



Carrington Cougar Times **Principal's Corner**



Congratulations to two of our Carrington students who received Certificates of Excellence from Mrs. Dena Mortensen, our ELA Supervisor for highest achievement on the mClass Composite Reading test city – wide! Pictured below are 3rd grade student Raiha Siddiquee with Principal Renna, Mr. Gagnon and Ms. Mortensen and 4th grade student Mashnoov Chowdury. Congratulations Raiha and Mashnoov! We are so proud of you and all of your hard work!



The State assessments start this month and it's time for our students to demonstrate all that they have learned. All students in grades 3-7 will be taking the Smarter Balance Assessment. The smarter balanced assessment will be taken on computers and students will be scheduled to take the test anywhere between March 15th – May 27th. It is imperative that your child attends school, gets plenty of rest, exercise and eats a healthy diet. Below are links for you to reference for testing.

- Information- <http://ct.portal.airast.org/>
- Samples/practice test - <http://ct.portal.airast.org/training-tests/> → (must be on a chrome web browser)

****We encourage all the students to log in to our web based educational resource software programs in reading and math.

- iReady Math (grades 3-5) <https://login.i-ready.com/>
- Lexia Reading (grades k-5) <http://www.lexiacore5.com/>

****Please mark your calendars for March 23- Reading by the Campfire Family Night 6-7:30**

****March 24-31 Post your Virtual Pasta Dinner pictures. Vote for your favorite on the Carrington School Facebook page. The family with most "likes" family will receive a Tablet.**



Pre – K Mrs. McCulloch, Mrs. Mauceri, Mrs. Weed

This month the Pre-K classes are learning the differences between the country and the city. They are learning about farms and the food we get from both plants and animals. In our library we made a "skyscraper" that the children can sit in and read. Our writing center has been transformed into an office complete with dress-up clothes. They are also learning the letters C, Q, and V and the sounds that these letters make.

Kindergarten – Mrs. McDonnell, Mrs. Riggi, Mrs. Varholak

Language Arts – Kindergarten is beginning to read decodable books as well as learning our trick words: the, a, and, are, to, is, his, as, has, was, we, she, he, be, me, I, you, and they. We are retelling the stories with illustrations and short sentences. Math – We are relating pictures and objects to equations to solve addition and subtraction problems within 10. Our monthly PBIS reward is dress-up day. We hope to have all our students earn peak behavior for the month. We will be celebrating Dr. Seuss in the month of March. We have several activities throughout the month and we will be graphing the number of Dr. Seuss books that we read.

Grade 1 – Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Boivin

In March grade one students will read nonfiction text. We will be on the hunt for information about real life topics. Students will research animals and topics and use a Venn Diagram to compare two animals. In Foundations we will identify open and closed syllable words. Students will also use vowel teams to help read new words. In Math students will identify attributes of a shape, partition shapes into fractions, and tell time to the hour and half hour.

Grade 2 – Ms. Goggins, Ms. Fleigenblat

In ELA, second graders will be looking into folktales some more. In folktales we will be focusing on if events are believable or unbelievable, the characters and their traits and also the effects of a magic. Remember to read with your child for 20 minutes every night! In Science we will look at the different food groups and their importance. In Math, second graders will looking at specific attributes of 2-dimensional shapes. Please continue to practice math facts with your child at home.

Grade 3 – Mrs. Ciccone, Ms. Dussault, Mr. Gagnon

In March, students will solve real-world math problems in which they explore representing fractions using manipulative and models, decide what makes two fractions equivalent, and compare fractions of different sizes. Third graders will also read books with different text structures, such as compare and contrast, biography, sequence, and description. In science and social studies-related activities, including texts and videos, we'll learn about different rocks types and practice geography and map skills.

Grade 4 – Mrs. Rodriguez, Mr. Parks

During ELA in the month of March, the fourth grade team has been continuing our unit on *The Themes of Our Lives*. We are also learning about figurative language and how authors use it to make their writing more interesting. We will also study fables and practice finding the moral or lesson in a story. Towards the end of the month, we will create a "message in a bottle" and write about the theme of a story we have read in class.

In Math, we are busy multiplying fractions, finding area and perimeter, and creating line plots. We are concentrating on using "math talk" to describe how we solve problems. We will also begin converting measurements, for example feet to miles.

Grade 5 – Mr. Carosella, Ms. Hanley, Mr. Mollengarden

For math, 5th grade students will engage in real world problem solving by creating situation and comparison equations. For language arts, students will continue to read realistic fiction stories while identifying conflict and resolution. In addition to that, students will create their own realistic fiction stories. Students who reached their peak 80% of the month will attend their class's monthly reward. Miss Hanley's class will earn extra gym, Mr. Mollengarden's class will be having a spring party, and Mr. Carosella's class will earn extra recess. We hope to see everyone attend the PBIS monthly rewards!

Grade 6 ELA – Mrs. Piccirillo

For the month of March, ELA sixth grade students will continue to apply comprehension strategies to critically understand fiction and nonfiction texts. They will also be making brief presentations to sharpen their speaking and presenting skills. In social studies, they will be saying goodbye to Asia and begin studying the continent of Africa.

Grade 7 & 8 Geography – Mr. Thomas

The class will continue to study Eastern Europe and Western Russia for the remainder of this month. Next week, students will analyze the historical makeup of the regions.

8th grade Synopsis- The 8th graders will continue to study representative democracy and apply these ideas to the different areas of American life. The concept of democracy will be continued when the 8th grade studies the precursors to the American Revolution.

Grade 8 ELA - Ms. Ragette

8th graders in ELA are working on expository essays. We are visiting the computer lab for our final revisions. We include supporting evidence in our writing and are working on how to cite evidence properly in MLA format.

Grade 7 & 8 Science – Mrs. Ford

Students are working to explain how glaciation, weathering and erosion create and shape valleys and floodplains. They are also studying earthquakes and the clues they give us to Earth's interior.

Grade 8 Students will be studying how balanced and unbalance forces are related to an object's motion. They are working to describe the qualitative relationships among force, mass, and changes in motion.

Grade 7 & 8 Math – Mr. Hernandez**7th Grade Math**

Module Title: Expressions and Equations

Conceptual Lens: Algebraic Representations

Unit Overview:

We will be working on Writing Linear Expressions and solving problems with Equations.

8th Grade Math

Module Title: Expressions and Equations (Linear Equations)

Conceptual Lens: Linear Interpretations

Unit Overview:

We will be working on Solving Systems of Equations and word problems involving Systems of Equations.

Essential Skills – Mrs. Barbosa

This month in Essential Skills we are learning about Dr. Seuss and all his books. We are also talking about St Patrick's Day and Easter. Our shape of the month is an Oval and the Color of the month is Yellow. The Number of the month is 7. We are also working on our objectives and turn-taking skills.

Music – Ms. Rosser

Carrington students are singing and telling musical stories from around the world. We are using classroom instruments to create orchestrations for songs. Check out our Jump Rope for Heart song, "It Takes Heart to Be a Hero!" on YouTube.

Physical Education – Mrs. MacDonald

Jump Rope for Heart will take place during Physical Education for Grades Pre-K-6 from 3/7/16-3/11/16. Last year we raised over \$2,000 and we are hoping to do just as well this year. Grades 3-8 will be playing floor hockey in the coming weeks. The field trip to the Bridgeport Sound Tigers ice hockey game will be on 3/29/16. This will be a great opportunity for our students to see the skills they are learning in real life. Grades Pre-K-2 continue to work on their fitness every week. Please ask your children about what exercises they do in Physical Education and have them teach you!

Art – Mrs. Julian

Middle school students are working on using grids and cartooning. Grades three and four are working on weaving wheels. Students In grades K-3 are drawing an illustration to go along with a read aloud picture book.

Library/Media Center – Mrs. Behlman

During this month students in grades K-3 will continue to develop their opinions of the Charter Oak Children's Book Award nominees. All students will read, write and listen to poetry. Students will be inspired by Dr. Seuss and other authors and poets. Our annual Family Literacy Night will be held on March 23 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Hope to see you there! All are welcome.

ESL – Ms. Madera

We are looking forward to reading and learning about the upcoming spring season and plants. The upper grades will be practicing reading strategies with non-fiction material. There will be a focus on vocabulary to gain comprehension

Special Education – Mrs. Delaney

The students will read several Dr. Seuss books and will use graphic organizers to develop essays describing story elements. Students will work on decoding multisyllabic words taken from the Dr. Seuss stories using the "Spot and Dot" strategy. They will also practice reading, sorting and marking word patterns using "Cat In the Hat" word family hats.

Middle School Special Education Team:

Special Education Teachers: Mrs. Cancellaro and Mrs. Guisti

Speech-language Pathologist: Miss Geary

Our sixth grade students are working on improving reading fluency and comprehension. Students are focusing on decoding multisyllabic words to help increase reading fluency. They are also working on using targeted curriculum vocabulary in spoken and written sentences to demonstrate understanding. Students in 7th and 8th grade are working on writing informational essays. Specifically, students are learning how to cite specific evidence from the text, which includes quoting evidence from a source. In addition to writing informational essays, students are strengthening their skills in writing compound and complex sentences.

Parent Liaison – Mrs. O'Neill

The PTO held a meeting on March 3 at 7:00pm to introduce the new PTO president, Danielle Vargas and to begin planning for spring activities.

