family focusing on areas that are identified in need of change. Together, the therapist and the family design a treatment plan to address the family's identified goals. The philosophy of the program is a family systems approach that looks at the child within the family unit and focuses intervention and motivational enhancement strategies on both the child and the family. Therapists offer assistance to children and their families in the areas of behavioral health issues, substance abuse, anger management, parenting skills, and school related problems to name a few. Therapists will design a specialized treatment plan that addresses needs at home, school, work, and in the community.

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Science 5-7

This has been a pretty exciting term with Millboro science classes. The students are making steady progress and things seem to be doing well.

Fifth grade have been working on earth science. They are serving right now as teachers, with Powerpoint presentations and quizzes. I'm very proud of their accomplishments (although this sort of thing takes a great deal of time). We'll probably begin measuring things after we complete this study.

We have our rock tumbler going, and everyone should get some souvenirs of the earth science unit.

Grade six are working on

measuring and the Metric System. We're struggling a bit on the formulas but making progress. Pre-chemistry (atoms, elements, that sort of thing) would be the next logical topic when we are completed with this. There will be more homework this spring, so watch the homework notebook.

Grade 7 has studied genetics, DNA and are now working on Natural Selection (Evolution). We have some tough subjects this year, but most of our students are working hard.

Quest projects (Science Fairs) will be starting soon. Look for a detailed sheet stating

exactly what your child needs to do. Generally, reports and models will not work. We are looking for some type of question that a child could answer using what he has at home (*What type of food do wild birds prefer; that type of thing*). As always, large numbers of points will be offered, divided up into 2 or 3 deadlines with the project itself being presented sometime in May. This project will be voluntary, in lieu of a final test and research project (10 page report). Since it is voluntary, deadlines will be very important and adhered to fairly strictly. The school office sells presentation boards for \$3.00.

Physical Education/Health



The WINTER OLYMPICS are coming!!!!!! Opening Ceremony for MES 2010 will be held Friday, February 12th at 1:30 in the gym. All parents, grandparents and friends of the community are invited to attend.

Each grade has been assigned a country to represent in the Opening Ceremony and follow through the Van-

cover 2010 Olympics. The students will have an opening parade in the gym, repeat the MES Olympic Oath and light the Olympic Flame. The lighting of the flame will be by a person very special to MES and will remain a secret until the event.

During physical education class in the days that follow, students will be competing for Gold, Silver and Bronze

medals. In the event that we may have SNOW (what's that?) on the ground, some competitions may be held outdoors. Students will know in advance, so they can bring proper clothing.

We are looking forward to a wonderful time. Come join us – remember Friday, February 12th at 1:30. Snow make-up day for the event will be Monday, February 15th.

Computer Club

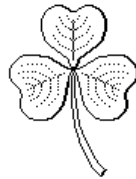
Move. Stop. Take photo. Move. Stop. Take photo. Do this about 100 more times and you'll have a 20 second stop animation video. Of course, you have to edit the photos, move them into movie maker, set your speed, overdub any sounds, music, etc., and then you'll have that 20

second video. Sound fun? Well Computer Clubbers sure do think so because they LOVE stop animation. We've just started playing with the process and I've seen some wonderful ideas!

The gang also created video-casts on the thirteen colo-

nies this nine-weeks which you can view on my website at <http://sharepoint.bath.k12.va.us/mes/joeyc>. Just click on US History I to watch the videos. I can't wait to see what these guys (and gals) come up with next!

St. Patrick's Day Word Search



B U L Y I G I J Q O
 H V P U Z U R I E R
 G H E B C M I E A E
 A R E M I K S U E D
 L E P R E C H A U N
 E V X A M I A X Y A
 L O D I T R M U F L
 L L G N J T R T V E
 I C I B G A O T M R
 H A A O S P C K E I
 S Y L W S E K A N S
 O D V L I Y P Q E M

IRELAND	SHAMROCK
IRISH	JIG
GOLD	PATRICK
POT	SAINT
RAINBOW	SNAKES
GREEN	LEPRECHAUN
CLOVER	SHILLELAGH
LUCK	

Hey, Folks!! In recognition of National Children's Dental Health Month (NCDHM), the pre-school through third grade teachers and students at MES and VES have the opportunity to review a special DVD, "Smile for Good Health". Kits that are on loan from Delta Dental, also have materials that provide great information to discuss concerning good oral health!

Other resources available include the American Dental Association's webpage: www.ada.org/prof/events/featured/ncdhm.asp which includes many printable activity sheets, including word mazes, coloring pages, crossword puzzles, and oral hygiene tips!

Another great site as you plan activities to support oral health and its importance to total wellness and better learning, is found at the Division of Dental Health at www.vahealth.org/dental. These curriculums correspond to the Health Education Standards of Learning (SOL) used in our VA public schools, and provide easy to follow lesson plans and activities for classroom teachers.

The American Dental Association's theme for the month of February is, "For a Sparkly Smile, Remember to Brush and Floss Everyday!" Hopefully this is advice that will be practiced throughout each student's life-time!!

St. Patrick's Day Fun



Feeling a little green? Try these activities in celebration on St. Patrick's Day

- 1) Draw and label all four food groups with foods that are green
- 2) Write a green snack menu for your child's class
- 3) Make green bread using a bread machine and food coloring
- 4) Clean and cut green apples and broccoli
- 5) Make green sour cream dip for the broccoli
- 6) Make green milkshakes

What you will need:

- Broccoli, green apples
- Bread maker and ingredients for making bread
- Milkshake ingredients and mixer
- Green food coloring
- Paper plates and napkins



Library News

During the past several weeks, **Kindergarten** enjoyed several fun Christmas books and made accompanying craft items. One of our favorites was *Santa Gets Stuck*. It seems that Santa should have passed on that "just one more" cookie. Currently we are reading books about good book care in anticipation of checking out our first library book. Parents can ask students about proper book care rules.

First grade also enjoyed several Christmas stories and their accompanying activities. A tasty favorite was *The Wild Christmas Reindeer*. We are currently comparing the various versions of *The Mitten*. Look for us to bring home our mittens and the characters to retell the story.

Second grade read *The Bearer of Gifts* and made a star ornament as a story extension activity. Currently,

second graders are learning how to be self-sufficient library users. We are exploring the arrangement of easy and fiction section of the library.

The **third grade**, read a favorite Barbara Cooney book, *The Year of the Perfect Christmas Tree*. We had to use our math skills to make an angel garland as an extension of the story. Now third grade is reading *The Autobiography of Bill Peet*, as we learn about biographies. Mr. Peet had lead a fabulous life as a If you want to know more, ask a third grader.

Fourth grade read the book *The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey*. As a story extension activity, students made angel ornaments. Currently fourth grade is learning about the Dewey Decimal System as they explore the nonfiction section of the library.

Fifth grade studied how the

Christmas holiday season is celebrated in other countries. Students are currently trying to report their findings to their classmates and weather permitting we will get them completed before Valentine's Day!

Sixth and Seventh grade took a look at the various versions of Clement C. Moore's *Night Before Christmas*. By far the most popular was the *Pennsylvania Dutch Night Before Christmas*. The Belschnickel came with a bag of switches and a bag of toys. The popularity was probably the Pennsylvania Dutch dialect. Sixth and seventh grade are currently using their listening and reasoning skills as we read the book CLUE.

Overdue notices have been sent out. We have a few missing books. Please ask your student whether they have an overdue library book.